



Annual Report 2020

Mexican Medical Ministries



Helping the people in Mexico during the pandemic by providing dental & medical services, food, hand-knitted hats, and bags filled with essential hygiene items. Above are also pictures of the church at La Esperanza being refurbished, with higher walls and new roofing.

The Lord Shall Renew Their Strength

Article by
Pastor Steve Crews

Carlitos, who is 6 months old
& healed of Covid



The words of the Apostle Paul ring true to us right now: "He gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." (Titus 2:14). Later, in 3:14, he goes on to exhort God's people "to meet pressing needs."

This year, Mexican Medical learned more about the meaning of "pressing needs." Early this spring, in less than a month, everything we had planned was canceled and everything we were accustomed to doing was changed. For the first time in 50 years, there would be no short-term missions teams coming to assist the missionaries with projects and outreaches. But our worry and anxiety were quickly replaced with an avalanche of joy, because throughout our history we have been helping prepare our national partners for such a day as this.

Our founder (the late Loran Long) was asked what the word "medical" in the name Mexican Medical Ministries meant to him. He said that even from the organization's earliest days, "medical" was all-encompassing: performing surgeries, providing food and medicine, and even distributing stocking caps in the winter. This year, all of that has been included in our efforts to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of our Mexican brothers and sisters.

From the inception of our work, it was planned that one day nationals would be the ones meeting pressing needs. This was definitely the year for that! When many of our older American missionaries at risk returned to the US to wait out the pandemic, our Mexican team went into high gear. They began distributing food and other essentials to those in great need in their communities. Soon, they were also able to give out hundreds of cloth masks sewn by many volunteers in the US.

The distributions were ongoing, and they found themselves with many opportunities to share the Gospel and pray for people. Our folks stuck up north realized the importance of fundraising for the increased need down south. I am elated to report that, despite the MexMed family being unable to send US teams down this year, that didn't stop the flow of love represented by so many generous donations.

Hundreds of people continue to be fed and are having their health care needs met during this crisis. Some of our local teams are providing financially for pastors so they can continue to minister to their flocks. We are even supporting families who, sadly, have lost loved ones. In such a time as this, we are grateful to be used by God to accomplish what His word has commissioned us to do--love our neighbor!

*Local missionaries
attending to
the critical needs
of those affected by
the Covid-19 pandemic*



Bringing Goods, Groceries, & The Gospel to Tijuana & Beyond

Article by
Craig & Kristi Libby

On March 7th, we held a brigada (large medical outreach) in Tijuana, at which 199 people prayed to receive Christ as their Savior! A week later, life as we knew it came to a halt all around the world. While this meant that we wouldn't be able to hold other planned upcoming health outreaches, it did allow us to deepen relationships with our key Tijuana brigada leaders through quality time spent together fixing, replacing, and upgrading brigada equipment and supplies. Several of our partners in Tijuana started feeding programs to meet the immediate needs in their communities. We were pleased to be able to come alongside them by providing and distributing food and Bibles as a demonstration of Jesus' love in action with the truth of the Gospel message.

Although the borders are officially closed, we praise God that we have been allowed unlimited access to cross the border regularly to visit with our Mexican pastors, partners, and friends. Each time we cross, we are able to import and ship much-needed medical, scripture translation, and food distribution supplies from Tijuana to our fellow missionaries farther south who, due to temporary travel restrictions within Mexico, were unable to come north to obtain their ministry supplies. These resources have been essential to them as they share the Gospel during this time.

A highlight this year was a visit with baby Victoria. We had received word that baby Victoria had some medical needs, so Craig and Pastor Octavio went to visit with Victoria and her family in their humble home in the remote hills of Tijuana. Not knowing exactly what to expect, they brought a gift of food and prayed for healing for Victoria. As they were wrapping up their visit they asked Victoria's mom and grandma about their relationship with the Lord. This simple question opened the door for them to receive Christ as their Savior.

It has been a great year as we continue serving with our Mexican partners, provide needed supplies, and help lead people to their Savior. We look forward to what God has in store for 2021!

Prayer Tent at TJ Outreach



Distributing food, hygiene items and other essentials in various communities in Mexico



He Heals The Broken Hearted & Binds Up Their Wounds

Article by Dr. Alejandro, Ruth & daughter Dr. Rita González

Here in San Quintín, all COVID-19 cases are sent to the government hospital in Vicente Guerrero or the general hospital in Ensenada. Most of the cases we have seen here at Hospital El Buen Pastor are contacts with mild to moderate respiratory symptoms. These patients are sent home after notifying the health department. We have had only one case with severe symptoms that had to be transferred to the government hospital.

