



2018 Annual Report



Serving Comitancillo, Guatemala

Dear Missions Partner,

You have made a difference in the world this year. Because you have stepped out with a heart for serving the Lord, there is someone who has accepted Jesus as savior; someone who has grown in faith; someone who was blind and can now see; someone whose basic needs for shelter and food have been met; someone whose children are attending school rather than shining shoes; someone with a small business to sustain their family. Praise God! Matt 5:16

We may never know the full impact of the lives that have been touched and changed. That is a humbling thought, and one that motivates us.

It is a blessing and an honor to work alongside you. My hope is that this report shares the picture of the partnership and relationship that is at the heart of everything we do. Thank you for joining with us in service and ministry.

Eric Ferree, Volunteer Administrator
On behalf of the MHM Team

I am very thankful to the Lord and to each one of you for supporting my family to be part of Mission Housing Ministries in Comitancillo, Guatemala. Without your support, our work would not be possible. 2018 was a year of many challenges but many successes. We are committed to work for the Kingdom with our given gifts. We thank you for your constant prayers and words of encouragement in order to face the reality of each day.

Ovidio Garcia
National Missionary



Ovidio and Kery Garcia



Eric and Cary Ferree

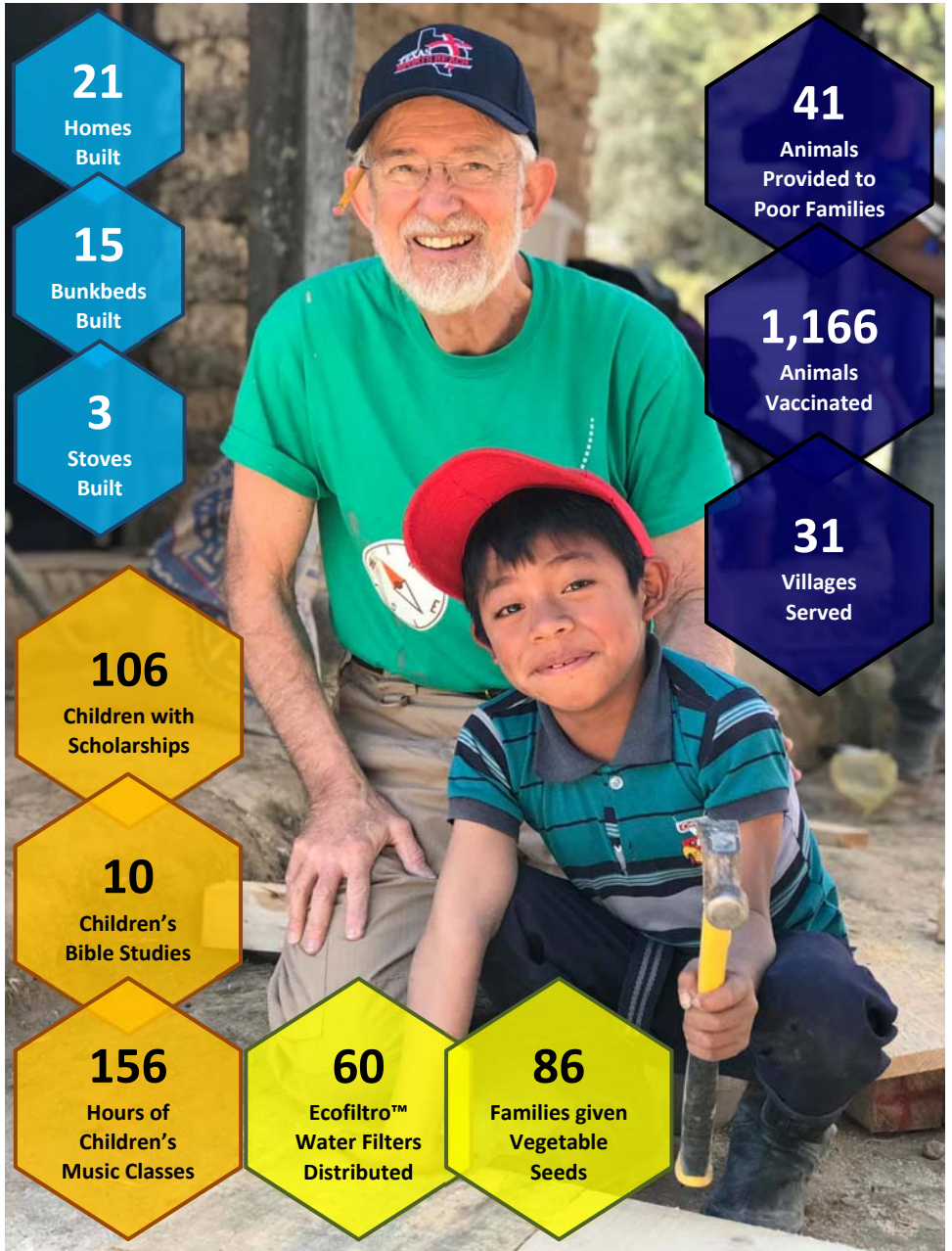
Mission Teams with Impact – Matt 28:19-20

MHM hosted 16 teams in 2018. God provided an amazing variety of skills and callings in the team members that He sent this year. Most teams served the community in more than one way. All shared the Love of Jesus Christ.



