

# Kay and Jim Hines

## Guatemalan Girls Life Project

### Hesed Life Ministries International

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Let Your lovingkindness (Hesed), O LORD, be upon us, According as we have hoped in You. Psalm 33.22

We returned to Guatemala at the end of May. Our initial travel day turned out to be much more difficult than anything else recently. We finally arrived very late that night and we were safe and most grateful.

We were able to visit with all but 2 of the young ladies in the program and in addition met with 2 new ladies. One will probably begin to participate in July and one in January 2020. We now have 15 active participants.

So again we share *their stories, their journeys and what God is doing in their lives*, none of which would be possible without your prayers and financial support. You are a part of each life. We are honored and privileged for your participation and that God has so inextricably linked all of our lives to these young ladies.

### *Alejandra*

During our time in Guatemala we were able to spend some extra time with Alejandra. As we noted previously, 2018 was a very difficult year for her with multiple medical issues. This year has been somewhat better and she has been able to return to school and is working very diligently to be able to complete high school in October 2019.

However, this time she shared with us that her mother is gravely ill and in the hospital. There's a significant possibility that she will die. If she survives, she will now live with Alejandra. Alejandra has four siblings but none have been involved in caring for their mother. For various reasons, none of the children have had a close relationship with the mother.

In addition, Alejandra's employer has refused to give her even unpaid time off to go to the hospital or to talk to the doctor on the telephone. She works 6 days a week. Because of all of this Alejandra was forced to resign her position. Once the crisis has passed, she will seek new employment. *The next paragraph was written by Alejandra and posted on Facebook, so we are not violating confidentiality.* It was written to her mother. It reflects what is in Alejandra's heart. We have known her for many years and can verify the integrity of what she is saying and the true pain of what she is expressing. Please pray for her. *Continued on bottom of page 4*



### **Alejandra & Kay**

Alejandra always has a big smile, even when things in life are very difficult

*Maricruz*

In October 2017 Maricruz lost her job at Prince of Peace Home for Girls, where she had lived for 10 years and then had been an employee of the home, primarily working with teams visiting from the United States. It was a devastating time for her. But God's plans are always bigger than what we can see. In January 2018 she began to work for another ministry that also is funded and directed by North Americans.

This turned out to be a marvelous opportunity for her. The ministry, Give and Teach, works in small remote villages providing a feeding program for the children, construction of homes for families, and chicken coops and chickens. The families raise the chickens and sell the eggs and have a source of income. In addition Give and Teach is heavily involved in education primarily by providing school supplies and ongoing instructions for the teachers. The feeding program grew out of the educational program because of studies demonstrating that malnourished children do not learn well (no surprise). During our visit this time we were able to go to one of the villages and see the work first hand.

Maricruz has been given full oversight of the ministry. She has establish a very good working relationship with the directors and when they are not in Guatemala she is in charge of the ministry. None of this is a surprise to us. She is a very smart young lady who has a strong sense of integrity and a great work ethic. She can now look back at the time that she lost her job at Prince of Peace and experience personally what Genesis 50:20 tells us when it says that what man meant for evil, God meant for good.

Despite her heavy work schedule she continues to attend school studying to be a licensed psychologist. She has completed her course work and now over the next year will focus on completing her necessary hours of supervised counseling. She is a joy to be with, always seeking to help someone else.

*Lisdenia, Kay, Maricruz, Joselin*

## *Lisdenia*

Lisdenia began to attend a new university one year ago. We knew this would be a significant challenge for her as she was working full-time and the school is known for its rigorous academic standards. However, as we expected she has done very well. Her initial major was International Business with an emphasis on Marketing. She has now made the decision to change to an emphasis on Finance. We were able to spend a lot of time with her and Joselin, her twin sister. Joselin has not been in school for the past year but is now applying to attend the same school. Despite having been abandoned by their mother as small children, they are both very mature young ladies who make good decisions and who truly love God. They are a great inspiration to us.

## *Catty*

We had a very good visit with Catty. She is extremely busy this year. She is teaching full time, going to school and now doing an internship (practicum) with a large company in Guatemala. She spends 3 hours a day on the bus going to her practicum. Her major is Human Resources.

She has completed one internship but will be required to do another before she can finally graduate. She is hoping to find one that is closer to her to avoid the long bus ride. It has been even more difficult for her because she has not been able to spend very much time with her daughter, Sofia, who is almost 6 years old. She is very focused and determined to finish all of her course work this year.



*Catty with her daughter, Sophia*

## *Mayra*

In December, Mayra's husband developed paralysis of the right side of his face (Bell's palsy). He was working as a waiter and because he was not able to speak clearly he lost his job. It was a very stressful time for the family as he only found new employment one month ago. They are recovering. Myra continues to be very diligent in her studies and has one and a half years left of a 5-year program for a degree in law. Their only son Dylan has done very well this year. He had been very ill

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## Hesed Life Ministries International

If you have not yet visited our web page :

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We would strongly encourage you to do so. Donations can now be made online using a major credit card or Paypal.

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### Mayra, Continued from page 3

last year but is now progressing and becoming much more talkative.

During the time of her husband's unemployment, Hesed was able to give them some additional help.

While we were there, they tearfully expressed their gratitude for your help. They have no other family to help them.

They are very grateful to God for the generosity of the people who contribute to Hesed.



**Edwin, Dylan & Mayra**

### Alejandra, Continued from page 1

“There are moments when I feel devastated. Maybe I was a terrible daughter but I swear I am giving my best now because I want to have you at my side for a long time. I have never faced such a big fear before. I have learned to be strong and to fight for what I love and I have learned how great God is and His mercy for us. I thank God that you are my mother.”