

Hola! Greetings, Friends of Emanuel Youth Mission!



San Vicente Volcano near Taura , El Salvador

Open the eyes of my heart is a popular spiritual song, the song Ely, a Salvadoran mission partner sang in Spanish for us, and members of our Virginia mission team sang for the Taura church congregation. It turned out to be a theme of this year's trip. A group of 15 from Lovingston's Calvary Baptist Church and Piney River Baptist Church went with us in July. They worked all year to collect donations of shoes, clothes, hygiene and first aid items and to raise funds for food sustainability projects. They helped more than 8 impoverished families have fish ponds to raise tilapia, enclosures and shelters for chickens and goats. They worked on those projects each morning and accomplished the relational component of our mission the rest of the day, doing activities with the children like face painting, animal balloons, making bracelets, a puppet show, playing soccer, living with and getting to know the children and adults of the Taura village. They signed up for this trip, stepping out in faith, into the unknown, because they already have big hearts, and then, the gracious people of Taura opened their eyes and hearts even more. Several have said that the Taura people are the most Godly people they have ever met, so giving, loving and joyful...despite the hardship of their lives. Their focus on relationship to God and relationship with each other is very evident. Virginia team members have said this trip changed their perspectives about what is important in life. **Emanuel Youth Mission thanks all the kind people who donated to make this trip possible!**





Yanci Aleman was the first Emanuel Youth Mission sponsored student to graduate from high school. She is now 20 years old and the very competent secretary/manager for our mission in Taura. After caring for her older brother, Freddy, who died after a several year struggle with leukemia, she felt the call to be a doctor. That means 8 years total of college and medical school, at \$5,000 a year, a practical impossibility for a youth in impoverished Taura, but a dream nevertheless. Yanci assists the doctor in the Taura clinic and reads medical books to learn. While the Calvary team was in Taura in July, their church decided to sponsor Yanci for at least 2 years of college.

WOW! That dream is coming true! We are excited to begin this fund for her remaining years; any donations will help her to complete medical school and become a doctor! Thank you Calvary for jumpstarting this miracle!

The week after the Calvary team left Taura, John, I and Marvin followed up on the remaining food projects, the distribution of donated items, attended church services, and played with the children. Marvin, Ely, and John climbed to the top of that San Vicente volcano and went to a rather “wild west” type of animal market to get goats for one of the projects. It is always an adventure, and we always come home to Virginia so filled with love.



Here are the projects we need funds for now:

Irrigation systems: This is the rainy season and their planting season; however, they have not had rain and lost their annual corn crop, their food and income. Irrigation would help them to plant again. Approximately \$1,500 each.

A 2nd truck to be used for clean water delivery: the 1 community truck has so many other obligations, school bus, community transportation; it is not available for delivery to as many families as would like to have the clean water. Approximately \$25, 000.

Support for the medical clinic: \$600 a month provides doctor care and medicines.

School sponsorships for children from the poorest families: \$300 a year.

Yanci’s college fund: \$5,000 a year, any amount designated for her will go to this fund. Please help her become a doctor who will make a difference for her people.



Marvin, John and I would like to **thank all of you who have been so faithful to partner with us in Emanuel Youth Mission. Your prayers and your donations are very much appreciated and ARE making a difference in Taura.** The health official who monitors that zone told us this time that with the clean water, the clinic, and the fog machine to kill mosquitoes, Taura is like an oasis of good health. The babies are not dying, children do not have parasites and are not malnourished, people do not have gastrointestinal diseases or the mosquito borne diseases they have had in recent years. With your help and with God, we hope to not only continue projects to address these issues, but also expand this help to more people.

Bendiciones, John and Jonna Clarkson, Emanuel Youth Mission

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