

Today is the Day

Oscar Max still remembers the short-term team visiting his home that day. He was alone with his sons when a group of foreigners and Impact staff showed up. The North Americans visited with him and his boys. They spoke words of encouragement and asked if they could pray for Oscar. "One day I will accept the Lord," Oscar thought as they prayed.

But then the team's driver spoke up: "Brother," he said, "the Lord is telling me in my heart that today is the day you will accept the Lord, because the coming of the Lord is near." Tears rolled down Oscar's cheeks as he prepared to open his heart to God. When Oscar's wife arrived home, she was greeted by five excited boys running out to tell her that Daddy had accepted Jesus!



Oscar in about 2004 with his family and a sponsor.

This is the power of short-term missions in conjunction with local ministry. Oscar's wife had been praying for her husband, the children had been praying for their father; indeed, the whole church had been praying for Oscar. The short-term team, alongside Impact leadership, had a chance to visit with Oscar thanks to the Vida Schools and the sponsorship program. The words of encouragement the team members spoke provided the opportunity for a local Brother to speak the exact words Oscar needed to hear. Together, they were used by God to touch Oscar's life.



Oscar has become a godly example to his sons.

If you ask Oscar whether Mission Teams are important, he'll say, "Yes, yes, yes!" Because, as he says, "If it wasn't for them, for the help of the Lord and them too...my life would have continued in the same way it was." Instead, the day he accepted the Lord, his life and his future began to change. He became a godly example to his sons, who have grown up to be godly examples themselves. And the impact of that visit continues to echo through eternity.

Are you interested in having an eternal impact through a short-term mission experience? Check out www.impactminusa.org/teams for opportunities to lead or join a team.

"My Life Impacted"

Here's what you had to say about your short-term mission trip with Impact Ministries:

All the events we did really opened my eyes to what life is like in Guatemala, and helped me grow in my relationship with God.

The children singing praises will live with me for the rest of my life.

The school visits were amazing. The children welcomed us with open arms. They made us feel special and loved.



I found the devotional times very emotional – especially as the children prayed for their teachers.

The home visits and children's ministry are really special, as we have more and more families with sponsor children. It adds a whole new dimension to the trip.

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“My Life Impacted” (continued from page 1)



The sinkhole helped me demolish fear and recognize God's beautiful creation.

I enjoyed playing soccer with the kids during children's ministry. It made me understand how wonderful God is and how much he loves the children.

What a blessing to hear each of the staff's testimonies. If I could emulate anything, it would be their humble ways in which they serve.

The debriefs really helped me to focus on the events of the day and to ask God what He was teaching me. This time also gave me more insight into the culture and the role of Impact Ministries.

I was really impacted by the teachers we met... It was so inspiring to see how much they loved and cared for the kids.

I got to meet my sponsor kid on the trip! I'll never forget the hugs she gave me and the joy she had.

The worship the kids do in the morning is incredible.



The hospital really opened my eyes to the importance of prayer and how our first instinct should be to turn to God for help. This was a theme that showed up continually for me in Guatemala.

When we went to the sinkhole, we all started singing worship songs and I felt the Holy Spirit there with us in the darkness.

I had a very great experience and I would love to come back!

I want everyone to have this experience.

Ready for your own short-term mission experience? Check out www.impactminusa.org/teams.

Medical Clinic Sponsors Needed!

Impact Ministries has established a medical clinic to meet the many needs of the students, their families and the Impact staff.



Isaias and Erica, the medical clinic staff, host medical teams that come to Tactic. In addition, when not working with teams, they provide many health services to the Impact community. Their tasks include health education in the schools, health assessments to identify children who need further intervention, vision screening and regular provision of anti-parasitic medication. Prayer is offered to all patients, and, by showing the love of Jesus many begin the journey of coming to know the everlasting love of Jesus Christ.

The medical clinic needs regular financial support to provide this care that is so essential. Another desire in this area is to be able to provide a daily multi-vitamin with iron to each of our students and staff. With 1560 students and another 100 staff you can imagine the number of vitamins that we need each year!!! If you would like to contribute to the ongoing support of the clinic consider becoming a Medical Clinic Sponsor. Go to impactminusa.org/support-clinic.

