

Monthly Update (July, 2011) from Trujillo, Honduras by Mark and Brenda Young

It is hard to believe that half of the year is behind us, but now that summer is here things are really hopping. Brenda has just left for Honduras and will be followed by a **large group from the combined Kennewick and Richland churches**. They have been preparing for many months to serve the Lord by working at both the Trujillo Christian School and the *Little Hands, Big Hearts* mission. This group has 21 people, teens and adults, which is the largest group we have ever had stay at the Family Development Center. **Yefrin, Maybelline and Brenda are making last minute preparations** by buying some extra sleeping cushions, larger cooking pots, and all of the food to feed them for a week. Pray for all of them as they demonstrate the love of Jesus to all they contact.

We wish to thank all those who have responded to our plea for the “children’s medical fund”. This fund was created to **help meet expensive medical needs of Little Hands children** that exceed what we can do through our monthly budget. Right now we have three immediate needs for Isabel, Justin, and José Ricardo. The next “Happenings in Honduras” newsletter will have a report on the progress of these children but in the meantime, we want to ask you to pray for these three sets of “little hands.” As some of you know in Honduras it is very difficult to get an accurate diagnosis and manageable action plan. We now always get a second and sometimes third opinion if we suspect something is not correct. This in itself is both time consuming and costly but it is beneficial for the child. We also consult with our stateside medical director. Please **remember these three little ones in your prayers!**

This month the LHBH Foundation will have its bi-annual board meeting in Seattle at the home of Don and Sara Brown. In advance, we’d like to thank the fourteen members of this board who work to help advance the cause of the *Little Hands* mission. Just recently the Foundation was notified by the Ezell Foundation in Nashville that it was awarded a \$10,000 grant to help in several critical areas. We **thank the Ezell family members for their vote of confidence in awarding this grant to help Little Hands, Big Hearts**. At the meeting, the Foundation board will determine where the money can best be used to advance the mission.

We’d like to give you an **update on our personal situation** with respect to the *Little Hands* mission. As many of you know, we came back to the U.S. in late 2006 to help our daughter, Amber, raise her two preschool age sons. A year later the Lord blessed us by bringing Yefrin to serve as our Honduran director. Yefrin and Maybelline have done wonderful jobs so when we return to Honduras we will be taking on new part-time roles at the mission. When we agreed to return to the U.S. we anticipated a 3 to 5 year stay and then the recession hit which caused Mark’s job at the hospital to be extended. He has now nearly met the \$5.3 million goal to build a new hospice house, called *Cottage in the Meadow*, in central Washington. Construction should begin this summer with the official groundbreaking in September. We now anticipate the opening of the *Cottage* sometime in late spring or early summer. That means that Mark might complete his work and **be ready to move back to Honduras by mid-summer of 2012**. We are presently praying about this time and thinking about spending next July and August visiting our supporting churches and ministry partners across the U.S. before physically moving to Honduras in September. We ask you to join us in prayer as we make this transition in the next year. Before the end of the year, we will be sharing our plans about Honduras with key friends and donors seeking your support. As always, **our lives belong to the Lord** so we will be ready when He says it’s time.

In closing, let us again thank you for your continued prayers, compassion for the *Little Hands* children, and support for this ministry. Blessed to be God’s ambassadors in Honduras,

Mark and Brenda