



# Serving the UNDERSERVED

NEWSLETTER

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## From Mike - 2013



January open house attendees visit with George.



What a year it has been, and we still have four months to go! God has provided for so much to be done. It all started with Him answering our months of prayers for a facility that would allow Diane and me to live on premises with the horses. This new place is such a God-send.

A number of you were able to attend the open house in January. Along with the new facility came the need for items to outfit it, and God used many of you to bring what we needed or give monetarily. In addition, God brought us eight more regular volunteers. This has all been a huge help. THANK YOU!



New jumps built by one of our faithful volunteers,  
Daniel Berra.



The gifts that have been donated include a large umbrella to provide shade for parents watching lessons; horse equipment; new jumps; trash cans and lawn furniture; BBQ grills; and a recumbent bicycle for those with disabilities. Also, a local Publix Supermarket is now providing baked goods each Saturday for our families and volunteers.



Ollie Jones, who built our wheelchair ramp, and his daughter Janae, one of our riders, try it out.



Added to all of this, one of our parents, Ollie Jones, constructed a beautiful wheelchair ramp that allows easier mounting for our riders who are in wheelchairs. This had taken a lot of physical stress off of the volunteers, and makes the riders feel safer during the mounting process.

Besides the needs of the riding program being met, because of your generosity we were able to have a Guatemala outreach to San Pedro in April. During that trip we again saw miracles that God performed on the spot at the eye clinics. We were also able to take in shoes and clothing for those who have little, provide more training and medical equipment requested by the volunteer firefighters/paramedics, and give haircuts to those who could not afford them.

On an on-going basis, we are now providing some of the poorest families in the San Pedro area with wood-burning stoves and are supporting a second daily feeding program. One of our supporters provided a large donation of several thousand beach towels, and we were able to send these to orphanages in Haiti and Guatemala, and to rehabilitation centers in Mexico and Guatemala. (Hard as it is for us Americans to fathom, we were told that many people in these areas will own only one towel in their lifetime.) Finally, we were able to assist an

orphanage in Guatemala with repairs to their well water system.



The wonderful new wheelchair ramp!



We are looking forward to the fall with great expectations for even greater ministry in the riding program and Guatemala. We have more than 45 students requesting spots for this riding session! Please pray with us as

to whether now is the time to add another horse to meet the need. It may not sound like a big decision, but another horse will add almost \$10 per day just for feed and hay, not to mention the physical labor. Pray for us to have wisdom; if this is what we are supposed to do, we know that God will provide the funding necessary.



The herd enjoying turn-out time.

We are going to Guatemala again on October 29, this time to a new area about three hours north of Guatemala City, to a settlement of about 300 people living in nothing more than cardboard lean-tos. We will provide eye exams, clothing and shoes, food, and God's Word. If you would like to join us for this trip, please let me know. If you cannot go, please consider sponsoring someone or helping supply some of the items needed for the outreach.



Volunteers Sean Medley, Daniel Berra, and Danny Berra help reconstruct a concrete wall in the barn.



Guatemalan outreach participant Pete Pietrini with one of the children ministered to on the April trip.

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As many of you know, Diane was diagnosed with breast cancer in June, then had surgery on August 14 to remove two lumps. The surgeon also removed two lymph nodes, with one containing cancer cells. Diane began chemotherapy on September 3 and will have four courses of it, followed by 30 days of radiation. We are happy to report that she has felt really well since the chemo, not experiencing the intense nausea and exhaustion that so many go through. We have very much felt your prayers, love, and concerns throughout the surgery and treatment! As the first chapter of James tells us, we are considering this trial an event that will make our faith stronger and our ability to minister to others greater. We know that nothing is a surprise to God, and nothing can happen without Him allowing it in order to achieve a greater purpose. We know that we are to continue strong in this ministry God has given us to “serve the underserved.” Thank you for your prayers and your financial support that make it possible of us to serve.

In Him,

*Mike*



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