

# ROCKPOINTE MISSIONS

## PARTNER UPDATE

### Casa Luz (House of Light)

The Casa Luz ministry, located near **San Jose, Costa Rica**, was started in 2003 by **Lori & Eldon Cooke**. In the spring of 2017, their daughter and son-in-law, **Breanne & Jeremy Heide** (formerly of RPC) followed God's call to Costa Rica with the intention of taking over the operation of Casa Luz during the coming years.

**Casa Luz** (a RockPointe Partner) is a home for young mothers (ages 12 & up) who have been sexually abused and in many cases sexually exploited. They come from extreme poverty and are at high social risk. The first stage of the ministry accommodates 32 moms and children, providing physical and emotional support, training in parenting skills, educational and vocational development, and Christian spiritual guidance. The second stage of the ministry provides living accommodation and continued support for families where the mother is at least 16 years old and has satisfactorily completed the first stage program and where other safe and secure independent living options are not available. Currently there are 18 mothers and children in this stage.

Ultimately, the goal of Casa Luz is to help these young mothers realize that they are beloved daughters of God and that they and their children can live healthy lives and have bright futures. Through a safe, unconditionally loving, home-like environment, professional guidance, and the healing power of Christ, every mother and child that enters Casa Luz has the opportunity to break the cycle of abuse and find healing.



### Prayer Points

- For our new Christian Life Director, Angie. That God would give her favor with the moms, children and staff of Casa Luz. And that the Holy Spirit will direct her as she begins to plan programming for the coming year.
- For Jeremy & Breanne, that God would continue to guide and strengthen them as they learn the ins and outs of running Casa Luz. Pray for Jeremy that the Spanish language would come quickly to him. And pray for their boys, Asher and Leo, that they would continue to adjust well to their new lives and that God would give Jeremy and Breanne the strength and wisdom each day to be good parents.
- For the large number of young mothers we have welcomed into Stage One in the last few months. All have arrived either pregnant or with brand-new babies and most come from extreme cultural deprivation. Pray for a positive transition into motherhood and a successful adjustment to life at Casa Luz.

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## Short Term Mission Team Update

In **September 2017** a team of 11 young adults went to Costa Rica for 2 weeks to partner with Casa Luz. The purpose of this team from RockPointe was to support the Casa Luz ministry by sharing the love of Jesus in both word and deed. The team focused on working hard to paint and do repairs in the place these families call home. They were also able to help with childcare and host a barbeque for the families, which included some fun youth games for the moms! It was an amazing trip as the team focused on being the hands and feet of Jesus for this ministry.

Here's what a couple of the team members had to say about being at Casa Luz:

*"My favorite thing at Casa Luz has definitely been the way that God has been so evident in these girls' lives. They have come from such traumatic experiences, and not ideal homes, and it's crazy how much being showered in prayer and in God's love changes their perception of people... it's amazing to see how God changes hearts."*

*"My favorite part of the Casa Luz mission trip was that I was coming for the second time. I've had the opportunity to see some of the girls move from phase one to phase two, and just to see the difference that Casa Luz and the staff and everybody that runs this place has made in their lives and to see how well they're doing has been really encouraging and exciting to see!"*