As the photo shows, we have erected a tent outside the hospital to perform consults and triage to determine if patients have infectious diseases. In this way the hospital can remain open for all other patients in need.

Triage tent next to Hospital's pharmacy



The regional federal government hospital asked us if we could receive their obstetric emergencies, as their hospital will only receive COVID-19 cases. Later they asked if they could also send us their emergency general surgeries and trauma patients! We have seen the hand of God in His medical work here, honoring the prayers and efforts of His saints. He gives our small mission hospital the work and resources we need and has protected us from contagious cases and tragic deaths. God has been so merciful and faithful to us!

We need your continuous prayers because all of us are in a mighty spiritual battle, but God fills us with joy doing His will. Thank you for what you mean to us all!

Triage tent at Hospital El Buen Pastor



Blessed Are The Merciful

Article by Amy Fuller

Food to be shipped to Cuba



Cuba has had major food supply issues for some time--shortages, high prices, long lines, and other difficulties. In addition to these ongoing issues, the economic situation is especially grave right now, in part due to pandemic-related shutdowns.

To prevent the spread of COVID, Cuba has restricted air travel in and out of the country beginning in March, so MexMed has had to cancel both our scheduled 2020 missions trips there. Yet, we are still able to help support local churches as they minister in their communities--we're sending a 20-foot shipping container filled with food and other essentials, which will make a huge difference in the lives of those most at risk.

Thanks to generous financial donations from many individuals and churches, we have assembled all the items we will send, including about 7,500 lbs. of beans, 350 lbs. of powdered milk, 3,000 lbs. of rice, 900 lbs. of laundry detergent, 160 packages of adult diapers, dozens of cases of hygiene items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc.), and much more. We are ready to ship as soon as the Cuban government approves the proposed packing list.

We ask you to join us in praying that this approval will be granted quickly, as well as for favor with officials, smooth transit, and that many lives in Cuba would be impacted for eternity through this tangible demonstration of God's love and care.

Relief kit to be distributed in Cuba



The Lord Your God Who Fights For You

Article by Amy Fuller

Pastor Rafael "Jr." Ventura



During the past several months, Pastor Rafael "Jr." Ventura and Gerardo Ayala (La Esperanza) have been busy ministering in a nearby migrant camp and other needy communities in their area. With some unable to work because they are suffering from COVID, others quarantined because of exposure or possible symptoms, and many more in mandatory 14-day isolation after arriving from other parts of Mexico, countless families who had already been experiencing poverty before the pandemic now find themselves in even more precarious situations, unsure how to come up with their next meal.

Thanks to generous donations, the team at La Esperanza has been able to help meet many of these needs through distributing food, masks, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, diapers, and other essentials. Pastor Junior is committed to not only attending to people's material needs, but to their spiritual needs as well. As a result, many have asked for prayer, been open to discussing spiritual matters, requested Bibles, received Christ, or taken other important steps. As many of those being served are indigenous and speak Spanish as a second language, San Quintín missionary Allan Lee recently set Pastor Junior up with a special app on his phone that allows him to quickly determine which indigenous language someone speaks, and then to see what Scripture materials are available in that language.

He soon got to try it out with Mixtec families during an outreach distributing the food and other items. Once he determined the correct language, he was able to follow links in the app to play Scripture resources on his phone for them.

Allan has since been able to provide Jr. with further training on using the diagnostic app, and supply him with several microSD cards for the two most common indigenous languages spoken in the camp. These cards contain a massive amount of Scripture resources in the respective languages: audio of the Scriptures, Scripture videos, Christian songs, and more. Please join us in praying for those who will be hearing God's Word in their heart language, perhaps for the first time, and that God would use this powerfully in their lives!



The local team at La Esperanza, preparing and distributing food.



Right: Pastor Junior preaching the Gospel.



Nurses Are Patient People

Article by Wayne & Erin Hilliker, pictured below serving food in Guanajuato to children in need.

Nurses care for patients, promote health, and help with disease prevention. In a similar way, Mexican Medical Ministries has been caring for people's health and teaching health principles found in the Bible. One specific way MexMed does this is through using community health fairs to open doors to share the gospel.

