



## Project St. Paula Ignites a “Flame of Love”

St. Paula Frassinetti, Founded the Sisters of St. Dorothy

Within four miles of the Mexican border, there lies a small village called Las Flores, which consists of a group of people whose lives were devastated by natural disasters from other towns within Mexico. Despite the lack of resources, the people of Las Flores persevered and were determined to better their lives physically, socially and spiritually. Thanks to the generosity of a few good people and with assistance from the Sisters of St. Dorothy, the effort to enrich this community was well on its way.

### The Transformation

The transformation begins with the compassion of Patrick Sullivan, a semi-retired contractor, and Sister Mary, the driving force that would change this community for the better. With the collaboration of the church and other benefactors, Patrick began a renovation project of the church, which was in deplorable condition. Soon the church had a new roof, ceiling, windows and a freshly painted interior. Patrick then returned to Mexico to build a community center to replace the three shacks that were utilized as a clinic and food storage room, a clothing store and an out-house. His generosity exceeds the call of duty as he took the financial responsibility upon himself to complete the foundation and exterior of the two-story center. The center also supported a kitchen, lecture hall, clinic, store, and classrooms, which housed electricity, running water and a waste system.

The developments at the parish made a positive impact and became a safe haven for these families. This outlet gave parents the chance to strengthen their skill set for employment opportunities and became a place where children were able to progress in their educational endeavors.

### Our Contribution

To help meet the goals of the parish, National Tax Search donated several computers to add to their facility. The computers were personally delivered by Ray and Jarie, parents of Lori Eshoo, who were met with the excitement of the children. Classrooms and a computer lab were set up to help teach English and a basic understanding of computers to the children and women.

According to a recent update from Patrick, Sister Mary suffered a heart attack a few months ago and the progress of the computer project has slowed down. Patrick suggested Sister Mary should either have the computers delivered to the school across the street or allow the teachers to train the children in the computer lab to take full advantage of these acquired assets. Patrick is now helping to build a cafeteria and additional classrooms at the school. He states, “The school has a few computers but doing an excellent job of teaching, so more computers would help in this effort to meet the educational needs of the children.”