No Translators Required

Sometimes you can hear the children before you can see them...giggling, excited, running to the school yard for another afternoon of Vacation Bible School.



They know they'll get to play more games with the foreigners – maybe tag or “Pato, Pato, Ganso” or even soccer. They love these games, and the neat crafts they get to make and take home. And, of course, they love all the hugs.

Our mission teams do a great job preparing for the children’s ministry portion of their mission trip – making sure the crafts reinforce the theme and the games are easy to play. But in many ways, the mission teams are the support team. It’s the Vida students who run the show.

A few years ago, Impact Ministries started inviting Vida Junior High and High School classes to participate in the children’s ministry. As part of their class time, they now prepare the songs for worship along with the Bible stories, and they do all the actual teaching for the children’s ministry. No translators required! And the students do an amazing job.

It’s exciting to see these Guatemalan teenagers stand up with boldness as they have the opportunity to exercise their faith. Some even discover just how much they enjoy spending time with kids and sharing God’s word with them – and they feel the Lord calling them to study to become teachers because of their experience helping out at VBS.

The partnership demonstrated through the children’s ministry, with a Vida Class working alongside a mission team, is exactly what we want to see in short-term missions. We’re not here to “do for”, but to “do with”. And, while the “foreigners” head home after their time in Guatemala, the students stay, continuing on as role models for the younger kids in their communities.



Partner with these young role models by supporting one of our junior high or high school classes at www.impactminusa.org/supportaclass. Or consider coming on your own short-term mission trip at www.impactminusa.org/teams.

Partner with us in Growing Godly Leaders

Sponsor a child for \$40/month Sponsor _____ children for \$_____/month

Please make cheques payable to **Impact Ministries USA**.

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In the event gifts exceed program requirements, or a program is discontinued, funds are used where they are most needed to fulfill ministry purposes. Impact Ministries USA is recognized as a non-profit organization by the IRS under IRS Code: Section 501(c)(3); Tax ID #80-0678702. Consistent with IRS guidelines, Impact Ministries USA affirms that goods or services of only insignificant value or intangible religious benefits have been provided to you, and that tax receipts are issued annually postmarked by January 31.

A copy of the latest financial report, registration filed by this organization, and a full and fair description of our programs and activities may be obtained by contacting us at: PO Box 550, Duvall, WA 98019-0550; 617-855-5259. Impact Ministries USA was formed in WA in the year 2010. The organization has a religious exemption in the following states: AL, CA, GA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MA, OK, OR, RI. If you are a resident of one of the following states, you may obtain financial information directly from the state agency as well as on our website: CO, FL, IL, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, TN, VA, or through the WA State Secretary of State at 1-800-332-4483 or <http://www.sos.wa.gov/charities/>



Please contact me about:

- leading a short-term mission team
- participating in a mission team

www.impactminusa.org/donate

After receiving the long-awaited government approval, we celebrated the grand opening of the Vida Children's Home in July, and welcomed little Joseph, our first Vida baby! Thank you to everyone who prayed for this day. Become an Orphan Care Champion at www.impactminusa.org/orphancare.



◀ **Nine people travelled to Guatemala this summer as part of our Sponsorship Team.** They were excited to meet the children they sponsor and the classes they support, and to participate in a short-term missions experience. The 2020 Sponsorship Team is scheduled for August 6th-16th. Apply at www.impactminusa.org/teams.

▶ **Our Founder and Field Director, Les Peters has been in the United States for a few special events this fall.** He spoke at a mission conference and church services. Several churches hosted Impact Events that allowed supporters to hear of what God is doing in Guatemala through their prayers and financial support. If you would be interested in having Les speak at your church in the future contact us at info@impactminusa.org.



◀ **Have you been considering bringing or joining a Short Term Mission Team?** 2020 marks the 20th year that Impact Ministries has been serving in Guatemala and great things are planned for this year's teams. The calendar will fill up quickly. Contact us to reserve a spot for your group. For further information contact teams@impactminusa.org.

▶ **Dental Assistants Needed!** We have dentists going to Guatemala who would be in need of dental assistants to work alongside them. Interested in being matched up on a short-term dental team? Contact teams@impactminusa.org.



Serving in Guatemala

Contact Us

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