



Tree 4 Hope

May 2021 Newsletter

Hi everyone! Unfortunately it has been a rough month for Tree 4 Hope and all of our team. As many of you know, Easter is a very important holiday in Guatemala. During normal years there are huge processions through the streets of many towns and there are festivals and parties at the churches throughout the country leading up to and especially on the day of Easter. Despite government restrictions about holding large gatherings and parties, many across Guatemala nonetheless ventured out to celebrate the holiday and the large wave of resulting COVID cases pushed Guatemala into another two-week lockdown period. Before the Easter holiday, departments in Guatemala varied widely on the government "color code" system, ranging from a few in "yellow," which basically indicated a cautious return to normal life to a larger number in "orange," and a few in "red." After Easter most departments moved into the "red" zone and the hospital system was once again overwhelmed.

A little more than a week ago, both our staff and Hogar Miguel had a COVID scare that required the government to come to the orphanage and test all of the kids and staff. Fortunately everything turned out alright but, after this incident and with the rising case counts across the country, our team has collectively decided that all of our staff will work from home for the foreseeable future. All of our teachers have become quite adept at teaching online and we are confident that the quality of education our students are receiving will not be affected by this change.



Food Distribution

Meanwhile, this past Friday we completed another food distribution. As I've mentioned in past newsletters, the need for food assistance remains very high in Aguacate. Last year we really came together as a community to make our food relief program a huge success. This year, however, donations to continue this endeavor have really slowed to a trickle. If you have a few dollars to help us continue maintaining this needed service, please follow the link here and donate now!

<https://tree4hope.networkforgood.com/projects/125842-emergency-food-relief-2021>



Flu Vaccines

Also in April, thanks to a generous donation, we were able to provide influenza vaccines to all the students and staff of Hope Academy and the Hogar. While many initially got excited thinking we had managed to get COVID vaccines for them, we are grateful that the flu is one less thing we will have to worry about this year.

In Person Fundraiser!

On a more positive note, Tree 4 Hope will be holding its first IN PERSON fundraiser in over a year! Mark your calendars for June 25th between 5-8pm and join us at The Backyard Beer Garden at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Penryn (1258 Newport Road, Penryn PA) for tasty craft beer, food trucks, live music, lawn games and camaraderie all in support of our food relief efforts! More info about the event can be found on our FaceBook page.

Upcoming Clothing Sale

The amazing Lisa Norris and Andrea Hersh from L2 Brands are once again working to design some cool new Tree 4 Hope Swag for the spring and summer. Keep an eye on FaceBook (and probably for another newsletter) for a link to our sales page!

Thank you to all of you for your continued support of Tree 4 Hope. Each and every one of you is an important part of our collective mission to care for our communities in Guatemala. Please feel free to respond to these newsletters with questions, concerns, and comments. I respond to everything personally and look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,
David Hope-Tringali
Tree 4 Hope



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