New Hope Herald Summer 2020 Esperque a

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Mail donations to:
Nueva Esperanza
P.O. Box 345
Kingsville, OH 44048

Or use our new online giving options at:

www.hopeinhonduras.org

Email: newhopeinhonduras@gmail.com

Phone: (440) 709-4053 (814) 580-0724

Nueva Esperanza Apdo. 4118 Tegucigalpa, D.C. Honduras, C.A.



On August 3, 1992, Nueva Esperanza opened its doors to serve the people of Honduras starting with ten children in a small local church. To date, Nueva Esperanza has had the opportunity to plant the seed of the Gospel in the lives of 505 poverty stricken children and their families!

As we celebrate our **28**th **anniversary** this month, we reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness in allowing us to help many Honduran children, youth, and families while continuing to provide for our every need.

As you know, this year of 2020 has been a unique year for practically everyone in the world! Life has not been the same, and we all feel the impact. For over five months now, Honduras has been under strict lock down restrictions as the government attempts to slow the spread of the virus as much as possible. For the majority of this time only hospitals, grocery stores, gas stations, and pharmacies have been allowed to be open,



and each person only has permission to circulate to do their errands in these places once every two weeks according to their identification



number. For a country with an already high poverty rate and lack of sufficient medical care facilities, the toll has been overwhelming. Unemployment has skyrocketed as the economy has taken a huge hit because of most businesses not being allowed to be open. For our children's caretakers, it has been especially tough as many typically make their income day by day and, even without the pandemic, struggle to find work due to a lack of education.

We have been blessed to been able to help the families of our children and youth who have suffered greatly due to the loss of employment and sickness and really appreciate all of you who have contributed to our special "food distribution" fund. This has allowed us to distribute bags of staple foods such as beans, rice, tortilla flour, oatmeal,

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spaghetti and many more items for the whole family and not just "our children". Distributing this food has also given us the opportunity to keep in communication with each family as we ask them about how this crisis has influenced their normal life in the area of routine, employment, their children's educational studies, and their spiritual lives. It has especially given us a chance to give encouragement and minister to these individuals who even



before COVID-19 lived challenging lives. We've been able to witness some impactful moments where God was definitely working in the lives of our caregivers. On one particular day, three



different individuals asked us if we had an extra Bible we could give them. As Carlos presented one of our fathers with the Bible he asked for, the father shared with tears in his eyes that he was definitely going to start reading the scriptures because God had touched his life through the message he had just heard. Please pray that we are able to continue being a light for Christ during this time of great need.







For the first time in 28 years, we've faced the unique situation of not being able to work directly with our children and youth in our ministry buildings. Although there are many restrictions, we continue to do our best to find ways to serve our Nueva Esperanza community.

Our youth leaders have been staying in contact with the youth through their phones. Other employees who have been able to avoid contracting the virus and aren't at high risk have been coming to the ministry a few days a week to help bag & distribute food, prepare homework for our preschool children, give out birthday gifts, and meet individually with our children's caretakers and youth. Many employees have even been having weekly prayer meetings via Zoom.

Our construction/maintenance guys have been working on the team house to take advantage of being able to do some special projects during this rare time of not having teams. Barbara, Liz, and Fany have been using their personal computers and phones to work from home in order to keep up with donor correspondence, updates, and bookkeeping. We all look forward to the day we



will hear the laughter and chatter of the children filling the classrooms and playground again. Until then, we're so thankful for the ways our Nueva Esperanza staff has stepped up and changed the way they work so that we can continue to minister to our children, youth, families, and community.

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A Special Delivery

Here in Honduras, the pandemic situation has affected us in many ways. One that is especially sensitive to me is the lack of food in the homes of the poor because I myself experienced this firsthand during the first ten years of my life.

Nueva Esperanza continues to give out frequent food distributions. Recently, we were not able to contact Katherine, a mother of four whose family lives in a situation of extreme poverty. Nueva Esperanza started helping her family in March 2015. Her three youngest children, Marleny (9),

Jeysel (8), and Kevin (6) are all enrolled in the children's ministry program. Since their situation is very unstable and they often do not have a working phone to reach them, Barbara asked me if I would be willing to drive to their home to deliver bags of food to them.

Arriving at the little shack built on the lower embankment of a contaminated creek, I found the three children playing in the dirt with their cat and dog. As soon as little Kevin saw me, he ran up the steps made of tires to give me a big hug. Even though we are supposed to be social



distancing, I could not resist giving him a hug back. As I started inquiring about how they were doing, they shared with me that their mom was not home and proceeded to show me their cat that had just died. After a few minutes, their mom arrived carrying some firewood, and my conversation turned to her. I explained that I was visiting to see how they were doing and also to deliver some food to them. She was very thankful as she shared that they had just recently run out of the food we had previously given them. She was anxious to begin preparing some of the food for the children because they hadn't had any breakfast, and it was already 11:50 a.m.

I left their house remembering my childhood and the many times it was noon, but we hadn't eaten any breakfast because we didn't have food. I had mixed emotions arise—sadness for these children who live in this situation of poverty (that yes, is at least partly due to poor decisions on the part of their parents), but also an overflowing sense of thankfulness that I am blessed to no longer live with a daily lack of food. It is hard to fully express the difference that it made in my life to be "sent" to a Christian orphanage when I was ten. My life dramatically changed basically due to missions minded people whose contributions allowed me to eat three meals a day, have proper clothing, an education, and so much more! I appreciate the opportunity to be able to now help others in need, and I hope that these children will be able to grow up to tell about the difference Nueva Esperanza made in their lives.

I want to thank you, our supporters, for allowing me and all of the staff of Nueva Esperanza to have the chance to deliver these lifesaving bags of foods to the people we serve.

With a grateful heart,

Carlos Barahona

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Child Sponsors Needed

We all know that COVID-19 has changed a lot of the way we live our lives. Sadly, it also means that some people have their lost jobs and had to rethink their budgets. This has affected Nueva Esperanza as we have lost a few child sponsors due to these

difficult economic times. If you or someone you know would like to sponsor a child through our ministry for just \$30 a month, please look on our website for some of our children who need sponsors. To do so, you can go to www.hopeinhondruas.org → How to Help → Child Sponsorship → Children Needing Sponsored. You can also contact us at nesponsorship@gmail.com if you have any specific questions!

NUEVA ESPERANZA P.O. Box 345 Kingsville, Ohio 44048

T.C. B. C. 1875 Gold Hill Rd. Tega Cay, S.C. 29708 Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid at Fort Mill, SC

We also accept online donations at <u>www.hopeinhonduras.org!</u>

Or complete and return this section along with your contribution to our Ohio address.

My one-time donation: \$	I want to sponsor a child! (It takes \$90 a month to fully sponsor each child.)
My monthly pledge: \$ To be designated towards:	☐ I want to be a monthly educational sponsor (\$30)☐ I want to be a monthly basic care sponsor (\$30)
□ Bibles□ General operating expenses	■ I want to be a monthly daily care sponsor (\$30) If you already know which child you want to sponsor, please list his/her name:
□ Worker/teacher support□ High school sponsorship	Name
□ New youth center	Address
☐ Wherever the need is greatest	City State Zip Code
Please add my name to the mailing list.	Email Phone
Make checks payable to: Nueva Esperanza. (501c3 non-profit donations are tax deductible)	