

MAMA Project, Inc.

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July 2016

Dear Friends of MAMA Project,

Here is some Good News: MAMA Project had the opportunity to purchase the few acres of land that connects the MAMA Mission House with the MAMA Nutrition Center in Honduras. We seized the opportunity and bought the land. We had to go above budget, but felt that the investment was worthwhile as our program is growing.

More Good News! Our work is not just growing in the size of our land, but also our buildings. Our Mission House addition has made it possible to house more team members for brigades and village leaders for trainings. Also, our staff is enjoying their new expanded office space. Now they can work more efficiently as everyone has their own organized space.



Even More Good News! Our vision is growing. We are always striving to improve our outreach in the villages. During my last two visits to Honduras, this past fall and again this spring, Cathleen Miller, MAMA's Maternal Health Director, and I spent our time with the Honduran MAMA Staff, village leaders and mothers. We spent time with families and groups of leaders listening to their life stories and asking them to help us find the best ways to share with them in their struggles for a better life for their families and their communities. We asked for their help in implementing and monitoring 3 key parts of our program in the villages. The communities selected volunteers to help oversee and monitor the distribution of micronutrients, the family poultry program, including chickens and guineas, and the use of the in-home water filtration and chlorination system. It was very exciting to see the enthusiasm, and hear many firsthand stories of how the MAMA Project had helped families and communities.

I was especially touched to hear one campesino farmer express his appreciation and feelings about the time that we spent together. We were asking him his challenges, asked his opinions about issues, and listened to stories of his lifetime of struggles. As we were saying goodbye to him and his family, he said:

"When a man is poor and illiterate, he often feels disrespected and humiliated when he meets someone who has education and more resources. The poor man doesn't even feel that he can talk with that person. I want to thank you all for visiting us and talking with us today."

It is such a privilege to work alongside people who are committed to helping their own communities to overcome the adverse conditions that are causing much suffering, especially for vulnerable children.

As is the case for many ministries, summer is always our "dry season" as far as donations are concerned. We need the help of our faithful supporters.

Due to new regulations governing non-profits in Honduras, there is a great delay in Administrator Mary's ability to cash the checks that support the program. The bottom line is that we need to be able to have more reserve funds to be ready for the inevitable emergencies that arise in a program like MAMA Project.

Please help us to be able to respond to the many challenges that we face. On behalf of the workers, volunteers and communities, "GRACIAS POR TODO!" Or "THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!"

May you experience JOY from being part of this work of love!

Kisciela Benner

Priscilla Benner, MD MAMA Project Director For the MAMA Staff and Board in Pennsylvania and Honduras