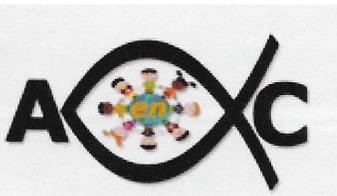


# Amigos en Cristo Ministries



*"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. " Proverbs 19:17*



Amigos en Cristo (Friends in Christ) is a Non for Profit 501 (c)(3) organization that is made up of people who have a passion for learning how to become more like Christ, teaching others to be more like Christ, and doing what we can through Christ to fulfill the Great Commission.

Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:8

July 2018

*Julie's Corner*

## A busy, productive time in Juarez



Julie Zara

My first time as Board President of Amigos en Cristo while in Juarez was a busy one. I never realized how much our past president and founder, Jerry Quick, took care of while he was in Juarez until I walked in his shoes. Thank you, Jerry, for being obedient to God and starting this ministry. Thank you for your 10 years of serving as President of the Board of Amigos en Cristo and growing it to what it is today. Your input, vision and wisdom will always be a valuable resource for AeC.

Jerry, Brad Zara, Carol Diedrichsen, and Chris Herrington and I were in Juarez June 9-16. During the week, we had a productive board meeting with other board members via phone. Those of us in Juarez followed up on next steps

while there. We always want to know how can we maximize opportunities for our students and their families and be good stewards. We visited a technical high school and attended our Teacher Appreciation Banquet to foster relationships with quality schools in Juarez. These partnerships in Juarez have reaped benefits for our students. But we have been concerned about the expenses for our students who attend school in El Paso. Most of our attention was to follow-up there.

We met with the Vice Principal at Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso, TX. We learned that one of our students, who would be a senior in the fall, would not be graduating next May because he was not passing "English as a Second Language (ESL)." Though passing all his other classes, he is not proficient in

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## A blessing for Misael and Doris

Thank you to all of you who have prayed for and supported Misael and Doris during the stressful time when their home was flooded and destroyed last year! Essentially they have moved five times since the flood, initially experiencing a feeling of homelessness and then just feeling unsettled. They never complained, but it was a hardship and now that they are in their new home they realize that even though this took a toll on them, God was gracious throughout.



April team for building phase 2 of Misael and Doris's house

Dennis Siler (Living Waters Bible Camp) did a great job designing this house. The sliding barn door style door separating public and private areas was a thoughtful idea and the placement on the lot maximizes space for the family. They have room to have Bible study there and fellowship inside and out. And the two building crews saved

their mature trees! The ground level is significantly higher than the former level, thanks to 28 truckloads of fill.

Misael and Doris are overwhelmed with this gift and filled with gratitude. It is already looking like a home and we praise God for the blessings of the Cherry Hills family and Dennis Siler and his team. Dennis has someone who will install custom-sized doors on the closets later this year.

Wherever you look in the house, you can see special details of color and design that show how much people love this family. Floors, sinks, textures, walls, windows, doors, cabinets, and spaces – all praise God. Each detail shouts “This is our family and we love them!” Again, thanks to all of you who went to build, prayed, provided gift cards and other items, and who contributed to the construction of the house.

**Carol Diedrichsen**

***“Misael and Doris are overwhelmed with this gift and filled with gratitude.”***



Doris is delighted with her new bedroom and kitchen



June team members built shelves, added a beautiful backsplash to the kitchen.

By May, Misael and Doris moved into their house.



Misael showing off his living room .

*“Wherever you look in the house, you can see special details of color and design that show how much people love this family.”*



DJ and Anita rest during the move into the house with Doris.

# Notes from

*“What I realized is that having material things doesn’t bring joy as much as a grateful heart does.”*

The opportunity to travel to Juarez for my first mission trip was a wonderful experience. It was a chance to use my gifts to lift up those in need while extending Jesus’ love. God has blessed me with so much and I was able to help others so that made me feel blessed too. I met so many humble and grateful people in the midst of unbearable poverty. What I realized is that having material things doesn’t bring joy as much as a grateful heart does.

**Sheryl Garcia**



Sheryl Garcia



# the mission field



Family with new house. Geraldo, the husband, along with members of his church had a lot of the work done and they continued to work with our team during the week.



Dr. Silas with patient and mom



Sheri Garcia, Julie and Claire Zara, Jan Dietrich, Saira Silas, Beth Edwards

AeC has had four construction teams at work in 2018: two groups to work on Misael and Doris's house and two trips to build houses for local families. Skilled and unskilled volunteers have worked alongside locals and conducted a medical clinic and provided health talks for women. We have another trip scheduled for September. Want to join us? Contact [jerry@aecministries.org](mailto:jerry@aecministries.org) or [carol@aecministries.org](mailto:carol@aecministries.org).

