

MAMA News

Summer 2015



A talented artist, Dan Alsheimer, joined a team to serve in Honduras in February 2015. He painted beautiful murals on the walls at the Nutrition Center. Above, a boy at the Center painted with him.

MAMA Project
 Mujeres Amigas-Miles Apart
 (Women Friends-Miles Apart)
 Nutritional Rehabilitation
 Medical & Dental Brigades
 Work Teams
 Cross Cultural Training
 Deworming & Vitamin A
 Campaigns
 Donating Medical & Dental
 Equipment & Supplies
 Community Development
 Scholarships
 Child Survival Training

MAMA News is a quarterly newsletter that provides updates about MAMA Project, Inc.'s programs and service to rural, poor communities in Honduras and Haiti.

The MAMA News is available for free to anyone who would like to receive it.

To add, remove or change your address on our mailing list, contact:

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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.



MAMA Project's Mission:

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'.

One way that MAMA Project lives out its mission is by shipping a container of donations each year. Many are shocked by the \$10,000 global cost of shipping a 40 ft container to Honduras. Every year before deciding whether or not we should begin collecting supplies and send a container, we spend a lot of time crunching numbers and analyzing whether this action is part of MAMA's mission. And every year we are reminded that it is.

There are many supplies that we can purchase in Honduras to help with our teams. We purchase concrete supplies, Bibles to distribute, and of course, food. We also often purchase school supplies and other equipment for our Nutrition Center or mission house. However, there are times when the materials we need, can be better acquired in the USA (donated or at a lower cost for better quality).

About a quarter of the total global cost of shipping a container is shipment from our US location to the location in Honduras. The majority of the cost is customs. We are investigating ways to save on this cost.

What are we shipping to Honduras?



We took the picture of the bare wall above because it is a demonstration of what is missing. If you look closely, the wall of this public hospital emergency room has connections ready for life-saving equipment, but no equipment!

MAMA has been able to receive excellent donations of medical equipment and supplies from local hospitals. We, then, personally deliver it to places where it is most needed.

Medicines are often shipped in the container that are then used at our Nutrition Center or in our community brigades. Many of the medicines we are able to get at very low cost or donated. We are able to provide medicines to people, for example, with high blood pressure for several months, until we are able to return to that community again. These medicines also help many children at our Nutrition Center, providing the help that many need!





The majority of the items shipped in a container are for the children & families in the communities and at the Nutrition Center. Children love their new toys!



Donations are collected year-round in our warehouse to be sent with teams or in the container!



Volunteers sort donations and prepare for shipment!



School supplies are a wonderful, appreciated gift. As we get closer to back-to-school shopping time, please consider purchasing extra supplies to send to Honduras!



Many new and gently used clothes are shipped for families!



Medical equipment collected, including stretchers, that will be donated to public hospitals & clinics. Wheelchairs & walkers are donated to individuals in need.

As we prepare to send our next shipment towards the end of July, please consider donating to help us cover the cost. This is a valuable part of our work - giving us the possibility of being able to continue to help many families, as well as public hospitals & clinics. We appreciate each donation, whether material or financial!

Thank you!!

Acceptable Donations:

School Kits:

4 notebooks, 4 pencils, 1 ruler, box of crayons, eraser, colored pencils.

Baby Kits:

1 gown, 1 onesie, 2 cloth diapers w/pins, 1 blanket, socks, 1 cap, 1 blanket

Health Kits:

hand towel, washcloth, comb, nail clipper, toothbrush, toothpaste, band-aids.

Medical Equipment

& Supplies: medicines, gloves, dressing materials, sutures, pulse-oximeter,

stethoscope, blood pressure sets, ultrasound machines, EKG, walkers, stretchers, canes.

Other: children's clothes & shoes, small toys (stuffed animals, cars/trucks or dolls), reading glasses, hair-ties/headbands, work gloves, baseball caps, aprons, suitcases.

For more information, see the "Wish List" on MAMA's website. Please include \$5/kit or \$20/box to cover shipping costs.

Sewing with a Cause

Everyone has a gift and a way to help others. We have people that help by collecting donations, others that help finance the shipping of the container, and others that enjoy making items to be donated.



Recently, Nancy Swartley, pictured left, began a sewing project in her church. She shares about the project:

A recent visit with a friend in Virginia was the inspiration for a project at Deep Run East Mennonite Church (Perkasie, PA). My friend was making simple dresses for the "Dress A Girl Around the World" organization. This organization has sent over 300,000 dresses to 81 countries. They want girls to know they are worthy of love and respect – and that God loves them!

Since Deep Run East sends two groups to Honduras each year I thought it would be wonderful if we could make some dresses to send along for the groups to distribute. I mentioned this to our Thursday morning Bible study group and it was suggested we bring lunch

and sewing machines one week and sew following our Bible study. The MAMA Sew-A-Thon was born!

A few weeks later 15 women gathered with sewing machines, fabric, trim and other supplies. We had an assembly line where dresses were cut out, ironed, and sewn. Our middle school girls were looking for a service project so we left our assembly line intact and 7 women assisted them in making more dresses the following evening. Some people have con-



tinued to make dresses at home and currently we have a total of 50 dresses to take to Honduras.

A simple project provided an afternoon of fellowship for us and new dresses to show God's love for little girls in Honduras.

Another group of women from Butter Valley Community Church (Bally, PA) and Perkiomenville Mennonite Church (Perkiomenville, PA), led by Dorothy Detweiler (right), gather each week to sew and put together baby bundles for mothers in Honduras. The group began when a few women went to Honduras with a mission team and saw the mothers with small babies and very few supplies. They returned home on a mission to collect as much as possible for these mothers.

Last year they donated over 200 baby bundles, sewing bags and diapers and searching for good deals on baby clothes and small toys. They also include a "Gospel of John" in each bundle. In 2015, they donated an additional 200 baby bundles that will be sent in the next container.

In addition to collecting for their baby bundles, they go to sales to sell their comforters and all proceeds help pay for shipping or additional supplies in the baby bundles.

Thank you to each of these groups of women that saw a need and found a way to fulfill the need and help families in Honduras!



Thank you for your support!

There are various ways to support MAMA, and each is an important part! Thank you for helping MAMA Project reach the needy in Honduras & beyond.

- **Prayer support:** Please pray for MAMA Project Staff & volunteers. Also, pray for the communities where we serve & the government leaders in Honduras.
- **Volunteer in Honduras:** Join a team in 2016 to serve in Honduras through medical, dental, and construction brigades.
- **Material Aid:** As mentioned previously, please donate supplies to be shipped in the container. If you have a contact with a hospital or pharmaceutical company that would like to donate materials, please contact Dr. Herman at herman@mamaproject.org or 215-679-4338.
- **Participate in a fundraiser:** Annually we have a volleyball tournament, golf outing, silent auction & banquet. We are currently collecting items for the Silent Auction.
- **Financial Support:** Checks can be sent to the office or donations can be made online (one-time or recurring) through our website. Visit our donations webpage to learn more about online shopping or websearching with a cause.

Congratulations!

Mary Monterrosa, MAMA Project's Administrator in Honduras, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy.

José Jahir

Born Sunday, May 17th

*"For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's
womb.*

*I praise you because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well."*

Psalm 139: 13-14

