

No, this isn't another Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday message, so if nothing else, you can be thankful for that.

Your Dove Family would simply like to share a message of gratitude.

2019 has been a truly amazing year at Dove Youth Development! With so much going on this year, as we race around to launch programs and classes, enroll 60 more children into our center, make up baskets with food staples each month for our families each month, and welcoming new volunteers from all over the world----we pause and give thanks for our many blessings!

This year marks the **10 Year Anniversary** of Dove Youth Development!

Wow, these past 10 years have just flown by! What started with 15 street kids in a small room in Barrio Agua Negras (the old garbage dump) has turned into a beautiful three floor building of our own. We have become <u>a safe haven</u> for our children to have a childhood and the lighthouse in the community,

Many of the original youth who passed thru our doors have now grown up and have families of their own! It's so exciting to welcome them back to visit and see how our programs and classes have prepared them to become adults.

ALL of this was and is possible because of YOU, and for that we are truly grateful.

Just a few points of perspective:

- We have had over 500 children enrolled in our youth center over the years and provided them and their families with Education, School uniforms, monthly food baskets and so much more!
- We were the only place for emergency relief shelters when the horrible floods came through in 2016 were her families lost homes their belongings and some even their lives.
- Dove Missions started serving the youth and families of Puerto Plata in 2002 bringing Volunteer/Mission groups to assist in the orphanages, disable children's homes and other foundations in the area.
- After five years of service Dove Missions saw the need to help The local Street children get off the streets and into school.
- The decision was made to move to Puerto Plata in 2008 and assess how to make life-changing long lasting impact
- In The fall of 2009 Dove youth development center is born! With 40 boys and 40 girls between the ages of six and 12 we kicked off our grand opening by buying all the students public school uniforms, started our ESL classes and supplement the income the children on the street by providing monthly food baskets.

Here is a graphical summary of our timeline:



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