

## Family Dinner



Milton and Irma recently welcomed their 5<sup>th</sup> daughter in to their family. The baby's name is Irma Cristina, and with four older sisters doesn't lack for attention. Neither Milton nor Irma has stable employment, and when they do find work they will earn less than \$10.00 dollars for the entire day.



They have been coming to the food outreach for about two years. The meals this family eats at the outreach are the only hot, nutritious, tasty meals they will eat all week.



The mission is now serving lunch on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to 48 people. The folks who come are desperately poor. Mealtime at the mission is not only a time to eat, but it is a refuge from the chaos of life on the street in a Central American city. In the past few weeks we have had 18 people come by asking if they can come and eat at the outreach. We have the space to feed more folks, but not a dependable source of funds to purchase the food so we have had to turn them away.

Miriam and her two daughters' Iliana and Jemy also come to the mission's food outreach. Miriam sells candy from a basket she carries in Xela's central park.



Now Miriam is also selling shoes on the street that the mission provides to her through our microbusiness outreach project. The opportunity for her to sell shoes has given a significant boost to her income.



Sometimes we will have a special fun meal and serve hotdogs or another food that they will never get anywhere else.

### Microbusiness

Donations from friends of the mission in the United States and Canada are vital to the continuing operation of the mission; but the microbusiness aspect to the outreach provides income for the mission in general and for the women who participate in the project.

Many of you have donated prom dresses and/or wedding dresses. Below is a picture of a young lady who came to our dress boutique, Novia Americana, yesterday and bought this dress.



She is getting married on August 9, here in Xela. Her purchase of this dress will provide income for the mission and she gets a quality wedding dress imported from the United States. How cool is that!



Needs a few minor alterations, no problema.

You can click on “MICROBUSINESS” on the mission’s homepage for complete details on collecting and shipping dresses and jeans for the outreach in Guatemala. Please consider helping us out with a dress/jeans drive at your church, business, or in your circle of family and friends. If you host a dress collection in September or early October and we receive the dresses in Missouri by the middle of October they can be in Xela by Christmas.

We also sell shoes as part of our microbusiness outreach in the boutique. Quality name brand shoes are donated to the mission from an international charity in Alabama. One of our responsibilities is to go to Alabama and facilitate shoe shipments to Guatemala which we do several times a year when we are in the U.S.



I have 350,000 miles on the Ranger pickup now. On my last trip north through Mexico the transmission went out on me. I was 2,000 miles from the house in Missouri when it started giving me fits, but I was able to nurse it all the way to the house and didn't

get stranded in Mexico. We did get the transmission repaired so we can continue using the truck for shoe shipments and other times when we need a truck.



### Cleft Lip Surgery

Late last winter we told you about a baby whose mother came to the mission and she asked us if we could help her with surgery for her baby. I'm pleased to report that the child had a successful surgery in June to repair the lip and palette. The child will still need another follow-up surgery on the palette in two years.

If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, Your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight. I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places-- firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry.  
(Isaiah 58:10-11 MSG)



I took this picture above a couple of months ago before the surgery. I will get an after the surgery picture in a couple of weeks and post it in the next update. The child's grandmother came in last week and asked us if we can help another child in their community with a cleft lip that needs surgery. We told them we will help; the baby's name is Abraham.

Thank you for you prayer and financial support.

Pressing On,

David & Kathy