

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala
porchdesalomon.org

and on 

Greg & Rachael McGaha
Executive Directors

porchgregory@gmail.com
porchrae@gmail.com
678.558.3232

Mirna Recinos Aceituno
Facility/Hotel/Finance
mirnarecinos2003@gmail.com
011.502.7762.0793

Relief Co-Directors:
Noe Benjamin Perez
noebenjaminperez@gmail.com
011.502.5945.1313

Hilda Mux Son
Hilda.son03@gmail.com
011.502.4214.8501

Calvin Stephens
Treasurer
treasurerpds@gmail.com
904.321.7258

Rex Ware
Asst. Treasurer
rexware@floridasalestax.com
850.933.0344

Jayne Mittan, P.A.
Medical Liaison
jaynemittan@gmail.com
850.212.6593

Lloyd & Melanie Monroe
Founders/Directors
dlloydmonroe@gmail.com
850.688.2076

Tax-deductible donations to:
Porch de Salomon
P.O. Box 15267
Fernandina Beach, FL
32035-3105
Or online at
www.porchdesalomon.org

- *Short-term service/mission teams in Guatemala
- *Humanitarian relief for indigenous families and others
- *Café Hotel California/Solomon's Porch ministry
- *Self-sustainable micro-businesses
- *Helping transform churches and individuals

PorchTalk

Volume 225

March 2025

THE POWER OF EMPATHY

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

— Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

"Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another, and feeling with the heart of another." — Alfred Adler



Antonia and Crisla

Sparks Hope and Resilience

Porch de Salomon started construction on a new home in Solola for Antonia and her 12-year-old daughter, Crisla. The two have been without a stable home, often moving between relatives' floors or living in a small, cold shack with rainwater running through the floor. Crisla tearfully shared how difficult it is to live this way and expressed her longing for a place to call theirs. Grateful and emotional, Antonia said she had been crying out to God for a safe home and believed God was answering her prayers. Antonia used her limited funds to share snacks with everyone at the groundbreaking.



Tres Hermanos

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

Porch begins a new project in San Bartolo, Sololá. Three siblings—Osman (19), Amelia (15), and Rosa (13)—have faced incredible challenges since their mother passed away from cirrhosis four years ago, a consequence of her battle with alcoholism. Their father, Alfredo, works far away in Alta Verapaz, visiting only once a year and providing financial support when he can. The siblings lean on one another for strength as they navigate a journey marked by loss, absence, and the difficulties of growing up without sufficient support. Despite their challenging past, they continue to hope for better days ahead.

Transforms Lives

We are excited to highlight the incredible work of the FSU Audiology team in their partnership with Porch this week. Led by Dr. Selena Snowden, Director of Audiology Services at the FSU Speech and Hearing Clinic, the team provided hearing devices to those in need. They offered a profound sense of compassion and care. The dedication shown by audiologists Monica Walker, Ricardo "Ric" Gauthier, and Chelsea Alexander, alongside FSU students, helped make a meaningful impact in Guatemala, where they restored hearing and truly made people feel seen and heard.



Alberto (left), whose family recently received a new home through Porch, is now experiencing the joy of hearing again! Thanks to the generosity and support of this FSU team, Alberto, who has faced many health challenges, received a hearing device that is making a significant difference in his life.



Porch de Salomon is deeply grateful for their expertise, energy, and the power of empathy that they brought to this critical service. We are thankful for their partnership and look forward to future collaborations that continue to make a difference. If you have an idea for a creative collaboration with Porch, send us an email—we're all ears.

Soothes Emotional Wounds

Construction is officially underway for Osman (19), Amelia (15), and Rosa's (13) new home, which will provide some hope and stability after their mother's passing. Our team from Canada, Collective Togetherness, is making this dream a reality through funding and hard work. Also, the Community Bible team from Stockbridge, GA, is helping the siblings find joy in the simple moments like haircuts, shopping, and fiestas, embracing the little milestones that bring them closer to a fresh start. Their combined efforts allow this little family to build a brighter future in a safe, stable home, offering them the foundation to heal and move forward with renewed strength.



"Being a part of building a home for this family in Guatemala was a truly transformative experience. Seeing them actively participate in creating the space that will soon be theirs was incredibly moving. Despite the tough circumstances they've faced, they were full of smiles all week, welcoming us with open hearts and trusting us to build them a new home. It was a powerful reminder of resilience, community, and the impact we can make when we work together. I'm excited to see their faces when they get the keys to their new home!" — Alex Briere (photo credit, above)

Nurtures Compassion and Care

Porch is honored to have partnered with Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, TN to bring essential healthcare to rural Guatemala. A dedicated team of doctors, dentists, nurses, and pharmacists provided much-needed medical, dental, and eye care to indigenous communities facing significant healthcare barriers. Their compassion and generosity have made a profound impact, offering hope and healing to those in need. Special thanks to local dentist Dr. Angel Polanco for volunteering his time and expertise, further strengthening the team's efforts to bring care and support to these underserved communities.



During this impactful week, a total of 445 individuals were served through general medicine, 240 received glasses to improve their vision, and 160 people were provided with dental care. These services made a significant difference in the lives of many, helping to meet crucial healthcare needs in the community.



Thank you to our generous donors and supporters—your kindness and commitment make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

Helps Us See the World Through Others' Eyes

Porch is thrilled to announce the release of "Their Stories" – a unique book project dedicated to supporting Golden Years, a senior center Porch helps support that provides community, meals, activities, and more to the elders of San José Chacayá and surrounding areas.

If you are in the Tallahassee area, join Elaine Cappellino and Nancy Upthegrove for a celebration as they officially launch this beautiful collection of stories shared by individuals whose lives have a story to tell if we are wise enough to listen. This book is more than just a collection of stories – it's a fundraising effort to support the incredible programs that provide hope, care, and community through Porch. Enjoy an evening of connection with other Porch supporters, swap stories, and make a difference in the lives of those in need.



Their eyes tell a story of simplicity and wisdom; dismay and hope; vulnerability and strength. You know they have a story to tell if we are wise enough to sit and listen.

We hope you will join us as we finally get to share

THEIR STORIES

Tuesday, March 25th

6PM - 8:30PM

The Hub at Feather Oaks

6500 Miccosukee Road
Tallahassee, Florida



Thanks, Elaine Cappellino and Nancy Upthegrove, for bringing this beautiful book to life and inspiring many with "Their Stories".
Books will be available for purchase on-site, so be sure to grab your copy!
Online purchase opportunity coming soon!

Porch de Salomon

P.O. BOX 15267

Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-3105

www.porchdesalomon.org

and on 

facebook.com/porchdesalomon/

NON-PROFIT STANDARD
POSTAGE & FEES
PAID
TALLAHASSEE FL
Permit # 654