What an amazing experience! The week was a perfect illustration of 2 Corinthians 12:9 After injuring a tendon in my finger, I asked myself, "What can I do without the use of my right hand?" but God in his grace provided sisters whom he gifted with abilities I do not have. What a beautiful picture of the body of Christ working together for his glory!

**Dr. Saira Wahib-Silas**

## A privilege to be a part of Amigos team

*“I was, once again, impressed with the degree of commitment of the Amigos staff.”*

Serving in Mexico is a privilege, an honor. Why? Because we ‘get to’ work with the Amigos teams who are hungry for Jesus to be known and who are creative in working toward that goal. Both Misael and Doris think outside the box when they minister, with concern for meeting people as they are, with love and acceptance. I was, once again, impressed with the degree of commitment of the Amigos staff.

God provided a wonderful team for the clinic... every role we needed. Sheri met the patients with a warm welcome in Spanish before each met with Dr.

Saira who provided not only her skills as a doctor, but also the ability to relate to each person in a personal way. Prayer and caring were every bit as important as a diagnosis. Beth’s background in engineering and attention to detail made her the perfect pharmacist as she filled orders for each person. Finally, seeing 10 girls wide-eyed as they watched ‘The Miracle of Life’ in the Prenatal Class (of 30 people) was a high point for me. Framing it around God’s amazing plan for growing and loving a new life... better yet!

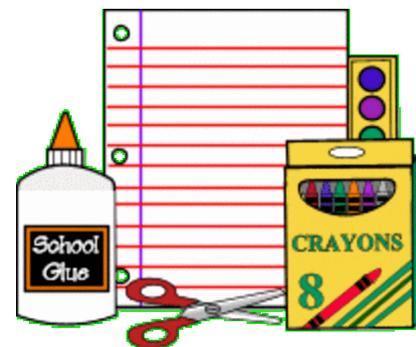
**Jan Dietrich**

## Juarez needs school supplies

Spiral and composition notebooks, glue sticks, liquid glue, all-purpose white paper for printers, dry erase markers, colored markers, pencil sharpeners, pens, rulers, crayons, pencils, play dough, colored pencils, construction paper, calculators, water colors, and children’s scissors are needed for our students in Juarez.

Also, we run out of composition and spiral notebooks midyear so we’d like

to stock up on them when the prices are right this summer. Blessings!



# Youth group serves on trip to Juarez



Students Michael Silas (left) and Gracie Kinley (third from left) assist locals Axel and Gus.



Luke Martin



McKaylee McKenzie and Aiden Peterson work on the paint crew.



Youth group trip June 23-30. Members of the Cherry Hills church youth group eager to serve God in Juarez traveled to the city the last week in June

## Julie's corner

*(Continued from page 1)*

if they will not reap the benefit of the college scholarship, we would rather they attend schools in Juarez to maximize their opportunities. Frankly, we want all of our students to have greater opportunities.

So, we are excited about Don Tucker, former missionary in Spain for 23 years, joining our staff this September! Don will be teaching ESL working with all of our students who are in the open school and afterschool programs at Amistad and New Beginnings. He will also be tutoring our Lydia Patterson students and teaching our students' parents how to speak English. This is an answer to prayer and all of the staff and board are thankful.

Pastor Misael and Doris treated all of us to a fabulous dinner at their beautiful new home built by the teams from Wisconsin and Illinois. They are so proud of their new home and continued to express how God has blessed them abundantly! Thanks to all of you who have contributed to this project. I will be in Juarez in September, why not come join me?

**Julie**

English, a requirement for graduation from the school. He has decided not to return to Lydia. With much frustration, I prayed and talked to the other board members about this. Then I put on my teacher hat on and equated it to graduating a US senior who couldn't read. We do know that he will finish his senior year at a high school in Juarez and hopefully obtain a scholarship to attend a college in Mexico.

Following that meeting, we met with our Lydia students and their parents to discuss the 2018-2019 school year. We have 11 students returning to Lydia Patterson in the fall and will send no new students there. Tuition has

increased substantially with decreased scholarship monies. The cost will be \$5,000 for one high school student to attend. Further, only 5 of our 11 students are at or above the 85% that prompts scholarships at the school and triggers college scholarships at graduation. Please join the board, students and their family members that the administration at Lydia Patterson grant us mercy and awards all 11 students full or partial scholarships. These high achieving students work hard to take their classes in English but

**Amigos en Cristo Ministries**  
**P.O. Box 1225**  
**Springfield, IL 62705-1225**  
**1 (217) 415-2436**  
**mail@AeCMinistries.org**  
**www.aecministries.org**

**Save the Date**  
 Mark your calendar!  
 You don't want to miss the 10th anniversary AeC celebration banquet  
**Thursday, October 25**