

# St Teresa Orphan Foundation

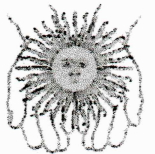
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*The Homes of Fr. Liam Hayes*



incorporating Obera Hospice

[www.homesoffrliamhayes.org](http://www.homesoffrliamhayes.org)

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## **NEWSLETTER April 2019.**

Dear friends,

In May last year a group of supporters of the Homes visited Obera. We are delighted to report that they found the great work commenced by Fr Liam all those years ago goes on a pace. As a result we have now produced the enclosed brochure. If you need any further copies please let me know. Anything you can do to help promote and support the Homes would be most welcome. The Divine Word Order in Argentina have taken over the running of the Homes.

In the period since Fr Liam's untimely passing the work of developing the Homes has continued with enhanced services for the patients such as Equine Therapy and the construction of a very advanced Sensory Building. There is also a great outreaching to the local community who, we are delighted to report, are responding in a most encouraging manner.

Future plans include a very ambitious project to construct the Mario Jnr. Centre. This would include the best available exercise equipment and a proper swimming pool. The idea is that it could be open to the whole community and would generate income as well as being of enormous benefit to the residents. The land for the building is already available from the Obera Council. Local schools have also done fundraising events.

The work on the Bible Garden has also made great strides and is developing as a 'must visit' site for tourists to Obera. The local council has constructed a new entrance building where a coffee dock and small shop will be opened. After all the efforts by Fr Liam over many years we must thank and acknowledge the great support now coming from the Council in Obera, the Government in Misiones and the Natl. Government in Argentina.

Naturally we are thrilled that the 'Homes of Fr Liam Hayes' are continuing to prosper. Thank you all for your great support over the years. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts

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## WHAT ARE THE HOMES OF Fr LIAM HAYES?

The Homes of Fr Liam Hayes are centres for forgotten poor people of the remote Misiones province in northern Argentina. The centre consists of three separate buildings, in close proximity to each other.

### OUR RESIDENTS

Hogar Santa Teresa Del Nino Jesus has 35 physically and intellectually disabled residents

Hogar Virgen De Lujan has 17 elderly residents. This is the only home they have.

Hogar Espirito Santo has 15 mentally challenged residents



Sheila enjoying a session of equine therapy. Equine-assisted therapy encompasses a range of treatments that involve activities with horses and other equines to promote human physical and mental health. This therapy was introduced in the last few years and has proven to be immensely popular with the residents.



**The worst disease is the feeling of being unwanted, unloved and abandoned by everyone.**

Fr Liam Hayes, SVD

## the homes of **Fr LIAM HAYES**

incorporating Obera Hospice

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## HISTORY

The Homes were founded in 1993 by Fr Liam Hayes SVD, a native of Cappamore, Co. Limerick, who was ordained a priest for the Divine Word Missionaries in September 1985. He was assigned to Misiones province Argentina to work in the city of Oberá and act as chaplain to the local hospital. The Homes were Fr Liam's response to the terrible conditions that some poor and disabled people were trying to survive in.

The suffering of those people, especially of the disabled, compelled him to act. He persuaded the local council in Oberá to give him a piece of land and thus he started to build up the Homes. There are approximately 45 staff of various disciplines providing care for the residents of the Homes.

Fr Liam worked in Misiones for all his priestly life – 28 years in total. His untimely death on December 7th, 2014 was a great shock to everyone who knew him. He is buried with the people he loved and to whom he devoted his life's work. Fr Liam developed the Homes with the hope that the Argentinian people would eventually take over. He had everything in place to ensure the Homes would continue following his death.

The Argentinian Divine Word Missionaries took over the running of the Homes and Fr Eduardo SVD was appointed as the President of the Foundation

### Facilities include:

Physiotherapy

Equine Therapy

Hydrotherapy Pool

Sensory Room