PROJECT UPDATES: MIGRANT WORKER MINISTRY, ONTARIO



# EXTENDING SUPPORT BEYOND BORDERS

The Migrant Worker Ministry in Ontario is a source of hope and support for individuals who leave their homes to work in Canada's agricultural sector. Led by Julio Farfan, this ministry recognizes the unique challenges faced by migrant workers, including language barriers, cultural differences, and feelings of isolation. With a focus on **providing practical assistance, emotional support, and spiritual guidance** to around 80 workers, this ministry plays a crucial role in improving the well-being and quality of life for migrant workers in Ontario.



Building Community through Celebration: A celebration of Guatemala's independence day.

### IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THIS MINISTRY

Migrant workers contribute immensely to Ontario's agricultural sector, yet they often face loneliness, homesickness, and hardship during their time away from home. The initiatives organized by Julio Farfan and his team provide a sense of community, belonging, and comfort to these individuals, helping them navigate the challenges of migrant life in Canada. By offering cultural celebrations, practical assistance, and emotional support, this ministry not only meets the immediate needs of migrant workers but also fosters a more inclusive and supportive environment within Canadian society.



Brad (Director of ImpactHope) with Julio Farfan.

## **CELEBRATING CULTURAL FESTIVITIES**

Last September, the Migrant Worker Ministry hosted a lively soccer tournament, a festive dinner, and a heartfelt service to honor Guatemala's independence day. Around 60 workers attended these events, which not only celebrated cultural diversity but also helped build a sense of community and belonging among migrant workers in Ontario.

#### **BRINGING JOY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON**

In December, the ministry organized a delightful Christmas celebration, featuring traditional Guatemalan cuisine and heartwarming gift exchanges. Despite the difficulties of feeling lonely and homesick, about 30 workers came together to celebrate the holiday season, sharing joy and creating unforgettable memories that reinforced the bonds of camaraderie among them.



Your support made their Christmas brighter, providing comfort and solace during a time when they felt the most longing for home & family.

# IMPACT STORY - From Tragedy to Hope: Lubia's Journey

"In Guatemala, I had the humbling opportunity to visit the families of two migrant workers, one of whom was renewing his contract, reaffirming his commitment to supporting his loved ones from afar. Amidst the warmth and embrace of their homes, I encountered Lubia and her children—a family whose lives had been forever altered by tragedy.

Last year, Lubia's husband, returning from his job in Quebec, was involved in a devastating motorcycle accident upon his arrival in Guatemala. The aftermath left Lubia in a coma for three agonizing months, alongside her young daughter, who shared a similar fate for two harrowing months.

The toll of this tragedy was immense—Lubia lost her leg, and the family's world was shattered. Yet, amidst the darkness, there was hope. Through your generous support, we contributed towards the cost of Lubia's upcoming surgery and the fitting of a prosthetic limb." - **Julio** 



Thank You for giving hope to Lubia and her children in the face of adversity.

# Thank You For Being The Hands & Feet of Jesus to The Most Vulnerable!

As we reflect on Lubia's courageous journey and the countless others like hers, we are reminded of the profound impact of your generosity. Your support has transformed lives, offering hope and healing to those who need it most. But our work is far from over.

We urge you to continue standing with us in solidarity, extending a lifeline to migrant workers and their families in their moments of greatest need. Your contribution, no matter the size, can make a world of difference!



Donate Online: https://impacthope.ca/migrantworkers-ontario\_ – OR – Mail A Cheque: PO Box 211 Stn Main, Guelph, ON N1H 6J9. \*Please designate your donation to 'Migrant Ministry'.

Spending of funds is confined to approved programs and projects. If any given need has been met or cannot be completed, the understanding is that the gift will then be used where it is most needed or where another opportunity of similar nature exists.