



## The Impact of COVID-19

Covid-19 has had a huge impact on the world's poor. With many economies now limping along, it is the poor that suffer the most. It is estimated that this crisis could push half a billion people into poverty. <https://www.statista.com/chart/21382/poverty-levels-due-to-a-coronavirus-recession/>. When we take a moment to think about this, these numbers can be staggering for us who live in the confines of the west. While there is economic hardship, the situation in many countries is far more dire. After years of economic progress and seeing people and families escape the cycle of poverty, we are now seeing more individuals struggle with their meager existence.

In April, MVC started to put the word out regarding the pending crisis in some countries and the incredible needs that people would be facing, you responded! You responded when we encouraged donors to support the efforts of relief - for immediate needs of food, medicine, etc. With generous hearts, as most Canadians do, you responded in donating over \$65,000 ! Your contributions injected needed funds to maintain sustainability for the efforts overseas, but the also in providing food on the table and PPE for many children and families! THANK YOU!

Yet, the need is still present. The reality is: people are still struggling. With food prices and living expenses increasing dramatically due to the crisis, the need is great. Your support in this effort is still needed and so greatly appreciated!

*Brad* - Director of MVC



**Through your generous support, many lives are being impacted.**

*Change a life, you will change a family.*

*Change a family, you will change a community.*

*Change a community, you will change a nation!*

# FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Since the inception of MVC in 1992, education has been a focus of MVC. The major emphasis was in Guatemala, where we were involved in building 14 of 28 schools in the rural regions of the country, overseen by our workers Gilberto and Ruth Noriega. Education is woven in the fabric of the DNA of MVC, either through building schools or sponsoring students! This legacy will continue as we believe education is a critical element for breaking the cycle of poverty.

Knowing our past, MVC is raising the bar when it comes to education. We want to see children succeed and have a brighter future but we need your help! **Help us educate the next generation and give them a brighter future!**

## KENYA

Support the educational efforts in Kenya! Shelter of Hope is a registered charity in Kenya that focuses on the cycle of poverty in two main areas: in Kiumbu slum in Nairobi and in the small village of Kagan in Homa Bay county. Altogether, 550 students are enrolled in two schools (350 in Nairobi and 200 in Kagan). Maintaining a high level of educational standards at both schools provides hope for the children!



In Kagan, 94 children are in need to be sponsored for the coming year. This support will assist with dormitory costs for children whose parents have passed away as well as tuition, food and the supplies required. There are 11 classrooms with a total sponsorship need of \$500 monthly per classroom. Partial class sponsorships will be gladly accepted. **Sponsor a class and look at the lives that will be impacted!**

<https://missionaryventures.kindful.com/?campaign=1020943>



home school in **Nebaj** will have to hire more teachers due to COVID-19 restrictions. Students will be tutored at home by the teacher and teacher assistants! This new development will require \$2500 in funding to hire two teaching assistants for a year (beginning in January). Impacting children brings hope and a brighter future!

<https://missionaryventures.kindful.com/?campaign=1020774> (and choose either Nebaj or Huehuetenango)

## HAITI

In Fort Jacques Haiti (near the capital of Port-au-Prince), MVC is involved in the construction of a school and the sponsorship of children. Together with Ann Farquharson and Marie Estelle, the cause of education is making



ing headway! Education Sponsorships are needed to support children in their educational needs \$35 a month is critical for a child's future!

As funds are received, the school build continues with the beginning of two new classrooms. \$7,000 is still needed to complete the build.

<https://missionaryventures.kindful.com/?campaign=1020756> (choose either Sponsorships or Opening Doors to Education)

## GUATEMALA

MVC has been working with Gilberto and Ruth Noriega for over 20 years. Sponsorships are still needed for the Christian schools in the **Huehuetenango** area. We need 12 sponsors at \$35 per month to help meet an immediate need for a school. Through this classroom sponsorship,, a child's tuition is covered, along with a uniform and needed supplies! Change a life - sponsor a class!

