

MAE El Salvador



2020 Annual Report

Letter from Bobby and Britney

A sweet missionary friend of ours used to set in our kitchen each morning and drink her coffee out of a mug that read, "Those who don't bend will break." The mug had a crooked handle and both the saying, and the funny appearance of the mug used to make us smile.

2020 was definitely a year of bending. Due to COVID-19, El Salvador was placed in a martial-law enforced quarantine that lasted for months. Churches, schools, businesses, and all activity came to a screeching halt. The government sent the military to the streets to enforce the quarantine and we were only permitted to leave our homes on designated days. Violators were arrested and sent to government run quarantine centers. Life, and ministry, as we knew it was suddenly gone and we found ourselves bending in ways we didn't think possible and navigating the unknown waters of responding to not only a global pandemic but the ensuing economic and educational crises that came as a result. To add to the trial, El Salvador was also hit by a tropical storm, two hurricanes, and one massive landslide in 2020.

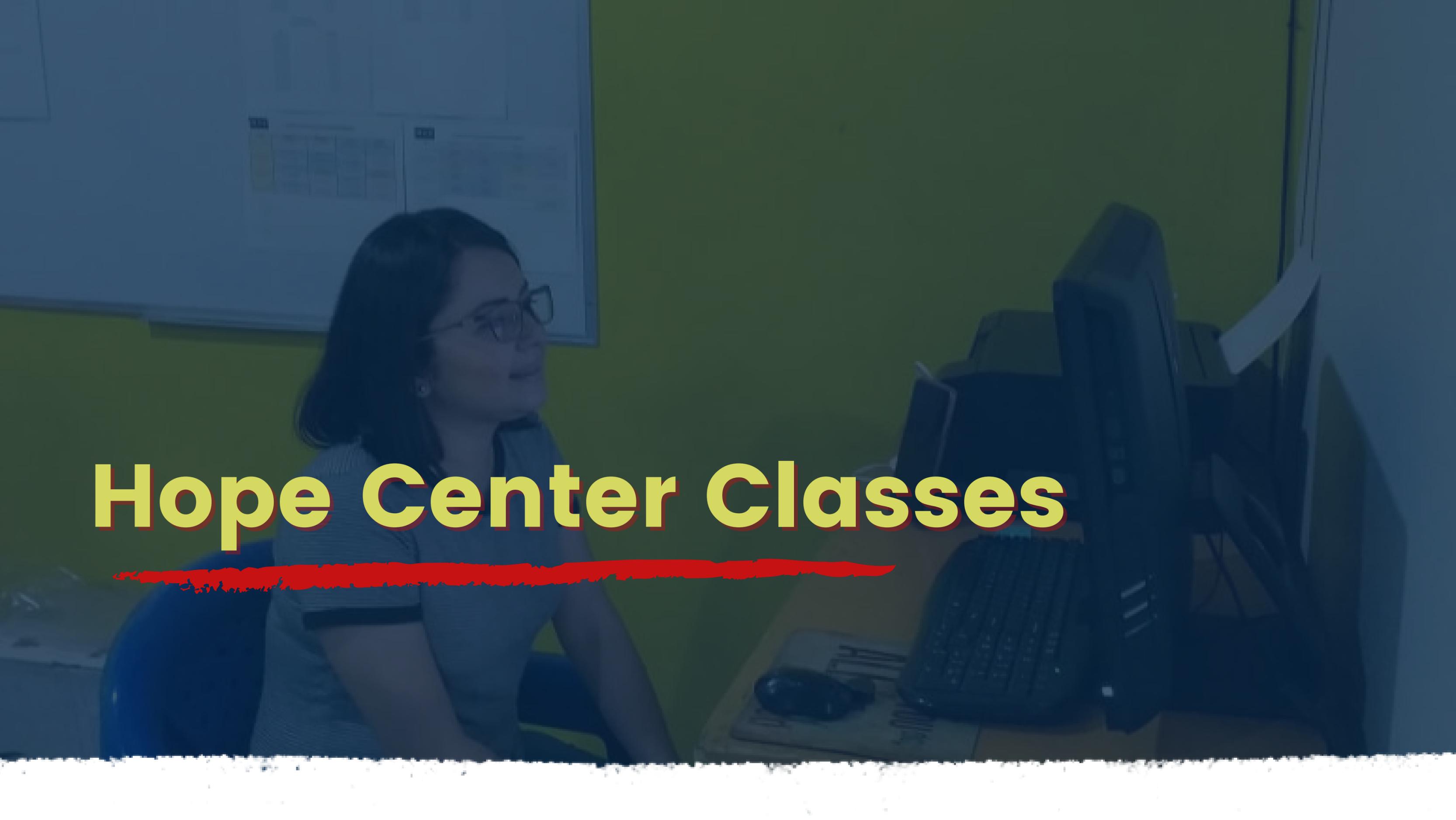
To say that God is faithful is an understatement. Genesis 50:20 reminds us that what the Enemy means for evil, God uses for good. Through God's provision and your generosity, last year we were actually able to reach more youth, offer more classes, and do more community outreach than what we have ever done. A pandemic and quarantine should have limited us, but God used it to expand our reach.

