

## February, 2015

Thanks for taking a few minutes to read this update. It's been several months since I've written a newsletter and there are some very significant things happening at the mission in Guatemala.

Some of you may have seen the amazing results of the two children we helped with cleft lip/palate surgery. Abraham lives in a small village not too far from Xela.



Wow, a miracle for this child!



Elisa lives in the same village as Abraham. Her grandmother is the cook at our feeding program in Xela. Both of these children were undernourished before the surgery because of the deformity of their mouth they had difficulty breast feeding. We did get them bottles with special nipples for cleft lip babies and after several months they put on enough weight where they could safely have the surgery.



Elisa's parents asked me to thank the friends of the mission who have helped brighten her future. Thank you!

This week we are taking Carmen to a clinic about two hours by car from here to see if she is a candidate for eye surgery.



Carmen and her daughter, Ingrid, come to the food outreach in Xela. Carmen and Ingrid live by themselves in one room they rent. Carmen not only has crossed-eyes, but she is also nearly blind. Ingrid has to lead her

mother around town whenever they go out on the street.



We are praying for a good outcome for Carmen at the clinic this week. I will post something on Facebook as soon as we know something. You can do a search, “Maya Mesoamerica Mission” and follow us on Facebook.

The mission is really struggling to make ends meet financially. Last summer we were encouraged to make a significant expansion to the program and promised support from an outside source. Well, we started feeding more children, but the promise to fund the expansion wasn't honored.



I'm faced with telling 25 hungry kids that we will not be able to give them lunch if the situation isn't resolved in the not too distant future.

We fund all of the outreaches of the mission in two ways. There are folks who make a regular financial investment in the lives of the people we serve, and there are also occasional one-time gifts. Without these gifts we wouldn't be here today. Thank you!



Along with these financial gifts we also help fund the mission with profits from our microbusiness outreach in Xela, *Novia Americana Boutique*.



Our inventory in the boutique is nearly depleted and we need help in restocking.

Will you help us and invest in lives of the people of Guatemala? There are a couple of ways you can do this. The immediate need is to get the microbusiness restocked. We presently have over a dozen shipping cartons in a warehouse in Missouri full of shoes and dresses for the boutique. It costs \$300/carton to be shipped to Guatemala. Will you help subsidize this shipping cost? Or, will you make a continuing gift of any amount on a regular basis investing in the mission's outreaches? Please go to the mission's website at [www.mayamission.org](http://www.mayamission.org) and click on the secure “DONATE” button to help out. I wouldn't be so overt if the situation wasn't serious.

Pressing On,  
David