

## Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

[porchdesalomon.org](http://porchdesalomon.org)

and on [facebook](#)

Lloyd and Melanie Monroe

Founders/Directors

[dlloydmonroe@gmail.com](mailto:dlloydmonroe@gmail.com)

011.502.7762.0876

[melanietmonroe@gmail.com](mailto:melanietmonroe@gmail.com)

011.502.5285.7812

Mirna Recinos Aceituno

Solomon's Porch/Hotel California

[mirnarecinos2003@gmail.com](mailto:mirnarecinos2003@gmail.com)

011.502.7762.0793

Noe Benjamin Perez

Humanitarian Relief Director

[noebenjaminperez@gmail.com](mailto:noebenjaminperez@gmail.com)

011.502.5945.1313

Will and Amber Deeds

Assistant Directors

[wdeeds@mac.com](mailto:wdeeds@mac.com)

[amberdeeds@yahoo.com](mailto:amberdeeds@yahoo.com)

011.502.4249.9410

Lindsey Newberry

Field Coordinator

[newberry.lindsey@gmail.com](mailto:newberry.lindsey@gmail.com)

011.502.5410.6638

Rex Ware

Stateside Support Team

[rex.ware@bjpc.com](mailto:rex.ware@bjpc.com)

850.933.0344

Fred Thomson, Rebekah Aman

Co-treasurers

[fredt@tbc-cpa.com](mailto:fredt@tbc-cpa.com)

850.559.5960

[treasurerpds@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerpds@gmail.com)

850.510.1955

Tax-deductible Donations:

Porch de Salomon

PO Box 10509

Tallahassee FL 32302-2509

Or on-line

[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://www.porchdesalomon.org)

\*Short-term mission teams  
in Guatemala

\*Humanitarian relief for  
indigenous families and others

\*Solomon's Porch  
Café ministry

\*Live music outreach

\* Helping transform churches  
and individuals



# PorchTalk

Volume 115

February 2015

## SUSTAINABLE

by Lloyd

*Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together! Jesus, at Matthew 25:21 (NLT).*

Sustainability 1: the ability to endure (*Webster's Dictionary*)

Lately, I have been reading and thinking about how to increase the sustainability of Porch de Salomon's work in Guatemala. We balance the desire to be good stewards and to seek sustainability against Jesus' command, echoed by his brother John (see page four), to help those who we can, with little to no regard for merit and such.

We invite you to view our examples of sustainable ministry in this inaugural 2015 issue!

Looking back a bit, we are happy to report that our mission partners, supporters, and donors helped us close out 2014 with strong and generous donations. THANK YOU! Your faithful and generous support has sustained Porch de Salomon's multi-faceted, high-impact work once more. Please contact us now if you'd like to make a pledge for 2015—we have numerous donation opportunities and methods.

(At right) Our 2014 tax-receipt letters were mailed last month. They are tangible evidence of God's provision—through you.



Our two-minute "Two Brothers" video demonstrates how Porch's house-building efforts have helped a four-generation family sustain itself. After their family received a Porch house, Alberto and Antonio continue to mine and sell sand and gravel for our other house builds! Watch it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1BLitmjwk4>



Our Chuaxic community center was completed in December. Featuring a computer lab (thanks Diane/Steve/Christ Presb.), library room, health clinic room, and leader meeting room, it will help this indigenous village sustain itself. This building was the dream of the community's leaders. We thank all who donated and built!

**"For the lost, the least, and the last"**

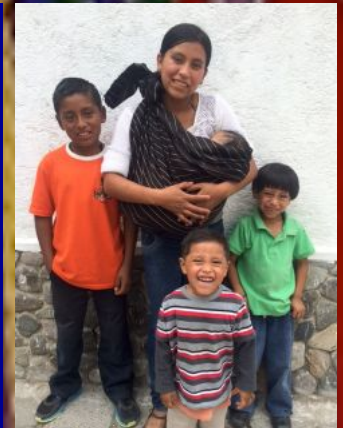




## SUSTAINABLE EXAMPLES

(Left): Porch supplied a corn-grinder for Tomasa and Juan's indigenous family, after they received a house. Juan was an experienced *molinero*; they now have a decent, sustainable income.

(Right): A modest Porch home-business grant allowed Liliam to start a home cooking business. Now, she no longer depends on charity, or her abusive husband, to feed her children.



