



Kay and Jim Hines

Guatemalan Girls Life Project

Hesed Life Ministries International

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Nehemiah 1:5 I said, "I beseech You, O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who preserves the covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments."

Transition...

A struggle that virtually all of the children's homes in Guatemala face is how to facilitate the transition of their young people from living in an institution to living independently.

Upon leaving a children's home essentially all of them will have no financial support from their family. In fact, if they do find employment their family will expect to receive money from them even though their family may rarely have visited them while they were in the children's home. So they face alone the overwhelming task of finding employment, finding housing and making all of the daily decisions that are a part of being an adult.

Guatemalan Girls Life Project began as a means to provide not only financial support but also encouragement and council to the girls. As we have progressed we have learned much as have the girls. This month three of our girls, Maricruz, Joselin, and Lisdenia left Prince of Peace and joined with another girl from Prince of Peace, Deisy. Deisy had been in the states and has just returned to Guatemala. They are now sharing an apartment, learning how to live together as responsible adults. The following is a posting that Maricruz made on Facebook giving us insight to her inner feelings.

Maricruz

It has been until today very difficult, this question of moving. I am in a resistant mode in that I do not want to pack anything. After 14 years of living at POP, I have arrived at this moment to say goodbye to a place where I have gone from being a child to being an adult, a place where I learned not only to love those around me and to help those around me, but also where almost daily I heard of the love of God.

I have known marvelous people, friends that have taken me into their soul, including people who had to listen to my temper tantrums, people who were there believing in me that I would be something in my life.

Today I am closing one more chapter in my life. I feel super full of emotion. I cannot

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be more grateful to all the people who at some point were a part of my life. The life of an institutionalized person is a path with many stereotypes and taboos and no human being who has not lived and experienced it can understand.

I will keep working at Prince of Peace as long as God permits. Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to ask how they are able to help. I am very grateful for your prayers.

Maricruz



We have 3 new girls: Alejandra, Marjorie, Sandy

Alejandra Quijada came to Prince of Peace Home for Girls because her mother could not care for her. Alejandra remained at POP until she was 18 when she left to marry the son of one of the maintenance men at the Home.

Alejandra and Edwin now have 2 sons and live with Edwin's family. Alejandra suffers with a curved spine and often has pain but always has a great attitude.

She has decided to return to school so that she can graduate. She is in the 8th grade in a program for adults who are very motivated to graduate. She will then proceed to high school and vocational training. Alejandra is very soft spoken and quiet and loving to her sons and husband.

Alejandra, Edwin and their two sons



Marjorie



*To the right,
Joselin,
Marjorie,
Lisdenia*

*To the left ,
Hair styl-
ing done
by
Marjorie*



Marjorie Lopez is the younger sister of Lisdenia and Joselin, the twins who were in our home last year. Marjorie had 2 sons within one year's time and is currently separated from their father. Marjorie is again living with her grandmother.

Marjorie's mother left the family when she was still very young and the girls were raised by their grandmother until she brought them to POP Home because she could no longer care for them.

Marjorie seems to have suffered the most from the loss of a mother. But, she has decided to attend Beauty School. Marjorie has always been artistic.

Hesed is helping Marjorie with tuition and monthly payments while another gentleman is helping with supplies. Many supplies are required for this type of training. The supplies alone are \$300 each month.

Sandy

Sandy Morales stayed at Prince of Peace until she was 16 yr. She had been an excellent student and one of the receptionists at the medical clinic while Dr. Jim and Kay were there. After leaving the Home, Sandy married and had a son.

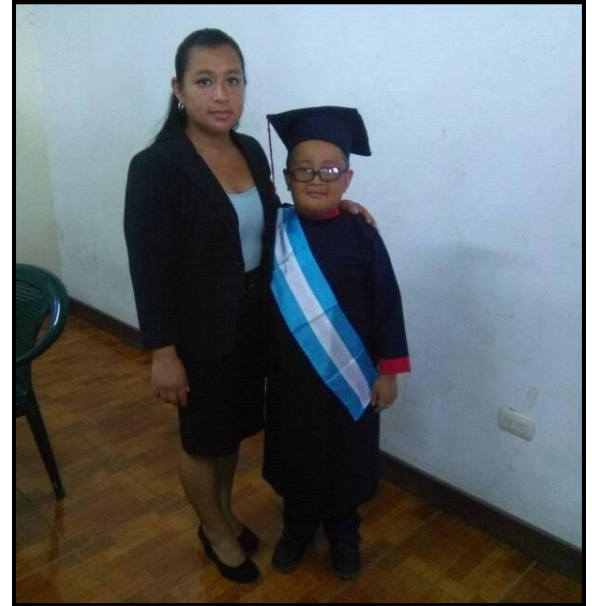
She has continued to work at POP Home as the person who cares for the clothing room there. It is her responsibility to receive all clothing and process it and size it and keep it in good order and also to outfit each girl with clothing when the need arises.

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This is a big job as girls are continually coming and going . Sandy also helps out in the kitchen. She has decided to return to school and has maintained a desire to have a career in nursing.

Remember that in Guatemala, high school is a vocational time of training toward life goals. Sandy is working to fulfill her dream in nursing. Sandy loves her son, Marcos David, and is assertive and strong and highly motivated.



Sandy with her son, Marcos

UPDATE ON KAY.....In the December news letter we related that Kay had experienced a small amount of bleeding in her eye and was unable to make the trip to Guatemala in October. We are grateful to report that on her follow up visit to the retinal specialist, her eye had improved significantly. She will have another follow up in May. We covet your continued prayers.

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We would like to set up a web page to which we can add a donate button. If you know someone who could help us with that, please send an email to the contact address below. THANKS

Contact information:
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