

-LINKED-

A 2011 THANK YOU

Hi everyone,

I pray that you all had a wonderful 2011, and that God is already blessing your plans for 2012. We have had a wonderful Christmas season and are overwhelmed by what God has done this year. Our small feeding program has grown into a thriving congregation and a family of 40 that is growing and changing every day. We hosted 22 groups, built houses, held VBS programs, facilitated clinics and, most importantly, shared the love of Christ and God's word with hundreds of hurting souls.

As we look to 2012, we have plans for building improvements, educational opportunities, mission teams and many more adventures. Most of all, we look forward to showing and receiving the love that God pours out on us daily.

Nothing we do would be possible without the love YOU share with us. Thank you. Your financial donations pay our bills and provide programs, and your prayers and encouragement feed our hearts and give us the strength to be a part of this work daily. We cannot say thank you enough for all you pour into us.

Seek God and follow your dreams, and He is sure to give you a great adventure.

All my love,

Amber Foster
Founder/Director



Break chains of
Honduran poverty
40 & 40

**MATCHING GRANT FOR WINTERFEST
CONTRIBUTION PLEDGED TO HELP
PURCHASE BUILDING**

BY COURTNEY MATHEWS

Each year, Winterfest (an annual two-city youth conference) uses its Sunday morning contribution from attendees to bless a ministry. This year, Breaking Chains is honored to be the recipient of that contribution.

The blessing, however, is two-fold. As a tie to the contribution, a pair of generous donors has offered a \$40,000, dollar-for-dollar matching grant. That means if we receive \$40,000 from the combined contribution of the Arlington and Gatlinburg events, the donors will put up an additional \$40,000.

That \$80,000 combined with the \$38,000 we have already received in individual donations will go a long way in helping us reach our goal of \$150,000 to purchase the building and replace the roof.

The attached image is the symbol of our goal - an effort to raise \$40,000 for the promise of \$40,000 more. We ask that you be in prayer over this contribution and, if you attend Winterfest, please be thinking of ways to encourage your group to donate. Please check our Facebook page for more updates as the events approach.

AN UNFORGETTABLE CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE

BY MICHAEL LEMMONS

“I have never felt more relaxed,” our friend Belkis said. She sat looking at a calm beach and her children playing. “Before I came here, I was so stressed. Now, my back doesn’t hurt any more; my feet don’t hurt any more. I’m so relaxed. Thank you.”

Belkis accompanied our team and nearly 40 others living in our building to the beach for our Christmas celebration. Many of our BC friends said this Christmas was the best they had ever experienced.



BELKIS ENJOYING A LITTLE TIME IN THE SUN.

We left the Monday after Christmas and spent the next two days in Amapala enjoying the relaxing atmosphere of the beach. We couldn’t have asked for a better time.

We ate, we laughed, we played, we swam and we opened presents. We had everyone sit in a circle with one chair in the middle. We picked out a gift and called out who it was for, and then that person came to the middle to open their gift. Each time we would call a name, the rest of the circle would cheer for that child or adult.

Thirty-nine of our friends opened gifts for themselves, with two mommies opening presents for their babies as well. We also gave small gifts to the family we paid to cook four meals for all of us. All in all, 45



people opened a total of 125 packages, leaving sheets of giftwrap covering an 8’x8’ portion of the beach.

