



A key activity of the Association is to help women and their families develop healthy bodies. A health fair was held in the remote village of Las Barrancas in June 2018. The focus was on children younger than five years old. The children were weighed and their height measured.

Here is Edy Roberto Diaz, a medical student, weighing a toddler. In January, Edy will begin his third year of medical school at San Carlos University, Xela, Guatemala.

Association of Mam Christian Women for Development, San Juan Ostuncalco, Guatemala

PLAN OF WORK FOR 2019

THE MAM CHALLENGE

- Most Mam families live in the rural areas of five municipalities of the Department of Quetzaltenango, similar to a U.S. state. They depend on seasonable agricultural work, and thus have no stable employment.
- In recent years there has been an increase in poverty due to climate change, rain, ice, and hail that cause unstable, and mostly lower, prices for the potatoes, corn, beans, and vegetables they grow.

SOLUTION: ASSOCIATION OF MAM CHRISTIAN WOMEN FOR DEVELOPMENT

- The Association of Mam Christian Women for Development partners with groups of women in rural communities to support their development. The women develop economically through participation in socio-productive projects, such as a microloan program. They enhance their skills and knowledge through the Association's educational programs. They improve their health through access to community health workers trained and supplied by the Association.
- The plan for 2019 will continue partnering with families and communities to address poverty, under-nutrition, ill health, and lack of education. This work will help improve the lives of the women and their families and allow their children to move forward with their schooling.
- To support sustainable development, the Association will maintain its work in partnership with U.S. churches and individuals.

MISSION

We are an association of Christian women dedicated to train and assist the neediest families so they can attain self-development.

VISION

To be an association conscious of the poverty that affects women and children in their communities. To provide services as volunteers in order to strengthen the development of the families and, thus, to be agents of change.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the association is to:

Help and serve our fellow women through projects that support their economic development;

Strengthen these development projects through education and training and to provide new women's groups and communities with such assistance;

Support students in sewing schools; and

Create leaders to continue the health and microloan programs in order to achieve successful results for the families of the women and reach self-development.

ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE 2019 OBJECTIVES

Management, Support-a-Vision, and Expansion

- Carry out 20 visits (2 per month) by the Association Board of Directors during the year to oversee the groups of women with microloans and verify if they are practicing what they learned in their trainings (for example, how to raise healthy cattle).
- Continue the projects and programs that already exist.
- Establish microloan programs for 10 groups.
- Construct retaining wall for Las Barrancas sewing school.
- Hold 2 assemblies per year.
- Supply sewing students in Las Barrancas with a small stove to heat their food.
- Bulldoze some land to level it in order to build a new school to replace the one destroyed by the 2012 earthquake.
- Acquire office furniture for the office of the Association, which will begin to rent space in 2019

Education

- Enroll 20 students in the sewing school in Las Barrancas.
- Enroll 60 students in the sewing school in San Juan Ostuncalco (SJO).
- Provide 4 industrial sewing machines for the sewing school.
- Support 7 young people pursuing higher education and training young women ages 15-25. (See below.)
- Continue partnership with CEDEPCA¹ for training including disaster preparation, emotional first aid, and women's rights under Guatemala law for 4 microloan groups: Los Pinares, Las Mujeres Virtuosas, Ebenezer, and Nuevo Amanecer..

¹ CEDEPCA is a non-profit organization that works to transform lives by offering education to women and men of diverse Christian traditions and communities.

- Continue training young women ages 15-25 by CEDEPCA on self-esteem and Guatemalan laws that protect women.

Agriculture

- Construct cattle shelters for 5 microloan groups: Las Triunfadoras, La Semilla/Yen, Los Vailes, Las Seguidoras de Jesus, and Los Claveles 3.
- Continue training by Heifer International consultant of groups and development of family vegetable gardens for the groups that already work with chickens and for new groups: (1) groups already involved in poultry production who; and (2) start training of new groups.
- Continue training by Heifer International consultant of (1) groups who started family vegetable gardens in 2017, and (2) start training of new groups.

