

A Future Look

There is a wave of change that is occurring in the charitable sector in Canada. These changes have had a drastic impact on MVC the last several years. MVC has had to make changes in our relationship with MVI in the States due to our obligation to abide by the CRA legislation. We have also developed a new vision and mission statement and over the course of this past year and we have developed new projects. More exciting changes will be taking place in the near future. There is one thing that will never change: We will always be committed to the highest level of integrity and we will handle all donations in a manner that honours God, the donor and the legislation that governs charities in Canada.

Your support and active participation is changing lives! We are so grateful for your trust and involvement.

ASK A PARTICIPANT >>>

Q: Why say "YES" to a short term missions trip?



A: Saying yes to God's invitation for a short term mission is the beginning of a new dependence on God. It's the beginning of learning to see through 'kingdom lenses' and the beginning of seeing His world like He does. It's the beginning of a new thing-God just loves to do new things -when we step out into the unknown of partnering with God in a new place, He does a new thing in each of us.

Our recent team to Oaxaca embraced God's plan and let go of our everyday luxuries and routines. Some of us left behind small children and spouses, hot showers, quiet nights sleeping in our comfy beds... and the list goes on. But for every little thing that we stepped away from, His rewards were infinitely greater. We were stretched, worked hard and we faced new challenges; but we also learned how to rely on God's provision in ways that we just haven't needed to at home. We called out for miracles and breakthroughs, and then we saw them come.

We had our eyes opened and our hearts broken as we heard stories littered with pain and sin when we visited the prison. It was so easy to assume that we wouldn't be able to relate to these inmates trapped in different circumstances than our own, but our hearts connected together in ways that are beyond our abilities. When we embraced these women and prayed with them we felt their burdens drop into our arms. It was clear what God's presence did for the women there, but the truth is, these prisoners weren't the only women changed that day. The experience left a mark on each of us on our team. We know that this experience was another beginning - He has more in store for us to do, to see, and to experience as we surrender into becoming His hands and feet in a hungry world.

Short term missions are an opportunity to become. We are here to become more like Jesus. I encourage you to listen for His invitations, and then dare to say yes when they come. Step out in faith- He will show more of who He is. The amazing God that we worship and know is pursuing us all the time - let's walk with Him here at home and where ever He might invite us to go. His invitations are worthy of saying yes to....every... single ...time...

Heidi Walters
Team Leader

OTHER WORK >>>

CUBA

We continue connecting with pastors and promoting children's clubs in various areas. While pastor sponsorships and funds for food used for the children's clubs and to support seniors continue and are desperately needed, we are reassessing the ministry to have even greater impact in the community we serve.



Cubulco, GUATEMALA

Exciting things are happening, continuing the impact in the community. In October, a team of 7 men continued construction on a children's area and adult skills training centre. The initial focus will be on developing a plan to impact education, especially that of young girls.

IN THIS LETTER >>>

- Project Updates
- New Partnership in Kenya
- The Way Forward ... A Future Look
- A Canadian Perspective
- A National Perspective
- Upcoming Opportunities



Nov/Dec
2018

Missionary Ventures Canada *Inspiring Hope and Encouraging Change*

the mission



Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.

~ the Talmud

MVC exists 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 the world.



Casa Compasiva
Oaxaca, Mexico
Impacting a community's future one woman at a time!

Together with local national help, eight years ago, a birthing center began to provide compassionate maternity care along with biblical teaching to impact and strengthen families with the love of Christ. Thousands of people in the Oaxaca area remain isolated from adequate medical care. Women giving birth are often subjected to trauma from the common practice of isolation, racial prejudice, over crowding and other very intrusive practices in the medical system. Your faithful support is providing the opportunity for many women from diverse backgrounds to start the journey of being a mom with dignity!

Behind the fence of this federal prison in Oaxaca, is a modern day Joseph story. "A", who has been long forgotten by the justice system is quietly making her impact for the Kingdom!



She is industrious and intelligent serving other prisoners through love and compassion. She raised funds through selling hand made crafts to send her son to university! She has been appointed as the pastor to all the inmates in the women's prison. A reputable lawyer is being hired to diligently advance her case and disclose vital information that would support a decision for a decreased sentence and eventual release. After 22 years, justice needs to reign. Can you help? Designate all support to "Justice for A"

CEMENT, BLOCKS, AND MORE >>>

Building a Hospital Is No Small Task!

In 2015, the first team took part in the Hospital Project in the mountainous community of Nebaj, Guatemala. Excitement was evident as the team left but it quickly waned when they were confronted with the task of digging a hole - 12 feet deep, 20 feet wide and 150 feet long! (please note—we will never make a team do this again!) It was because of this team's commitment and grunt work that coming up in 2019, there are 4 teams in the first 4 months, involving over 70 people! In addition to this, 3 businesses are faithfully donating to the construction costs. YOU are making this happen! While this project is huge, time is always spent individually with people encouraging, meeting needs, and seeing lives change; both for Canadians and Guatemalans! We are so grateful for those who donated at our last fundraiser—\$69,000+ will go toward the costs of construction! As these funds are sent, we challenge you to become involved in this project impacting the health of people in Nebaj! More teams and funding are needed!



