

From Desperation to Hope

In January of 2016, Eva Gonzalez Hernandez arrived to a medical clinic in rural Guatemala. This mother of six was struggling with malnutrition, severe depression and a parasitic infection. Her husband had died two years prior, leaving her with no land title and no income. Eva's teenage son worked in the local fields to earn a few dollars a day, but the money was not adequate to provide proper nutrition for the family. Their house was open to the elements, allowing rain water to flood the home during the rainy season and leaving the children susceptible to mosquito borne illnesses. All of Eva's children were malnourished and one of them suffered from intellectual stunting secondary to maternal malnutrition during Eva's pregnancy. Finding Freedom board members were part of the medical team Eva had come to; fortunately for her we were able to process her FFF application and approve her for assistance.



Eva shown with key to new home during construction.

Finding Freedom through Friendship arranged for vital food supplements to be delivered bi-monthly, while we worked with Eva on repairing her sewing machine, so she could prepare clothing for local residents for a small fee. The donation of a refrigerator allowed Eva's children to make and sell frozen popsicles and cold drinks. Raising pigs boosted the family's income and gave them a vital source of protein.

In early 2018 FFF was able to legally secure the land and house Eva's family inhabited but had no deed for. This allowed us to build a new house with a concrete floor, intact floors and roof and a door that locked. The family was now, for the first time in their lives, in safe and waterproof housing that was legally theirs.

The food donations, vitamins and medications continued to be donated as needed. Four of Eva's children were placed in our scholarship program.

Our final partnership effort with Eva will be the donation of a small store built on her property. The profit from this micro business will allow Eva to have financial solidarity for the first time in her lifetime. The transformation in this family will continue as Eva's financial and physical health increases.

CONTACT

Jody Greenlee
Executive Director
859.608.7747
Jody@FreedomThrough
Friendship.org

Marguerite Doyle
CFO & Middle East Director
859.312.3964
Doyle@FreedomThroug
Friendship.org

Finding Freedom Through Friendship, Inc.
1781 Eastwood Dr. Lexington, KY 40502
green71957@aol.com
finding-freedom-through-friendship.org