Also, a new effort is growing larger in Nebaj! Due to COVID-19, the



## PERU UPDATES!

### PUERTO MALDONADO - Tat's Place

Recently, Scott Blackburn shared a story about how he was able to serve a family going through tragic loss. Here's what he wrote:

*"We have been blessed to help a Venezuelan family here in Puerto Maldonado. This family lost their 25 year old son in a motorcycle accident a couple of months back. We first went to visit this family shortly after the funeral. I was invited by another missionary who felt I needed to share our journey of grief since losing Tat in 2018. As I sat beside the young widow and her daughter we cried and hugged and prayed as we tried to navigate these tragic losses that cut down young lives. We read from the Bible and tried to comfort them in their new grief journey. We have continued to support them with food and visits every few weeks. Yesterday we found out the mom was also in a motorcycle accident, but, fortunately, is expected to recover. Tracy visited recently with some food and medicine. Thank you for sending the addition-*



*al COVID-19 relief as it allows us to reach out into our local community to serve their immediate needs. Please pray for the mother and her daughter at this time!"*

**Tat's Place, is just not a children's home, it is**

**a ministry impacting the community!**



### IQUITOS - Hogar Genesis

Nestled in this "land of many rivers" is a city in extreme need. A former hot spot from the pandemic, the city is now getting back to semi-normalcy in spite of the risks. Sadly, due to this pandemic crisis, more babies and children are being abandoned. There is beginning to be an urgent need to have this home open.

While more construction is needed, MVC, along with Saraïd and Rodolfo, have made it high priority to have Hogar Genesis open early in 2021. Work is underway to determine the budgetary needs to properly care for the incoming children. More information will be available shortly. If you would like to receive more information about the opening up the home at the funding required, email us!

Ministry in Belen continues to see continued impact in spite of the risks of COVID with many children participating in hearing God's truth! Thank you for your continued support and prayers in this effort!



## Casa Compasiva—Bringing Life Into Oaxaca

With the onset of COVID-19, the Mexican government began to encourage women to make greater use of midwives and birth centers in order to relieve congestion in already overcrowded hospitals. Over the last few months, Casa Compasiva has definitely seen a steady increase in the number of clients. The director writes "This is good for midwifery, but it is even more AWESOME because, with the influx of clients, we are able to pray, read scripture, and share Christ with more families!"

The increase of interest in the ministry of Casa Compasiva has created another issue—the need to train more midwives! They have prayerfully decided to take on new students and begin the formal 3-year midwifery training program this fall 2020. Presently, there are 2 new students enrolled in online classes.

Recently a woman who works in prostitution began receiving prenatal care at Casa. Her income was greatly affected by the imposed Covid quarantine, and without adequate nutrition, she developed anemia—which automatically precludes a birth at Casa. However, the midwives and doctors at Casa really wanted the chance to continue to minister God's love to her, so, together with another Christian outreach formed a plan to help her get proper nutrition and hopefully increase her iron levels high enough to safely have her baby at Casa. When after a few more weeks she still had not improved, the staff was tempted just to overlook her low iron count and allow her to birth at Casa in spite of the higher risk. They dreaded entrusting her to the cold and impersonal care of the local hospital, but as they prayed and sought God's wisdom, they felt a strong nudge of "No, she absolutely needs the hospital." Thus they arranged for her to labour as long as possible in the cozy atmosphere at Casa surrounded by loving attendants, and then to be transported to the hospital at the appropriate moment. Sure enough, following the birth, her anemia did indeed result in a massive hemorrhage requiring an extra five days in hospital and the need for blood transfusions. Thankfully, she was at the right place at the right time in order to receive the life-saving care. Thanks to the excellent training of the staff at Casa, and their sensitivity to the Spirit's leading, both baby and mama are safe and continuing to receive love and spiritual guidance in the postpartum follow-up appointments at Casa Compasiva. Your support of Casa Compasiva is making an impact and bringing the gospel to many! <https://missionaryventures.kindful.com/?campaign=1043260>



Missionary Ventures Canada

We exist to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ through partnerships with national Christian leaders by developing sustainable projects that address the cycle of poverty and to encourage people to personally participate in impacting our world.

Our Vision:

To be a catalyst for change: To change the lives we serve and to see lives changed of those who go to serve!

