



LAS BUENAS NUEVAS GOOD NEWS FROM GUATEMALA

Kemmel & Lisa Dunham Vol 2, Issue 3: 2006



Ministry Partners

Eastside Church of Christ (www.honorgod.org)

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Saludos (Greetings) de Chichicastenango, Canton Chulumal Guatemala!

Us in front of our home in Canton
Chulumal, Chichicastenango

We do not actually live right in town but
close enough for a 20 minute walk.

We do not have an address, just the
yellow house at the end of the road.



Make a request, and it will be answered; what you are searching for you will get; give the sign, and the door will be open to you: Because to everyone who makes a request, it will be given; and he who is searching will get his desire, and to him who gives the sign, the door will be open. Matthew 7:7-8

God is Good!! This has been a great but fast year!

We started the year with many doubts and reservations about how to start a new ministry in the area of Chichicastenango, as we only knew a few people and really did not have any local person to help guide us in what was the correct way to proceed. Thus, we prayed and God brought us Gaspar Chan who became our health promoter and faithful friend. From there we continued to pray for acceptance in the communities and that the churches and volunteers would grasp on to the idea of "ministry" and "serving our neighbors". Well, we were not disappointed there either. God blessed us with churches who became extremely active and helped us develop a clinic atmosphere of compassion and respect for the patients.

Not everything has been easy but we know God has led us and deserves all of the honor.

In this newsletter we want to give you a glimpse of the activities since June and highlight some of the ways God has opened doors for us here in Chichicastenango, Department of Quiche.

Mobile Medical Clinic Ministry Update

As noted above, the clinics are growing in both number and maturity. We have good participation from the church members and the communities we serve continue to indicate the need for medical care. News of the clinics also is spreading to new areas and in most we are still seeing over 40% new patients (Just this week one of our larger clinics had a new community visit and they were excited to go back and announce the following date - ouch!!). It is pretty evident that there is more need in some communities than others as patient numbers can vary from low to very high. This gave us an opportunity to speak with some of the communities to stagger their clinics. The 2 communities we spoke with were the 2 communities mentioned in the June Newsletter - Paxot II and Mactzul V. As a result, alongside the volunteers from those churches, we have begun 2 new outreach clinics in areas with very few christians. These 2 new towns are Tzanixnam and Chimente. We met with the leaders and they have both opened up their municipal centers for the clinics! In 2007 we will visit each location at least once a month.



**Health Promoters
Sebastian and Felipe with
mayor of Chimente**



**Tzanixnam Municipal
Building**



**Men in Hats are the committee
watching how we worked in
clinic - We passed inspection!**

Once in Choacaman IV we left to do a home visit with a woman in the area that is dying from cancer. One of our volunteer health promoters from the church and his wife and sister in law asked to go with us so we all headed out. It was uplifting to us, because they came in with us and offered to sing a song first and then prayed with the patient and shared the gospel with her. They were very nurturing and followed us as we went to visit another family with a sick mother. What a privilege to work side by side with our brother and sisters, administering the love of God.

For 2007 we will start a full-time schedule in the area surrounding Chichicastenango with mobile clinics ranging from 45 minutes to 90 minutes from town. We will be increasing from 3 clinic days a week to 4 to 5 clinic days a week. New clinics will be in towns of La Palma, Las Trampas, Chuguexa, Mactzul VI, La Estancia, Pacaja Xesic, Tzanixnam, and Chimente.

New Physician starting in 2007

In addition to new clinics, we will supplement the work with the addition of a new physician! Her name is Dr. Josefina Lux and she is from this area and can speak the local language – kiche. This will be a blessing for us and the communities we serve. Her picture is on the Walmart Photo site. As a side note, her brother Dr. David Lux has also joined us and will be working in the coastal area where Clinica Ezell is located.

2006 Activities - Medical and Project Teams (see pictures at the Walmart Photo Site)

We have been privileged to have several groups come to assist in mobile clinics, projects, and even to just lift our spirits. Here is an idea of how God has been working here.