To each and every one of you who sacrificially gave, prayed, encouraged, and partnered with us last year - thank you. We truly could not do this without you. As we head into 2021 we are filled with anticipation and excitement with what God will continue to do with our partnership. In the words of the late Mother Theresa, "Together we can do great things."

Running the Race,

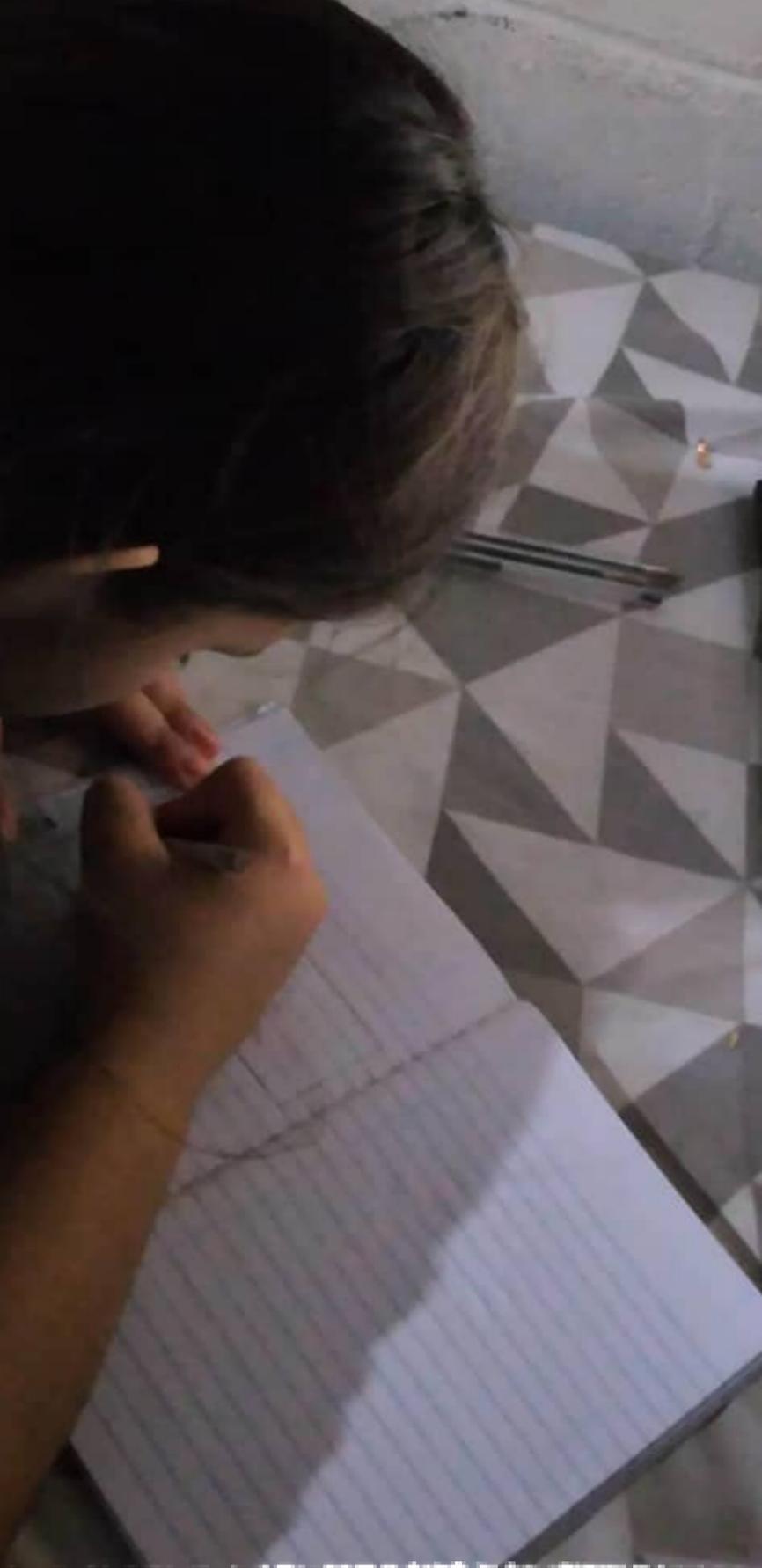
Bobby and Britney



A woman with dark hair and glasses is seated at a desk in a classroom or office. She is looking towards the right side of the frame. The desk has a computer monitor, keyboard, and mouse. In the background, there is a whiteboard with some papers pinned to it. The entire image has a dark blue overlay.

Hope Center Classes





Ensuring accessible, at-home education for children and youth



Salvadoran families already faced numerous academic challenges prior to the pandemic and then with the quarantine and economic impact of covid-19, those challenges were greatly magnified. Because of the quarantine, we were forced to close all of the classes in the Hope Center and redesign our program. This time of crisis forced us to think outside of the box in how to continue providing the much needed tutoring classes to students who were neither accustomed to virtual learning nor did they have the necessary resources (computer, wifi, data plans, etc).