*Due to COVID-19, all teams are cancelled until further notice. There are still places for you to serve in the ministry! Call us to explore these options!*

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Call 918-477-7007 to donate to any projects of MVC

“Spending of funds is confined to MVC’s approved programs and projects. While we endeavor to use each gift towards an approved program as desired by our donors, MVC retains the final decision on how to allocate all donations. If any given need has been met or cannot be completed for any reason, the understanding is that the gift will then be used where it is most needed or where another opportunity of similar nature exists.”



MVC is a certified member of the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities formerly known as the Canadian Council of Christian Charities

## NEBAJ Guatemala


Prior to COVID-19, life in Nebaj life had been difficult although massive changes were taking place to improve the living standards. COVID has caused life to go from better to worse. Nebaj is now in the RED ZONE meaning there is a high number of COVID infections and the virus is spreading rapidly. Life in Nebaj continues as normal as possible, as the need to earn money for daily life as life without daily food is not an option. The present clinic is testing on average 2 to 4 people with 50% infected with the virus. Much precaution continues to be practiced, but staff have been infected. We are thankful for those who continue to serve in these difficult times.

The construction continues on the new hospital and the parging has been completed on the first floor. Even though the first floor is enclosed, they will soon be building a temporary roof on the structure due to the coming rains. All funds received for the Nebaj Hospital continue to be used for the construction or where the need is the greatest to maintain the sustainability during these trying times.

Through your support, many in desperate situations had food to eat. But, the needs of people in this area continue to be so great! God has given material blessing to some, and yet to others he has given very little. Why? Possibly so that those who have plenty could have an opportunity to be a blessing to those who have little, both are encouraged, and in the end, He is glorified.




## The Grace Institute - Training Pastors in Lusaka, Zambia



Student testimonies reveal the impact of this ministry!

“I'm Rachel and I'm the second year student at THE GRACE INSTITUTE. I must testify that been at this school has brought change in my life, not just in Knowledge and skills but that I have found a family in all the students and the teachers and the board. TGI is not just a school but a family.”



“I am Isaac in my second year student at TGI. This school is so unique in terms of its method of teaching the focus is to see someone being transformed spiritually, physically, emotionally and intellectually. To be honest I have been helped in this school in so many ways but just to mention the few the school has helped me to handle the word of God correctly to interpret it according to its context. Thank God for Brian and Murial for living a selfless life polling there heart in to this things, and also all the mentors and students as we are living together as one family.”

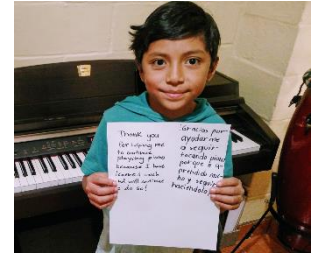
Your support is changing more than the life of a pastor - it is changing the life of many churches and communities! THANK YOU!



# OTHER NEWS FROM MVC!

## Oaxaca Mexico

The pandemic has hit Mexico hard. With many restrictions, the ministry of Isaac and Fer has moved online with their students and the development of music ministry in churches has been postponed. Despite this, the sounds of music continue to bring joy! Fer has been teaching Eliezer piano for 18 months now. He got to have his own private piano recital back when we had fewer students! His parents, siblings, aunts, and grandparents all attended. While they've been so pleased with his progress, his parents let us know at the beginning of this school year that, due to finances, they weren't going to be able to afford to pay for his lessons any longer. Fer and I talked this over and decided that, given Eliezer's talent, commitment, and the fact that his parents are themselves involved in multiple different Christian ministries, we wanted to offer him a scholarship to continue with lessons. He and his parents were very grateful for the chance for their son to continue with his music education. This was possible due to your financial contributions to our music ministry! Eliezer is aware of this fact and asked us to pass along his thank-you note: "Thank you for helping me to continue playing piano because I have learned much and will continue to do so!"



Eliezer



Isaac & Fer Quezada



## Canadian Migrant Worker Ministry

With the onslaught of COVID-19, ministry to these workers to meet their spiritual, social, and psychological needs continues. Restrictions have been hampering efforts to connect with the workers with precautions in place to protect the workers and the industry. Sadly, many of these workers often struggle emotionally being away from family. In the face of a pandemic, this struggle is amplified as they are more isolated from regular society.

