

Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Philippians 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

Hesed is the legal structure to administer the Guatemalan Girls Life Project. All that we do is about the lives of these young ladies. We not only support them financially, but also provide leadership, hope, encouragement, council, instruction, correction as they seek God and seek to walk the path He has for them. The purpose of each newsletter is to share the reality of their lives and what God is accomplishing through the good and the bad times.

Joselin & Lisdenia

2021 Was a very difficult year for the twins, 2022 better but 2023 has been very good. Joselin continues to work very hard in school. She has finished the first semester for this year and her grades were excellent.

Joselin will have a month-long class in July on Data Analysis. In August she will begin her 8th and final semester of college. She will complete all of her course work in December and then in 2024 work on a final project. She should graduate in July 2024 with a degree in International Business from a first-class university.

Lisdenia should complete her final project and be able to graduate this July also with a degree in International Business from the same university. We are waiting for details and hope to be able to attend her graduation.

Words cannot express how grateful we are to God for what He has done in their lives. When their younger sister Marjorie died suddenly in a motor cycle accident in January 2021, they were plunged into utter darkness.

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Joselin & Lesdenia, continued

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Their world collapsed. The three girls had been abandoned by their mother when they were 5 and 8 years old. Now tragedy struck again.

By God's grace and through the help of many Christian friends, they began the healing process. Those of you who have walked a similar path understand the depth of the pain. It is immeasurable.

However, many of you also know that God's steadfast, faithful love (Hesed) is far greater. With Him, there is always hope, there will always be new light.

We initially became involved in the lives of the 3 sisters in March 2005, about a year after they had come to Prince of Peace Home for Girls in Guatemala City. When Lesdenia and Joselin turned fifteen, they asked Jim to speak at their Quinceañera (fifteenth birthday) celebration. He was honored and humbled. In 2016 they came to our home in Corpus Christi and lived with us for 6 months while they worked on improving their English.

We have walked a long path with them as God has intertwined our lives. We love them, they love us.

We have been most blessed by God's graciousness in allowing us to be a part of their lives and not just us, but many others, including all of you who have so faithfully supported this ministry. **On their behalf we say THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Please rejoice with us in what He has done in their lives.** The good work that He has begun, He will bring to completion.

María Raquel

Raquel and her husband continue to be a great encouragement to work with. They have been through some very difficult times economically but continue to work together and move forward. As we reported in December, Raquel completed her high school education and was considering a career in nursing. Our concern was that with a significant hereditary hearing loss, she would not be able to function well in a medical setting.

She and her husband researched the topic and were in agreement that nursing would not be a good field for her. After due consideration they decided it best for her to pursue a career in education. Accordingly in January she began a university program pursuing a degree in literature and language.

Her husband remains very supportive and we believe she will have great success. He is very diligent in sending us her school expenses and the receipts when they are paid.



Maria Adela

Adela was the other participant whom we reported in December had completed her high school program. For her it had been a very long, and difficult process but she persisted and graduated. It is significant because it opens the door to attend technical school. Without the high school diploma, she could not attend technical school.

She had a long desire to study for a culinary career but we were concerned because she was living in the Peten, the northern part of Guatemala which is remote and mostly jungle. Fortunately, she and her husband were able to move back to Guatemala City and in February she was able to start an introductory program in culinary sciences.

Below are photos of her high school diploma and some of the dishes she is learning to prepare. Your faithfulness has allowed her family to move from a lifelong struggle in poverty to having real hope.

She is a very kind and caring person who just could not do well in a typical academic setting. Please rejoice with us.



Deisy

2023 has been a very difficult year for Deisy. At the end of January, she was coming down some stairs, tripped and broke her right ankle. She like her sister Adela, has been living in the Peten which is a 6–7-hour, hard bus ride to Guatemala City. She was forced to seek medical care locally, which was very limited. After about a week she was able to see a surgeon and ultimately had surgery on the ankle. Transportation to get her back and forth to the hospital and then her follow up visits was very stressful for her.

She works for UPS (United Parcel Service) and money is taken from her salary to pay into the government health care system. She should have had insurance coverage but because of her remote location there were no facilities and she had to pay for everything. She should have been able to receive sick pay from the insurance plan but, as you can imagine, it required multiple forms to be completed and again there was no local facility. *Continued on top of next page*

Hesed Life Ministries International

www.hesedlife.org

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

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Deisy, continued

Continued from bottom page 2 As her foot slowly improved, she was able to make a trip to another city to complete the paper work. She still has not received any funding and has not been able to go back to work. They are just now starting physical therapy on her. Please pray for her recovery and return to work.

Gabriella

Gabriela began the program in January 2022 when she entered the university to study law. She is originally from Nicaragua but we knew her as an 11-year-old girl at Prince of Peace Home in Guatemala City. After 2 years living in Guatemala, her family moved to Costa Rica where she continues to live with her 2 sons.

Her grades for law school last year were excellent and we were anticipating another successful year. Unfortunately, after school began in January her husband left the family. We had already paid for the whole semester and there was no refund available.

We were very concerned as to how she could provide for her family and go to school but since the semester was paid for, she wanted to try to continue.

She was able to move and live with her mother and she found a job working 2 shifts in a restaurant. She is not a citizen of Costa Rica and when she began law school, we emphasized the need to go through the legal process to get papers so that she could work. Fortunately, she did get the papers and so when she needed to work, she was able to work to support her family. She is very committed to studying and so far, she has been able to make it work. She has completed the first semester and started the 2nd. Her school is on a 3 semester per year schedule.