**JOBS** for our 12 contract house builders provide a decent living for their families. (Right) Norma and Liko were unable to have children but took in little Jose Federico (3). He



was abandoned on their doorstep after being born severely disabled. (Below) Lonny and Rudy remain sober and, like Liko, are happy with their Porch building jobs (*despite their faces!*).

(Right) Nine of our beca scholarship students recently took vocational aptitude tests so that we can help them fine-tune completion of their secondary education.



Teams work under the supervision of our indigenous builders, like Lionel



### FLASH BACK

Team Olive Branch Church (IN) finished our 29-team 2014 schedule by helping build Albino and his mother's house. *Gracias!*

*Hotel California* houses our teams (and other guests!) and sits atop Solomon's Porch. It helps sustain PdS's work by recapturing over \$25,000 annually for ministry use.

We are proud of the hotel's #1 *Trip Advisor* B&B/Inn ranking in Panajachel. *Gracias Mirna y todos!*



**VOLUNTEERS** help sustain Porch de Salomon's work; they serve without salary! (Above left) Rebekah is our new co-treasurer; Lloyd and Melanie were able to catch her sterling performance in *The Marvelous Wonderettes* while on furlough. (Above right) Lindsey will serve as our field coordinator in Pana. She and Rebekah teamed up to prepare and post our 2014 tax receipt letters. *Gracias amigas!*



**SUSTAINED HOUSE-BUILDING!** *(Below)* Albino had his faith rewarded when he and his mother Cruz moved into their new house, complete with a water filter system, an Ecoplancha stove, and more. *(Right)* Likewise, Micaela and her family moved into their new house before Christmas. We thank our fall 2014 teams for funding and helping build these life-changing abodes (our eighth and ninth of 2014); they will serve these families for generations to come.



... and onward with new builds in 2015!  
*(Below):* Juana Sajvin lives alone in a leaky tin shack with dirt floors after her husband abandoned her years ago. She earns \$1.30 per day washing clothes. Her new house will include a second bedroom, which she can rent out for income.

Moises and Melchora's young, indigenous family of six *(below)* lives in a dirt-floor "house" made of cane, some blocks, and leaky tin roofing. They have no electricity or running water; the children share the family's only bed. Their new house, in Tzanchaj, will be a tremendous blessing.



**Update NEW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2015**

We are pleased to report that year-end donations (combined with earlier donations) will fund 70 of these life-changing annual scholarships (@ \$240 each). We thank everyone who donated! If you didn't, there's still time—we have several unfunded candidates. The January –Oct. term is just beginning.

*(Right):* 56 of our scholarship recipients are pictured outside our annex.





## SUSTAINED *by Jason Roper*

As I prepared for my sixth volunteer trip down to Pana, folks asked me “What keeps you going back?”

Here’s my quick list:

- \*the opportunity to see the lives of another family forever changed.
- \*the relationships with The Porch staff, other friends in Pana, and with fellow team members
- \*the look of joy on a young child’s face for the gift of a balloon animal or a bouncy ball.
- \*And if I’m honest, an ice cold *Moza* at the end of a long work day doesn’t hurt either!

But for me, it boils down to this: It fills me up. It rejuvenates me. It clears my head. It resets my barometer. Like many, the other 51 weeks of the year are filled with work and deadlines and trips and kids’ activities and...the list goes on. This one week, every year, allows me to put the other 51 into perspective: to enjoy the highs and manage through the lows; to be grateful for the gifts God has given me and to remember that there are so many who do without; to hold my girls in my arms and realize that each day with them is precious and can’t be replaced. In short, God works through each year’s trip to Panajachel to sustain me.

\*\*\*

*Jason is a husband, father, faithful UF Gator, and one of Porch’s EL Puente program leaders. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida and has been a blessing to Porch de Salomon.*



Team Outtatown (Canadian Mennonite Un.) was our first 2015 team; they brought 30 folks. They were all needed to carry up every piece of house materials to Juana Sajvin’s build site!



*But if anyone has this world’s goods (resources for **sustaining** life) and sees his brother ....in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him? 1 John 3:17 (Amplified Bible)*

### ***Porch de Salomon***

PO Box 10509

Tallahassee FL 32302-2509

[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://www.porchdesalomon.org)

and on 

**NON-PROFIT  
STANDARD  
POSTAGE & FEES  
PAID  
WACISSA FL  
Permit #1**

