

We have done some good in the world. We helped those in need. Our collective efforts and contributions lightened burdens. We were able to buy and share 228 pairs of shoes! Smiles and frequent skipping were the invaluable returns.



[“The things we hope for lead us to faith, while the things we hope in lead us to charity. The three qualities faith, hope, and charity working together, grounded on the truth and light of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, lead us to abound in good works.”](#)

[Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf](#)

The Kershaw’s were so privileged to be an avenue of spreading hope. Gracias! for making our charity effort possible. The only hard parts were a little bit of “island time” coordination with shoe stores and seeing additional children outside the locked school yard gates who were not on “the list”. It was those that were perhaps most in need. I saw one boy sneak in and get in line... I couldn’t find fault while seeing his determined face and need. We were able to create a list of children that were not able to receive shoes on the first day due to higher numbers than planned for. We are still working out details with the school administration and shoe stores to fulfill requests. There is no real finish line to cross, we can only hope the good works get passed along.





Prior to distributing shoes there was a short program. Many parents came. Keila shared a little about her Mom and her convictions. Keila offered a prayer which set a great tone.







Maggie with her friend Maddie, and a bunch of new friends. We needed to test negative for the ‘Cov to get on the plane back to the United States. At this point Maggie wasn’t taking any chances... However, she and Valarry tested positive! The asymptomatic kind. It was a family prayer moment as despite our love of the Dominican Republic, “quarantining” to extend the vacation was not in the plans. Via blessings in the form of testing practices and/or more direct miracles, Valarry tested negative the next day – hours before getting on the plane. Maggie, though a galaxy of stars aligning, was able to prove she had recovered from the ‘Cov within 60 days so she got her pass.

We were and are blessed in many more ways than “re-routing” the covid test. Heavenly Father is aware of all his children. He is aware of the one’s outside the “gate”. Everybody is on “the list”. Though our trials, as varied as they may be, can be a difficult path, we can be comforted in knowing the reward is worth the journey. Paradise with family forever awaits.



The Ridgemark Kershaw's are blessed to have the best tour guide ever, Princess Keila. Our trip wasn't without some "locals only"... we love that part. Can't have the true experience without some ocean water showers and running from glass bottle fights...





Great food with great family.
Rental van made it back without
any extra fees, which is another
miracle...

