



May 2006 Newsletter

The Salvador Foundation is committed to serving God by bringing together people from all walks of life for the common cause of helping our fellow man. We, as the body of Christ, have a responsibility to care for those in need. By helping and enabling people one project at a time, our goal is to share encouragement, hope and faith.

Local Outreach in Colorado Springs

(Photos and background information courtesy of Colorado Springs Gazette)

Nelly Madore lived like an American for 12 years. Residing first in Texas and then Colorado, the Mexican citizen stayed home and took care of her children while her husband (a US-born citizen) worked. When her marriage ended last year, she quit living like an American.

Now, she is very much an immigrant again, unable to work at even a minimum-wage job to support her children, including a seriously ill 4-year old daughter.

Madore, 40, arrived in the country legally on a tourist visa but is now considered an illegal immigrant because she never renewed it and never obtained legal residency during the time that she was married.

In 2000, she gave birth in the US to twin girls who had medical problems. Natasha died at 7 months. Natalie, is deaf and blind and has severe breathing and heart problems. Nelly Madore juggles nurse visits, doctor appointments and surgeries for Natalie. She regularly travels to Denver for the girl's treatment. Natalie and her 1-year-old brother still have medical insurance through her former husband's work.

Nelly can't get welfare, food stamps or housing assistance because of her immigration status. Many immigrants, like Madore, are left alone in this country when something happens with their U.S.-born spouse. They may get temporary legal status upon arrival, but before they're eligible for permanent resident status the relationship ends, at that point, they're illegal immigrants, even if they entered the country legally.

Nelly has considered moving back to Mexico to be near her family, but she fears that Natalie would die because medical treatment for her condition is not available. Immigrant advocates say the case illustrates the pitfalls of being an immigrant in this country and the importance of gaining legal status as soon as possible.

Nelly's Future

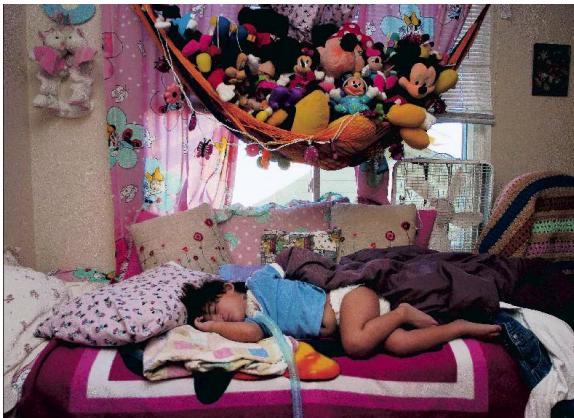
Over the past year, the Salvador Foundation has been working with Nelly in small ways to provide food, clothing and contact with state officials who are attempting to help her with her immigration status. If she ever gets her wish to become a U.S. citizen, Madore hopes to attend a nursing school. She wants to be a certified nurse so she can care for Natalie herself. "I want something better for my life and for my kids," Madore said.



Nelly Madore plays with her daughter



Morris sits in his mom's lap



Natalie sleeps - surrounded by her favorite
stuffed animals and connected to a
ventillator



Nelly fills out paperwork at doctor's office.
Natalie had developed an abscess near the
breathing tube in her throat.

The Salvador Foundation is currently supporting efforts in the US and Latin America. If you would like further information on this or any other activities, please contact:

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