

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



Carolina's grandmother, Aura Elena Rodriguez, prays to God every night for a basic home to shelter the children.

You Can Be God's Instrument In Answering Prayers



Carolina is worried about the lightning storms that accompany the rain pouring into their makeshift shack. She fears a lightning bolt will strike the flimsy metal bed frame.

Two little girls, both longing for safe, secure homes. Will you come to their rescue?

Substandard, dilapidated housing is a cruel fact of life for many of the poor in developing nations, including Nicaragua, Jamaica and Haiti, where most families live at or below the poverty line. "Providing safe, secure housing for children like Chantal and Carolina is a priority at Food For The Poor," says Robin Mahfood, President of the Deerfield Beach-based Food For The Poor.

Thousands of qualified applicants like Carolina and Chantal's families are on the waiting list for the small, basic houses it builds for the poor. Since 1982, the interdenominational Christian relief organization has been working in 16 nations in Latin America and the Caribbean to help provide the poorest of the poor with food, decent housing, medical care, emergency relief, clean water, educational and microenterprise assistance and more.

The typical "Food For The Poor house" is a one- to three-room sturdy structure. With its raised cement base and solid roof, it is a haven from storms and floods. The house also has a solid door with a real lock mothers can secure to prevent strangers from breaking inside. This simple home costs far less than the down payment on a typical home in the United States. Local labor, including the recipient family, help in constructing the home.

"For many of these people, our homes are the first real houses they've ever had," Mahfood says. "I remember an elderly poor man once said: 'We can always get a little something to eat, but we could never hope to get enough money to have a decent home.'"

'I know this must be breaking our Savior's heart. Let me see what I can do to help!'

"Poor people who live in shacks worry about the safety of their children. Whatever little possessions these poor people have are often stolen.

We are committed to helping each one of them get a decent, safe house of their own. When they do, they can stop worrying and start living.

"Our donors look at a mother and her children living in shelter unfit for animals — and say, 'I know this must be breaking our Savior's heart. Let me see what I can do to help!' Our donors are the hands and loving arms of Jesus here on earth. They believe Jesus is crying out to us in the voices of the poor. They come to us because they believe Jesus when he says, 'As often as you did it to one of the least of My brothers and sisters, you did it to Me.'" (Matt. 25:40)

Thousands pray and wait for new homes. Food For The Poor builds safe, sturdy homes for little girls like Chantal and Carolina who live in fear. With your support our ministry can build a solid home for those who pray for the safety of their children.

Chantal and Carolina continue to live in fear, listening to the prayers of their loved ones, hoping some day a kind person will help build them a new home where they will no longer fear the rain that falls into their lives and inside their homes.

Father McPherson:
"I see how they live and ask: Could I survive if I were them?"

Father Burchell McPherson, pastor of Pope Pius X church in Kingston, Jamaica, has worked to help the destitute for nearly two decades. His parish is located in one of the poorest slums in the capital. But he has never gotten used to seeing the terrible conditions most of his flock live in.

The shacks have dirt floors, no running water or electricity, and families take turns sleeping due to the lack of room.

"No one should live like that," Father McPherson says.

"I would see them on Sunday and you would think they have no problems at all," Father McPherson continued. "They are joyful, but so in need of decent housing."



You Can Help Build a Miracle

If you would like to help a poor family in need, please contact: Food For The Poor, Dept. #30115, 550 SW 12th Ave, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442, 954-427-2222 ext 6703. Visit us at www.foodforthe poor.org.