

Recycled Lives News



It's not just an egg! Your contribution help us to make a forever difference in the lives of people living in physical, emotional and spiritual poverty. Our funds are depleted and we need your help right now! Please consider making a tax-deductible gift! Details on how to do so are on Page 2.

Photo info: Little Jose collects his first egg from one of his 4 chickens in the chicken coop that was constructed for him. Thanks to this special gift, he will now have eggs to eat & sell and "pets" to care for.



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Board member

Dave Wichman

Board member

Clyde Bloyer

Board member

At a Glance: Events, Activities and Ways to Help

- **Mission Teams & Family Vacations with a purpose-** Contact us now for plans and pricing if you are interested in being a part of or organizing your own life changing mission team. We can also help you plan a mission vacation to Guatemala. **Reserve your travel dates for 2017 & 2018 now!**
- **Making a difference- being the Match: Page 2**
- **Hecho con Amor! Homes constructed with love! Page 3**
- **Missionary Update: Page 4**

Connect with us:

Recycled Lives
PO Box 408
Cambridge, MN 55008
info@RecycledLives.org
www.RecycledLives.org
612-709-0914

Thanks for being “The Match”

It started with a \$500 donation by someone that had an idea to help us raise the much needed funding for the monthly food distribution in Guatemala. She proposed her gift be used as a match challenge. This match challenge suggestion then sparked another idea. Someone from the Recycled Lives’ Board of Directors suggested that the board members consider making a donation toward the match fund as well. Together with the \$500 gift, we gathered a total of \$1,350 for the match challenge. We were excited to know that if we met this challenge’s goal, there would be 27 more of our 135 families sponsored for a year!

In less than a week, the \$1,350 match challenge goal was met! To date, we have 39 more families that are in need of sponsorship to fully fund our supplemental food program for a year. Perhaps you are one of 39 more \$100 sponsors needed to help another of these families? Even if you are unable to sponsor a family for an entire year, any amount you wish to give to the food program, will be combined will help those that don’t have sponsors yet! It matters to these families.



May 13, 2017 was our first time hosting the monthly food distribution in the new San Gabriel Health Clinic & Activity Center. This building was constructed in a partnership with a Spain-based medical ministry, Quesada Solidaria. Funding is still being sought to complete the building with windows, doors, electric, tiled floors and furnishings, however, the shell space is done and it serves the purpose for sheltered activities! Praise God!

If you wish to donate to help complete this medical & activity building, please contact us.

Your Help Changes Lives

Current Prayer Needs:

- Pray every person in the San Gabriel community is moved to begin or deepen their relationship with God. Pray those that do not know Jesus as their Savior, are reached in their own, unique God-designed way.
- Pray that the specific individuals, in which God has already selected, will choose to attend a small group bible study that is being offered. Pray those that attend experience a life that is transformed.
- Pray the mission team volunteers that God is calling to serve in Guatemala will step out in faith to serve.
- Pray for provision for the immense needs of the families receiving care from our programs and the many that are “in wait” of help. Pray that they truly feel and know the love of Father God as we serve them.
- Pray for our missionaries in Guatemala (Brad & Shawn Johnson) and the Recycled Lives’ board of directors (Dennis Troff, Michelle Jilk, Lina Latvala, Liz Cheney, David & Kelly Wichman and Clyde Bloyer). Please pray that God be in the center of all we do as we seek His will and guidance. That God may smile and be glorified in everything.

Current Financial Needs:

- We are in need of monthly givers. Monthly pledges help us know what resources we have available for aiding families in crisis, performing biblical outreach and to simply be available, in person, to love on our Guatemalan brothers and sisters that God has entrusted us to care for. The best way to make a monthly, tax-deductible contribution is to contact your bank & set up an autopay gift/check sent to:

Recycled Lives

PO Box 408

Cambridge, MN 55008

A year-end giving statement will be sent in January.

- One time gifts to be used where needed most are also extremely helpful and can be mailed to the address above or gifted online by clicking any of the donate buttons on our webpage: www.RecycledLives.org
- We are in need of fundraising committee volunteers. If you have ideas or experience in fundraising and wish to participate on the Recycled Lives’ fundraising committee or you have a fundraising project in mind, please contact fundraising committee chair, David Wichman:
davidwichman@gmail.com or 763-438-3043

For where two or more gather in my name,
there I am with them. Matthew 18:20

Made with Love (Hecho con Amor)



It is with great excitement that we tell you: Three more homes were sponsored and constructed in Guatemala in the past 3 months! Constructing more secure homes meets a desperate physical need throughout Guatemala and provides a very tangible and personally unique way to shine the love of God as we work alongside the family and volunteers to construct the home. The community & neighbors also witness God's love and are filled with hope that people out there really do care for and love them.