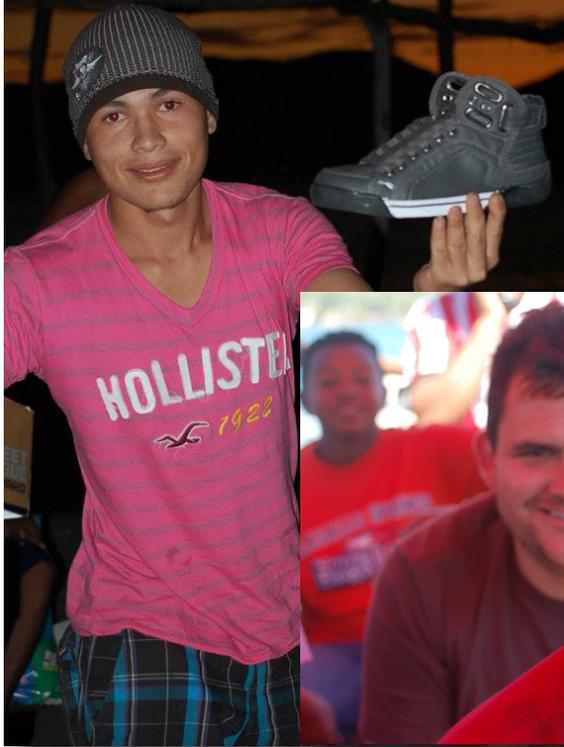
Together we enjoyed the sun on a beautiful beach in the shadow of the mountains of El Salvador and Nicaragua. We expected all of this fun to be a part of the trip, but the results were much more than just those.

We created a family while at the beach, cemented friendships and built new ones. Families and teens, who rarely interacted with each other except when they had to, now laugh together, now speak to one another.

When you’re talking about any group of people, that’s special. But when you’re talking about a group of once homeless people, that’s a miracle. God created bonds on that beach, and we pray it will lead to fewer arguments in 2012.

We are all beyond grateful to all of you for making this trip happen. You blessed lives in ways you will never know and in ways we never saw coming. You gave a vacation to parents who needed it, and you provided a family and a special Christmas to many kids who have never known either. Thank you for blessing our Christmas and kick-starting a better new year.

THANKS TO ALL OF
OUR SPONSORS!



VISIT OUR FACEBOOK
PAGE TO SEE MANY
MORE PICTURES OF THE
HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES.

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO IMPACT LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

BY MICHAEL LEMMONS

Our kids will likely have a monumental year in 2012. They each get the chance to retreat to school away from the chaos that their young lives have become. They will start at Corey's school in February, and we are excited to see how it will affect each child.

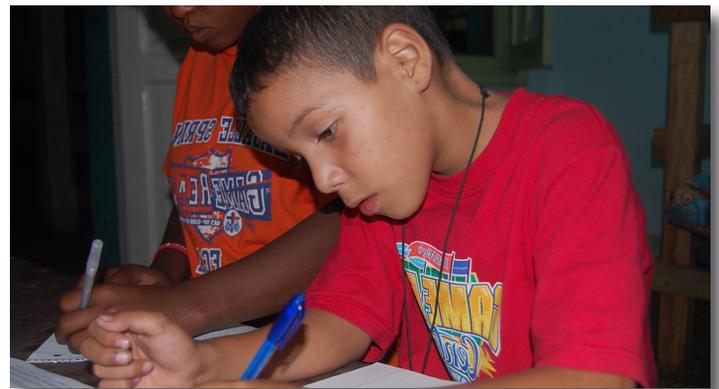
Arol started at a transition school this past month to help him catch up so that he can start second grade at Interamerican School next month.

Arol has changed since he began school. He's had some behavior issues in the past, but now he's so much happier and better behaved. And he's barely begun his education. I can't wait to see what's next for him, and I thank God for this precious change in this sweet boy.

For three of the remaining kids to attend school, we need sponsorships for each of them. Thankfully, God has already provided a generous family to support Arol's education. But Dayana, Jonatan and Escarleth

need your help too.

Each child needs \$50 per month for transportation, food and field trips. Then they each need a \$500, one-time donation for books, school supplies, uniform, etc. We know it sounds like a lot, but any donation will help their futures and will go a long way toward helping provide for a child's education. If you wish to help, email mail@bchonduras.org. Thank you!



FEATURE

LESSONS IN LOVE: MAKING AN IMPACT ON GEOVANNY

BY AMBER FOSTER

19-year-old Geovanny has been with us since July. We have had the blessing of watching him grow and change over the past few months into a loving young man eager to help lead others. It is hard to imagine Geovanny living the violent, painful past he tells us of when he is feeling down. This quiet kid has been a part of gang violence, theft and a family he believes cares nothing for him. We have held him for hours as he cries out against the loneliness and pain of his past, but he is opening up and letting us in. Geovanny's smile is huge and is often accompanied by an "I love you Ma!" That's a huge change from the sullen, angry, young man we met in July.

