

FOUND A HOME

HOW WOULD YOU define the word “home”? “Home” might be defined as a place where there is a roof overhead or as a place of residence. The official definition is that home is the place where one lives permanently, especially as a member of a household.

Not all homes are worthy of the Good Housekeeping seal, however. When it comes to homes, there are the good, the bad, and the ugly. In southern Bogota, there is ministry to a lad named Anthony. His home is the latter: bad and ugly.

He and his sister live in a state of upheaval, because they are latchkey kids who return to an empty house. Their home is in disarray, with a lack of love and no food on the table.

There is good in this story, however. ACTION missionaries Elvis and Stephanie Franco contacted Anthony and invited him to participate in Bible club activities. He soon accepted Christ and began memorizing Bible verses.

Recently, Anthony testified on his birthday about the joy he felt when he received a gift from the Francos, and tears were shed over his finding of a spiritual home. Anthony has committed to memorizing Bible verses, and he is usually the first one to arrive at church and the last one to leave.

Anthony feels sad when he returns to an empty house, but he then remembers that in their ministry, the Francos provide a home of love, which is a safe place for him. Elvis and Stephanie pray that the children with whom they work



will choose God’s path and be protected.

Question: What are you doing next summer? The Francos and the Colombia team need missionaries for camping outreaches. These outreaches provide an opportunity for urban children to leave their homes and come to know and grow in Christ. What do you need to do to help meet the needs? Just show up. The Anthonys of Colombia are waiting.

You can get in touch with the Francos at the following address: stephanie.avila@actionintl.org.

A FIVE-DOLLAR WORD

THE AUTHOR MARK TWAIN wrote, “Don’t use a five-dollar word when a fifty-cent word will do.” Five dollars is ten times more than fifty cents, so, obviously, five dollars represents a fancy word, while fifty cents represents a simple, plain word.



Pedagogy is a five-dollar word that encompasses everything a teacher does to influence

children. One subdivision of pedagogy is playful learning.

Studies have shown that children who participate in playful learning learn best. Play and learning mutually support each other.

Games, crafts, drama, fantasy, and following rules that help a child navigate life provide opportunities for playful learning. The game of UNO, for example, can help children learn numbers and colors, can aid memorization and strategic thinking, and can facilitate the creation of bonds.

If a lesson is proactive and dynamic, children will learn more effectively and come to a better understanding. Studies have

shown that when these methods are used, test scores and graduation rates are higher.

Pedagogy is employed in the ACTION community. One missionary uses games to teach music; another enhances their teaching using crafts. Would you be willing to be part of ACTION and provide pedagogical tools? To do so, you do not need a five-dollar word, but just \$5.00 for a pack of UNO cards. ACTION provides many activities for children worldwide. Would you consider becoming part of the ACTION team? Many children want to play UNO. Will you consider helping to facilitate the playing of this game?

Please contact: kyle.hansen@actionintl.org.

Since 2011, I, Phil Legal, have been a member of the Children in Crisis Advancing Task Force (CATF) and, for the last 10 years, have served as its coordinator. On December 31, I will complete my tenure in this role. It has been a privilege and a joy to serve the CATF, which has provided more than \$250,000 to ministries on five continents for children in crisis. Thank you for your prayers and for your support of this valuable ministry.

The new coordinator will be Sheryl Grunwald, who has extensive ministry experience. Please pray for her as she assumes this new role.

Find out more!

Contact us through any of the following:



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