



His Hands for Guatemala 2017

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Hello from Fuente de Esperanza!

We arrived on Wednesday evening April 19th, after long flights but we were excited to see the children the next day. The first day we worked on collecting the information for each child in the program. Measuring students, weighing and getting shoe sizes. We also were testing an I-Pad App that would hopefully make the process faster both in the field, and when we returned home. It worked like a charm and we almost finished seeing all the children in one day! The following day we completed this part of the process, and had some time to play with some of the children when they got out of school.



Meet the Staff

The teachers and staff of Fuente de Esperanza school are top notch!

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What a Difference!

8 Years past & present

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A Dedicated Team

The 2017 His Hands team was a dedicated one consisting of 9 people from Maine, Florida, Illinois, Vermont & Oregon. They have been to Guatemala a total of 57 times between them. Each one contributed a special part to make this trip successful.

WHY DO YOU KEEP GOING BACK TO GUATEMALA?

"I keep coming back to see the children at the school, so I can keep in touch and show them Jesus' love "in the flesh".

"I keep coming because once one learns something, such as how things are here, there is no forgetting."

"It makes me happy and fulfilled to share what I can, and to remember them in prayer."

"For me it is all about relationships. The blessing of relationships I have here is something I cherish and thank God for."

"I fell in love with the school kids and the teachers. I see the love that the teachers have for the student's health, education, physical wellbeing and spiritual wellbeing."

"I am over-joyed in continuing to heed His calling to use my time, my talents, and my



resources to make a difference in the lives of the Guatemalan people who have so little when I have been given so much."

"I enjoy seeing the kids and their families."

"I fell in love with the beautiful people in this beautiful place, and was blown away by a ministry that is willing to be the hands & feet of Christ to so many."

"I keep going back because I believe in the mission of teaching the youngest of the love of Christ so that they can in turn teach."

If you are interested in joining us on a trip, contact wendy@hishandsforguatemala.org for an application.



Pastor Esdres & Brenda

Pastor Esdres & Brenda have been working full time in El Membrillal for three years. They have three children, ages 12, 15, and 6.

The church which is attached to the school, opened for services in September 2016. Prior to the church opening, services were held in classrooms, hallways or outside. The building is still unfinished, and they are not sure when it will be done, but they are able to hold church services and worship services with the community and the students.

Currently only 10% of the people attending are adults. The remainder are students of the school or siblings, and most people who do attend are connected with the school in some way.

Prayer is needed for Pastor Esdres & Brenda to give them encouragement, and for whole families to attend including Father, Mother & Children.

10%



What a difference 8 years has made!

HAPPY FACES OF STUDENTS

Everywhere you look there are happy faces of children who love their teachers and their school.



75%

Of Graduates from the 2016 class have gone on to further their education.

The children have grown so much, many of them have graduated from 6th grade and have moved on to a public or private secondary school. 75% of the 2016 graduating class has decided to continue their education! This is such a remarkable success in the lives of the students.

In speaking with the mother of one of the graduated students named Walter during the Ladies Tea, and she said he continuing to do very well in school. She seemed very proud of her son, and two of her daughters are also attending Fuente de Esperanza school. It amazes me to look back at old photos from our first visit in 2010 to the current photos and to see how happy the children are. God has been good to this community!



A STUDENT USES HIS BIBLE TO WRITE TO HIS SPONSOR.

" You are so special in my life, and special to my heart."



STUDENTS ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES

The students attend a morning of Worship in the church before school.

A Loving Staff makes all the difference.

The teachers and Administrative staff truly care for these children as if they are their own. One morning as we arrived I noticed that the Administrator of the school was in tears while talking to another staff member. I asked what the problem was and found that she had just come from visiting a home of one of the students. The family was extremely poor and one of the boys had become ill. Her heart was broken for this family and it brought home the immense love and compassion that she has for them.



LEARNING ABOUT EATING HEALTHY

A poster about eating healthy hangs in a classroom.



CHILDREN ARE FED

Healthy meals are prepared each day using fresh ingredients from local markets.



