

WEW HOPE HERALD

Spring 2019

Greetings from Honduras!



Some of you may already know about Juan Carlos, and we want to take an opportunity to update you on his story!

In 1994, before she was even married, Barbara began to personally care for twoyear-old Juan Carlos full-time. He had been enrolled at Nueva Esperanza but was

suffering from malnutrition and sickness at the time. He was also behind in areas of growth because of the difficult life he had. Juan Carlos was so sick when he was first enrolled that he was too weak to even sit up in a chair by himself.

Juan Carlos lived with Barbara, Carlos, and their children for eleven years because his birth parents were not in a stable condition to care for him. He learned English and was able to travel with the Barahona family to the USA a few times.

Juan Carlos had some rough times throughout his teenage and young adult years. Through God's grace

he has found restoration and a new purpose in life. He has been studying and serving in a program called Youth with a Mission (YWAM) for a few years now, which is where he met a special girl from Bolivia.

Roxanna and Juan Carlos were married at the YWAM base in Pichilemu,



Chile on March 28, 2019. They plan to continue serving as missionaries with YWAM for the time being. We pray God's blessings on them as they continue to serve God together.

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Nueva Esperanza

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Nueva Esperanza is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

EQUIPPING, TRAINING, AND TEACHING OUR TEACHERS



Since our students and youth start their school year in February, we use the month of January to help prepare our teachers for a new year. They are given time to prepare their classrooms, have orientation meetings with parents, and plan upcoming lessons. This year we really want to focus on equipping our teachers to understand more about their students so we can have the biggest impact while working with them.

All of our teachers were able to

participate in a Trauma Competent Caregiver training given by a woman who works with another ministry here in Honduras. This three-day training was packed with information to help our teachers work with the children, youth, and families we serve. We learned about different types of trauma and how it affects people. In addition to learning more about the children and youth we serve, our teachers were given practical ways to adapt their teaching methods to better meet the needs of our students. It was a very beneficial way to see our students with more compassion and understanding in realizing just how much they've already been affected by different types of

trauma. Teachers were also able to reflect and relate to our children in discovering the ways they've been affected by trauma too!

Three of our staff members had the opportunity to attend another professional training in February. A justice organization offered a free Child Sexual Abuse training to missionaries and other non-profit organizations in the city. Very practical information was presented by both psychologists and lawyers. They



shared both how to recognize child sexual abuse and what to do if we discover it's happening. The training was heart-breaking, eye-opening, and motivating. Those who attended will soon share what they learned with our other teachers and staff so we can all be better advocates for the children, youth, and families we serve.

Why are these trainings so important?

In the Child Competent Caregiver seminar, we realized that all of our kids have probably experienced some type of trauma already in their young lives. It's safe to say that financial poverty has affected all of them in ways we may not see. Their physical needs may not be met because of it, but it also changes the way they view safety and provision. It causes hurt on a deeper level. The majority of our children have also gone through the loss of relationships as their parents separate, a relative dies, or someone important to them moves away. These losses create issues with attachment, and the way children will trust others can turn into something unhealthy. Those are just a few of the situations that have caused trauma in their lives.

The Child Sexual Abuse training helped us to become more aware of how to recognize child sexual abuse. We want our children and youth to have healthy, safe relationships with us! We want them to trust us enough to tell us if something is going on they need help with; however, another way for us to be a place of refuge is by detecting signs of sexual abuse and advocating for our children. Both of these trainings helped us to learn how we can be safe, trustworthy, supportive people for our children and youth.

Meet Our New Staff Members!

Meet Heidy!

Heidy has been involved with Nueva Esperanza for 20 years now but recently joined our staff in January. She was enrolled at the ministry in 1999 when she was just two years old. Her two older siblings were already attending Nueva Esperanza. At that time, Heidy's mother was working as a maid making very little money, and she didn't have anyone to take care of Heidy while she worked. Heidy's parents were separated, and her father didn't help with any child support.

A few months after Heidy was enrolled at Nueva Esperanza, her mother was able to get a job with the mayor. Because of this job, the mayor helped to repair their wooden house! Heidy's mother worked very hard to provide for her family and make a better life for them.

Through the years, Heidy worked hard in school and persevered. She graduated from high school and Nueva Esperanza's youth program in December 2016! Since then, Heidy has been studying Hotel Administration at a local university. In November of last year, Heidy applied for a job at Nueva Esperanza since her class schedule prevented her from getting other jobs. She is now able to work at the ministry as our receptionist during the day, and she attends her college classes every evening.







Meet Melissa!

Melissa is working as one of our teachers this year. She helps with our 4-year-old preschool class in the morning, and in the afternoon, she takes care of our "pass" preschool children who don't leave until 3:45. She really enjoys working with children and is great with our youngest ones!

Several years ago, Melissa started working with children when she worked as a nanny on school buses and helped out in different classrooms. After doing this same job at two different schools, she decided to work as a cook with her mother in two different school cafeterias instead. Last year, she began looking for other work and got connected to Nueva Esperanza through a couple of our current employees.

Melissa and her husband have been married for 15 years now. They have two boys together who are 13 and 6. Melissa, her husband, and sons live with Melissa's mother. Melissa likes to volunteer in the nursery at her church.

Meet Eva!

Eva is working with us as one of our teachers this year. In the morning, she co-teaches our new 3-year-olds, and in the afternoon she teaches English and Art classes.

From the ages of 8-18, Eva lived in an orphanage run by missionaries in the northern part of Honduras. Her mom wasn't able to provide for Eva and her younger sister, so she placed them there. Eva learned English at the orphanage. For the last 3 years, Eva has been living, working as a nanny and art teacher, and studying in Guatemala.

In the first few months of 2019 while we were still in the process of enrolling new 3-year-olds, Eva used her art skills to paint murals in our playground area. Eva has also helped with translating for our visiting teams. Eva's love and compassion for her students can be seen in the ways she interacts with them. Please be praying for her continued transitions in Honduras. We are so grateful to have her on our staff!







We're excited to tell you about our new playground equipment that is being made! Crystal, our month-long intern, did a lot of research and planning to design the playground equipment that our maintenance men are now building. Our kids are going to love it!







In January, we also had a group of National Honor Society Students from a local bilingual school visit us to do a service project. They weeded and cleaned our Burns' Ballpark property, cleaned our youth soccer field, and played soccer with our youth afterwards.

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