

Annual Report 2022



2022 started off big.

In quarter 1, we welcomed 14 children.



Some of them were previous placements that came back to us, some are still with us, and some have returned to their family.



2022 Accomplishments and Happenings at the Children's Home

- We had so many visitors and mission teams - all donated their time and service to the children on campus and in the community
- Daniel and Carlos started a vocational school
- Daniela started as an intern at the local hospital
- The backyard was leveled, creating an open play area and a garden area
- We celebrated Daniela's Quinceanera, as well as all the other birthdays
- Maricela was in her school play
- The local fire department came out to do drills
- Outing to the aquarium and a playground
- The children won a volleyball tournament
- CONANI held workshops on culture, art, CPR and many more needed life skills
- A mission team hosted a week-long VBS for our children and the community
- Nine children were baptized at the end of the VBS mission trip
- Outing to the Dominican Zoo
- Our older kids attended a gala
- Outing to the trampoline park
- Devastation from Hurricane Fiona
- Clean-up from the hurricane, with help from our faithful donors

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our supporters. The security the children have through your gifts of sponsorship and donations is so important and a blessing to all of us.



2022 in Pictures



A few of our visitors



Thank you!

Thank you to all of our supporters. Without you we would not be able to do what we do. You make it possible for us to care for these amazing children and give them a life they deserve.

Advocates of Love was birthed in January 2013, and we formally received our domestic 501c3 Nonprofit status on January 25th. When we began, we partnered with a local pastor and rented a small home for our residential care program. The need was so great, but we discovered a lack of advocacy to reach the children who desperately needed our care. We were the first orphan and vulnerable children care resource ever in the entire province - and, to date, we are still the only CONANI-approved resource in Samaná .

We began to travel through the tougher villages and would speak at churches. We challenged the people to advocate for any children they knew who were in need of safety, support and other services. In the first year, with help from the community, we filled our 850 sq ft rental with 10 children and had another 11 in our community care program.

Shortly thereafter, the Lord led us to purchase our first campus on the southern side of the province and we moved into over 5000 sq ft of space with plenty of yard area for the children to run around in.


In August 2021 we moved into the new campus, which includes four dormitories (4800 sq ft total), and our common area building that includes the kitchen, classrooms, an office and plenty of storage space (4640 sq ft total).

Pray. Go. Give.

Come visit with a team or just your family and experience first-hand all of what God is doing here in Samana.

Give financially by sponsoring a child or selecting a monthly amount to help us with all of the necessary costs of taking care of these children.

Let Us Pray. Jesus, you have begun a good work in the ministry of Advocates of Love and we can trust that you will see it to completion. I pray you will continue to motivate those you are calling to join your great work and that it will continue to have an impact on your kingdom.



Advocates of Love is the only CONANI-licensed resource in Samaná for neglected and orphan children. Our expansive campus includes a Children's Home, a Mission Hotel that can accommodate up to 20 guests, a Church onsite and a private Internship Residence, called Casa Rosa. We offer the most affordable, high quality mission trips in the Dominican Republic. Our primary focus is enriching the lives of the children, as well as the lives of visitors, like you. We are not focused on making a profit from Mission Trips. Our children are visibly different – happier and more relaxed – after visiting with mission travelers. Many mission trip guests choose to become child sponsors or volunteer advocates after forming a relationship with our children. These are the long term relationships we are interested in fostering.

Our Mission Hotel can accommodate 20 guests. We are here to curate the perfect trip for you and your group. You can expect that our team will take care of everything from the time you arrive until the time you depart the country – our mission trip travelers have come to expect a white glove service and we pride ourselves on our ability to offer such a bespoke experience. Not only will we give you all the details you need on flights, transportation, and things to do, we can plan a variety of different experiences. Want to do construction? Interested in hosting a Vacation Bible School? Would you like to minister to others in the Samaná community? How about a medical mission trip? These are just a few of the mission-driven events we have helped to plan and host. To learn more about why we are a great choice for your mission trip, read [The Best Mission Trips for Christians](#).

Mission trips through Advocates of Love qualify for community service hours. We are also equipped to offer longer-term mission internships with separate living quarters. To learn more about our campus and how to get around Samaná visit our website: www.advocatesoflove.org.

On a mission trip with Advocates of Love there is plenty of leisure time and our children know how to have fun! Our team will work with you to plan excursions like a day at the beach or special meals at one of the amazing restaurants where you will immerse in authentic local flavors. Your group may also enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime memory, such as whale watching, zip-lining, horseback riding, exploring caves and so much more. Learn all about the unique offerings of an Advocates of Love mission trip, regardless of season.

Mission Trips

You can either join us on one of our trips or come on your own with your own group.

5-Day Trips Include lodging, in-country transportation, all meals

Total Cost per person \$500

Optional add-on excursions (can run about \$100-\$200 pp based on selections)





The US-based organization, **Advocates of Love** is an approved 501c3. Under the guidance of its Board of Directors, Advocates of Love is responsible for raising mission awareness, fundraising, and operational management of the non-governmental organization (NGO) in the Dominican Republic. Advocates of Love has final approval over all activities required to operate the Children's Home.

The Dominican Republic-based organization, **Fundacion Defensores De Amor**, is an approved NGO. The NGO, in partnership with local churches, is accountable for the daily operations and responsibilities of the Children's Home, the community-based care program, and children's churches.

Advocates of Love
Post Mail Box 321
1936 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Wesley Chapel, FL 33543-9262

www.advocatesoflove.org
