



May 1, 2008

Dear Friends of Chad and Andi,

One of the best things about working in MAF is the great people you get to work with. It is my privilege to write this letter of commendation for the Irwins. Time has flown by quickly and Chad, Andi, and the kids are preparing for furlough in the U.S., after another 3½ years of service in Ecuador. I know they anticipate seeing many of you during their furlough time.

When we moved to Ecuador in 2005 to take over the position of Program Manager, I relied heavily on Chad to help get me up to speed. As an instructor pilot, he checked me out in flight operations. As an experienced missionary in Ecuador, he also helped me understand the dynamics of our program. Chad also became our Chief Pilot during this term, a position he fills well with his experience and competency. As I write this, I myself am on furlough and Chad is filling in for me as the Program Manager. Chad is very able and talented, and I thank God for providing me with a colleague like him.

I also benefit from Andi's talent and expertise. She is a great organizer and planner, taking on hospitality projects as we host visitors and work teams, planning special events, and generally sprucing up our facilities with her decorating skills. During this term she has also served on the school board at the Nate Saint Memorial School, and has helped out at many school activities. And, of course, she keeps the home running smoothly, keeping up with Josiah and Olivia.

I can honestly say that one of the highlights of our family moving to Ecuador has been getting to know the Irwins. I would like to thank you, their friends and supporters, for being a part of the team that allows them to minister with MAF. I hope you have the chance to see the Irwins during their furlough so you can get a first-hand update on what God is doing in our part of the world. Thanks again for helping them to be a part of our team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Whitehead' in a cursive script.

Dan Whitehead
MAF Ecuador Program Manager
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