



# Kay and Jim Hines

## Guatemalan Girls Life Project

### Hesed Life Ministries International

Volume 9 Issue 3  
September 2021

1 Chronicles 16:34 (ESV)

<sup>34</sup> Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love (Hesed) endures forever!

### **PRAISE REPORT—THANK YOU, THANK YOU !**

**By your great generosity, we achieved the \$ 10,000 match and received the funds.**

September in Guatemala usually signals the transition from the rainy season to the dry season with very comfortable weather. It also signals the end of the school year in October. It is a very busy time for our young ladies as they are attempting to complete all of their many projects and also beginning to think of what they will need to do to continue in the same school or change schools for 2022.

Guatemala has not experienced as much of a spike in Covid cases as has recently occurred in the United States. That is primarily because there was never much of a decline. A good friend lives in a small village approximately 45 minutes from the capital, Guatemala City. She tells us that previously she could walk to the market in approximately 25 minutes. Now it takes two hours because of so many funeral processions. She also says that the bells in the local Catholic church are constantly ringing signaling another death.

Some of the people in the cities are now receiving a vaccine made in Russia, our friend calls it the “Sputnik” vaccine. We very much want to visit the young ladies in October. We have not been to Guatemala since October 2019. By October we hope to receive the booster vaccine. We covet your prayers for wisdom and protection regarding the trip.

### *Judith*

Judith has become our latest success story and again clearly demonstrates the purpose of GGLP to provide education and spiritual training to these young ladies, that they would become mature, self-sufficient women who can avoid repeating the poverty-abuse cycle. It was October 2013, the first year of GGLP. We had 5 participants in the program and were visiting them in Guatemala City. Judith asked to meet with us and we agreed. She had left Prince of Peace in 2010 at the age of 18 but had not completed even the eight-grade. We had not had any communication with her since her departure. When we met, she brought her 2 preschool aged children with her. The father of Alexander and Fernando abandoned them when the second child was born. She was working 12 hours a day *Continued on next page*

*Judith, continued from page one*

Continued from page 1 in a restaurant and was earning \$200 a month. She was paying \$ 130 per month for childcare. She was desperate and wanted to return to school to be able to better provide for her children.

Jim has never forgotten that when Judith said she wanted to return to school, Kay looked straight at her and said, “*Judith when I was trying to teach you when you were at Prince of Peace, you did absolutely nothing. Why should we invest in you now?*” Without hesitation Judith replied, “because now I have these two boys to care for”, and so the journey began.

Judith began working part time and going to school. She entered a program similar to the GED program in the United States. Balancing work, school and her children was difficult as would be expected but she was focused and diligent. She always had a good attitude and remained true to her promise to us to have no more boyfriends.

In October 2017 she graduated from high school. She told us that no one in her family had ever graduated from anything. We were able to attend her graduation in a small city about one hour from Guatemala City. It was a joyous time, unfortunately no one from her family came. In reality, we are the only family she has.

At the graduation she told us that she wanted to attend a school to study to work in a medical laboratory. She has remained focused and diligent. She actually completed all of her course work at the end of 2020 but it was mandatory to have an oral exam in person. Because of Covid this did not happen until June 2021 and now she has completed all course work and received her diploma.

By God’s grace she now has a job working in a small government laboratory. She makes minimum wage which is approximately\$ 475 per month but she will have benefits. She will work 6 hours a day and so will have much more time with her sons. It will necessitate her moving from the small fishing village, where she has always lived, to a larger city. It is scary for her but she will do it.

We could not be more grateful for what God has done in her life and for all of you who have so faithfully given to this program. Judith will be able to provide for her family and be a productive citizen. The future for her sons is immensely brighter than it would have been otherwise. She hopes at some point to be able to return to school.



Fernando, Judith and Alexander

*Joselin & Lisdenia*

Joselin and Lisdenia finally seem to be moving forward. I would say that they have “looked around the corner” but it is probably too soon to know if they have really “turned the corner”. As noted in the June newsletter, both girls wanted to return to school for the semester beginning the end of July and that has happened. They are attending online classes. They realize that the academics are going to be difficult. Staying focused will be a real challenge. They have set a goal to pass all of their classes, as opposed to trying to make all “A”s. At this time we think that is wise. We know they will work very hard.



Each one is seeing a different psychiatrist and has agreed to counseling. Other supporters are helping to pay for these services. We believe it is a good step. They now realize that it was a mistake to turn away people who really wanted to help them. They have moved to a new location that is safe and much quieter than while living with their uncle. Once in person classes resume, transportation will be a major issue but we will cross that bridge when it comes. Your love and prayers have made a difference.

*Brief notes*

*Catty*, we noted in June that Catty had completed all of her course work and was going through the process to obtain all her necessary documents to be certified as having graduated. Praise God that has all been done and she is now pursuing employment. Please pray that she will have great favor.

*Dulce Jasmin*, had returned to work and contracted Covid 19. She missed two weeks of work but has done well and has returned to work. She was able to continue all of her online classes.

*Adela*, rejoined the program in January to be able to complete her final year of high school. She is on track to do that in October. In July, Kay and Jim were able to “attend” her wedding via face time. We saw the whole 1 1/2 hours. It was a very happy occasion.

*Mayra*, has been very steady and diligent in her law classes. Myra along with her son Dylan and husband Edwin have remained Covid 19 free and her husband has returned to work as a waiter in a restaurant.

## Hesed Life Ministries International

**[www.hesedlife.org](http://www.hesedlife.org)**

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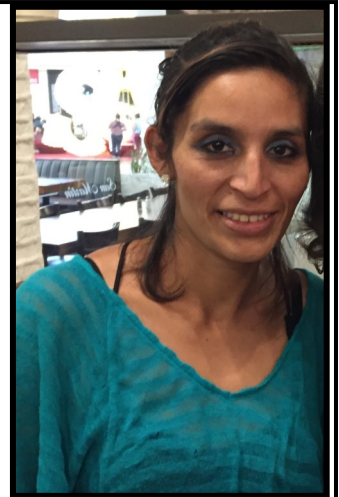
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### *Fabiola*

Fabiola remains in a very difficult situation. She and her 2 sons continue to live in a very small house with her relatives who do not want her to be there. The family forced her to purchase land from an uncle. She was making monthly payments without a contract. Hesed was able to help her get a contract in place specifying the number of payments and a termination date.

Because of Covid she has been unable to find steady work. She is still attending English classes online but progress has been slow. She has resumed talking to Ninoska our psychologist which we feel is very important. She has a high school degree in Physical Education and we are hoping that when in-person classes resume, we can help her get a teaching position.



### *Sylvia*

Deserted by Ian's father and left to pick up the pieces of her life alone, Sylvia is progressing by fits and starts. She has begun talking with a Psychologist. She has learned to drive which gives her much flexibility and many advantages. She has found staying in one room to live and care for her son and work drives her crazy. She now goes out for exercise several times weekly and plays soccer. Migraines prompted a visit to the doctor and she is working to sort out this and other physical problems.

Periodically Ian's father finds her and verbally abuses her telling her she is ugly and was a bad wife to him. Sylvia is learning that although people can say hurtful things, a person does not have to believe or agree with these things. This has been a difficult lesson for her. Please continue to pray for her as she navigates her new life.