

On Mission-Guatemala



Doss Ministry Letter

www.mayamission.org

Winter-2014



The feeding program in Xela has grown to 40 souls, a mix of children and adults. One child who depends on the food outreach for a hot nutritious meal is Jordy. Jordy, seven years old, is the lone boy in the photo above. Jordy lives in a house with four girls, his mother, and aunt and uncle. He told us a few days ago that he goes to work with his uncle just to get out of the house because the girls are always picking on him.

On Christmas Eve we served a turkey dinner with all the trimmings to the folks who attend the food outreach. Ingrid, the little girl in the picture below, cleaned her plate up vegetables and all. Ingrid's mother, Carmen, is cross-eyed and has been blind in one eye since birth. Ingrid holds her mother's hand and leads her down the street to the feeding program. She is four years old.





Elissa, the baby in the photo above with her mother, was born the middle of December with a cleft palate and lip.



The word is out in the community that Maya Mesoamerica Mission partners with other organizations that bring in surgeons from the U.S. and other developed countries that can help babies like Elissa. Elissa's mother brought her by the mission in early January to see if we could help them. We took Elissa to a screening on January 22 to see if she is a candidate for the surgery to repair her lip and palate. Elissa is underweight and can't have surgery now. The healthcare providers at the screening gave the mother a special bottle for cleft lip babies and some vitamins. If everything goes without a hitch Elissa will have surgery in June.

Elissa's parents live in a Mayan community on the outskirts of Xela. We are humbled that God gives us the

opportunity to invest our time and resources that will reap such a huge benefit in the life of Elissa and others.

Micro-Business

Last fall we achieved a major milestone concerning the mission's micro-business outreach projects. Both the party dress shop, *Party Girl Boutique*, and the wedding dress shop, *Novia Americana*, are now registered in the name of the women we have been training to operate them.



There is really no change in the daily operation of the shops. We still provide advice and support like we have in the past. However, it is a tremendous esteem builder and instills a higher level of responsibility in the women to be the "owners" of their business. It also teaches them to give back to those less fortunate around them. The shops provide a significant amount of support for the mission's food outreach and we require the women to continue that support as a condition of ownership.

Novia Americana ***Party Girl Boutique***

Pressing forward with new and innovative ideas in partnership with people from North America to help the "overlooked and ignored" in Central America provide for their families with dignity.

Party Girl Boutique/Novia Americana, common questions and answers;

Q: What is the purpose of these micro-business projects? **A:** The micro-business projects of Maya-Mesoamerica Mission serve to provide opportunities for women and impoverished families in Central America earn income in an atmosphere of safety and dignity. They also provide income to support the outreach projects of Maya Mesoamerica Mission.

Q: What is *Party Girl Boutique*? **A:** *Party Girl Boutique* is a project of Maya-Mesoamerica Mission that provides good quality party dresses in partnership with churches, civic groups, businesses, and individuals from North America for resale in Guatemala.

Q: What is *Novia Americana*? **A:** *Novia Americana* is a micro-business project that sells wedding dresses and junior's/women's jeans that are donated by friends of the mission in the United States and Canada.

Q: Where does *Party Girl Boutique/Novia Americana* obtain the dresses and jeans that they sell in Guatemala? **A:** They are donated by partners of the micro-business project in North America.

Q: What kind of dresses and jeans do we need? **A:** We can use excellent quality wedding dresses, prom dresses, bride's maid dresses, evening gowns, semi-formal dresses in all styles and sizes. We also need junior's and women's jeans. Please no casual dresses or clothing or children's or men's jeans. *This is not a general clothing drive!*

Q: How do the donated items get from the donor in the United States to the Micro-business project in Guatemala? **A:** Donors ship them directly to the Maya-Mesoamerica Mission collection point in Missouri. In Missouri, they are sorted and packed for shipping to Guatemala. The items go by truck from Missouri to Miami and by ship from Miami to Guatemala, or by air directly from Missouri to Guatemala. For large shipments contact us for shipping instructions.

Q: Where is the collection point in Missouri where the items are to be shipped? **A:** Maya Mesoamerica Mission
504 Dogwood Drive
Knob Noster, MO 65336-1589

Q: Are gifts tax deductible? **A:** Yes, Maya Mesoamerica Mission is recognized as a tax exempt charity by the IRS under chapter 501©3. Your gifts of cash or dresses qualify as a tax deductible gift. Please include your name and email address with your gift where we can send a receipt.



Maria & Edna at *Novia Americana*



Guatemalan women trying on a dress at *Party Girl Boutique* in Quetzaltenango that was donated in the United States.



Christmas Eve dinner at the mission.



Please visit CTEN's new website. We have new online giving instructions to share.

Use the link, www.cten.org/daviddoss, this directs you to our CTEN web page, once there click on the DONATE button, this directs you to our support page where you can log in and set up your account.



Will you coordinate a collection of party dresses, wedding dresses, or junior's/women's jeans with your co-workers, friends, or family?

**Thank you for helping us share
God's love with the people of
Guatemala,
David & Kathy**

And here's why: I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me.' "Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me--you did it to me.'

(Mat 25:35-40)