Providing a “Hand Up” – Matt 25:35-40

Building a better life for this generation and the next. Encouraging independence and a strong Christian faith. Committed. Based on partnership and relationship. Centered on the Gospel. That’s why this ministry is a Hand-Up, not a Hand-Out.



Partnering for God's Glory – 1 Cor 12:4-12

We each share the gifts and talents that we have been given. None of us is sufficient alone, but together we are greater than the sum of our parts. That is the way God designed our churches and communities. And all for His Glory!



An Emergency Hand-Up: Olimpia's Story



Olimpia's husband left her and their two children a couple of years ago. She applied to the MHM child sponsorship program and Luis, her son, began to receive a scholarship to help the family with food and school expenses. Olimpia had a job with one of her relatives, washing clothes. This job does not pay much, but it is a normal job available in the community.

One day, the relative moved to Guatemala City to work. Olimpia no longer had a job or any income. She looked for another job but could not find one right away. She was running out of corn. She called Carlos Pascual to ask for corn for the next day's food for her family.

Carlos called me and we were able to provide her needs at least for a couple more days while she could find a job. When my family heard the story, we began to help her by providing a job and meeting some other needs.

Families like this, especially widows with their children, go through this often. This encourages us to continue our ministry in town by supporting them through the animal and child sponsorship programs.

We see the Lord working through these programs to help families build a better future. - *Ovidio*

Maria's Story: A Long-Term Investment

In these two years of experience I have had in this ministry, I have noticed that with effort, discipline, and above all, fear of God; all the things we do are reflected in the smile of families that somehow changed the course of their lives at very difficult times. It is miraculous and inspiring.



Here is one case:

María is 33 years old. She lost her husband 4 years ago when he went to Mexico to work and never returned. The family looked for him and they did not find him. She and the children were orphaned and traumatized by the disappearance of the father. When we found this family they were living in extreme poverty. They did not have food, clothes, bed, kitchen and all the necessities of a home. The children were under chronic malnutrition. They slept on the floor. The mother said that they only ate once a day or when she found something to eat. In March 2017, a group of missionaries visited them for the first time. They brought food and above all the word of eternal life (the Bible). They spoke to the family of faith and prayed with them. Through the local MHM team, many visits were made to this family to strengthen the faith and hope of the family.

Later in 2017 MHM built a house, a bed, and a stove for the family. God also blessed the family with a scholarship and a pig. All this was an encouragement to Maria. Last year (2018) she worked hard, together with her daughters and made mud bricks and built a chuj (sauna or steam bath), installed electricity to her house, doubled the number of pigs to 2, and added 22 chickens.

In the past the family traveled to the coffee plantations every year to make extra money. In 2018, for the first time, they did not have the need to travel. They have already found the God of blessing and this is now a very happy and blessed family. God is good and merciful. He changed the direction of this family's life by turning it around 180 degrees. It has been the same with other families. MHM has been an instrument of God to bless many families. - Carlos

Growing in Ministry and Accountability



Alba Lopez teaching about animal care

Alba Lopez joined our team a little over a year ago to help with recordkeeping as the ministry grew.

The ministry was at a point where recordkeeping was becoming a strain on Ovidio, preventing him from focusing on serving the community and leading the team.

Alba has done a spectacular job. She manages the accounts for our visiting teams, hand-up programs, and also for the FTEI Bible Institute. All as a part-time member of the MHM team. She is learning more English, and is now starting to support team ministry events and activities as a host/translator. If you visit Comitancillo this year, you may have an opportunity to serve with Alba during your trip.

Building Community



Kevin Garcia (Blue Shirt) with the TEFC Team

Kevin Garcia is our newest hire and will be helping to host teams and keep MHM connected through social media. You can reach out to him through Facebook.

As Ovidio's son, Kevin has hosted many visiting teams. But he has always worked on a per-day basis. His experience has given Kevin a special perspective on the ministry.

From Kevin: There are no words to express how grateful I am to God and to my supporters who have helped me through prayers or through the economic side. This year has been of many blessings we have learn that we need to open our hearts so God can work through us, we have also been facing some difficulties but we always remember that our God never leaves us alone and that's what keeps us working. *-Kevin*



FTEI 11th Graduation Ceremony

FTEI equips local pastors and church leaders, and celebrated its 11th graduating class in November to a packed house. They promoted 77 students enrolled in three different programs. Their efforts to plant new churches and improve Bible teaching are solely supported by your generous gifts and the small amounts paid by students for tuition. We and they are thankful for your support. Their full report is on our website if you would like to learn more.

Local Churches



Iglesia Genesaret during a couples seminar

The partnerships that we have built with local evangelical Christian churches allow our teams to connect when they are down in Comitancillo. These churches often invite visiting teams to host ministry events and tell us of people in great need. And sometimes we have the opportunity to partner in building a new church. We are proud to say that many of the churches where we serve are led by alumni of the FTEI Bible Institute.

