

#### **MAMA Project**

Mujeres Amigas-Miles Apart (Women Friends-Miles Apart) Nutritional Rehabilitation Medical & Dental Brigades

Work Teams Preschools

Cross Cultural Training
Deworming & Vitamin A
Campaigns

Donating Medical & Dental Equipment & Supplies

Community Development Scholarships

Child Survival Training

MAMA Project is a Non-Profit Charitable Organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Tax Code— Federal Tax Identification #23-2993647.

All donations given to MAMA Project are tax-deductible and a receipt will be sent to donor.

All photos were taken by MAMA Project Staff or Service Team Members and used with permission.

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### 2015 MAMA Project Staff

Priscilla Benner, MD; Director Cathleen Miller, Maternal Health Director Herman Sagastume, MD; Field Director Amanda Sagastume; Program Coordinator

Bob Delp; Volunteer Haiti Scholarship Coordinator

MAMA Proyect Inc. en Honduras San Francisco de Yojoa, Honduras

MAMA Project's *mission* is "to be a network to promote health and wholeness working through partnerships on many levels both national and international, involving many sectors of society both public and private - joining forces to deal with problems that rob children of their chance to experience 'Shalom'."

MAMA Project's *vision* is "to build a 'wall of protection' around children born into adverse environments to allow not just survival but also development to their full potential."



However, there are also problems in paradise: poverty and "hidden hunger".

Children living with malnutrition can be in serious danger, even when they appear healthy. The good news, though, is that *hidden hunger* is 100% curable and 100% preventable until there are complications that cause irreversible damage.

*Hidden hunger* causes more than half of the millions of deaths in children under 5 years old every year in our world.

*Hidden hunger* causes many sicknesses and is the most common reason in this world for mental disabilities.

*Hidden hunger* refers to the deficiency of micronutrients (vitamins and minerals) in people's diets, causing growth stunting and immune deficiency. It's not so much about the quantity of food, but the quality.

MAMA Project's mission includes providing help to children suffering from *hid-den hunger* and communities that are in poverty. We believe that it <u>is</u> possible to reach the goal of no longer letting children die from diseases caused by malnutrition.

Two ways that MAMA Project is actively fighting hunger, including *hidden hunger* is by promoting better nutrition in the villages and also by finding malnourished children in their community and bringing them to MAMA's Nutritional Rehabilitation Center. Fortunately we are able to bring all of the family's children to the Center, even those that are not severely malnourished but are suffering from *hidden hunger*.

### Nutritional Rehabilitation Center

Located in San Francisco de Yojoa, Honduras, families with their malnourished children come to the Center and stay for at least 30 days while their children receive the necessary medical care. The mothers also learn about healthy living, including taking care of a garden, animals, using micronutrients in their food, and much more.

In 2015, MAMA helped 26 families at the Center with their 54 children.

Once the families graduate from the Center, our MAMA staff continues to visit them every 6 months or year to check on the children's growth and the living conditions of the family. Most times the mothers teach others in their community about what they've learned during their time at the Nutrition Center.

(Right) Mariela, on the left, is the 3 year old daughter of the Center's cook, Marina. She has always lived at the Center and receives good nutrition. Next to her sits Marisela, a 5 year old, that is stunted due to severe malnutrition and is currently recovering at the Center with her family. You can see the difference in a child that has good nutrition while growing.







Each morning our Staff lead a course in healthy habits. During this time, the mothers learn the topics to the right:

- Basic Nutrition
- · Personal & Home Cleanliness
- · Improving Food Practices
- · Home Gardens
- Prevention & Treatment of Childhood Illness
- Prevention & Treatment of Malnutrition
- · Letrines (Outhouses)
- Childhood Growth & Development
- Food Preparation & Conservation
- Soil Management & Control of Crop Pests
- Sexuality & Marital Relations
- Incorporating New Food Habits
- · Designing a Safe Home
- Social and Spiritual Development
- Raising Animals for Food
- Family and Community Relationships
- Maternal Health
- · Clean Drinking Water
- Early Childhood Stimulation

(Left) A new habit: Holding your child while actively spoon feeding her.

## Mission Teams to Honduras

Each year several teams go to Honduras to serve on a mission team. The teams stay in San Francisco de Yojoa, Honduras, in the mission house next to our Nutrition Center. The teams visit poor, rural villages each day and bring medical and dental clinics as well as provide a concrete floor for at least two families each day. Here are the statistics for the teams from January through September of 2015.

Teams to San Francisco de Yojoa: 15 Total number of volunteers: 190

Total number of rural, poor villages visits: 59

Number of Medical Consultations: 5,117

Number of Dental Consultations: 472 Number of Dental Extractions: 1,267

Number of deworming tablets distributed: 6,452

Number of Vitamin A distributed (children under 5 years old): 1,859

Number of children with low hemoglobin (anemia): 265

Number of children with malnutrition: 634

Number of people in families that were given micronutrients to add to their

daily food: 10,949

Number of Reading glasses

distributed: 878

Number of poured concrete floors

in homes: 138

Number of adults living in those

homes: 338

Number of children living in those

homes: 431

Number of donations (toys, school supplies, clothes, aprons, works gloves, etc) given: TOO MANY to count!



## The Gift of a Concrete Floor By Jonathan Monfilleto

The "Swimming Upstream" mission journals that our Seneca Community Church (NY) group used during our experience in Honduras called on us to write an elevator speech – a 30-second summary of the trip – to tell friends and family about the trip.

As I sit here two and half months after returning from my first mission trip, I realize that I still haven't actually written my elevator speech – at least not on paper. But, as I've spent the past couple of months trying to talk about the experience with people who weren't there, I see that one theme keeps coming up in conversation.

