



## FACT SHEET

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### THE CITY OF THE CHILDREN

- *The City of Children* or Ciudad De Los Niños De Matamoros, A.C. is a 12-building, 33,000 square foot orphanage being built to serve abandoned and abused children of Matamoros, Mexico.
- The mission of The City of the Children is to provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for children who have been abandoned or abused and do not have food, shelter, or care to survive within their community.
- *The City* will provide educational and training opportunities so these children have a chance to become independent and productive citizens.
- The vision for this project came from John Shinsky, a college professor at Grand Valley State University and former orphan, who dreamt of building a center that could provide abandoned children with adequate food, shelter, safety, love, support, and training for future independence.
- The conditions in Matamoros are terrible. Thousands of children and families live on less than a dollar per day for food. A large number of children live in cardboard houses and use the local garbage dump as their playground. As a result, there is poverty, disease, lack of education, and abandonment of children.
- The *City of Children* is incorporated as a non-profit organization in the United States and Mexico and is completely funded through charitable donations.
- Today, the first phase of *The City of Children* is 50 percent complete. When finished, it will provide permanent housing for nearly 120 children who currently live in poverty.
- *The City of Children* includes separate dormitories for babies and children, a medical treatment facility and technical training center for job skills.
- More information about *The City of the Children* is available at [www.shinskyorphanage.com](http://www.shinskyorphanage.com).