

## **2017 Ministry Report**

Dear Ministry Partners,

You have given towards Impact Ministries, and we are deeply grateful. God is working powerfully through your gifts to minister and reach out to the people of Guatemala. Thank you!

At the beginning of 2017, we began construction of our newest school in Chijulhá in preparation for opening in January 2018. We're happy to report that the Vida Chijulhá School is now open with enthusiastic students attending. We know that the lives of these children and their families will be impacted in many ways through this school - thank you for your part in this opportunity.

In 2017, the baby home of our Vida Children's Home was also completed. In December 2017, a Guatemalan couple, Hector and Ericka, moved into the baby home with their boys. Hector and Ericka are prepared to receive the first babies as soon as we have final approval to open our doors.

These are just a few of the ways your gifts have made an impact in 2017. Thank you, from both our Impact Ministries Guatemala staff and our Canada staff, for your contributions to furthering the redemptive revelation of God in Guatemala.

Les Peters CEO Impact Ministries Canada

# IMPACT MINISTRIES

## **Education/Development Programs**

#### Vida Churches

Three Vida congregations continue to mature with an aggregate attendance of 600 each week.

A highlight for our churches was the ordination of Mynor Toc in December. Mynor is the Pastor of our Mocohán congregation and serves along with his wife, Aydee.

#### **Education/Development**

Our seventh Vida school facility was built in the community of Chijulhá, set to open in January 2018.

The Vida schools had a total of 1355 students in 2017.

In Guatemala, children attend school from 7:30 am to lunch time. We have received special authorization to run an afternoon program in some of our schools, meaning that some of our facilities run two complete school programs.

42 of our former students serve as certified teachers in our schools.

#### Support a Class

As of December 2017, we have a total of 294 Canadian supporters strengthening our students' education by supporting a class. Our goal is to double that number by 2019.

## **Short-term Teams & Support Programs**

#### Medical/Dental Clinic

Our medical clinic served over 3000 patients

Impact Ministries Canada sent 23 individuals on 5 medical/dental teams in 2017

#### **Short-Term Mission Teams**

20 Canadian teams travelled to Guatemala in 2017, including churches, schools, and special groups such as our mechanics team. This represented 297 team members.

#### Agricultural Program

Produce grown in our agricultural program is delivered to our schools to be cooked into delicious and nutritious meals for our school children, as well as being sold on the domestic market.

In 2017 we grew about a dozen crops, including 635,000 pounds of tomatoes and 37,000 pounds of peppers.

#### **Capital Projects**

The first three classrooms were built at our new Chijulhá school

The last elemetary classroom was built at Vida Nueva

The baby home was completed as part of Phase One of our Vida Children's Home.





### **Mission Statement**

To train Guatemalans for leadership by teaching Biblical principles in such a way that they become integrated in their lives and effect spiritual change in their society, and to impact North American Christians for world missions.

## Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ with us!

Impact Ministries Canada Board

Dale Brown

Jonathan Loewen

Les and Rita Peters

Larry Schmidt

Dr. Stephen Wat

Impact Ministries Canada PO Box 975 Stn Main Kamloops, BC V2C 6H1 (250) 434-4350



canada@impactministries.ca | @mylifeimpacted

www.impactministries.ca

## Glimpses of Chijulhá

We were all excited as the van laboriously made its way down a single-lane dirt track towards Chijulhá. We had been working as a school community from Canada to sponsor the construction of a new school in Guatemala and now here we were, just moments away from seeing it for the first time. We safely crossed the rickety bridge at the bottom of the hill, and Oscar put the van into low gear as we climbed around the corner to see the beginnings of a small, three-room school emerging from what had been an agricultural field. There it was! Several years' worth of prayers, grant applications, phone calls, emails, and fund-raising events revealed the start of a new school for the children of Chijulhá, a small village outside of Tactic.

~ Paul Haberstock, Teacher, LWCA Team

We were part of the first VBS held inside the newly-constructed Chijulhá building - the kids had never been there before; the school was brand new. It was so cool to see them all come for the VBS - you could see them coming from all different sides. The kids just loved holding your hand, no matter what game or activity you were doing. They also just wanted to hug you all the time. They just wanted to be loved. A new school is so important for these kids because they get to learn about God and his love for them but they also get to have an education which can lead them to do great things in their lives. This school will give them a chance to get future jobs, go to church, learn to love God, and give them a place to connect with teachers, friends, and people who really care about them.

~ Ashton Delbridge, Youth Participant, SWCC Team



## **Child Sponsorship Update**

We've been blessed throughout 2017 to continue to have virtually every child in our education programs matched with a personal sponsor. A special thank you to each of you who impact a child's life through our child sponsorship program!

On May 1, 2018 we will be raising the sponsorship amount to \$45/month for existing child sponsors. This decision was made because the cost of staffing our schools in Guatemala has gone up significantly. For those donating through pre-authorized payments, the increase will be implemented automatically. If the increased commitment is a burden to you, please let us know, and we will gladly maintain your connection with your sponsor child at the \$40/month level.

## **Vida Children's Home Update**

In 2017, the baby home was completed, including a suite for the house parents. In December a Guatemalan couple, Hector and Ericka, along with their children, moved into the baby home suite. We anticipate opening our doors and welcoming the first babies in 2018. Please pray with us that all the paper work and approvals will go smoothly.

#### Join us as a Volunteer!

**Translation:** Do you know Spanish and enjoy fostering relationships? We need your help in translation between the child sponsors and the class supporters and their students.

**Graphic Design:** Do you have experience with InDesign? We need a few volunteers for occasional projects and for design updates.

These are just a few of our volunteer positions. You can visit www.impactministries.ca/volunteer to find more opportunities, or email volunteer@impactministries.ca.