Recycled Lives wishes to say thank you for the prayer and financial support of the "Tell Me More" adult Sunday school class at First Baptist Church, Cambridge, MN as well as the additional donors that requested their funds be used to help with housing. Because of these generous

gifts, two more families now have a much improved living situation. These two homes were constructed by missionaries Shawn & Brad, construction leaders Diego & Elio, the families receiving the homes and the help of their neighbors. We were also blessed by the help of several local 11th grade student volunteers from Antigua International School. A special thank you goes to their instructor Ms. Nicole, whom worked to initiate this volunteer partnership with Recycled Lives. In addition to the help they provided with construction, this partnership also provided translating services, document translation for family assessments, and carrying out fundraising activities at their school which will provide "Ecofiltro" water



filters to families in San Gabriel. Mission team couple, Karl & Kathy Binger assisted in the construction one of the homes as well. A big thank you to everyone that supported the Binger's during their time here serving.



The third home was constructed with a generous gift from Melody LaBeau. Through using her employer's matching program, she was able to donate the funds for a home which was constructed near the mission home in Ciudad Vieja.



This family has a teen son that is autistic. They struggle to keep him safe and healthy. A more secure home & environment was necessary, and came just in time, before the rainy season, to help make a permanent difference for this family in need.



Recycled Lives' Faith & Mission: Recycled Lives is rooted and built upon the belief that faith in Jesus Christ renews and transforms broken or lost lives into something beautiful and purposeful - Jesus Recycles our Lives.

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Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17 [NIV]

Our Purpose: Recycled Lives is a non-profit Christian organization dedicated to bettering the lives of people living in poverty through facilitating access to resources that are physical, spiritual and/or financial in nature. We are advocates for ceasing poverty for all of God's people throughout the world.

Recycled Lives is focused on sharing the gospel through serving as the hands and feet of Christ in our communities and throughout the world. We will go forth into the world to bring positive change to lives through demonstrating the love of Christ so that we may bring praise and glory to God.

Missionary Update from the Johnson's

The past few months have been filled with expanding my vocabulary and our support base here in Guatemala. God shows us His goodness, grace and mercy each new day in both simple and complex ways. I want to share with you a few of the many PRAISES we have been rejoicing in because we belong to a Good Good Father God.

We had spent a day constructing a set of some solid wood bunk beds. When done, we carried them up the steep hill behind our home to deliver them to some neighbor kids. As we were walking home, we were discussing options for dinner using what we had available. Everything seemed to require an ingredient we didn't have and there simply was no meal that sounded worth the "quick trip" to the grocery store...a quick trip entails close to an hour of walking and carrying whatever is purchased up a semi-steep ½ mile long incline. Brad jokingly says "I really could go for pizza! Can we order one?" The joke here is not that we can't get pizza...dominoes does deliver- (if they can find our house). The joke is that he knows this day didn't "qualify" as a "special occasion" to spend extra money on pizza. Then I remembered we had some cheese, a small cup of leftover spaghetti sauce and a few slices of pepperoni...and of course, we always have tortillas! I no more than started preparing this sure to be amazing "Guatemalan pizza" and our doorbell rang. There on our step were friends we hadn't seen in months holding 2 Dominoes pizzas and a bottle of cola! I was in shock, and will admit, for the first time in my life, cried over pizza. I even asked Brad if he messaged them to bring pizza because he didn't want to try the Guatemalan pizza. These friends had felt God telling them to order pizza and show up to surprise us! We all praised God together for His goodness. And we got pizza for the special occasion! God always know when His children in ministry are in need of being ministered to!

As you heard from the story above, a good chunk of time and energy is invested in walking to complete necessary errands and tasks. It also requires at times taking "chicken buses" to & from town for supplies. Chicken buses are old school buses donated from the USA, stripped down, "souped-up" with paint & chrome to look nice but are poorly maintained. They are not the safest but they get us into areas we can't walk to. Because the ministry work we do in San Gabriel is 45 minutes, one way, we are dependent upon hiring drivers. Each trip costs \$25 or more. Transportation costs are a large expense for our already stretched missionary salary but this is what we have needed to do. We prayerfully decided that the purchase of a vehicle would not only save us a lot of money over time but would open the door to more frequent ministry visits & make transport for small teams that come to the mission house much easier. The money we would save could go toward replenishing our savings that we would wipe out to buy the vehicle. Last week, trusting that this was the right decision, we bought a small SUV. After 6 months of not driving & a year of not owning a vehicle, I feel like a teenager that just got their license! Though we are taking caution to learn the "rules of the road", we have already been able to use the car to minister to families needing rides to the hospital, to help deliver a 100# bag of chicken feed to a neighbor & will save many hours of "errand time" which now is invested in studying Spanish & ministry. Thank you God for this blessing!

I pray this newsletter shares sufficiently what it is that YOU are doing here in Guatemala. We thank you for coming alongside of us and holding us up in the prayer and financial support we need. Please know you are serving right alongside of us to address the lack of physical needs while bringing hope and the message of an eternal life in heaven through sharing about and shining the light of Jesus in these dark and desperate places.

*In Christ's abundant love~ Shawn J,
Missionary, Founder & Executive Director for Recycled Lives*