



A Mother and Daughter in Need in the Mountains of Guatemala

In September of 2019, Belzy and her mother approached the FFF visiting team members that were working in a Guatemalan village eight hours from where Belzy and her mother lived. Somehow, they had heard of Finding Freedom, and had traveled throughout the night to ask to be included in our program.

Our Finding Freedom nurse volunteers discovered that Belzy, who was the size of a toddler, was actually a three-year-old child suffering with malnutrition, cerebral palsy and an inability to ambulate. Her mother Maria had to carry her daughter wherever she went. An interview disclosed that this family struggled with food insufficiency, housing that had been damaged in a recent earthquake, and a complete lack of healthcare within a six-hour radius of their home. Living in the deep recesses of rural Guatemala meant that there were no available jobs other than seasonal harvesting, which brought in \$2/day when crops were ready for harvest.

Because both the mother and child were found to be malnourished, they were added to our feeding program, which provides one protein rich meal a day to each participant. In January of 2020, we were able to network with another nonprofit organization that works in Guatemala. Through Children of the Americas (childrenoftheamericas.org), Belzy was properly fitted and gifted a wheelchair specifically designed for children suffering from Cerebral Palsy.

This donation will be life changing for both Belzy and her mother, who will no longer have to carry her child on her back. Follow up on the use of this donation will be done in September of 2020 when FFF volunteers visit Belzy's mountain area once again.

(Top Photo) Upon entry into FFF in September 2019

(Bottom Photo) Four months later



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