

# SNAP-SHOTS

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It's official, summer is here! For many in our barrios staying cool and hydrated over the next few months will be challenging. Due to water scarcity, aging infrastructure and a rapidly growing population, Tijuana lives under constant threat of water shutoffs, and in summer it typically worsens. The shutoffs usually happen without warning and can last for days, so it pays to be prepared. For those fortunate enough to be connected to the city water supply, (which is still unpotable), filling large containers for back-up is routine. For the many others who are not, transporting water to their homes in the steep hills and canyons by foot, (or by other means), is just the norm, but nonetheless a constant challenge.

For the elderly, sick and disabled, the summer heat can take a real toll, as they're more inclined to be shut in. Tiny uninsulated shacks become almost like slow cooking ovens as the hot summer sun beats down on them. Heat exhaustion and dehydration can quickly set in.

As we do our rounds in the communities, Hortencia and the team are mindful to check in on those who are especially vulnerable, making sure they have sufficient drinking water, fans etc. to combat the heat. Along with meeting some of these physical needs for those we minister to, often a greater need presents itself during visits. The human *spiritual* thirst for redemption, restoration and refreshment, that only the "living water," (salvation in Jesus Christ), can satisfy...



*Hortencia reads the bible to Eva who is dying of cancer.*



*A typical home in one of our barrios. (Water tanks in front).*



*Little Carlitos with one of the fans we bought this month.*



*In barrio Lagunitas,*

*Paty cuts watermelon for the kids.*



**Eva**

*Eva was 19 years old when she left her home and family in Guadalajara, MX. Wanting to escape from her troubled home life, she travelled for days to arrive in Tijuana where she found a job in a factory and began making a new life of her own. She worked very hard, soon married, and began a family. Try as she might though, Eva was never able to shake off the hurt and scars of her past, carrying the effects of them into her new family. Eva experienced many difficulties, including the murder of a son, a grandson, and the mental impairment of another son. All of this only added to her bitterness and depression over the years. Two weeks ago, Eva went home to be with the Lord. In the days before she died, she struggled greatly with the unforgiveness she had held in her heart for many years, particularly towards her mother. Through the assurances in God's word, (which Hortencia read to her daily), and prayer, Eva was finally able to let go of her long-held pain and surrender her life peacefully to the Lord.*

**Thank you!** for partnering with us in delivering the Good News of this "living water" to Eva and others like her, who often don't even realize they are thirsting for it.

*"...but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life." John 4:14*



**UPDATE ON CARLITOS**, (alias “Jesús Adrian” from last month... our apologies, an error was made with his name!)

Little Carlitos was successfully operated on last week (for a genital problem), and after a few minor issues with reactions to follow-up meds, (which are now sorted), he is on the mend and doing very well.

Carlitos’ parents have contacted Hortencia several times since, to say **thank you!** for helping them. His mom Yuridia had never been in a large hospital and was so grateful for the help Hortencia provided in advocating and navigating the medical system for her and Carlitos.



Leaving the hospital with mom after the surgery.



V&O Driver Josué arrives to pick them up.



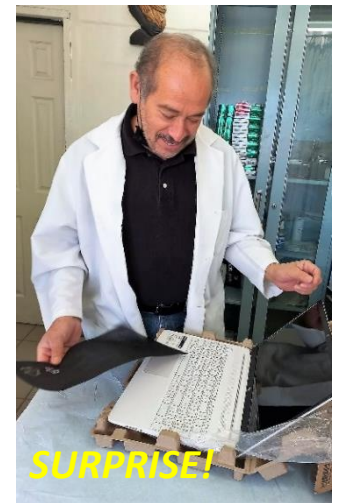
A quick call to dad to tell all is well.

A special toy from V&O.



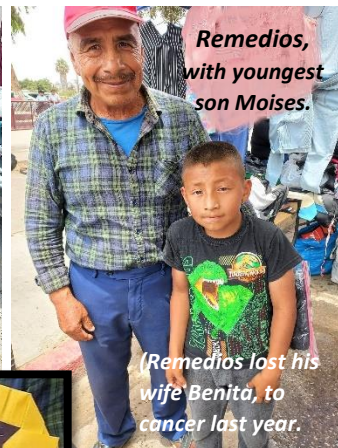
### LAPTOPS AND TABLETS

This year one of our goals was to help provide deserving kids with laptops and tablets so they can catch up and keep up with their schoolwork as things continue to return to ‘normal’ after the disruption of the pandemic. So far thanks to your help, we’ve been able to give out at least 12 laptops and numerous tablets. Earlier this year we were also able to surprise our dedicated and tireless Dr Santos with a much-needed new laptop, for which he was most appreciative!



### And last but not least... **FATHERS DAY!**

After receiving a large and timely donation of new T shirts, caps and socks, (via Mission Trails Church, SD), we put together over 80 gift packages to show appreciation for dads in our communities. It was a fun and special day for our team and all the families involved!



Right: Each dad also received a handmade card.



“Honor your father and mother” – which is the first commandment with a promise – “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” Eph. 6:2-3  
**Until next month, God bless!! Joyce, Philip & Hortencia, on behalf of the team.**