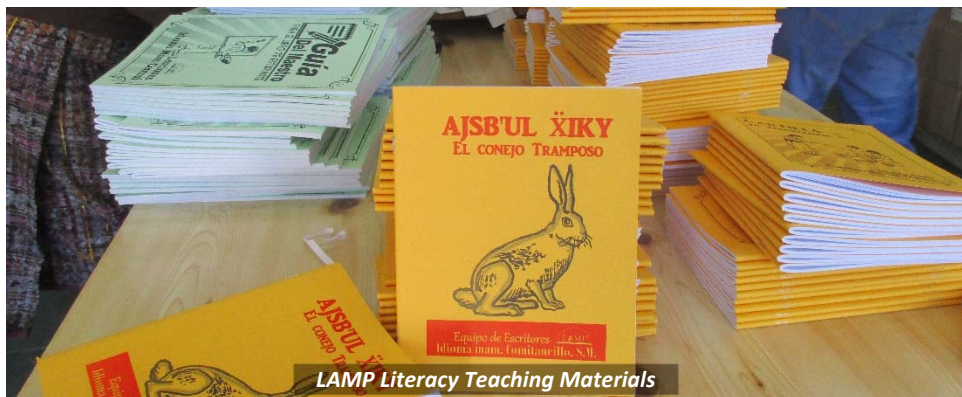
Partner Reports

Vision Plus, Optical and Dental Clinic



Vision Plus provides affordable eye and dental care in a community where there is great need. It was Ovidio's dream to bring high quality care to the community of Comitancillo. God has blessed that plan. In addition to regular clinic hours on Wednesday and Sunday, LifePointe Church will be bringing a dental clinic in March and CBN's Operation Blessing will visit to perform free cataract surgeries in May. And a noteworthy milestone: 15 cataract surgeries were performed last fall by a Guatemalan doctor. The first operations without a team from the US. None of this would be possible without your generosity.

LAMP Mam Literacy Ministry



LAMP promotes literacy and teaches the Bible in the local language of Mam. They have had a particularly strong year of ministry. You can find their full annual report on our website.

From Byron Temaj: The mobilization of the churches to support the needy in the eruption of the volcano, Fuego, was one of the most impressive achievements of this year. There we can see the power of the Word of God in the mother tongue, the importance of the media and the importance of being willing to serve.

- Byron

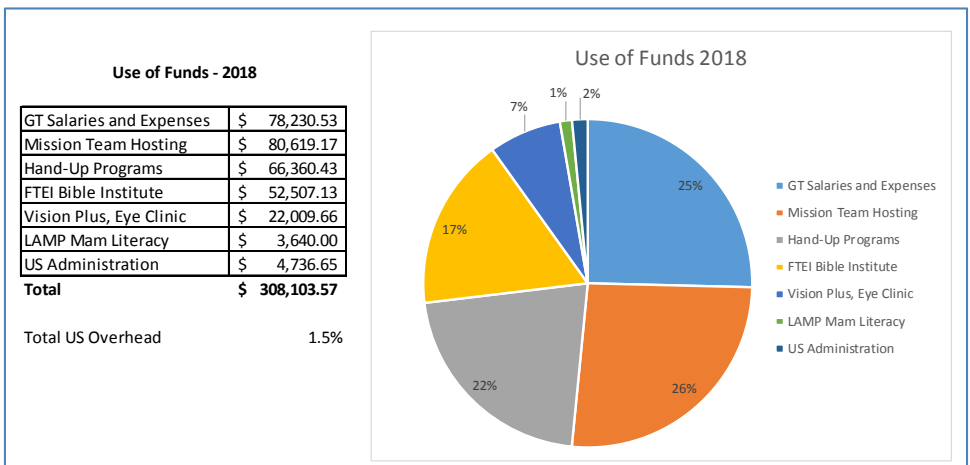
Financial Update

We strive to have a big footprint in the mission field with exceptionally low overhead in the US.

2018 was a year of building the foundation of MHM. We invested in our team and continued to improve many of our administrative processes. Revenue and expenses shifted to meet the changing dynamics of serving the missions community. We continue to see a shift away from stable, programmed general fund giving and toward clearly defined and priced items like team visits, construction projects, and child sponsorships. It also appears that we are seeing a shift toward smaller teams; although at this point, the data could be anecdotal.

Some highlights from 2018:

- Steady overall level of donations (1.1% decrease) from 2017 to 2018.
- 6% increase in funding to the mission field, made possible by stable finances and strong reserves.
- 16.8% decrease in team revenues caused by hosting fewer and smaller teams. Expenses were flat year-to-year due to an increase in lodging and food expenses. This prompted a modest increase in the prices that we suggest to our partners planning a visit.
- 18.4% increase in funding for Hand-Up Ministries. This results primarily from growth in the child sponsorship and animal programs.
- 98.5% of funds were directed to the mission field. All team members in the US continue to be volunteers and contributors to the ministry.



MHM is a qualified 501(c)3 organization, and all contributions are tax exempt to the full extent allowed by law.



Mission Housing Ministries

38149 Timberlane Drive
Umatilla, FL 32794-9304

Missions Partner