



Saracoff Sentinel Team Tijuana



Updates from the field

Easter 2014

Points for Prayer

- Lift up Esperanza Rehab as their land rights are still being disputed...with high legal fees.
- Praise God He transforms lives at Esperanza and Campamento de Fe!
- We thank God for the construction of the kids' playing field at Carretas.



Campo de Fe Needs

Pray for funding to replace or refurbish Flor's 1996 truck. This donation has served her well, but is feeling its years on bad Tijuana roads! She needs to drive Pedro & others to dr appointments & therapy.



Family Update

Praise God for how He works in our children's lives, helping them mature, discover their gifts and make friends.

Ian (25) graduated in March from the Art Institute of Indianapolis (majored in Animation). So the next big request will be for a "Real Job". We are grateful he has had Starbucks as his employer since 12th grade--the health insurance plan they provide really helped with the back problems he developed last

August. Through his pain, he saw God at work, getting his attention and answering the prayers of many. He even found a church he likes.

Anna (23) is honing her gifts in computer skills and accounting. She is living at home and attending Southwestern Community College. She's starting the POW blog mentioned on the next page and assisted in the graphics of this newsletter.

Our 27th anniversary was on Sept 27th and Kathy's parents marked their 60th anniversary Sept 12. We praise and thank God for the good marriages and the security that their love (and the generations before them) has given our extended family. So many of the people we serve in Tijuana have never seen that kind of commitment. Pray we can be a good example to them of a godly marriage.

Kathy's Serendipity

God has given us the privilege of being links in the chain of His blessing. Because we are on the border between the US and Mexico we see many deportees who are bused daily from jails in California to be "dropped off" in Tijuana. There's a make-shift camp of many of these people living in the canal right after I cross the border. I have wanted to do something to help them, but didn't know where to begin.



It all came together one morning, when I had a load of perishable food in my van on my way to a training session in Tijuana. There I met Judith. She told me how her church had a burden for "el Bordo" (the border w/ its deportees) and they were trying to gathering enough food to take a meal them once every two weeks. Along with sharing food, they shared Jesus' love and the gospel. This was a God thing. I had all this food and she knew where the Lord wanted it. One man they gave food to received the Lord. The next time they went down, they learned he had died. I gave the food in my car to them to pass out that very night to the people that God had given me a burden for. How much better to equip the local church to do this outreach than for me to have tried to do something just on my- own! Partnership is the road to fruitfulness.



United World Mission,
PO Box 602002
Charlotte, NC
28260-2002.

Our Mission: support "Team Tijuana," a group of ministries whose mission is to give the unstoppable message of hope in Jesus Christ to people who are down-trodden and in despair, to help the poor, encourage the sick, and train the able to be self-sufficient by working. We do this in a culturally responsible partnership with Mexican ministry leaders; we are powered by our God-given passion to serve.

POW – Person Of the Week a new blog by Anna Saracoff

"...and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:32

Welcome to the on-line community of Team Tijuana. As a way to get to know us better, we will present the "Person of the Week", focusing on a different ministry each week. We hope to give you a well-rounded view of what is happening and how we are reaching out in Jesus' name to those in need.

We chose the POW title because we are waging spiritual warfare-- each person being either a prisoner or former prisoner in spiritual battles of fear, addiction, pain, poverty, despair, etc. Each one is looking for the salvation given from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to set the captives free.

➔ Check out the blog at <http://asaracoff.wordpress.com/>

POW!



Less than a year ago, Pedro Hernandez was working as a guard at a car lot. One night as he slept, a spider bit him. Hours later, the foot had swollen so badly that he went to a doctor. Despite all kinds of treatments and more doctors, the foot got worse and worse. Finally the doctor said it needed to be amputated or the gangrene would spread up the leg.

Somehow Pedro found his way to Campamento de Fe. When we met him, his first question was, "Can you help find me a new foot?" Though Pedro is missing a foot, he rejoices that God has made him whole on the inside, through the work of Jesus on the cross. We've discovered he has a cheerful, generous heart and a gift of drawing. Every visitor that comes to CdF is given one of Pedro's original pieces. Did you notice his artwork on the first page?

Encouragement

It seems I've been doing the same thing so many years it's just become routine; I wonder if I'm where God wants me to be or just where I feel comfortable. Today brought encouragement when I was greeted at Esperanza Women's rehab by Malu, a graduate. She'd made a special trip to join our Monday group and was waiting when I arrived.

She looked familiar, but I couldn't remember her name. I knew she'd been in my prayer group a few years back, but so many women come and go that I lose track. What becomes of them when they leave the safe confines of Esperanza? Do they reunite with their children for whom they've prayed or do their old friends lure them back into the slavery of addiction?

As we ended our time of praise in the big group and moved into the Thanksgiving portion--seeing what prayers God has answered and thanking Him--the Spirit moved me to ask Malu to share. Malu (short for Maria Guadalupe) started out by saying she was so grateful for Esperanza since she didn't know anything about God when she first arrived. When I showed up to lead the Moms in Prayer time, she tried to hide in the kitchen, and only grudgingly joined the group (with a sour face). Malu said I introduced her to Jesus during our weekly prayer time. She saw many answers to prayer and grew spiritually. By the time she was ready to graduate, Malu had become a leader and was helping Lydia run the place.

By God's grace, Malu returned home to her children and resisted the temptation of drugs. She joined a local church and sought the prayers and companionship of God's people. When she learned that her sister in the U.S. (whom she hadn't seen in 14 years) was dying of cancer, she stepped out in faith and asked her church to pray that even though she didn't have legal papers, she would be allowed to enter the U.S. to visit her sister. At the border crossing...lots of people with their papers being rejected and turned away, but "somehow" Malu, with no papers and only \$50 in her pocket, is allowed through. She got to her sister's hospital bed only 3 hours before the end. Although her sister seemed in a coma, Malu spoke to her; then her sister struggled to whisper, "Lupita, Lupita", opened her eyes to see her, and then exited this world, entering heaven's gates. Malu knows her sister is with the Lord and they will have eternity together. Can you see the Easter message?

