

# MISSION NEWS

*Foundation for His Ministry - Transforming communities in Mexico beginning with kids.*



## FINDING LOVE AND SAFETY

The heart of our ministry is our children's homes. We have the privilege of caring for around 140 children, teens and university students. These are children who have been abandoned, abused or orphaned, and we get to pour the love of Jesus into them for the time they are entrusted into our care.

This can be heartbreaking work as they struggle to heal from the trauma they have experienced and to fully believe in the unconditional love Jesus has for them. But this is also beautiful work as they step into their identity as children of the King and they blossom in the safety and nurturing they find in our homes.

And the true heroes in all of this are the houseparents. These are men and women who love these children as if they were their own. They sacrificially serve and lay down their lives to create a place for children to heal, thrive and grow.

I was recently reading Isaiah 49:9 in the Message paraphrase which says "I tell those huddled in fear, 'It's all right. It's safe now.'" This immediately brought tears to my eyes as it is such a beautiful picture of what those



who work in our children's homes do each day for broken and hurting children.

Please join us in praying for each child, teenager, and university student. Ask God to break into their wounded hearts and bring healing and hope. And pray for the houseparents who care for them. Ask God to make the joy of the Lord their strength.

**Janelle Keller**  
Executive Director



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# Build it and They Will Come



*Current soccer field*

In "Field of Dreams," Kevin Costner heard a mysterious voice calling him to build a baseball field. The fruit of his efforts would be Shoeless Joe Jackson and the 1919 White Sox team stepping out of heaven to play ball on his farm. Though just a fantasy movie, all started with a vision and obedience.

Over fifty years ago, Charla Pereau also had a vision. Upon walking through what would become the Baja mission, she heard children laughing where none were visible. Charla heeded God's call to claim the dry and dusty property as a safe haven for children. Since that time, God has been faithful in providing for the basic needs and a Christian education for hundreds of children in a godly home.

With primary needs met and living in a developing community, we have been fortunate to layer in extra-curricular activities for our children and staff. This past year has included a focus on health and wellness as an active lifestyle and sound nutrition continue with the children as they transition out of the home. Once a month, we host a whole home fitness day where children and staff partake in a morning of hockey, obstacle courses, martial arts, calisthenics, and most popular, soccer.

Soccer is a language here in Baja. It is a national pastime that bypasses all barriers bringing people together in fellowship, fitness, fun, and for us at the mission, faith. Characters are matured as fruits of the Spirit such as patience, kindness and self-control are developed. Team sports provide an opportunity for children and adults to trust in others, strategize, and communicate effectively.

In the community, there are soccer leagues in which our children and staff eagerly participate. Yet, the playing fields are substandard, one having no grass at all. Leagues do not accommodate all age groups, primarily our younger teens

who are at a critical stage in their own development. At the home, we have a practice area, but we are cautious about playing there due to a number of injuries caused by gopher holes and uneven terrain. Knees have been compromised, ankles sprained, and most recently, Miguel suffered a broken arm. More than ever, we are prompted to invest in a proper playing field before more players are sidelined.

As such, Jugamos soccer club has partnered with us to transform the vision of a playing field at the home into a reality. Jugamos is a faith-based soccer club started by Debbie Haliday who is on staff at UCLA as Program Director for women's basketball. It is an outreach component of her non-profit, Restoration Sports. Debbie and her team faithfully serve at the mission each spring providing soccer camps to our children. She fully comprehends the connection between faith, fellowship, and sport. Having our own field would provide a safe activity venue for our children, staff, and visitors. More so, we hope to be a beacon attracting our neighbors to step into God's presence through sport.

We have the space. We have professional blueprints drawn and a budget prepared for construction of a field. \$75,000 USD is necessary to begin the project which includes artificial turf and fencing. Donations can be made online [www.ffhm.org/support-financially](http://www.ffhm.org/support-financially) or by check with "soccer field" on the memo line. Build it and HE will come.



*Artist Rendering*

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*  
Colossians 3:17

**Susan Eichensehr**  
Baja Mission Group Coordinator



# Offering Medical Care in Baja



Although we have seen many changes in the last year, some things remain the same. We continue to offer outreach in the community when volunteers are available. We have several outreaches that occur annually. Two weeks ago we were able to offer low cost dental care to our community: \$5 fillings/extractions and \$2.50 cleanings and our staff were offered all services for free. Because of this low price we saw almost 300 patients and performed more than 500 procedures. People who came in with sore teeth left without pain or infection. Because of a group of seven dentists, who were willing to give of their time and talents, many people were helped.

Besides this outreach, in August we plan to have our operating room floor done and be ready to see patients. With this open we will offer eye campaigns 2-3 times per year. We have a very mission-minded ophthalmologist from Ensenada who is already purchasing equipment for this plan. His specialty involves retinal repair in diabetic patients, a huge issue here in this area. He will also be offering cataract removals.

We continue to try and use what has been donated to the clinic to help those in our community.



We still have many patients coming in for colostomy and wound care supplies; because of what we have been blessed with we are able to take these goods and bless those who come looking for help. God, through our supporters, supplies what we need just when we need it. Thank you for continuing to follow God's prompting.

**Jessica Brown**  
*Baja Mission Clinic*

# God's Work in Oaxaca

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray for heaven on earth. We ask God that His holiness be revealed, His kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. FFHM is God's hands and feet in Oaxaca, bringing a little bit of heaven down to earth in this southern Mexican state. God's will is to make beauty, do good, and to share truth. Those of us working here at the Oaxaca Mission strive every day, with God's help, to do just that.

