

November 30, 2010

It's been over a week since we returned from Belize and God was so good! He blessed us with the opportunity to help those in need, you answered the call monetarily, and God has blessed those gifts!

Crawford Family - Esperanza Village

This was by far the most extensive project of the trip. Liz Crawford is the mother of 6 children, living on family land next to her mother. The grandmother (I just called her "Mom") is the family matriarch, loves Jesus, and does the best for her large family, and especially her grandchildren. Liz (children's mother) has some issues that need spiritual, physiological, and medical help. Her and the 6 children were living next to the grandmother, in an old school bus (a short bus). This bus was literally rusting apart around them, and green and gray with mold. The windows would not raise and when the hurricane came through everything was flooded and ruined. (pics)



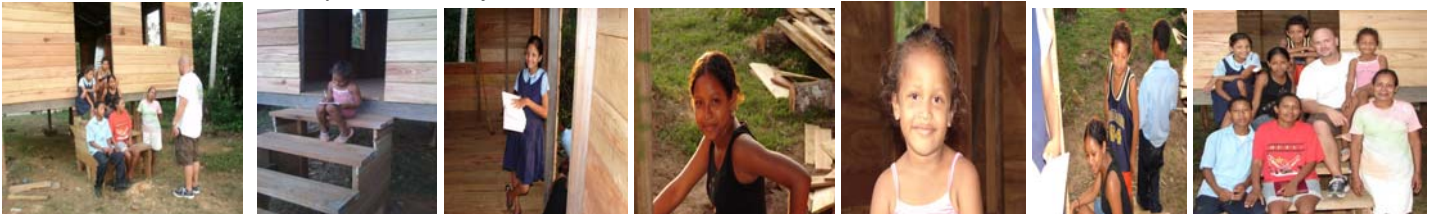
This family is from Esperanza Village, the village we have poured our lives into since 2004, and God impressed on us that this was a family that desperately needed help, and needed some hope. Over the course of a week we were able to get special pricing on wood, nails, zinc, etc. to start the construction of a new home (sleeping quarters) for the children. Using local labor, we were able to construct an 18x20, wood building complete with doors, window shutters, and screens. The kids pitched in when they could, helping unload wood, keeping the job site clean



House was constructed in 5 days. Once doors, shutters, and screens were finished, we were able to make the beds. We purchased mattresses, a months worth of food (rice, beans, eggs, non perishables), so that "Mom" could take care of the family. We were able to purchase and/or donate clothing for all of the children. The looks of gratitude from the family as they unloaded the food and opened the bags of clothing were priceless. It was such a blessing to see God work through us to be a part of a new beginning for the family.



I had a chance to talk to the family and explain to them that this was a "New Beginning" and was able to share with them about the way Christ has given us all a new beginning through him, if we accept His gift. It was amazing to be able to share with a new house as part of the object lesson!



[Belize Christian Academy](#)

BCA is a special place to me, personal blood, sweat, and tears have gone into that school. We were able to provide the funds to repair their canopy. The canopy serves as the cafeteria/ lunchroom, auditorium, and classroom. It is vital to the operation of the school. It is a blessing every time I go on the campus to see what an impact their ministry has!



[Blue Thumb Missions](#)

Blue Thumb Missions is a Christian camp run by Joe and Piper Hensley. Two of the most incredible people I have ever had the chance to meet. They truly "live by faith" and are a blessing to be around. Follow the link to their blog to get their version of what God did, when we obeyed his prompting! <http://networkedblogs.com/aBQfs>



[Unitedville Karate Club](#)

When the hurricane was coming through NEMO moved some people into the Unitedville Community Center. This is where a local church meets and a local children's karate club meets as well. We were able to purchase 15 karate uniforms and present them to the village kids, under the requirement that they would have to hear me speak for 15 minutes. I was able to share with the kids about "Being excellent! Striving to be the best!" explaining how God gave his best, and His best was Jesus. It was a sweet time of sharing with the kids! I'm always amazed at how I am blessed by being around kids and the things they share with me are reassurances from God, that we are doing the right thing. For \$150 USD we were able to bring smiles to kid's faces and share Jesus with them! AWESOME!



[Other Projects](#)

We were able to help out with numerous other projects. We were able to purchase over 100 sheets of zinc (roofing material) and nails to help 7 other families repair their homes. We did not hand out money, but merely provided the material and the families did the work themselves. Additionally, we provided food supplies to these families as needed, over 50 lbs of rice and 10 pounds of beans.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your support in these projects. Thanks to the 3 churches specifically involved in the effort. First Baptist Church - Thomaston GA, Colonial Hills Church - Southaven, Ms, and Trinity Bible Church - Aledo, Tx. Thank to all of you who donated from your heart and when God prompted you gave! We raised about \$9000 dollars in about 2 weeks. We spent about \$10,000 total on all project, including the tuition for Melanie Crawford to get back in school. Her tuition, books, uniforms, transportation, and lunch will be around \$1200 a year. This was not part of the plan, but God told us that it needed to be done, so we are doing it! If you feel like you need to give to her education, you can do so. <http://internationalsportsoutreach.com/donors.htm> put "Melanie Crawford" in the box. Once again, thank you for the support, there is no way we could have done this with out you!

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES OVER THIS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY!

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