After a lot of trial and error and several brainstorming sessions, we were able to not only redesign our program, but actually expand it! Previously, our tutoring program was only open to students 9 years old and up but in light of the growing need for tutoring help, we were able to expand and offer tutoring to students from 1st to 9th grade. In addition, we also provided tutoring in 5 subjects: math, language arts, English, social studies and science. Simultaneously, we were able to expand our leveling program for youth and adults who had dropped out of school and needed to finish their studies.



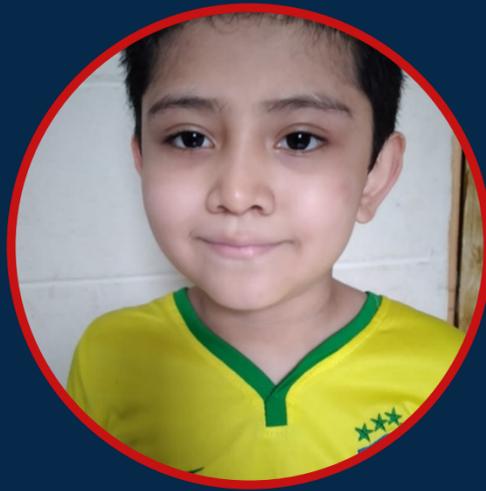
Providing resources for online learning

Most of the students in our education programs do not have wifi in their homes. In addition, due to the quarantine and job loss, many of them did not have the resources to purchase data packages for online classes nor were they able to purchase necessary school supplies. In order to combat this problem, each of the students in our program received a weekly internet package which allowed them to take our online classes. At the same time, they also earned points through class attendance and homework completion that they were able to use to "purchase" school supplies. Although the pandemic brought some big unexpected changes to our Hope Center classes, the trial has actually allowed us to improve and offer an even bigger and better program as well as continue serving the youth of the community during the crisis.

