

CASA DE ESPERANZA MINISTRIES, INC.

2021 Annual Report



MISSION

The mission statement of Casa de Esperanza Ministries, Inc. states that we have three branches of ministry work in Honduras: dental/medical/optical brigades, construction services, and the operation of transition/educational homes and scholarship programs for disadvantaged youth.

MEDICAL, DENTAL AND OPTICAL BRIGADES

Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions, Casa de Esperanza was not able to send down volunteer dentists, nurses, or physicians to do any health brigades. We did, however, continue to support Casa graduates that work in the field of social work. We sent down financial help to those needing health care, housing support, and education.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Throughout 2021, small groups of volunteers did travel to Honduras, and worked on our boys' home, improving the conditions of the bathrooms and woodshop. We also continue to work on the home we rent in Barrio Por Venir in Siguatepeque. Having a home in Honduras requires diligent maintenance so this is always on our to-do list. Work included repair of the roof, fumigation of the home against termites and ants, repair and maintenance of water lines, and maintenance of the grounds.

EDUCATION PROJECTS

High School

Our main educational home is in Colonia Las Lomas del Rio, segunda etapa, in the city of Comayagua. Our house parents are Ada Linda Ramirez Morales and Jose Maria Alcerro, a Honduran married couple. We started the academic year in February with nine boys, four of them new to our program. The year started and ended with online learning. Thankfully we were able to bring down 5 used MAC computers in March to enhance this process.

The boys are enrolled in a technical high school in Comayagua- Instituto Technico Comalhucan, with the ability to choose a career path in either welding or electricity. One of our graduates from a year ago is studying at the Pamerola Air Base in Comayagua and recently graduated with his associate degree in Aviation Mechanics. He is planning on continuing his studies to obtain his bachelor's degree. Casa also supports this student financially.



We hired a professional woodshop instructor in August. He immediately took inventory and organized all of our equipment. He made a list of needs and we were able to invest in some new carpentry equipment during a trip in August. The boys have been learning basic skills and the proper use and care of the saws and sanders. Two of the older boys are very talented in this area and have made many custom furniture pieces.

The monthly budget for our boys' educational project is \$2,300 per month. This includes the offering to the couple and the support of their two sons in a private high school. Traditionally the month of February has a higher budget due to the start of the school year and the purchase of uniforms, shoes, and school supplies. We do anticipate in-person classes resuming in February 2022.

University Students

Casa supports 4 university students in Honduras at various locations. Ana Canales is in her third year of medical school in Tegucigalpa at UNAH (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras). Cristian Barrientos is also studying medicine at the Roman Catholic University of Honduras in Tegucigalpa, entering his third year. Both have had online classes this past year and it has been a challenge as they have had to miss out on in-person laboratory classes such as anatomy/physiology, microbiology, and neurobiology.

Jonathan Gomez is studying at the Romain Catholic University of Honduras in Siguatepeque and is in his third year studying computer systems engineering. We started to support Uziel Ramos this August, who started classes at the Universidad Tecnologia de Honduras in Siguatepeque and is majoring in Marketing. The cost of these students is approximately \$2,000 a month. Casa provides living expenses, school supplies, transportation costs, and tuition.

EDUCATION PROJECTS (Continued)



"THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY AT THE SCHOOL EL ALBA BILINGUAL SCHOOL. MY YEAR ENDED SATISFACTORILY; THANKING GOD AND ALL OF YOU FOR THE UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT YOU HAVE HAD WITH ME. I HOPE YOU ARE PROUD OF MY RESULTS. GOD BLESS YOU GREATLY!"

-AMY, GRADE 6

At the start of the academic school year in September of 2021, Casa was able to partner with supporters of students from the bilingual school Abundant Life in Honduras, to help 7 students with extra scholarship monies to attend Hope College in Holland and Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Our other university student in Michigan, Allan Barrientos, is in his final year at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, with a major in exercise science and a minor in Biblical Studies.

Elementary/High School Bilingual students

Casa supports 3 students in bilingual schools in Honduras, including El Alba Institute in Siguatepeque and Bright Starts Preschool in Tegucigalpa. Tuition and books for these students are approximately \$1,300 per month. Grade levels include preschool, sixth, and tenth grade.

Another bright spot this year was when Jey Amaya was granted a student VISA by the USA government to enroll at Calvary Christian School in Fruitport, Michigan. He is a ninth-grader and had previously studied at El Alba Bilingual School in Siguatepeque.

Music

Casa has supported the musical youth praise band and youth group of Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal in Siguatepeque. They perform on a regular basis at the church and have gone on several retreats.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

In March of 2021, several board members traveled to Honduras to celebrate and host the wedding of Yaquelin Amaya with Jairo Castañeda. Yaquelin was one of the young ladies who was involved with Casa when we started in 2004!

She graduated from Pablo Wier high school in Siguatepeque and then went on to become an auxiliary nurse through the nursing school at the Evangelical Hospital in Siguatepeque. She has been working there since her graduation, working in various areas of the hospital and often being the charge nurse. Since the onset of Covid, she has been one of the primary nurses in charge of this area. We kept Yaquelin in prayer and one of those prayers was that the man of God's choosing would enter her life.





HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 (Continued)

We celebrated her wedding with a lovely dinner and reception at our house in Por Venir, Lori did the cooking, and Jordan was in charge of the decorations, all with the help of other board members and friends in Honduras.

Another highlight was the recovery health of both Ada Linda and Chema, our boys' project health parents. Both of them had a severe bout of Covid but were able to recover without hospitalization. Julio Gomez also suffered from a severe case but recovered. Casa was able to help them with the medical costs of this. They continue to improve their health and wish to express to the supporters of Casa their thankfulness.

Baby Eliana, daughter of Luis and Amalia Castillo, was born in May 2021 with persistent pulmonary dysfunction of the newborn. Eliana was in the hospital for weeks, intubated on a ventilator. Our supporters prayed and donated to cover medical costs. Praise God, she is now home and is completely healthy!

OTHER COSTS

Casa de Esperanza Ministries, Inc, rents a house in Barrio Por Venir, Siguatepeque and the rent is \$500 per month. We use this home to stay in when our mission groups and board members are in Honduras. It is also where we store our equipment for our health brigades. We let members of the church use the home for retreats and also the boys from our education project in Comayagua come up frequently to get away from the city of Comayagua.

We own and maintain 2 vehicles in Honduras, a 1994 Toyota Hilux Pickup and a 2011 Toyota Hilux Pickup. The cost for insurance, registration, and repairs is approximately \$2,500 a year.

We hold non-profit status in both the United States of America as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and have a Personaria Juridica in Honduras. We have a lawyer, Guillermo Argueta who has been Casa de Esperanza's lawyer in Honduras since we started in 2004. Legal and accounting fees both here in the USA and in Honduras are \$6,500 yearly.

We also give frequent offerings to people to do work for us on short-term projects throughout the year. This cost averages \$3,000 per year.

Fundraising for each of these areas and projects comes from donations from private individuals, churches, and fundraising activities.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

THE BOARD OF CASA DE ESPERANZA MINISTRIES, INC.

Lori DeWitt, President • Alishia Terrill, Treasurer • William DeWitt DDS, Dental Chair • Jordan Grooters, Marketing Chair
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