

Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love (hesed),
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Psalms 90:14 (ESV)

Unfortunately, we have still not been able to travel to Guatemala. We communicate by Messenger and email but it not the same. We are really missing the young ladies as the ladies are us. We are hoping to go to Guatemala in the spring.

By God's grace, Sylvia was the only one of our young ladies who probably had Covid-19 and she recovered very quickly. Two of the ladies who lost their jobs at the beginning of Covid-19 have not been able to return to work. All of the young ladies have continued with online classes which is a system fraught with many technical problems and cancelled classes. In November they all finished their classes but some have not been able to complete special projects or final oral exams. It appears that when classes begin in January, they will still be online. After school restarts in January, we will update the status of all the participants.

Catty

We recently were able to speak with Catty. She is facing major changes in her life and was asking for counsel and prayer. The exciting news is that she should complete all of her classes this semester for her degree in Human Resources. She will still have to take an oral exam conducted by a number of her professors. The timing is unknown. Once she does graduate, she will begin looking for employment in her field. As always for new graduates the concern is lack of experience.

She has been living as an adult at Prince of Peace Home for Girls for approximately 3 years now. She has been working there and it has been a safe place for her. Because of some changes at the home, she has been told that she will need to find a new place, probably by the end of this year. She is concerned because she must also consider where her 7 year-old daughter Sofia will attend school. Housing is expensive and safety is always an issue as well as transportation for both her and Sofia. Please pray for her.



Maricruz

As we noted in the September newsletter, the ministry that she works for, *Give and Teach* has placed increased emphasis on feeding starving children. This has continued. 2020 was to have been the year that Maricruz completed all of her course work and counseling hours for a degree in Clinical Psychology. She has now completed the course work but because of the pandemic, she was not able to do the counseling hours. Her new plan is to continue in school next year, working on a Masters degree and completing her counseling hours at the same time. She should be able to graduate next year with both a license to do counseling and a Masters degree.

She worked very hard this year in writing a thesis which has been accepted. She studied the effect of children living long term in children's homes, as she herself did at Prince of Peace Home for Girls. We are waiting for the final draft to read it. Her professor believes her work should be published as he had never seen such a study done and had very little understanding of the problem. We are so proud of her!



Joselin & Lisdenia

Overall, it has been a good year for Joselin & Lisdenia. The academics continue to be very challenging but they succeed because of great diligence. **Joselin's grade average for the year was 91.1 and Lisdenia's average was 95.5. Each of them were taking a full load of 9 classes. Lisdenia has been asked to be a student representative to the faculty for the next year, a great honor for her.**

In our newsletter of December 2019, we asked for individuals to consider giving toward living expenses for the two of them. Several individuals responded most graciously and the ladies have been able to complete the school year. Their success demonstrates their commitment and gratitude to God for this opportunity.



We are asking each of you to seek God and ask if you are to be a part of giving specifically to help them with their living expenses. Hesusd will continue to pay for education.

Yojana

Yojana continues to do very well. She works for a ministry named PROVEE, which in English means “to provide love”. Their focus is the teaching and feeding of children. She is now driving a vehicle for the ministry which increases her responsibility.

Her classes remain online, one day a week, from 7 AM till 4 PM. It is difficult to maintain focus online for that long. In addition, at times the internet and or the electricity goes off.

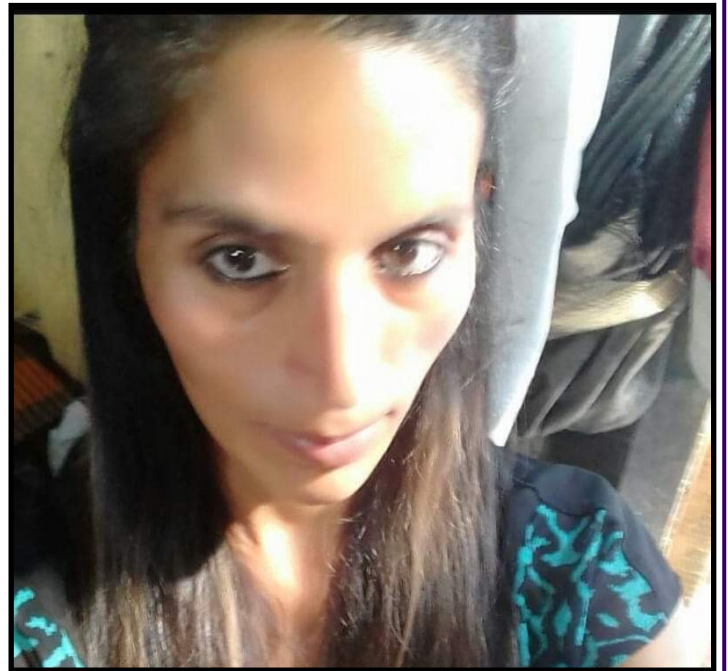
She is maturing in her faith along with her school and work responsibilities. She is always a joy to work with.

*Fabiola*

We were also able to have a video conference with Fabiola. We were very encouraged. She does not usually call us but if we ask her to, she will. She has been talking by telephone with Ninoska, our psychologist every two weeks. In person meetings are just now beginning. Ninoska has been able to begin the process of rebuilding Fabiola’s non-existent self-esteem. Fabiola is learning how to better look at herself and other people. She sounded much better than before. They are small steps but she is moving forward.

She has now been separated from the father of her 2 sons for the last 18 months. The judge granted the father visiting privileges but the 2 boys are with her. They are living in a very small house that was owned by her mother. In addition to Fabiola and her sons, another sister and her family live there and also her mother’s widower. There has also been some healing in the relations with her family. We just learned that she came from a family of 10 children!

She has been able to continue to study English online. This has been greatly augmented by having a computer and she is very grateful to those who specifically gave for this need. She has agreed to regularly call Kay to practice speaking English.



Hesed Life Ministries International

www.hesedlife.org

Donations can now be made online using a major credit card or Paypal.

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Judith

Judith has now completed all course work and her time for practical experience. She has been waiting for 3 months for an oral examination but still has no definite date in place. She is facing many challenges. When she does receive her final diploma and certification, in order to find employment, she may have to move from the small city where she lives, Puerto San Jose, to a much larger city. She has never lived in a large city and she would have no family or friends there.

In addition, in October her oldest son Alexander fell off a swing and fractured his right elbow requiring surgery. Please pray for her as she is dealing with many changes.



Covid-19 and Life in Guatemala

Guatemala has reopened in most areas but many businesses are still not functioning well. Transportation remains an issue and when it is available, it is much more expensive because fewer people are able to ride each bus. As expected, life in the rural areas, where most of the population lives, remains very difficult with many of those people still lacking food.

There are two ministries in Guatemala that are well known to Kay & Jim. They have been focusing on providing food to the very poor. Kay and Jim have been sending their own funds to help feed people. If you would be interested in helping, you can send the funds to Hesed with a note that it is for food and the funds will be sent directly to the appropriate ministries.