

Mission UpReach Newsletter

Agricultural operations grow during pandemic

Successful author Napoleon Hill once said, “Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit.” This aphorism is proving to be true here at the Moses Project with the sales of chicken to the public. Every week for the last four weeks our sales of chicken to small stores and supermarkets has increased. Due to the COVID19 crisis, it seems that major suppliers of chicken have not been operating due to the “military style” lock-down that the country is under.

While we do not want to “rejoice at our competitors’ downfall,” it is a real blessing to our employees and our overall mission that we can circulate in our region due to the fact that our products are considered essential to

sustaining life. We hope that the public will remember that our brand, “Pollo Moisés”, was there for them during this time of hardship and crisis and will continue to buy our products long after this crisis has passed.



However, the crisis is not over yet, and we need to continue to pray for Hondurans. Many, many people are out of work, and some families are now

facing extreme hardship as a result. On the economic side, Pollo Moisés is making sure that there is product available for those that have money to buy food, while on the church side and through the DESEO Project, we are doing what we can to help those who are most in need. This need, though, is only going to increase and further complicate the situation.

As of this writing, the Government of Honduras is fearful about opening up the economy too quickly. It is no exaggeration that a spike in COVID cases could quickly overwhelm the health resources that the country has available.

The Government has a real dilemma to resolve that has real, adverse consequences, regardless of the direction in which they proceed.

Critical update on funding for MUR

We need your help financially. Most of our visiting mission teams have cancelled or are contemplating cancelling for the year. In addition, many of our regular supporters and donors in the U.S. are struggling to meet payroll for their employees or just keeping their families’ expenses paid. We have seen an impact already in our monthly donations, and we can easily see that the trend for the coming months is likely to be down, not up. In spite of these hurdles though, we have seen others who are able step up

to help fill the “holes” in our monthly support.

The inspired words in Psalm 127 are ever in our hearts and minds right now. Solomon, the author of Psalm 127 said, **“Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat-- for he grants sleep to those he loves.”** These words bring great comfort because we know our only real security

in this life is our hope in God.

This is not the first time that we have faced adversity. It is just another reminder that God, who feeds and clothes the sparrows, is our gracious and loving Heavenly Father. Please join us in praying for the poor and the suffering wherever they may be. Pray too for our leaders—those who are leading Honduras as well as those who are leading the United States. God is in control and His good and perfect will....will be done. Amen.

Our ministries continue to reach out

In spite of the current situation and shutdowns, our ministry team continues to serve. Our



school for the deaf (**ESPERO**) is still functioning by utilizing online resources. This is especially challenging considering that our students are deaf and cannot read. Our teachers have to prepare their classes and present the lessons via video chat. This creates many limitations in being able to help students one-on-one. Plus, there are some students who don't have the technology or the internet connection sufficient to participate. Once they are back in school, there will be a lot of focus on remediation and catching up. The devotion, passion and commitment of our team is impressive and encouraging.

We have also been encouraged to see more family involvement and interest in our deaf students' language learning and schooling. This has always been a goal of the program, and we are pleased to see that this time of homeschooling has helped further that goal.

Unfortunately, our DESEO outreach has been shut down almost 100%. With schools not in session, our ability to touch the lives of these children is very limited. With the very strict guidelines in place, our team cannot even visit children to check in on them. We do expect that we will have our hands full with tutoring once school is back in session. Additionally, we have started a campaign to raise \$25 per child to prepare a basket of essential food for the families. We can obtain special permission to deliver baskets, which will also allow us to check on the children. If you are interested in participating in this outreach, please send your donation via your normal route, but note that it is for the "Love Opens Doors" campaign.

Many members of our DESEO team have been reallocated to meet the demands of our agricultural operations. Several of our team members are temporarily selling products while others have been assigned tasks related to inventory and product maintenance. We appreciate and value our employees who have demonstrated

flexibility during these challenging times.

Our local church is not as fortunate as most in the US to be able to conduct online worship services for its members. Many of our members have very limited access to the internet. What has worked somewhat effectively is to utilize WhatsApp and upload audio clips with three weekly devotionals and a communion service on Sundays. It seems to be very encouraging to the members who can participate. Our church is also helping with food baskets as they can. To date we are not aware of any of our church members nor team members who have been ill with the virus. Praise God!





A GREAT cup of coffee

The quality of a cup of coffee is all about the experience of drinking it. That is why the best cups of coffee are often the ones we've shared with the people we love the most. They're the cups of coffee that we have grown to feel comfortable with. It's our morning cup in the perfect mug, tasted in the quiet dark before sunrise. Or, it's our coffee order that didn't even need to be said because our favorite shop has it memorized. The quality of the coffee certainly matters, but that is just one part of the experience.

We began Subida Coffee with the goal of supporting the Moses Project, and coffee production is as an integral part of what we do on the farm. We focus on producing an incredibly high-quality coffee and this process generates many

jobs and serves as a powerful tool in the agriculture education of the Project participants. It also serves as a direct way to raise funds for the Moses Project. With each bag of coffee we sell, we are able to support the incredible work being accomplished there.

So, to us, a great cup of coffee is certainly about the quality and environment where it's enjoyed, but it's also about what it supports. Each cup of Subida Coffee means something. It means that individuals are being equipped with the tools they need to lift themselves, their families and their communities, out of systemic poverty.

We encourage you to buy a bag of Subida Coffee today. You can enjoy it with loved ones or enjoy it alone in the quiet morning, but

knowing it is doing real, lasting good is what makes it a truly great cup of coffee. Visit **subidacoffee.com** to order your coffee today!





A note from Donna



Phil and I have still been unable to return to Honduras. Each time we approach the date of our return flight, our flight is cancelled, and we rebook.

As of now,

the Honduran government requires anyone who repatriates into Honduras to sign a draconian agreement stating that one will take full responsibility for any medical expenses incurred by anyone who may contract the virus from the returning individual. Additionally, the agreement states that in the event of a death related to the virus that can be tracked to the repatriated individual, jail time must be served. A 14-day quarantine must also be observed.

We have grave concerns about signing such an agreement and are prayerfully considering the timing of our return, when that is actually a possibility.

Meanwhile, we have been blessed with more time with Harrison and Hayley as well as assisting Laura in finding housing in Chattanooga, TN where she will attend graduate school in the fall.

We are very blessed to have such a great team in place in Honduras, allowing us to continue to guide and direct remotely. Thankfully, Phil's cousin and his wife have graciously allowed us to stay with them. I am sure they never dreamed their initial invitation would be so extensive.

We thank you for your prayers and support. As of today, Mission UpReach has been able to continue to pay the salaries of its 125 employees, impacting 1000's of lives during a time when many are without income and food. About 50% of them are not able to work due to restrictions while the others are considered "essential" workers. We ask that you consider joining us as we support these families who can then help their neighbors. We see this as a very effective way to help the poor and needy during this time. We are fully trusting God while knocking, seeking and asking for His direction and help in the days to come.

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Other Giving

Mission UpReach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We can assist you to designate MUR in a corporations' matching gifts program, or giving through a United Way campaign, or as you prepare wills for your estate.



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Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:

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