

Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

Volume 11 Issue 3
September 2023

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

As most of the students in the states are starting a new school year, most in Guatemala will be completing the school year in October. When the economy in the United States struggles, those struggles are magnified in Guatemala and such life has been even more difficult for many in Guatemala. Overall the young ladies have done well. Several are finishing their collegiate course work and will be working on their thesis for graduation next year. Others have struggled mightily as noted in our brief updates. We are tentatively scheduled to visit Guatemala November 1st for 10 days and be able to review this year and begin to discuss 2024.

Dulce Jassmin Tobarr Barrios

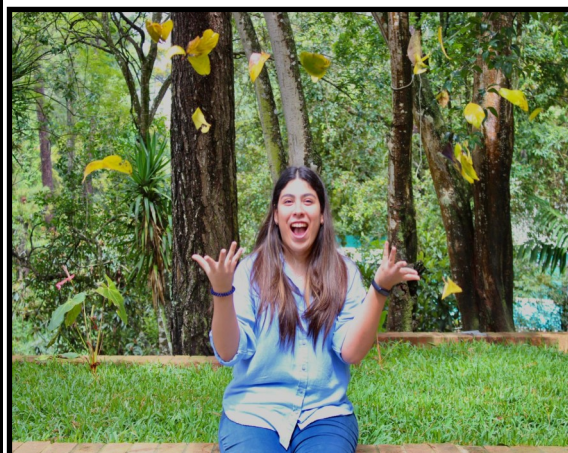
Dulce is doing very well and is always a joy to work with.

She continues to study Graphic Design but in January she also began to study English, which is a requirement for her to graduate from the University.

As we mentioned in December 2022, she was a victim of domestic violence in her grandparents home. As far as we know there have been no further incidences.

Her degree in Graphic Design includes photography. She recently started her first photography class and we were able to help her get a camera.

In the bottom row are some examples of her work.



Maria "Soledad" Velasquez Ortega

Soledad Valesquez has been our "boots on the ground" in Guatemala since we began the program in 2013.

When Soledad suffered a stroke in February 2022, she lost the function of her left arm and leg. It was a very dark time as she was only 42 years old. With great courage and diligence, she fought through the rehabilitation process and now can ambulate slowly.

Previously she had completed her Masters and Doctorate in Education but was let go from her employment during the rehabilitation process.

Her family has been very supportive and Sole and her husband have started a new business teaching English and other languages online. They have secured contracts and are moving ahead. Join with us in wishing them well in this!



Joselin & Lisdenia

We reported in June that Lisdenia would graduate in July. She had completed all of her course work and only lacked passing the TOEFL Essentials exam to demonstrate proficiency in English. She thought, as we did, that her English was good enough to pass but she received a 65 and 68 was required to pass. There was not enough time left for her to retake the exam and still graduate this July.

Since it appears very likely that her sister Joselin will graduate in July 2024, Lisdenia has elected to wait and "walk the stage" with her sister next year. The really good news is that Lisdenia has been accepted and just started a 6-month internship with Ernst and Young, considered to be one of the top 4 international accounting firms.

This is a great challenge and opportunity for her.

Joselin is entering her final semester studying International Business.

She has applied to a program by Disney Inc. that would bring her to the United States for 6 months to work at various locations and attend business classes to learn how the company operates. As expected, the application process is rigorous. *Continued top of next page*



Joselin & Lisdenia

Continued from bottom of page 2 Joselin wrote an essay as to why she would like to participate in the program and she asked us to read it. We both thought it was very well written. Please pray for her. This would be a great opportunity. It also would be a very new phase in the life of the twins. They have never lived apart from one another. We have joked with them telling them that they must realize that when they marry, they cannot marry the same man.

As you can see, we love to tell the success stories of these marvelous young ladies who are part of GGLP. We also enjoy sharing success stories of our former participants. We would like to share one of those stories now, MariCruz Itzep.

MariCruz Itzep

Two years ago MariCruz graduated with a Masters in Psychology with emphasis in counseling. After graduation she continued with her prior job with Give and Teach Ministry, in order to save money for future endeavors.

Her time at this ministry came to an end and she has decided to move out of Guatemala City to Salama, a smaller town, which is north of the city where Her mother and sister live. MariCruz has been in the process of purchasing land there where she wants to both live and have her Psychology practice.

In order to have income for these goals, she has started a new business teaching English and began with 17 students. We wish her well and are proud of the confidence and know-how she has gained to be able to accomplish these goals. She writes :

“Who would have thought me being an English teacher. Thank you, God, for opening those doors for MC English Academy. I’m just finishing my first week with 17 students and I just can’t love it enough. “

Jeremiah 29:11

11 ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.



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
Email: Redbrickhouse61913@pm.me**

Brief Updates

Deisy— In June we reported that in January Deisy fell and broke her ankle and with difficulty she finally had surgery. Unfortunately she continued to have pain and much difficulty with ambulating. We arranged for her to see a different Orthopedic surgeon in Guatemala City who informed her that she needs to have another surgery to correct the first. She is now waiting to see if the insurance will cover this as she paid for much of her first surgery. It has been a very difficult, long process.

Nincy— She began the program in 2018. She was able to complete grades 8 through 12 in 2 years and then diligently studied English for 2 years and last year began to work in an English speaking call center. For the first time her family had steady income. However over the last 2 months her husband lost his job and she began to have recurring abdominal pain. Consequently she was unable to work on many days. She has been trying to work through the government health system which is very slow. They finally reached the point of having no food and were 2 days from being evicted from their apartment. We were able to help but it will be an ongoing issue until her health is restored.

Reyna Emelia Estrada— With great sadness in May we had to release Reyna Emelia from the program. Despite multiple conversations with her, she was unable to grasp the necessity of being a truthful person. It was a particularly difficult decision because she had completed all the course work for her degree to be a Social Worker. She only lacked writing a thesis. We hope & believe that she will continue on and eventually graduate but it will be much more difficult for her.