

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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Or on-line

www.porchdesalomon.org

*Short-term service/mission teams
in Guatemala

*Humanitarian relief for
indigenous families and others

*Café Hotel California/
Solomon's Porch ministry

*Live music outreach

* Helping transform churches
and individuals

PorchTalk

Volume 186

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BY OUR LOVE *by Lloyd*

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

From "We are One in the Spirit" by Fr. Peter Scholtes

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Jesus of Nazareth, John 13:35 NIV

Mid-July, Porch was presented with the opportunity to install *Ecoplancha* efficient cookstoves for ten indigenous families. Smoky, indoor, unvented cooking fires, like Felician's, damage the children's lungs and eyes (*right, and below*).

We presented this \$2200 giving opportunity to the Milledgeville First UMC (GA) vacation Bible school. Brittney Schwind Lerzo, our former mission intern, leads that VBS and had requested a project to fund.



See our one-minute *Ecoplancha* video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndGq7AI6So> or at our website porchdesalomon.org.



Amazingly, the VBS children and their families raised \$7600! That will allow Porch to install 20 stoves, with ample money left over for another child-friendly project.

God be praised for Georgia folks who love enough to generously open their hearts, checkbooks, wallets, and PayPal for folks they've yet to meet. *Muchas gracias!*



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

HOUSE COMPLETED!

Porch de Salomon's new house project #136 is complete. It's a special one for special folks: our own Jeydi Mendoza, husband Leonel, and baby Suriela, up in Concepcion. The youngest of 12 children, Jeydi met Leonel (formerly one of our contract builders, now self-employed) through her employment with Porch.

We are happy for this sweet and enterprising young family; no more living in an in-law's room. We thank the donors whose generous, loving responses to this giving opportunity funded the building material, with Leonel and his family providing most of the labor. *Felicidades y adelante juntos!*



"THEY WILL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY..."

Tereza and Augustin are both illiterate; they never had the opportunity to attend school. Even though he earns only \$5.50 daily as a baker, when there is work, and she earns \$40 monthly hand-washing clothes, they put an emphasis on their six children attending school (*one not shown*).

Through the years, house recipient families, or their neighbors, have commented thusly: Porch de Salomon is the first organization they've seen, local churches included, which helps total strangers. They have trouble believing what we do.



This humble family's house is pathetic; their outhouse is shown, left, and their kitchen at right. They all sleep in three beds.

Porch begins construction of a good house for them August 9. Memorial or honorary donations (\$7500) are funding our house building in the absence of short-term building teams.

Please consider funding this one. It's love in action. Let's chat!

Lloyd





The house-building program continues with the construction of three homes. The team is researching how to build homes efficiently in remote *Boca Costa*, where families live in dismal conditions. When they are not researching and planning, they find time to grow by learning new computer skills.



PRAYERS ANSWERED

Rex Ware continues to improve from his June 7 heart attack and severe complications.

Rex has been a vital part of Porch's volunteer administrative team since 2007. Keep improving, hermano!

Love Shown: Porch Staff by *Rachael McGaha*

Greg and I have been so encouraged to witness the work of the Porch de Salomon staff this summer! Their hard work, passion, and diligence in the pandemic are inspiring. In the absence of teams, they continue to find joy in helping the lost, the least, and the last. In the humanitarian office, it was fascinating to see behind the scenes.

The school scholarship program holds students accountable for attendance and keeping grades up while also meeting other needs such as school supplies, medicine, and food. The feeding program continues to provide food and supplies for families around the lake.

These families express so much gratitude to the Porch as they pick up their food!



Hotel California and Cafe continue with their impeccable hospitality and attention to detail. They are continuously extending a helpful hand, to folks in need, with enthusiasm.

Every person on staff (*below, Noe not shown*) made us feel at home and like part of the family. What has encouraged us the most is that the entire staff at Porch has a love for people, a passion for ministry, and a longing for teams to return!

Greg and Rachael, part of our next generation leadership team, just returned to their hometown of McDonough GA after spending June and July at Hotel California, Panajachel.

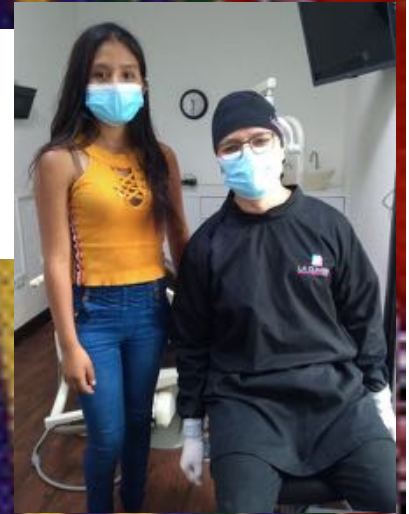


The Look of Love: Sara's Smile Progresses

Sara (15, at right with her dentist) suffered from uncontrolled grand mal seizures until Porch funded her surgery in 2018. She has resumed her schooling, through a Porch scholarship and continuing medical care, and wants to be an accountant.

Our newsletter and Facebook "giving opportunity" yielded the \$1250 needed for prosthetic front teeth. We are excited that this self-esteem builder is happening.

Thank you donors!



STAFF VACCINATIONS

God be praised, Porch de Salomon's staff received Covid vaccinations July 16.

We appreciate Mirna working her extensive community connections to arrange this. She is currently doing the same for other folks in Panajachel.

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