Health and Environment²

- Continue work on a book of simple recipes to take advantage of the family vegetable gardens and other resources so as to improve the nutritional intake of families.
- Under take a 6-month training of new health promoters for the groups that do not have them with an emphasis on nutrition.
- Support planting of 5,000 trees. .
- Install 25 ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines for 3 groups Reina, La Cruz, and Los Gonzalez.
- Install 145 safe, fuel-efficient stoves for 10 microloan groups: La Cruz, Los Vailes, Los Gonzalez, Las Triunfadoras, La Samaritana, Las Mujeres Virtuosas, Reina, Los Claveles 2, Los Claveles 3, and Las Granadillas.
- Carry out 2 trainings for the promoters³ who monitor filters, latrines, and stoves.
- Monitor on 2 occasions the operation of filters, latrines, and stoves monitoring.

Approved by BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ASSOCIATION OF MAM CHRISTIAN WOMEN FOR DEVELOPMENT

*Felipa Méndez – President
 Cirila González – Secretary
 Juana Morales – Treasurer
 Nolberta Alonso Vasquez – At Large*

*Reina Leticia García – Vice President
 Ana Pérez – Assistant Secretary
 Leona Méndez – At Large
 Rosario Díaz – Coordinator*

December 2018

² Under “Health and Environment,” the water filters, latrines, and stoves mentioned are not gifts. Women and their families share the cost with the Association. Thus, the women and their families are provided a *hand up*, not a *hand out*.

³ Promoters work with communities and groups to develop ways to improve people’s health. The promoters of the monitoring fall into this category. They inspect water filters, latrines, and stoves to ensure they function as designed. Water filters, latrines, and stoves are installed to improve the health of the women of the Association and their families. If they are not used properly or malfunction their purpose is defeated.

See following page for 2019 budget.

BUDGET FOR 2019 PLAN, ASS'N OF M. C.W. FOR DEVELOPMENT	QUETZALS	DOLLARS
Construction of 145 stoves for 9 groups	195,750	25,448
Construction of 26 latrines for 3 groups	76,700	9,971
Microloans for 10 groups	295,000	38,350
6 training sessions with CEDEPCA (teaches women to be resilient in a crisis	9,500	1,235
Expenses for training by Carlos for 10 months*	10,000	1,300
Expenses for 2 monitoring of filters, latrines, and stoves	10,000	1,300
Scholarships for 7 recipients	20,000	2,600
Expenses for 2 assemblies in the year	5,000	650
Carry out training for groups with workshops about nutrition given by promoters**	10,000	1,300
Carry out training for new promoters** about topics of preventative health during 6 months	15,000	1,950
Carry out workshops for promoters** who will teach others to monitor filters, latrines, and stoves	4,000	520
Salary of sewing teacher - Las Barrancas	22,500	2,925
Salary of sewing teacher - San Juan Ostuncalco (SJO)	15,000	1,950
Expenses for 20 visits [by Association board of directors] to microloan groups	10,000	1,300
Board meetings (transport and food)	12,000	1,560
Purchase of 5,000 tree seedlings	10,000	1,300
Purchase of 4 industrial style sewing machines	20,000	2,600
Purchase of an incubator in which to raise chickens	2,500	325
Salary of one-quarter time accountant	9,000	1,170
Salary of one-half time secretary	18,000	2,340
Expenses of audit and advice	10,000	1,300
Rent of location for SJO sewing school	6,000	780
Rent of vehicle	10,000	1,300
Support for construction of farm animal shelters for 5 groups	34,800	4,524
Two projects (Claveles 3 Group and La Cruz Group) re fattening up chickens for sale	40,000	5,200
Stationery and office supplies	3,000	390
Printing of recipe book	1,500	195
Purchase of computer	8,000	1,040
Purchase of desk for secretary	2,000	260
Purchase of desk chair for secretary	600	78
Purchase of 2 filing cabinets	4,000	520
Rent of office for Association for 12 months	9,600	1,248
Construction of a wall in Las Barrancas (behind sewing school to prevent erosion)	17,000	2,210
Small stove for Las Barrancas sewing school students	900	117
Making level a plot of land to build a school to replace one ruined by 2012 earthquake	75,000	9,750
External hard disk for backup copies of files	1,000	130
UPS to protect the computer (a device to provide energy to computer if electricity fails)	1,000	130
Food (that is, lunch) or snack for the students in the CEDEPCA training	3,000	390
Total	997,350	129,656
* Carlos provides training in animal husbandry and family vegetable gardens.		
**Promoters are volunteers trained in a certain area who share what they learned with the community.		