## ABW 2023 Children's Mission Action Project

## Casa de la Amistad, Cochabamba, Bolivia



The Atlantic Baptist Women have a history of deep commitment to mission and a desire to pass on their passion to the next generation. Let's learn about ABW's Children's Mission Action Project for 2023!

Milena Flores is an 8-year-old girl who lives in Cochabamba, Bolivia, with her mother and younger brother. Milena's father began drinking and getting involved with the wrong people. Eventually, he ended up in prison for his actions. With their father away, Milena's mom Paola struggled to provide for her two young kids. Hearing from other mothers in her situation, Paola learned of Casa de la Amistad, a program for children who have a parent in prison.

The Casa offers comprehensive care in education, health, food, and psychological and spiritual support to over 100 children and youth, along with parents who actively participate in all project activities. Children and youth receive programming in art, Bible stories, recreation, leadership training, health and hygiene, in addition to receiving medical care,

psychosocial support services, and healthy food. Parents are invited to participate in the programming and are involved in Bible studies and family strengthening workshops.

Paola registered her children, and they now attend the project daily while she works to clean houses. Milena and her younger brother have a safe place away from the prison environment where they can be loved and cared for.

When the pandemic began, Casa supported families with school supplies, food delivery, and family visits. In June 2021, Casa opened its doors for in-person support. Milena and her brother attend to get help with their homework, and Milena takes advantage of the computers and Wi-Fi provided at the Casa to join her school classes virtually. This has greatly supported the family since it is challenging to access technology at home. Casa staff also helped Paola register for university and purchase materials for her studies.

Thank you for your partnership with Canadian Baptist Ministries and Casa

de la Amistad through the Children's Mission Action Project. Because of your support, children have a safe space to grow up and receive health care, nourishment, and education. This quality support will launch them into a hopeful future of choice, change, and growth in their Godgiven potential.

## **Call to Action**

Your support gives:
Education
Healthcare and food
Psychological and spiritual support

## **Next Steps**

The Casa de la Amistad Project is the 2023 ABW Children's Mission Action Project and can be used in any children's program in your church.

Send offerings to your ABW Provincial Treasurer, designated for the 2023 Children's Mission Action Project, "Casa de la Amistad."



Milena with her mother and brother