And that theme is how much the Honduran people appreciate what they have no matter how little they have, while we Americans seem never to be satisfied – generally speaking – no matter how much we have and we take it for granted.

During the week of Feb. 15-20, I served on the construction team that poured concrete floors at 12 homes in four days. As much as the work was demanding and challenging – with a lot of heavy lifting in the hot weather – it also provided an invaluable learning experience on how to appreciate things and people.

Many of the homes that we visited would barely have passed for shacks in the United States, and yet as many as six or eight or even more people live in them – simple wooden or clay structures with maybe a crude metal roof. And, of course, a solid dirt floor until we come in with the cement and other supplies, while they provide the sand and the water.

For many of the people that we came across in the four days, getting a concrete floor for their home seems like one of the best gifts they have ever received – and truly it is. Now, they have a floor they can keep clean and safe and have a surface to sleep on at night without having to lay down in the dirt.

As much I love our home, this made me consider how much I still take it for granted – the fact that it keeps me safe and protected whether the weather is hot and dry or cold and wet. And even in our modest home, the living room is still bigger than many of the homes we visited to pour concrete floors.

Yet, the people we came across seemed to be perfectly content with what life handed them and to truly appreciate everything they have, no matter how little that is. And they also seemed truly grateful for the

work that we did for them – while they are required to work alongside us, many of them took delight in that chance and worked even harder than we did.

To paraphrase a saying that is overused and adapted to the situation, when you travel to Honduras with MAMA Project Inc., you can go for the good works and stay for the learning experience.

As I reflect on God's blessings in my life, both at home and during my time in Honduras, I realize that I received as much, if not more, from the people there through the lessons they taught me than they received through our team's help.



## Community Education - Guinea Hens

Over the past several years, we've been working on perfecting our micronutrient program. One food with which we always encourage people to consume their micronutrients is with the egg.

To provide eggs in the communities, we will begin promoting the guinea hens.

Q: **Why** promote family poultry flocks?

A: Eggs are an ideal source of the nutrients that children need to

survive and be healthy

Q: <u>What</u> poultry is MAMA Project focusing on? A: GUINEA FOWL!



Important poultry traits to consider in rural communities	Guinea	Chicken
Highly resistant to common poultry diseases	*	
Diet mostly composed of insects	*	
Excellent alarm for protection & warning of intruders	*	
Require little care or feeding after 1st two weeks of age	*	
Control mice, rats, snakes and disease-carrying insects	*	
Good mother		*

Pictured (opposite page) are the guinea hens at the Nutrition Center in Honduras. In October 2014, the first community leaders learning about this new idea of raising guinea hens in their villages. Then (shown right) we gather for a prayer of dedication for the guinea project.



Combined with nutrition education, promotion of home food fortification, deworming, Vitamin A distribution, and the ongoing Child Survival training that MAMA is doing in Honduras, we hope that this effort will make a positive impact. The Family Poultry Flocks initiative is being financed by donations to cover training, purchase of guinea keets, transportation, and feeding in our center. An adult guinea fowl in Honduras sells for \$30. We calculate that the cost for each young guinea delivered to the village will be less. Each household will start with a small starter flock and increase their numbers by putting eggs under brooding hens who will adopt and raise guineas.

# Haiti Scholarships

MAMA Scholarship Sponsors provide educational scholarships for some of the children at "Tree of Life School" in Labaleine, Haiti.

During the 2014-2015 sponsors gave for a total of 95 students to receive scholarships.

Primary Students: 38

Secondary Students: 48

Pre-College (13th Grade): 2

University Students: 7

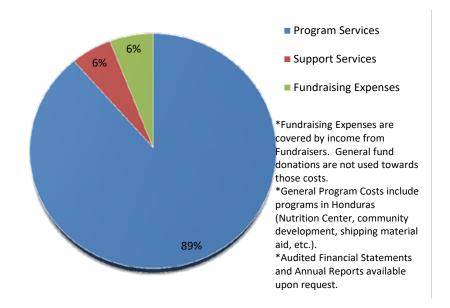


INCOME	<b>Actual 10-1-2014</b>	14 Budget 10-1-2015	
	to 9-30-2015	to 9-30-2016	
Cash Contributions	\$555,968	\$494,500	
Gift-in-Kind donations	\$26,523	\$4,500	
Investment Income	\$91		
Other Income (from Sales)	\$18,824	5,000	
TOTAL INCOME	\$601,406	\$504,000	
EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES			
Child Survival Programs	\$21,828	\$10,000	
Gift-in-Kind Donations & Shipment	\$35,748	\$4,500	
Haiti Scholarships	\$36,780	\$30,000	
Honduras Programs	\$71,389	\$35,000	
Mission Team Donations	\$213,716	\$215,000	
Program Management	\$127,661	\$135,390	
SUPPORT SERVICES	\$31,753	\$50,000	
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	\$33,551	\$23,500	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$572,426	\$503,390	

Note: MAMA Project has many programs that only take place if the funding is available.

Gift-in-kind donations include medicines, medical equipment and supplies, used clothes and shoes, and other household items. All items are donated in Honduras or to other non-profit organizations with similar work in other countries.

Annual Report 2015



### Other Organizations:

MAMA Project is a member of:

- Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Christian Service Charities
- Christian Connections for International Health
- No-Noma Foundation

MAMA receives deworming medicines from "Worm Project" and medicine donations from "Brother's Brother Foundation" and D.O.E.R.S.

MAMA's financial donations are from individuals, businesses, and family grants.

