

Mission UpReach Newsletter

2020 Year End Annual Giving Campaign Success

By Phil Waldron

Thanks to many, many individuals, our year end campaign was a success! We are grateful to each and every one of you who participated in blessing us with your donations and offerings. We take seriously this honor and privilege that is now ours of stewarding these resources for the good of the Kingdom. Your generosity has allowed us to start the year with confidence. So once again, thank you for your generosity and your willingness to partner with us in furthering the kingdom of our Lord here in Western Honduras.

Many people also responded to our call for hurricane relief. The challenge we put forth to our base of

supporters to purchase a whole chicken at \$4.25 that would feed a family of four seemed to resonate well. Thank you for your help. The response was generous enough that chickens were not the only things that we were able to give to those in need. Rice, beans, and other supplies were given to many. This fundraiser for hurricane relief did not end on December 31st. There will be a need for these types of funds for several months to come. If you feel compelled to give help to people who are suffering hardship due to displacement or loss from the hurricanes, please go to our website at missionupreach.org and click on the ETA Relief Fund tab at the top of the page. Your charity dollars could not be better placed than with this relief effort.

This month's spotlight employee is **Claudia Mercedes Mendoza Toval**. Claudia is originally from Nicaragua, one of Honduras' neighboring countries. Claudia is a licensed attorney and serves the important role of Human Resources Director for Mission UpReach. Claudia met her now husband, Ramiro, while studying in the University. They have one 7 year old son, Josías. Both Claudia and Ramiro graduated from the Baxter Institute of Biblical Studies in Tegucigalpa, Honduras in 2018. They did a short internship with Mission UpReach just before graduating, and we made them an offer to work with us full time. Ramiro is the minister to our boys at the Moses Project. Both Ramiro and Claudia are tremendous assets to the Mission UpReach team. Claudia says, "I feel very

blessed by the opportunities the Lord has placed in my path. I love my job, and I love watching how God uses different people on the Mission UpReach team to bring about changed lives for His glory."

We are so thankful that God brought Claudia into our lives and that He is using her skills and education for His good purposes.



MUR Employee Spotlight

In this new year, we have decided to spotlight a different Mission UpReach employee each month. Currently there are 125 employees, so unfortunately you will only get to meet 12 of them this year. Our goal is to give you a look at the various roles individuals play in the day-to-day operations of Mission UpReach.

Help to the most needy

As many of you know, Mission UpReach has received generous donations specifically for hurricane relief. Most of what has been spent up to now has been on much needed food supplies. In one area, where the church in Corquin successfully delivered relief, the people were digging through the dirt and mud looking for the corn that had been buried. This level of desperation doesn't exist all over Honduras, but in the more remote areas where families lost everything, people are doing what they have to do. The help has focused on providing the three basic foods that Hondurans depend on: corn, rice and beans. We have also been able to bless these families with chickens from our own Moses Project.

Many remote communities are cut off due to bridges washing out as well as entire roads. For one such community, relief was taken as far as possible in a four-wheel drive truck, then by motorcycle, then horses, then by foot. Can you imagine what it must feel like for these people who have been cut off and all their gardens have washed away? In a town by the name of Porterillos, many of the newly converted families have really stepped up. Eight families from a neighboring community had to flee their homes due to the mudslides, and these "baby Christians" are living out their faith by taking these families into their homes.

Mission UpReach, along with the church in Corquin, are helping by providing some basic food items to these families. The needs are numerous and at times overwhelming, but our team is committed to identifying and addressing as many of those needs as we possibly can. We sincerely appreciate your continued prayers for Honduras.





Please donate today!

A donation of just \$4.25 provides a whole chicken to feed one of our families hit hard by the effects of Hurrican Eta. How many families would you like to help?

Mail a check, marked Eta Relief, to:

Mission UpReach, Inc.
3221 Dundee Road
Longview, TX 75604

OR, go to our website at

www.missionupreach.org
and click on "Eta Relief"





A note from Donna



Many of us are happy to see 2020 come to an end. Unfortunately, many of our problems and concerns don't end just because a calendar year does. Although the vaccine is beginning to make its way into the population, many have lost and continue to lose loved ones. Unfortunately for Honduras, that process could take years or never happen. Lord willing, Phil

and I are scheduled to finally return to Honduras on February 5th, barring any new shutdowns. Our airport will be up and operational, and we will have completed nearly 11 months stateside. While it was not by our design, we do believe God has used our time for many good purposes, some personal and many for the Mission. We look forward to getting back home, and as much as the current situation will allow, reconnecting with the people we minister to and serve with. As we have watched God provide in the midst of impossible circumstances, we begin this new year with a sense of hope and full trust in God's continued provision.

Having more time than usual with our adult children has been good for the soul. Our

son, Harrison, typed us a very special and loving message after our time with him at Christmas. One of the things he said was that this past year has been very special for him because we have been around more. Of course that makes it hard to leave him. Being able to live with Laura and watch her adapt to her new city and circumstances has been especially meaningful because we were not easily accessible to her during her undergraduate studies. There are many emotional sacrifices one makes as a missionary, but the rewards are many and eternal. We are thankful our children support our being away. We ask for your prayers as we return and get back into our new routine, forged by the pandemic.

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Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:

Mission UpReach, Inc.
3221 Dundee Road
Longview, TX 75604

Please send all checks, donations and correspondence to this address.

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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