Our goal for all of our youth is to help them find healthy alternatives to life on the street that will allow them to have a successful adulthood. We hope to facilitate this through schooling, technical training, spiritual growth and building a support system. How this goal is reached looks different for each kid, depending on skill level and needs.

One way we have found to begin this process is a partnership with Casa Domingo. Casa Domingo is an independent living program that helps older youth find training, jobs and an apartment over the course of 6 to 12 months. We currently



GEOVANNY IS ONE OF THE YOUNG MEN IN OUR MINISTRY WITH THE MOST POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE HIS SITUATION. PLEASE BE IN PRAYER AS GOD WORKS IN HIS LIFE.

have one young man in process to enter the program and another on the waiting list.

Recently, during a talk with Geovanny, I asked if he would be interested in going to Casa Domingo. This is the conversation that followed:

Geovanny: "I don't want to go there."

Me: "Why not? It's a great place and I think they could really help you."

Geovanny: "I know. But I don't like places like that. I like it here."

Me: "I'm glad that you like it here, and we're not asking you to leave. You have a home here for as long as you need it. We will always, always love you, no matter where you are. But have you been to Casa Domingo? How do you know you don't like it?"

Geovanny: "No I haven't been there, but I've been a lot of places, and I don't like other centers. I like it

here."

Me: "Well, what is it you like about here?" (I wanted to see the comparisons he could draw between the two ministries.)

Geovanny: "You teach me things."

Me: "We teach you things? What things do we teach you?"

Geovanny: "You've taught me to have respect.... to help other people...." Then with tears in his eyes and a ducked head, "You've taught me how to love."

Geovanny has a long way to go before he will be able to trust new people, but I am confident that he is working toward a very bright future, one day at a time. I don't have all the answers and I am positive that my days are filled with more mistakes than successes, but God is blessing this ministry in overwhelming ways. If the only thing we ever teach these precious souls is how to love, I am confident God will continue to smile upon us.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS TAKE PLACE AT BREAKING CHAINS

BY DAVID LOGUE



Over the past few weeks, the Breaking Chains building has undergone some much needed repairs and installations. Since about September, the 'aguas negras' (sewage water) had been backing up into the courtyard area, raising major health concerns for children and adults living at building. Over the course of about two weeks, and with the help of the youth group, we were able to clean out the pipes and repair the issues.

The following week, a friend from Bread for a Hungry World came, and we were able to install a water pump in the building to provide running water 24/7! Now people can shower, clean and do laundry whenever the need arises.

Up next on the "fix-it" list is to install some doors throughout the building to ensure privacy and security, then to get the kitchen up and functioning. Please let us know if you would like to contribute to these needs in any way.

NEW TORTILLA SHOP PROVIDES INCOME FOR WOMEN AT BREAKING CHAINS

BY COURTNEY MATHEWS

A primary goal of Breaking Chains has always been to provide opportunities for those we serve to become self-supporting. Recently, the ministry has taken a step in that direction with the opening of a tortilla shop.

If there is one thing the women in our ministry know how to do, it is cook - especially tortillas. Another ministry in the city, Casa Domingo, had possession of a small storefront downtown which it was not using. The ministry was going to lose the area if it was unable to occupy the space. The BC team saw this as a great opportunity to experiment in small business.

Thanks to a donation from Bobby Moore and Bread for



a Hungry World, BC was able to secure the space and pay for start-up costs. Since December, the BC women have been working hard to make tortillas and secure clients for their sales.

In the future, it is possible that the business will be housed in the BC building. We are looking forward to watching this blessing as it grows and develops.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Winterfest 40 for 40 contribution
- BC students to begin bilingual school in February
- Education sponsorships
- Building repairs
- Tortilla shop

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