

On behalf of the Board of Directors of ROHI Foundation, we would like to extend our sincere thanks for your support toward the work in Reynosa, Mexico in 2021. The Lord enabled Rohi to be a true help and support for so many, in ways familiar and different than years past, but all focused on sharing God's love and bringing hope and brighter future to those in need. Your generous financial support and prayers helped make it possible and we are truly grateful.

The beginning of 2021 saw the Garcias expand the ministries of their church (New Hope) and tutoring program at the La Union 2 apartments, where many previous residents of the La Union colonia moved when the violence there escalated. Their weekly service, plus prayer ministry, marriage ministry and youth ministry kept them very busy. Their daughter, Andrea, continued offering in-person tutoring in the small apartment we converted into a classroom in 2020. Beyond the ministry at the apartment complex, David had to do some maintenance to water lines on the canal. We had several breaks and we had to shut down the La Union well because no one was living down there and it was being damaged by violence (bullets) and leaks.

In February, the unprecedented cold that hit Texas also came to Reynosa. Residents were without water and electricity for several days. Since fireplaces aren't common, the only warmth to be had was from jackets and blankets. In terms of damage, on the canal, many of the above ground pipes that connect the water lines to the individual house storage tanks cracked and had to be replaced. Again, David spearheaded the repairs.

In March, we visited Reynosa and brought the Garcia's son and new wife needed items for their apartment and expected baby. We also met Estella and Arnulfo – longtime attendees of New Hope Church. Estella was suffering complications from diabetes and needed help with medical costs. We employed her husband, Arnulfo, to help the Garcia's install many of the items we brought down (ceiling fans, etc.). David had just suffered a minor cardiac event, so the help was a blessing to all.

In April, the Garcias welcomed their granddaughter, Emma Sofia. Because of generous donors, we were able to pay the hospital bills for them. While we were celebrating this baby's new life, we also welcomed the spiritual rebirth of a congregant of New Hope Church. Ana, 71 years young, after two years of discipleship in the church, gave her life to Jesus!

In May, we prepared for our June mission trip, buying laptops for our high school graduating class of five, gifts for the graduates of kindergarten, primary, and secondary schools (from 2020 and 2021), and made plans for the accompanying celebrations. When we brought the team down in June, we were excited to celebrate! And we did, until the team came down with Salmonella poisoning. The trip had to be cut short, but thankfully everyone fully recovered, and the celebrations were a blessing to all.

During the summer, we began partnering more with Mauro and Rosy Esquivel, who pastor La Cruz Church. Mauro and Rosy had been ministering to the thousands of migrants seeking asylum, who live in a plaza in downtown Reynosa, as well as residents of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March colonia. They had a vision to begin a tutoring ministry in 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, like the one the Garcias have in La Union 2. With our financial support, they launched the tutoring classes in October. They have 20-25 students in primary through high school, receiving help three days a week for 2+ hours a day.

In the summer, we also continued to help New Hope congregants Arnulfo and Estella, as Estella's complications from diabetes worsened. We helped her see a specialist and get needed medications,

which facilitated her being healthy enough to have a surgery to amputate her legs, which stabilized her condition. Though the experience was extremely traumatic for the couple, they were so grateful for Rohi's support through this incredibly difficult time.

To close the summer, after our biggest school supply collection drive ever, in August and September we brought down over 600 school supply bags. The Esquivels distributed them to the students they serve in 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, in the plaza, and various other ministries. The Garcias also distributed them to the students they serve on the canal and in the La Union 2 apartments. And we also gave supplies to the high schools we support, as well as Melody and Big Heart orphanages.

The summer was also marked by a substantial decrease in violence on the canal and throughout Reynosa. After a raucous series of cartel battles in June, a substantially sized force of the Mexican military came in, leading to the cartels calling a truce. That truce has remained ever since and former residents on the canal have returned to their homes, especially at the front of the canal, in Nopelera. As a result, we repaired and turned back on the La Union well to increase capacity. Residents further down the canal have been more reluctant to return, but we will see if that changes in 2022. We had thought we were going to need to provide our high school in La Union with an alternate location (due to the violence), and did rent a house for a few months when it appeared classes would resume late summer. However, when the violence decreased, it was decided to use our current campus. We are all praising God that the violence is much better and praying it remains so.

In the fall, Jaime Mayorga, who runs Melody's Orphanage, reached out for assistance as he transitioned to become the director of a larger orphanage near Matamoros. Jaime had a small facility in downtown Reynosa, where he cared for about 15 children, and everyone was super excited for the opportunity to move to the country into a bigger facility. We visited the new location both in October and over the Thanksgiving trip, but in the end, after several months of trying to make the transition, it was decided that combining the two orphanages wasn't going to work out. We continue to partner with Jaime, helping him financially and with school supplies, medical care, and other items for his ministry.

With winter coming and the need for warm coats and blankets, in early fall we began our annual collection. We also collected Christmas presents and new backpacks for our tutoring students, as well as gifts from many of our missionary partners. During the Thanksgiving trip, we spent a few days at Jaime's orphanage in Matamoros. The latter half of the week was celebrations at the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March and La Union 2 tutoring programs to distribute all the gifts. It was a blessed week of service.

As we closed 2021, we thought in-person classes would resume this Spring semester (the first time since the pandemic began), but because of Omicron, it was delayed. As a result, we will continue to provide our tutoring supports in La Union 2 apartments and the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. However, we anticipate that in-person classes will resume this year. As a result, we are building two new classrooms at the school in Nopelera, to replace the old ones that are in disrepair. And we will make repairs and needed improvements to the school buildings at La Union. When the kids can come back, we want to make sure the facilities are ready!

We also plan to expand our water lines in 2022, so that the two main tanks in the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March colonia are connected to the Nopelera well. That community has been living without a consistent supply of water for many months and this will hopefully solve that problem.

We will provide the Garcia's with the tools necessary to continue their ministries to New Hope Church and the people of the colonias. We plan to continue to partner with Mauro and Rosy Esquivel and their church, La Cruz, as they minister in 23rd of March and to the migrants in the plaza. We will continue to support Melody and Big Heart Orphanages. And we will be open to any other ministry opportunities the Lord provides as we seek to be His hands and feet.

Organizationally, we continue to write a monthly newsletter, utilize Facebook, and our website ([www.therohifoundation.org](http://www.therohifoundation.org)) to keep supporters abreast of all God is doing in and through Rohi. The Board of Directors of ROHI would ask for your prayers as we plan for 2022. Our prayer for you, our partners in this work, is that the Lord Jesus Christ will strengthen you and bless you and your family for the investment you are making in His Church. May He grant you a 2022 that is full of purpose and life as we serve and worship the God we love.

God Bless,

ROHI Board of Directors

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