In August, toward the end of our time in Baja, we had the opportunity to connect with Carolina, one of MexMed's nursing students. Over dinner, Carolina shared this story with us:

"In school, I had to do a project on the subject of community nursing. It consisted of looking for a strategy for taking health education, prevention and care to the community. I remembered the experiences I had had with Mexican Medical sharing information about caring for your health. I remembered the importance of the information and applying that knowledge in order to help those who need it. Health fairs have the primary objective of taking the message of salvation, as well as focusing on educating people on habits that better their health or that prevent illness/disease.

So, I proposed to my team that we do a health fair, and upon explaining the idea for our project, the rest of the class voted for our group project. Except that we couldn't introduce the part about the Gospel, as we are with a secular university, and working in public schools."

Later on, Carolina found out that Ruby, also a MexMed nursing student, had proposed a similar project related to community health education with children in the local school system. Hers was also voted on by her class as the group project!

It was special to hear how both of them view community health fairs as an effective way to build relationships and open doors to share the gospel. We are excited to see how God will continue to equip them and use them to serve the people in their communities.



Nursing students Carolina & Ruby in La Paz, Baja California Sur



Meet the newest nursing students at Hospital El Buen Pastor in San Quintín, Baja California, Mexico

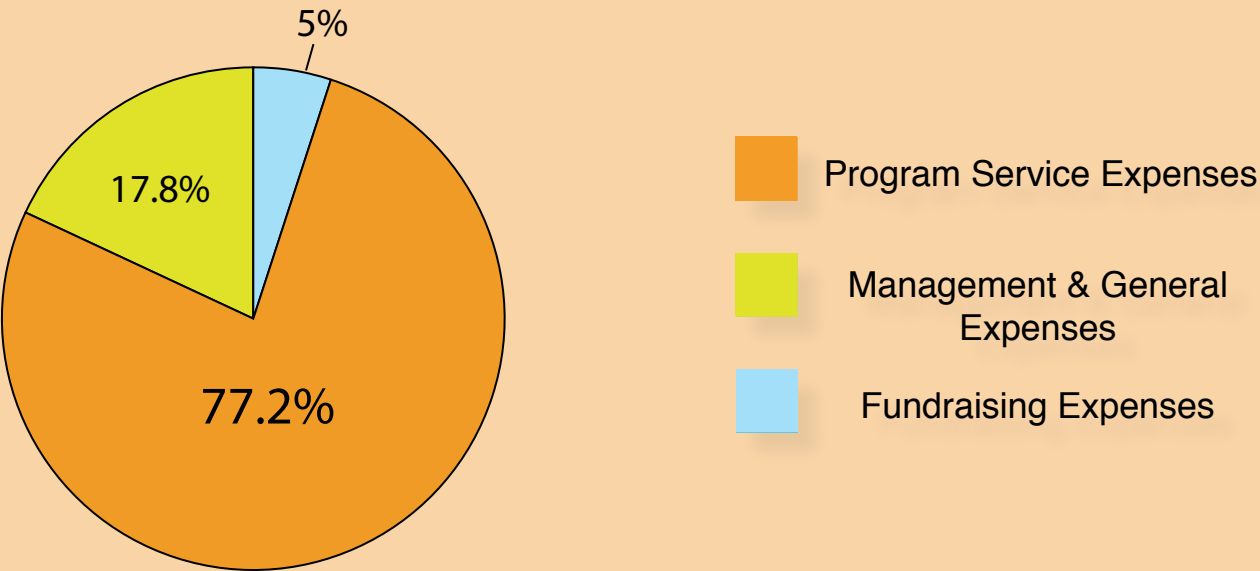


In February 2020 (right before the Covid shutdown), we were able to serve for several days in La Purísima. The older population there shared with us that due to living in such a remote and isolated area they often feel forgotten and that they don't matter. The missionaries, volunteers, all those who donated warm hats, scarves, and those who donated financially became the hands and feet of Jesus. The team was able to provide 240 services, which include medical (including pharmacy), dental, footcare, wound care, glasses, counseling, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Financial Summary 2020

Mexican Medical seeks to honor both God and our financial supporters by faithfully stewarding our resources. Two of the ways that we accomplish this is by distributing 100% of all designated and missionary support funds without subtracting a portion to cover administrative costs and by receiving an annual financial review conducted by a peer-reviewed auditor.



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During the pandemic, missionaries and volunteers distribute food, Bibles, blankets, homemade masks, and reading glasses, as well as test for diabetes, and teach children about Jesus.



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