"There's a better way to do it - find it." . Thomas A. Edison



Testimonials



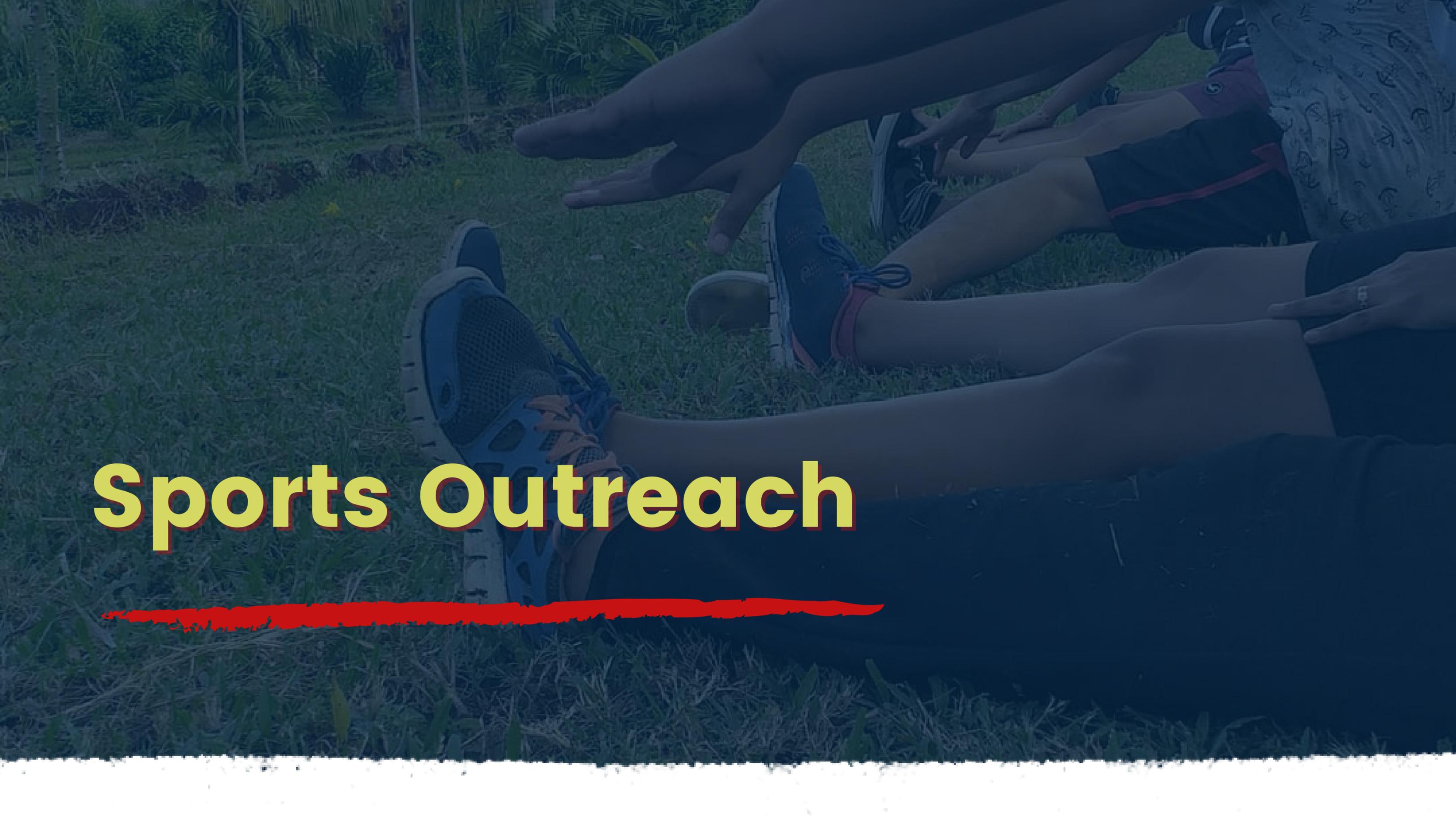
Mother of Manuel Alejandro - 9 years old

The tutoring classes have helped my son and increased his confidence. They have also awakened his creativity and desire to learn. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to your daily work.



