



Summer 2020 Newsletter



For Such a Time as This....

The last few months have upended so much of our lives as a result of COVID-19, including disrupting normal operations of the ministry of Living Water World Missions. At the same time, in the midst of this global crisis, we have seen God at work through our system partners and through LWWM Guatemala staff as they support their communities and the country as a whole - all in the name of Jesus Christ, the Living Water. God prepared them to share Christ's love through the distribution of clean water and we are blessed to have played a part in that preparation through system installations, training and maintenance - for such a time as this.

Read below about the work our staff and system partners have been doing and some reflections from our staff on the situation. We are so grateful for your support of LWWM during this crisis. Your financial donations and prayers sustain all of us and allow us to continue funding our staff in Guatemala and supporting our system partners in Cuba and in Guatemala. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[LWWM Guatemala Staff Updates](#)



The staff of LWWM Guatemala have been facing their own challenges under the COVID-19 crisis, particularly the lockdowns, curfews and closures, while they are finding new ways to do the ministry of LWWM in that context. Like many of us they are confined to their homes much of the time, helping homeschool their children with remote learning, and taking precautions to avoid the spread of COVID-19. Praise be to God that none of our staff or their families have become sick with COVID-19.



Josué Yax, National Director, explains that the healthcare system was already inadequate prior to the pandemic and the prevention measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 (i.e. closures, curfews) have been devastating for a country with such severe poverty and a long history of government corruption and public mistrust. He notes that the education system is also inadequate which also hinders the public adherence to the personal hygiene and social distancing to help prevent the spread. Nevertheless, Josué shares "people continue to fight positively trusting that God will help them. The hope for a better future persists and the desire to live drives people to find ways to alleviate the situation, this is the reality in rural areas."



Cesia Morales, Administrator, says: "I want to say Thank You for all you do for us. I wish we could continue installation trips, and doing what we were used to do, but I also know that God is the one who is directing our steps, and I am also glad to know that even as part of the work we were doing has been paused, God has given us other tasks that were in His perfect

Gaby Villatoro, Education Director, like Cesia, lives in Quetzaltenango, the second largest city in Guatemala where COVID-19 are rising quickly. During the crisis, she has dedicated much of her time to prayer and God's word as the usual travel for LWWM system installations and visits has halted. She wants to say to all of you: "Thank you so much ... to every donor that makes this possible. We can do what we do because of you! We keep you all in our hearts and prayers, we never take anything for granted and I believe that gratitude is the one thing that The Lord wants from all of us. He wants us to remember all that He had done for us, He has never abandoned us, His mercies are new every day. He has never lost control over situations and He just want our hearts and eyes set on Him so that He can work. God bless you all!"

plan [e.g. water system installations in COVID-19 hospitals]."

Eswin Yax, Chief Technician, a man of great compassion has been burdened by the suffering of so many in his country during this pandemic. He has found joy in "knowing that the church, [our system partners], continues to work despite not being able to have meetings and knowing that everyone does their best to share the word and Jesus Christ The Living Water." He lives in Sololá, above Lake Atitlan, which has become more clear of late.



Hospital Water Systems

This spring, as COVID-19 spread across the Western Hemisphere God directed LWWM Guatemala to a key role in supporting that nation's efforts to combat the disease. Since April they have been working with the government to install water purification systems in regional hospitals for COVID-19 patients. Two of three systems have been installed and the third will be underway in the coming weeks.



Josue and Eswin have been able to begin visiting some of our system partners. The government has given them special permission to travel to other departments to help maintain LWWM water systems, which are essential in this public health crisis. The partnership with the government to install water systems in COVID-19 hospitals paved the way for this permission given to LWWM staff.



LWWM Partners on the front lines

Our system partners in Guatemala have been expanding their usual routes to deliver clean water to more people in need as the country is under shelter-in-place directives and cases are rising. Many of our system partners have also been distributing food and other essentials to the neediest families in their communities as well. Much of this distribution is happening by delivery to some of the most vulnerable.

Prayers for CUBA

Our Cuban partners, like many people around the world, have been under extreme lockdown measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 that have included the shut down of community water distribution by our system partners. The outbreak on the eastern half of the island, where the LWWM system are located, has been mostly contained at this point. Recently some of LWWM systems have been able to reopen to distribute water to the community. All the LWWM systems in Cuba are functional but social distancing regulations have kept some of them from mass distribution even now. Church services are still not allowed.

2020 SCHEDULE UPDATE

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the cancellation of all Guatemala installations that were planned to date. At this time, we have cancelled all spring and summer trips, including July and August. The remaining planned trip in October is also subject to cancellation as we monitor the situation.

You can see an up-to-date list of trips and application status on our website:



System Support and Maintenance

Last month, Eswin and Josué visited our partners in Carchá, Cobán to install new equipment as an initiative of our partners to improve their operations, and also bag water, thus having a new product on demand. The sand filters were sanitized and the equipment is working in the best way. We hope that they will continue to be motivated and continue working with excellence to carry the message of Jesus Christ The Living Water to all!



One of the greatest challenge in the country now is extreme scarcity of basic commodities. Lack of work and school closures has put a burden on many whom live in tight living conditions with many family members.

System technician in Santiago de Cuba, Sergio, shares "we remain firm in the Lord, trusting in his promises and willing to serve in and out of season."

Share the Mission 2020 Fall Virtual Auction

This year we will host our first all virtual fall fundraising event including online silent auction in place of our annual banquet in Visalia.

Stay tuned for more details for this October event.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this event or if you have an item to donate to the silent auction, please contact Melody **by email** or at 559-697-3004



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