accompanied the family to the cemetery on the other side of town, out in the desert where many of our other children are buried. Rest in peace, dear Martin.

Winter cold invaded the borderland in mid-January. Thanks to a big donation of blankets from the children of Our Lady of Assumption school in El Paso, we were able to help many families through the cold days. We’ve had several days without water in the center because the pipes froze. We moved all activities, therapies and gas heaters into the big room to share the warmth. The blessing of togetherness! We had no thought of canceling those days because we realize it is warmer in the clinic than in the homes of the families, many of which are heated with wood stoves. Thankfully temperatures below freezing are rare, especially those that last for several days in a row.

After the cold came the thaw...and the flood. The faucet in the kitchen area had not been left open and the pipe burst. Cristina discovered the disaster by the time six inches of water covered the main room. Salvador came to help clean up the mess and repair the pipes by our next scheduled session. There is significant damage to the wall by the kitchen sink. We have also decided to connect the center to the sewer system that was developed some years after we had already installed a septic tank. So there are big projects ahead of us in 2013! Stay tuned!