



Education
that *transforms*

August 2023 Newsletter

[Home](#) [Donate Now](#) [Other ways to Donate](#)

Dear Friend,

Greetings to you from Guatemala! Exciting things are happening at CEDEPCA. You can read about our Disaster Ministry's new project, sign up for Intercultural Encounter's next Virtual Journey, look at the groups who have visited us, and finally, check out the calendar to see all that we have coming up.

This month's newsletter explains how CEDEPCA's Disaster Ministry has been able to work with the PC(USA) program Self Development of People to support projects that decrease poverty and vulnerability in Guatemala. Because of this initiative, 65 people were able to participate in small business ventures to improve the economic and psychosocial well-being of their families, and we estimate that 325 people benefited indirectly.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

In Christ,
The CEDEPCA Staff



A group of young men and women from UTZPAN (meaning “Good Bread”) are preparing bread to sell. Mixco, Guatemala

Poverty Reduction in Collaboration with the Self Development of People Program

Written by: Disaster Ministry Team
Translated by: Marcia Towers

“I have learned to make bread and to sell it, and with the income I have paid for my studies and I’ve helped my mother. I lost my father to COVID. My mother and I were very worried about supporting ourselves, but this project has allowed us to move forward. I am very thankful for the opportunity provided to me with this project”. Eunice Pérez (UTZPAN).



**DISASTER
MINISTRY**

The Disaster Ministry of Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA) has focused on prevention of disasters and attention when disasters do occur, with risk management and with psychosocial care. We also know that disasters do not strike equally, but often hit hardest in the areas most vulnerable because of poverty. This month’s newsletter explains how CEDEPCA’s Disaster Ministry has been able to work with the PC(USA) program Self Development of People to support projects that decrease poverty and vulnerability in Guatemala.

In Guatemala, the World Bank’s Multidimensional Poverty Measure (MPM) measures that 61.6% of the population is in multidimensional poverty. This measure considers a family in poverty if several of the following are true: income is less than \$2.15 per person

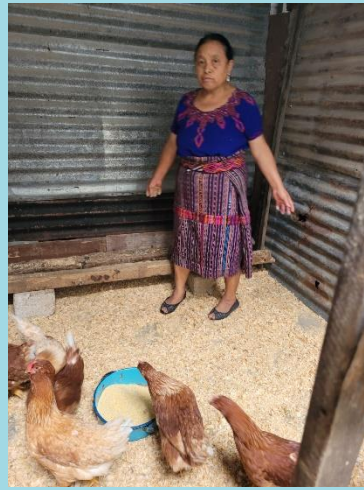
per day; at least one elementary or middle school aged child is not enrolled in school; no adult has completed elementary school; or the family has lack of access to basic infrastructure, drinking water, sanitation, or electricity. CEDEPCA, through its Disaster Ministry program, has committed to help reduce these various aspects of poverty.

To work toward these goals, in 2022-2023 CEDEPCA worked with funds from the Presbyterian Church (USA) Self Development of People program to finance four local initiatives in various communities in Guatemala in order to improve conditions of life in vulnerable and poor areas.

Sixty-five people participated in small business ventures to improve the economic and psychosocial well-being of their families, and we estimate that 325 people benefited indirectly.



Preparation and sale of bread



Chickens and egg sale



Purchase of sewing machines to sew textiles



Production of paper bags for gifts and small businesses

One project, with the photo above with UTZPAN, was to learn to prepare and sell different types of bread. A second project was to start raising and selling chickens and eggs. A third, with the quote at the end of this article, was to purchase two machines to fabricate paper bags with the logo of different small businesses, to sell to local businesses. Finally, the fourth project was to purchase sewing machines to sew designs onto Guatemalan cloth and in order to sell the final product, and to use to repair damaged clothes. [Read on...](#)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thank you for Visiting

[PEG Partners - Montreat, NC](#)

[Second Presbyterian Church - Richmond, VA](#)

[Faith Presbyterian Church - Colorado Springs, CO](#)



**"Loving your Migrating Neighbor:
Legal, Theological, and Practical Perspectives on Immigration"**



Join us on CEDEPCA's next Virtual Journey to Guatemala as we gain theological and legal clarity together and imagine ways God is calling us to act locally on behalf of our migrating neighbors. Designed for an English-speaking audience, this virtual travel opportunity will last about an hour and will be followed by an optional 30-minute Q & A with an immigration lawyer based in Texas.

How might Christians in the United States engage in advocacy and act with love toward Central American migrants in their own communities?

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

4:30 p.m. Pacific / 5:30 Mountain/Guatemala / 6:30 Central / 7:30 Eastern

Pre-registration is required [HERE](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ *Calendar Corner* ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Please keep us in your prayers as we
continue our work here in
Guatemala.*



August

- July 31-Aug 7 Covenant Pres. Church, Madison, WI
- 5 Moe Family returns from US (Itinerance)
- 13-18 ACT Alliance Migration Consultation: Ana Paxtor and Esvin Sirin at Dominican Republic
- 15 Guatemala Holiday (Office Closed)
- 18-19 Jose Encounter in Guatemala City
- 23 Intercultural Encounters Virtual Journey on Migration

September

- 7 FBT classes start (4th Quarter)
- 11-14 Institutional Auditing (First semester)
- 15 Guatemala Independence Day
- 19-22 New Masculinities Forums in Coban Alta Verapaz (IBP)
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 27 Celebration of CEDEPCA's 37th Anniversary
- 28 Guatemala ACT Forum on Gender Issues

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST



www.cedepca.org

CEDEPCA | P.O. Box 920243, Norcross, GA 30010

[Unsubscribe mary.nebelsick@pcusa.org](mailto:mary.nebelsick@pcusa.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by judy@cedepca.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