First, we love the children. I came to the children's home in March of 2005, before there were any children here. They began arriving in August of that year and have been coming ever since. For 14 years I have seen them coming through our doors scared, confused, not knowing what to expect. Most of them have known little of beauty, goodness, and truth. They are welcomed with open arms and bright smiles. They soon come to appreciate the beauty of the gardens, the art work all around and the architecture. From day one they experience the goodness of healthy food, clean clothes and a comfortable bed. Most importantly they hear the Gospel Truth about a God who loves them and gave Himself for them. Their lives will never be the same, and I am filled with joy and gratitude to God that I get to be a part of that transformation. A day never goes by when I don't look at one or more of the children and think of what misery their lives would have been without this place.

It also makes me happy to think about all the outreach that FFHM is doing in this poverty-filled state (Oaxaca is the fourth poorest state in Mexico). We don't want to be like the Dead Sea that only takes in and never gives out. It is our intention to be more like the Sea of Galilee that not only takes in the blessings of God, but is also giving out. We have missionaries living in remote mountain



regions of Oaxaca, most experiencing persecution, like Modesto in Amoltepec, Maria Villa Pablo, and Tere in Juxtlahuaca, and Glenda and Manuel in Huajuapán. They are sharing the Gospel, and their lives with people who would otherwise not hear the Truth and be saved.

We also go to local prisons to preach and teach the Good News to the least and the lost. We give English classes to those behind bars who want to better their lives, and distribute hygienic materials to those in the psychiatric ward who never receive visitors. To those who no one seems to care about; we care.

One of our staff members, Pablo, cares a lot about people going through drug and alcohol rehabilitation and ministers frequently in those centers.

The teenage boys from the mission go to the local hospital Tuesday evenings with fresh pastries, hot coffee, a warm smile, and an encouraging word to those who wait anxiously while family members are being given medical care. The youth group partners with other local youth groups to celebrate Christ in word and song, bringing the message of hope to disillusioned and troubled teens.

God is using FFHM to bring light and life to a dark Oaxaca that is dead in trespasses and sin. It is doing good to the downcast and oppressed. It is sharing truth with those deceived by the world, the flesh, and the devil. It is a beautiful thing.

We rejoice and are glad that God is using us to bring a little bit of heaven to earth, in Oaxaca, Mexico.

**Santiago Schwab**  
*Oaxaca Mission Staff*



# Education is a Must

Did you know that you provide education for our children from preschool through university?

Many of our children have little or no education when they are interned. Minerva Trujillo, lovingly called minnie, who has a Master's in Education, was called to bring children up to grade level. She tutored children each afternoon until this was accomplished.



*Minerva: Destined to be a Teacher*

If only I had a tutor like Minnie! I struggled in school from the first to the fifth grade. I had dyslexia long before it was a known diagnosis.

Children now sing the alphabet song at three or four. In the first grade our teacher said, "Memorize the alphabet which is written above the blackboard." I was the first to be called on; in response I said "ZYXWVUT..." Ms. Mulligan and the students were astonished.

In the third grade I spent most of the time wearing a "dunce hat" or being humiliated in front of the class. A form was distributed to classmates that asked us to identify our race, which I didn't understand. I was afraid to ask the teacher, so I went to the large dictionary that sat on a pedestal. "Race." I knew I wasn't a horse or a dog, so I

wrote on the form "human." I was embarrassed before the class. "I might know that Charla was part of the human race."

My transcript followed me to the fifth grade. Ms. DeVries saw potential in me. I was challenged to read the current best-selling book, Bambi and it came with the promise that the teacher would take me to the Fox Theater in downtown Detroit to see the Disney movie.

My teacher supplied me with Moody books by Mary Slessor, Dr. Livingston, and Hudson Taylor.

Back to Minnie; she was drafted to teach at our Bible Institute and challenged to teach Glenn Almarez and Raul Garcia, who had little or no formal education. Minnie was up to the task and both men are now literate and in full time ministry.

Next to knowing Jesus as Savior, education is a must.

**Charla Pereau**  
*Founding Director*



## Foundation for His Ministry

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*Thank you, Father, for those who care!*

Give a gift in memory or honor of someone special. The individual's name will be mentioned below. A card can be sent to the individual's family. Donate online [www.ffhm.org](http://www.ffhm.org) or call Linda at (949) 492-2200.

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*By Debra Klein*

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**Lorna Duteau, George Bodt, Aileen**

**Bryant, Muriel Bathurst and Isabel**

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*By Edith Shields*

**My mom Marjorie Struss's 87th**

**Birthday**

*By Lisa Denis*

**Charla's Birthday**

*By Bill & Betty Rogers*

**The 40th Wedding Anniversary of Ernie & Kathy Barnum**

*By Jack & Kim Leighton and Family*

**The 60th Wedding Anniversary of Doug & Ruth Stewart**

*By Jack & Kim Leighton and Family*

**Natalija Panuhno becoming a landed immigrant**

*By Jack & Kim Leighton and Family*

**Charlotte Reger's 80th Birthday**

*By Catherine Cudo*

**Erick Von Bergen's Birthday**

*By Eudora Von Bergen*

**The 65th Wedding Anniversary of Winston & Teresa Goller**

*By Winston & Teresa Goller*

August 2019



## EDUCATION

We have Christian elementary schools in Baja and Oaxaca where we are educating and discipling over 60 children.

You can be a part of this by providing uniforms, shoes and school supplies. The estimated cost per child is \$75.

To invest in a child's life visit: [www.ffhm.org/donate](http://www.ffhm.org/donate) or call Linda in the US office at (949) 492-2200.