The first team in 2015. A committed bunch!

The LEGO version is also in process!



The construction continues to progress!



Our NEW Missionary Reps!

Brian and Muriel Windsor have been serving in Zambia for 7 years. They have registered a Zambian non-profit called 'The Grace Project' to give training and mentorship to the national pastors. Most Zambian pastors have a lack of education and live in poverty. Believing that they are called, they enter ministry with very little, if any, theological training. Many also have a misunderstanding of GRACE. The Windsor's are bringing clarity and awareness to the enormous depth of GOD'S GRACE and its impact on day to day life. Sponsorships support this program but ALL pastors pay a nominal fee to enter into this training and mentorship.

TWO HOMES FOR CHILDREN >>>

Hogar Genesis (Iquitos Peru)

We are SO excited that the children's home will open soon! Final construction of an education area, a director's flat and a few kitchen renos is all that is left. **YOU** are making it happen. To spur this project on, a donor is willing to match gifts up to \$10,000! GIVE AND DOUBLE THE IMPACT! All excess funds received will go toward the operational expenses of the home (\$4,500 monthly). Monthly donors are needed to assist in the ongoing expenses. Your gift will save lives! **Because Every Life Matters!**



Jimmy (pictured here at a few days old) was rescued from certain death in the drug area of Belen in August.

Casa Hogar Alegre Sonido de Dios (Puerto Maldonado Peru)



There are no words but 'God's grace is sufficient.' As the Blackburn's face the recent deaths of their daughter and mother, they are now even more passionate to pursue the calling of caring of children at risk. Plans for a home are being developed as they grieve and adapt. When the time is right, this home will provide children with hope and a solid foundation to continue their lives. Their commitment to live out the transforming message of Christ is evident, but they need your prayers. All contributions to 'Tat's Kids Peru' will be used to carry on the passion and dreams of their daughter Tatiana and her love for children.

The Journey to Africa

Over the past several years, MVC has mainly focused on Swaziland and Zambia in partnership with MV South Africa in education assistance, sewing programs, feeding programs, construction and agriculture. While this relationship will continue, we have entered into a new partnership with Vision Ministries Canada and Vision Ministries Kenya. VMC and VMK are focused on the development of pastoral and church leadership, our focus will be on developing of sustainability for the Maasai people - a targeted area, two hours from Nairobi. Our first priority will be to install a borehole for clean drinking water and the irrigation purposes. Together, these plans will impact many people!

Contact us if you would like to be involved in this exciting effort!



Construction of the 2nd floor at Shelter of Hope Academy

We are also partnering with Pastor Ishmael in the Shelter of Hope project—a project focused on breaking the cycle of poverty for those living in a slum of Nairobi. This project addresses food, water, health and education. Shelter of Hope Academy holds classes from Kindergarten to Grade 7. The 2nd floor is being built and funds are needed to complete the construction. Students at the school were ranked in top spots overall academically in testing students from 31 district schools!

In 2014, MVC committed to helping Sikanyeso attend school to care for her special needs. Through a committed church and donors, she was able to receive care and education. The difference that donors can make in 4 years is incredible! More funds are needed. School fees for the year are \$1,000. To date \$250 has been received!



YOUR CONTRIBUTION CAN IMPACT A CHILD!



ASK THE NATIONALS >>>

Q: What is the benefit of short-term mission teams for you (the national) serving in your country?

A: For us, short term teams remind us that we are not alone in the ministry. Teams encourage us, because ministry is difficult. After the team leaves, people will partner in the ministry through prayer or possibly even through financial support. It isn't about the funding, it is about the friendships that are formed. Our calling to the ministry that we have committed ourselves to is renewed after the team leaves. As the body of Christ, we can serve together. I count it a privilege to work with teams to show the love of God to people as one body, as one family!



INTERNSHIPS

September 2018 - Esther Quezada began serving in Oaxaca Mexico for 12 months.

January 2019 - Heather Duimering and Rachel Hummel will be serving for 6 months in Iquitos, Peru.

TEACHERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED in Oaxaca—Mexico, and in Nicaragua.

Other opportunities are also available! Contact the MVC office for more details.

UPCOMING Short-term TEAMS

Nebaj, Guatemala

- Jan 12-22 (FULL)
- Feb 4-19 (SPACE AVAILABLE)
- March 4-16 (FULL)
- April 6-16 (FULL)

Cap-Haitian, Haiti

- Jan 29 - Feb 5 (SPACE AVAILABLE)

Iquitos, Peru

- Feb 8-19 (FULL)
- June 3-11 (FULL)
- July (SPACE AVAILABLE—YOUTH TEAM)
- Oct/Nov (medical/dental) (SPACE AVAILABLE)

Puerto Maldonado, Peru

- March 29 - April 8 (FULL)

Holguin, Cuba

- April 6-13 (SPACE AVAILABLE)

Kiev, Ukraine

- Dates beginning July 10th (SPACE AVAILABLE)