Julio continues to serve in SW ONT, although not being allowed on the farms, he visits with the workers when possible and is able to provide spiritual care, counsel and support to many people. Lila and Ellie continue to serve in Abbotsford BC area providing bicycles for the workers or assisting in getting food for workers who are unable to leave the farm. Many Spanish recordings of the Bible have also been provided – they are getting more requests for this!

Bike parts or old bikes are welcomed to be received if you are living in the BC area. Funds can also be received if designated to "Migrant Worker Ministry" on our website.



## Caribbean Ministries

People in this country are struggling immensely. Prior to COVID, people struggled, this has now become insurmountable, they need your prayers. There are no imports in the country and the economic system is almost non-existent. Due to poor management, the country is not capable of providing the very basic things the people need. Therefore, the shortage of supplies increased exponentially, and the prices of all things doubled and tripled in others. Not only have the prices gone up, but even with having money, it is almost impossible to obtain what is needed. People stand in lines sometimes for more than a day to buy a piece of chicken, or a little bag of detergent. It is difficult to secure some cooking oil, even more difficult to buy toilet paper, or deodorant. Other things like toothpaste are non-existent in the stores. Toothpaste would normally cost 1.40, now in the black market it is 8 to 10 USD if it is in stock.

Police are encouraging people to report who has excess as they are obviously taking what they should not have. They are arresting anyone who is in possession of something they consider of illegal origin or if they have too many of that one supply. (It is illegal to have much of any given product – if a person has 20 pieces of chicken or 10 bottles of cooking oil it is illegal and charged with up to couple of years in prison)

The hard and sad truth is what people need to survive (i.e. the essentials) – yes, we are talking about survival – is not available at the markets. Only private dealers or the black market is providing the supplies. Even the private businesses are facing persecution because they are profitable, and money means power. Also, because it is the businesses and not the main body of authorities who provides the people what they need, and in this kind of system that is not acceptable.

Those of us in Canada or the USA do not know suffering and persecution to this degree. Our workers continue to serve and minister to people. This does not mean they will stop doing ministry. They write, "Persecution is part of history, present and immediate future of the Church of Christ. We will be more careful, working harder to make sure we minister to those we are called and allowed to minister." Please pray for our workers in the Caribbean. For more information, please contact the office.

# 2020 GIFTS OF LIFE



## PASTORS

Support Training of Pastors in **Zambia (\$40)**

Support Pastors in **Cuba (\$40)**

Support a National Worker **(\$75)**



## FOOD AND NUTRITION

Support the child fund for **Hogar Genesis Iquitos Peru (\$40)**

Sponsor a child - **Tat's Place Puerto Maldonado Peru (\$40)**

Support the feeding of children in **Kenya (\$30)**

Support the feeding of children in **Cuba (\$25)**

Support a Senior with food **(\$25)**

## EDUCATION

Help sponsor a classroom in **Kenya (\$35)**

Help sponsor a student in **Haiti (\$35)**

Help sponsor a classroom in **Guatemala (\$35)**

Specify: ☐ Nebaj ☐ Huehuetenango

*Gifts That  
Impact Lives!*

## HEALTH

Support the Medical Expenses for 1 person – **Guatemala (\$35)**

Help sponsor a birth of a child – **Mexico (\$50)**

Support the training of a midwife at Casa Compasiva – **Mexico (\$75)**



## SMALL SCALE AGRICULTURAL EFFORTS

(Kenya, Malawi Swaziland)

Purchase Chickens **(\$25)**

Purchase a Piglet **(\$75)**

Purchase a Goat **(\$50)**

Animal Feed **(\$20)**

Seeds for Crops/Gardens **(\$25)**

## INFRASTRUCTURE/CONSTRUCTION

Buy a block for Nebaj Hospital **Guatemala (\$100)**

Support the construction of a school **Haiti (\$50)**

*YOUR GIFT  
CHANGES LIVES*

**\* YES! I would like to give a GIFT OF LIFE! \***

Return this slip with your name, address, phone and e-mail below

Please make your cheque payable to Missionary Ventures Canada

or donate online at <https://missionaryventures.ca/gifts-of-life/> (use the drop down menu to choose your gifts)

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*"Generosity has the power to heal racial wounds ... It has the power to heal emotional and physical infirmities ... It has the power to strengthen the moral fiber of a nation." Ron Klabunde*