

JIM AND KAY HINES

HESED LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



JIM, MARICRUZ, AND ZANDY, MARICRUZ'S FRIEND

Since our last newsletter in March, there has been much activity with the young ladies in Guatemala. It is an exciting time for several reasons. Maricruz graduated in May with her master's degree. We anticipate that Lisdenia and Joselin will graduate from the university in July. In addition, Joselin is completing a six-month internship with Walt Disney in Florida. We will comment on each one.

We are seeing the fruit of the labors and giving of many people over a long period of time. Your words of encouragement, your giving, your prayers, all have been an integral part. We hope that you are rejoicing with us in being a part of what God has begun to do and will continue to do in the lives of all of the young ladies who have been part of the program. He is their Father and they are his children. Those of us who are parents understand, that when you bless someone's children, you are blessing the parents.

GUATEMALAN GIRLS LIFE PROJECT

A father of the fatherless
and a judge for the widows,
Is God in His holy
habitation.

Psalm 68:5

MARICRUZ

Although Maricruz actually completed her course work in 2021-22, with an undergraduate degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in the same subject, due to Covid she was not able to actually walk across the stage or have any ceremony until May of 2024. Jim and I were privileged to be able to attend these wonderful events. As you can see in the above photo, Mari Cruz is flanked by Dr. Jim and a friend, all of whom are in caps and gowns. In Guatemala honor is given to a person or persons who influenced and who aided in the process of obtaining the degrees! What an honor for Dr Jim to be one of those people!

Maricruz had 2 ceremonies. The first was in a small church where the Master's Degree was celebrated in a small ceremony. Then on another day at the Galileo University where she attended, the undergraduate degree in Psychology was celebrated with many other people and speeches. The immediate family of Maricruz was in attendance also. Then after the second celebration there was a private party where Maricruz was celebrated by friends and family for her amazing accomplishment.

Maricruz told us that she is the first in her family to graduate from the University and many others have not graduated from High School. We appreciate all who made this possible by giving generously and often to this ministry!



JIM, MARICRUZ AND KAY

JOSELIN



In March we were able to travel to Orlando FL and visit with Joselin. She had been there almost two months so it was a good time to visit to see how she was doing and to encourage her. As we have noted previously her major at the university in Guatemala is International Business. It is a highly competitive process to be selected as one of the students from a foreign country to come to Orlando to participate in Disney's multiple operations.

It has been a very challenging time for her. She is living in another country and speaking English almost all of the time with people with many different accents but all who tend to speak very fast. In addition, it was a significant learning curve just to learn what it was that Disney wanted her to do as she worked in their various theme parks. Her normal shift was from 3:00 or 4:00 PM to 11:00 or 12:00 PM. Most of the time she would be standing and by March it was becoming very hot outside. She was sharing a very small apartment with three other girls, one of whom was a good friend from Guatemala.

Overall, she has responded well to the various challenges. It has stretched her beyond anything she could have imagined and she is learning to deal with difficulties. Disney has strict protocols regarding work performance and personal behavior. They are dealt with very simply in that if there is a problem you are dismissed from the program and go home. She will come to visit us in Texas at the end of June and then return to Guatemala in July anticipating her graduation from the university.

MAFER

When we were in Guatemala in May, we were able to visit with several of the girls. Maria Fernando, "Mafer" as she is called, was introduced in our December newsletter where we noted that she frequently makes deliveries on her motorcycle to make additional income. However, during our visit in May we realized that she is severely near-sighted. We have no idea how she was driving the motorcycle. She realized that she needed glasses but there was no money in her budget. Through our Guatemalan friends, we found a very reputable place for her to go. We were able to cover the cost of the glasses, though she needed major corrections, and it was more expensive. She was so excited to get the glasses. We cannot imagine the joy that it must be for her to actually see the world around her. THANK YOU FOR MAKING THAT POSSIBLE FOR HER.

Another thing Mafer spoke with us was about the most recent job she had taken. She lives and works in the home of a 90-plus-year-old woman who is of strong character. Mafer is required to sleep in the same room with her to be able to attend to her needs no matter the hour. They have had some interesting exchanges when Mafer needed to study or have some alone time.

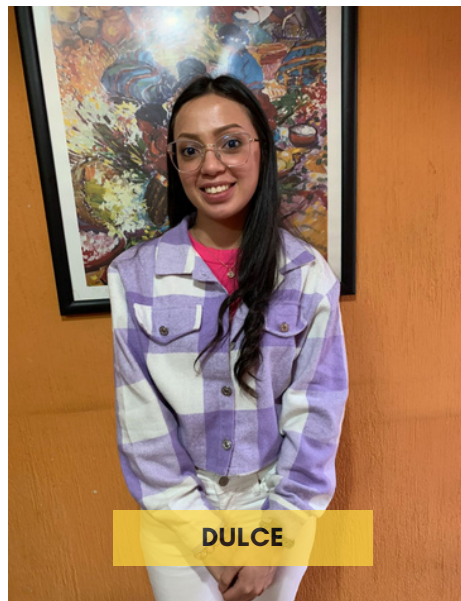


VILMA

In March we shared about Vilma, the social worker at Prince of Peace. In May, immediately after we returned from Guatemala, Vilma and her 18-year-old and her 8-year-old sons came to visit and stay with us for 12 days. (She also has a 13-year-old son.) It was mostly a time of rest for her. She and her husband Rafael, live on the campus at Prince of Peace and so they are busy 24/7 with multiple issues with the girls. The only way to get rest is to leave. We took them to the zoo to a Ranger baseball game, to the Ft. Worth stockyards and to do much shopping. It was a privilege and honor to have her in our home.



JIM AND KAY FAMILY WITH VILMA AND HER TWO SONS



DULCE

DULCE

We last discussed Jasmin Dulce Tobar in September 2023. She continues to study Graphic Design at the University and is doing well. We had previously reported that she had suffered domestic violence at the hands of her grandfather. She was living with her grandfather and grandmother at the time. She did not want to leave her grandmother alone and so she stayed in the home. As far as we know, there were further occurrences of the domestic violence. Unfortunately, recently her grandmother died and we are not aware of any new changes in her living situation. We would ask for prayer for her provision and safety.

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With your valuable contribution, you not only transform one life but also impact lives across generations.