



Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As noted in the June newsletter, we normally go to Guatemala every May and October but were not able to go in May. We had hoped to be able to go in November, but at this point, we do not think we will be able to go before January. Kay is able to communicate with most of the ladies through “messenger” but it is limited. We again will attempt a brief update in groups similar to what we did in the June newsletter. *All of the young ladies have been able to continue in some fashion with online classes.*

As you will see, some of the ladies have been able to work from home but we still have 6 who have no source of income other than Hesed, which means our needs have increased significantly.

Covid-19 and Life in Guatemala

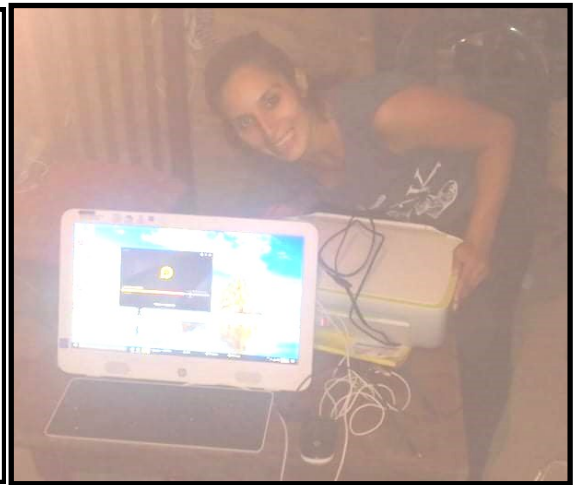
The economy is slowly reopening but the majority of workers have not returned to work. In Guatemala, the grocery stores in the big cities now have adequate supplies but the prices have increased significantly. Most of the people live in small cities or rural areas where supply is still an issue and many are without adequate food, in some cases this is severe.

Initially the numbers of Covid 19 cases and deaths were small but that has changed. Government information is always questionable but the number of cases/deaths has greatly increased. With the increase in cases/deaths, the government hospitals are overwhelmed. Accordingly, many sick people do not even go to the hospital. They just die at home. There are private hospitals available but they are very expensive.

We have only had one of our ladies become ill. In July we sent an email asking for prayer for Sylvia. Sylvia was working in a call center until 20 employees were sent home with Covid-19. She was working at home when she developed 3 days of high fever, associated with loss of taste and smell. She was continuing to work but finally was able to see a physician and was given an unknown medication with which she began to recover. Because she was improving, she was never actually tested for Covid-19. (If you did not receive the email, it is because we do not have an email address for you. If you would like to receive updates between newsletters, please send us your email address. Obviously, we will not share it with anyone.)

Fabiola

Fabiola In the June newsletter we related the need for a computer for Fabiola. We asked for help and several donors responded with generous gifts and so she was able to get a computer with Microsoft office installed. She also bought a printer. She was so excited and encouraged. It came close to her birthday and helped her to feel valued. She continues to struggle with her family but she has begun visiting by phone with our psychologist and is making progress. (She has a very inexpensive phone that she used to take the picture)



Yojana, Neydi Lizet, Dulce Jassmin, & Catty

Yohana, as Maricruz, works for a ministry that helps to feed children. The needs remain great and Yojana is very busy. She continues her classes on line to be a social worker. She recently discovered that she needed glasses and we were able to help her get a pair. She paid for half.

Neydi Lizet lost her job in June but was able to find another one. She is very responsible. She continues to study criminal justice.

Dulce Jassmin was working for a construction company and doing some creative designing (which she is studying at the University) but has been on furlough since April.

Catty continues in her teaching position at Prince of Peace Home for Girls. She was on tract to graduate from the university with a degree in Industrial Psychology (Human Resources) but it is unknown if there will be any graduations this year.

Joselin, Lisdenia, Maricruz and Deisy

Joselin and Lisdenia Many changes have occurred at their University which have produced additional hardships for them. Because they are not attending in-person classes, many professors think that there is more time to study and have greatly increased the homework assignments. Lisdenia has been able to work limited hours functioning as a grader for several teachers. Joselin was not able to obtain employment through the University but finally found part time employment working in a call center for a rental car company which serves clients in the United States. When she started, she was between semesters but her last week of training overlapped with the first week of school.

She was not able to attend those classes but her sister and another friend did for her. She has worked very hard and was concerned before her first set of exams as she felt she had not had adequate time to prepare. She actually did well except for one class with a score of 61, where 60 is the minimal passing grade. *Continued on page 4*

Maricruz has been able to continue to work with the same ministry, *Give and Teach*. Their normal emphasis is working with teachers in rural areas and providing nourishment to the students. They actually have the mothers in the village come to the school and prepare the food. It gives increased opportunity to minister to the whole family. With the pandemic and the closing of schools, the emphasis has shifted very heavily to providing food for families. A very special blessing occurred last week when Maricruz herself was baptized and we were able to watch via zoom.

Deisy continues working for UPS as a supervisor in their call center. She is working from home. She has 5 online classes which is difficult because there are many students in each class. She is doing well but lives alone and only goes out for groceries.

Hesed Life Ministries International

www.hesedlife.org

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

Jim & Kay Hines
Hesed Life Ministries
713 Prairie Timber Rd.
Burleson, Tx 76028-2688

361-425-5613
james@hesedlife.org

Mayra, Nincy, Reyna Emelia, & Judith



Mayra & Nincy's husbands have not been able to return to work. Reyna Emelia lost her job as a part-time English teacher and likewise has not been able to return to work.

Judith is in her final semester of study to be a medical lab technician. She now has a final exam which has to be in person to be able to graduate but no one seems to know when that will happen.

Joselin and Lisdenia Continued from page 3 We were concerned until she explained that in the class of 32, she and another student each scored 61 and the rest of the students failed! Unfortunately, her class schedule was changed and now is in conflict with her work. She has discussed this with her supervisor. Unless he is able to change her work schedule, she will have to resign. *She feels very bad about this but she has done everything she possibly could do to continue working.* We encouraged her and reminded her that her schooling must come first.