- May Ari Cale – great intern that was here for 2 months!
- June Medical Evangelism Training Interns
Pat Hile gave the men’s seminar (all in kiche language)
Oak Hills Church medical/dental team in Chichi area
- July Justin Gettings – another great intern!
HTI Mobile Med / Dent team trip here in Chichicastenango area
Roberta and Duane Sheraw (Kemmel’s mom and stepdad came to visit!)
HTI Ophthalmology team in Clinica Ezell
- August Our very own elders visited, Bob and Dottie Belden and Don and Anne Berryhill!
Team of professors from Univeristy of Tennessee – agriculture and water consult – very cool group of folks and brought us great info to use.
Brentwood Hills Church, Nashville, TN dental team – tooth pulling machines!
Linda Henry and Rosario Poncio gave the first-ever ladies seminar in Paxot II – in kiche
- September HTI General and GYN surgery team at Clinica Ezell
Future missionaries Glenn and Neva Burkey visited and helped us on a scouting trip to evaluate new areas for clinics (Tzanixnam and Chimente).
New clinic started in Xepocol, home church of health promoter, Gaspar Chan
- October HTI General and GYN surgery team – no flooding this time!
- November HTI Mobile Med/Dent team from Memorial Road (including Martin and Lisa Paschall and Charlie and Anna and Allie and Claire Ferrell, who are Lisa’s parents and sister and family!)
First clinic in Tzanixnam and started other clinics in Pacaja Xesic, Mactzul VI and La Palma

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed." Proverbs 16:3

Future Plans - Clinica Caris

God has blessed us with a piece of land nearby and we have begun construction on a new clinic. The funds were graciously donated by the Caris Foundation. Without help from foundations such as this we would be hindered in the work that could be accomplished. This will be a central clinic for referrals and pre/post op visits and equipped for a dentist as well. We are excited to get started and have had the privilege of getting to know the members of the leadership committee in the area, asking permission to build, install electricity and buy into the water project in the area. As you can imagine (or maybe not), there are a lot of hoops to jump through when you move into a community. As an organization, we are seen as having lots of money, although our funds go to provide medical care. So we have been blessed to have Gaspar Chan, our health promoter be our representative at these meetings, to try and make sure we get a fair shake. Be in prayer as we move into this new project, that we will be good stewards of the money and a blessing to the community.



First phase - the adobe crop!

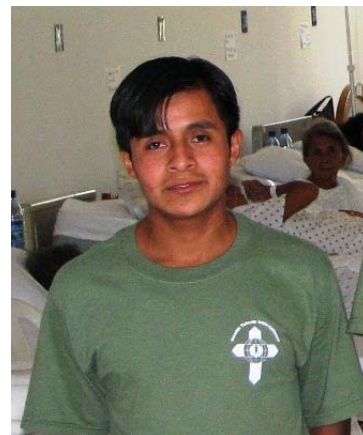
Well on our way to a new Clinica Caris!



Second phase - start the foundation

Future Plans - New Full-time Health Promoter

In November of this year we hired a new health promoter, Juan Quino Bernardo. Juan has been a volunteer health promoter in the community of Paxot II. One of our plans is to have Gaspar trained to be able to perform teeth cleanings during our medical clinics. Thus, we have hired Juan to help provide other support we need in the clinic performing vital signs, praying, playing pharmacist with Kemmel and providing support to the volunteers.



Prayer Requests

Call to Me, and I will answer you, And I will tell you wondrous things, Secrets you have not known.
Jeremiah 33:3

“What if his people prayed.....?” Casting Crowns

Continue to pray for the new outreach clinics we are starting with the congregations of Paxot II and Mactzul V.

Pray for the new clinics we will be starting this next year. That each church will have volunteers dedicated to the service of the Lord, willing to share compassion with each patient we encounter so that they may also know of the love we receive each day.

God answered our prayer to provide land to build the clinic! Now we need to continue to pray for a smooth process with the contractor and the communities.

Pray for the acceptance of the new physician Dr. Josefina Lux in the communities and that God will bless her with wisdom and knowledge in her practice of medicine.

Pray that we will work with humility in these towns and that the support of the community leaders will help provide the safety we need to continue working in their area. Pray that God will lead the way.

Pray for others who are interested in working here with us. That they may receive the funds needed and that they will continue to seek God's will.

Pray that God will continue to provide the means to allow Health Talents International to work in the ministry in Guatemala.

Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry.

A special thanks to all of our supporters including the congregations Eastside Church of Christ in Colorado Springs and Meadowbrook Church of Christ in Jackson, MS.

We are also grateful to the supporters of Project MedSend who allow medical personnel to enter the mission field through the provision of grants for school loans.