

# SNAP-SHOTS

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A large part of our ministry involves helping families with medical needs. This can range anywhere between filling a prescription at the pharmacy to finding specialized hospice care for someone terminally ill. In an average month we're involved with around 25-30 cases all varying in scale. In recent years we've thankfully seen more Government assistance available for those who are elderly and disabled and who don't have social security or insurance. However, applying for assistance requires navigating the systems and for many of the people we work with this can be difficult. Not knowing where to start as well as lack of transport to appointments is often a barrier, so advocacy and transportation are ways we regularly assist. Providing medical equipment, wheelchairs, hygiene supplies, prescriptions, food supplements and prayer are some of the many other ways in which we're involved.

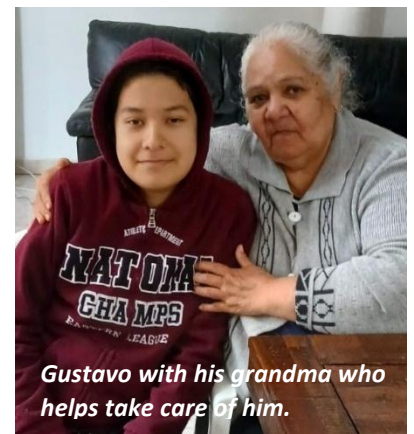
Among our medical cases this month is Gustavo 16, Gustavo lives with his mom, his sister and his grandma and was hospitalized in serious condition earlier this year after it was discovered his kidneys were underdeveloped and failing, (related to problems he'd had at birth). This news came as a shock to the family.

Gustavo's mom Gaby works 6 nights a week at a gas station. While Gustavo was in hospital for several weeks, after finishing her shift at 6am each morning, Gaby headed straight to the hospital to be with Gustavo throughout the day. Despite the lack of sleep and difficulty, she was very thankful for her job as it came with insurance covering some of the costs of Gustavo's treatment. Since leaving hospital, Gustavo has been on hemodialysis and the supplies for this are also delivered to their home each month



*Gaby shows us the monthly Hemodialysis supplies and how they work.*

through the insurance. Gustavo is now waiting for a kidney transplant, provided his older sister is approved as the donor. His surgery will be performed in a specialist hospital in Guadalajara followed by 3 months of complex post-surgery care nearby. To maintain her insurance Gaby must keep her job. At this point there is a possibility of a job transfer for her to Guadalajara. Regardless though, most of the cost of the post-surgery care will not be covered by insurance and so this is where V&O will step in to help, which is a huge relief to the family. Their response to this offer was one of bewildered gratitude as we explained how it's only a possibility because of the generosity and prayers of many people who care. **Thanks so much** for your part in this. Please keep this family and all the logistics involved for them in your prayers.



*Gustavo with his grandma who helps take care of him.*

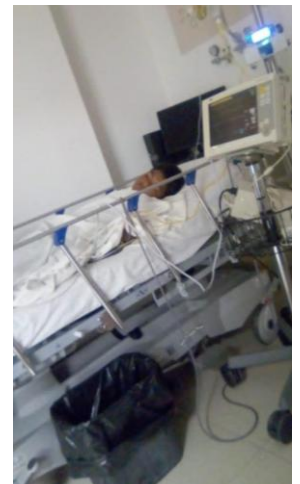
## OTHER MEDICAL CASES THIS MONTH...



**LEFT: Alex 5, with his mom, grandmom and little brother arriving for an appointment with the specialist. Alex has several developmental disabilities.**



**LEFT: Graciela needed a blood pressure monitor. BELOW & RIGHT: Raul 10, & Kevin 11, suffer from seizures. Both were hospitalized this month. They're now back home and doing better.**

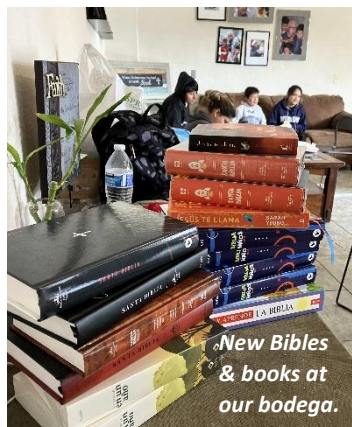


*Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Luke 6:8*



## BOOKS & BIBLES

We continue to invest in the valuable resource of books and bibles for kids and adults in our communities. Thanks to some generously allotted funds, we were also able to donate a number of books to another local ministry recently. *Project Little Child* has school campuses in two different locations in Tijuana run by a combined team of Mexican paid staff and American volunteers. The schools provide at-risk children with education and 2 meals a day completely free through their sponsorship program. If you'd like to know more, you can find them on Facebook or visit their website, [www.projectlittlechild.org](http://www.projectlittlechild.org) **Thanks so much** for enabling us to bless kids in need with these resources that contribute greatly to their spiritual and educational growth.



New Bibles  
& books at  
our bodega.



Learning fun facts at home.



**GRACIAS!!**  
from kids at Project Little Child



Thank  
you!

## DIA DE LAS MADRES (Mother's Day)

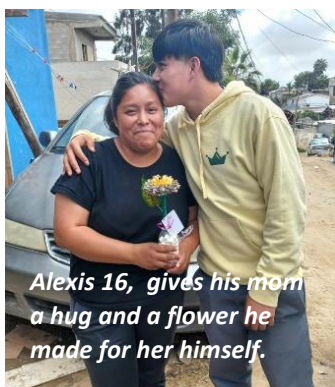
May 10<sup>th</sup> in Mexico, Hortencia and the team headed out into the neighborhoods with handmade gifts and treats to encourage everyone to celebrate and honor their moms on this day and every day!



Hortencia talks  
with a mom  
along the way.



Flowers for  
two special  
grandmothers.



Alexis 16, gives his mom  
a hug and a flower he  
made for her himself.



Flowers made from  
seeds by V&O helpers  
at our bodega.

"Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise:  
"that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." Ephesians 6:2-3



Kids & teens  
honoring  
their moms.



Celebration  
cake!



Moms supporting each  
other. Not an easy day for  
some.



Feliz Dia del Madre!

Your partnership with us is much appreciated! On behalf of our team and the people we serve **THANK YOU!!**  
Joyce & Philip,