



Arms of Mercy Honduras

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“I lost the use of my legs, now what?”

That’s the heart’s cry for thousands in Honduras and millions worldwide at birth and later in life. In the U.S. there are a host of organizations and Gov. agencies whose sole purpose is to give an answer to that question, in both word and deed. In Honduras, however, there may be a few organizations with limited resources to help, usually only in the larger cities.

In poor communities, the disabled are often confined to a modest shack, dependant on help from friends and family who are usually struggling themselves. Most of the streets are rough dirt roads, even those who can afford wheelchairs find it impossible to leave their homes and move about in the community, and some perish as a result.

PETs to the rescue! A simple hand powered three wheel cart is the answer. It’s a beautiful sight as we have the privilege to see the tears of joy on the many faces of those who have received a PET (Personal Energy Transport). Usually dressed in their best outfit they anxiously try out their new hand powered vehicle. Pastor Luciano and I delivered these PETs (see photos) in the Masca region where he pastors and runs a feeding program for 300 children.

“My new PET has completely changed my life; I now plan instead of just dream about my future”



Above, Mario Zuniga was born with deformed legs. Now, age 30, he, as a result of his disability has developed good strong arms to operate his new PET. Mario said: “Thank you to each one of you who sacrificed to make this possible. My new PET completely changed my life; I now plan instead of just dream about my future.”



Silvia and Carmen are beaming with joy as they try out their new PET, now 39 and 41, they lost the use of their legs at age 5 and 7 to Polio.



Single dad Eddy with son Alex; Eddy is now working in a rural radio station to provide for his son. He was ecstatic and extremely grateful!

PET Continued

This 2001 4X4 SUV can carry three PETS. It has been reliable to take us to many remote places in the mountains and coastal areas of Honduras to deliver PETS and much more. Thank you for helping us give 85 PETS to help those in need. This year our goal is to distribute 300 PETS

Each PET is made by volunteers at PET International USA; the material cost for each PET is \$250. PET Intl. donates each PET to us for distribution. If you would like to get in on the blessing and help us distribute one or more PETSs, our cost to distribute each PET is \$75.

CHE GOES WEST

Empowering Churches and Communities

In December, accompanied by our CHE (Community Health Evangelism) trainers, Adolfo Leon and Melvin Mejia, we traveled to the pacific coast city of Choluteca, Honduras, to present our 13th "CHE Training of Trainers" week held at "Iglesia Santidad". Nineteen people attended from Honduras and El Salvador. One missionary from El Salvador commented that they finally found a complete problem solving tool for every area of life, combining both the spiritual and physical in the over 1,500 lesson modules. This was a great group of mature and committed of trainees.



One segment of the empowerment teachings was on how to start a small business (micro-enterprise); growing Tilapia fish. This high protein fish can be easily raised in a 50 gallon barrel (30 per barrel), or in larger tanks or ponds to generate income and feed families. When your diet consists of mainly beans and rice, some home grown Tilapia sure tastes good!

We've now seen the CHE ministry spread across Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. This demonstrates that the design and goal of the program to duplicate itself is working. To learn more about the Medical Ambassadors International CHE program go to www.lifewind.org.

"When your diet consists of mainly beans and rice, some home grown Tilapia sure tastes good!"

IMCI Training – As long as they keep coming, we'll keep training them!

**"Blessed is he who
considers the poor:
the Lord will deliver
him in time of
trouble."**

Psalm 41:1

We are pleased to announce the graduation of the 12th IMCI (Integrated Management of Childhood Illness) training class for doctors and nurses which was held in January. In January, we held yet another week long training class for doctors and nurses in San Pedro Sula to better equip them to lower the high death rate for children through prevention, educating parents, and treatment. With the huge shortage of medicine and medical equipment, this vital program is very important to help reduce the loss of these precious children. Almost one out of every ten children will die from an easily prevented sickness or disease. See class photo: I'm the skinny guy in the yellow shirt!



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TRANSFORMING A NATION
... through the seamless
combination of disease
prevention, evangelism and
community development.



The Arms of Mercy (formerly Mercy Ships) has been operating in Honduras since 2005. Our purpose is to bring sustainable transformation by empowering medical professionals, community workers, churches and those whom they serve through educational empowerment programs. Our four programs, the CHE (Community Health Evangelism/Education) for churches and communities, IMCI (Integrated Management of Childhood Illness for doctors and nurses), the P.E.T. Project (Personal Energy Transports for the handicapped) and the Moringa Project (powerhouse nutritional plant) target the neediest people groups. Our goal is to be facilitators of change, your hands extended to the poorest of the poor.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement during these tough economic times!

It is our privilege to be your arms extended to a world in need.
May God Bless You

Your Arms of Mercy in Honduras

Rick Schommer, Adolfo León, Melvin Mejía + Yossel Velásquez

**Please make all 2009 monthly and one time gifts payable
to: (Arms of Mercy). Please e-mail us in advance that your
gift is coming.**

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