Zulma Yamileth Carcamo Alvaredo

The online classes have had a very positive impact on me because I am now able to continue my studies. It is very easy for me to receive classes at home and it is also beneficial as I no longer have to travel from one place to another. I would love to thank MAE El Salvador for providing this opportunity.



Sports Outreach



Sports Outreach

Due to COVID-19 and the mandatory quarantine, our sports programs were suspended for six months in 2020. During this time, however, our sports director engaged with our youth virtually by creating workout videos and also encouraging some friendly competition through several video challenges (push up challenges, soccer tricks, etc). In October we were given permission to begin opening our sports programs once again and we gradually worked up to a full, five day a week schedule. Sports have always been very important in the lives of our youth, and with the quarantine of 2020 the need for physical activity and social interaction is now more important than ever.

We currently offer the following sports activities to youth in the community:



Biweekly Soccer Practice



Biweekly Running Club



Weekly Softball Practice



Weekly Basketball Games

A photograph of a cardboard box filled with various food items. In the top left corner, there are several boxes of 'Dona Blanca' instant noodles. The rest of the box is filled with large, clear plastic bags of rice. The word 'Benevolence' is overlaid in the center in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font with a red drop shadow. A red brushstroke underline is positioned below the text. The background is a dark, blue-tinted image of the box's contents.

Benevolence



Emergency Relief



A several month martial-law enforced quarantine left thousands of Salvadorans without the ability to work. For those living hand-to-mouth, the inability to work meant the inability to eat. Families began placing white flags outside of their homes to show they needed food. To add insult to injury, El Salvador was hit by Tropical Storm Amanda, 2 hurricanes, and 1 massive mudslide leaving dozens dead, hundreds displaced and countless without hope. Thanks to your generosity, MAE El Salvador was able to spring into immediate action and provide help and relief to hundreds of Salvadorans in the following areas:

1000

Hot meals served to disaster rescue workers, victims, and families

800

Baskets of food distributed to our youth, their families, and the community

\$977

Financial aid to cover the cost of medicine and exams for victims of covid in the community

Emergency Home Repair



The natural disasters of 2020 destroyed numerous homes and left others badly damaged. MAE El Salvador was able to help four families with significant home repairs.



Pedro's House

Tropical Storm Amanda left the wall in Pedro's kitchen cracked and damaged. He feared it would fall on his wife of 50 years. MAE was able to rebuild the wall and this sweet couple now enjoys a safe and dry home.



Julita's House

Heavy rains had left Julita's home in need of numerous repairs including a new roof, flooring, and wall repair. Thanks to the work done to her home, 83 year old Julita is now able to sleep safely in her own bed.



Carlos' House

A massive mudslide ripped the garage door off of Carlos' home and filled it with several feet of mud. MAE was able to replace the door so that Carlos and his family once again have a safe place to live.



Marcela's House

Marcela's home suffered extensive damage from the mudslide and needed repairs to the walls and doors. MAE was able to replace her doors and the youth also repainted the exterior helping Marcela's family to have a fresh start.

Church



Staying connected and continuing to provide spiritual teaching and support during the quarantine

Crazy hat day, beach day, dress as your favorite Bible character day...these were some of the theme days that we held during our online services during quarantine. Due to Covid, our in-person services were suspended for six months in 2020 forcing us to move everything online. We were challenged to not only move all of our services and discipleship online, but we also wanted to provide encouragement, support, and add a spark of fun to our youths' lives during the crisis. We responded to the challenge in the following ways:

-  Holding our Saturday services online and adding creative theme days to encourage fun and help break the monotony of quarantine
-  Adding a weekly online prayer service for youth to gather, connect, and share in a time of prayer together
-  Broadening our discipleship groups to not only include online weekly meetings but we also offered more in-depth studies that included daily readings, activities, videos, group book studies, and daily thought questions.
-  Extending our one-on-one discipleship program to include more youth. The program was moved online and MAE leaders increased the number of youth they met with individually via video call each week.

OCT 10

After 6 months of closure, we resumed in person church services on Oct. 10th, 2020



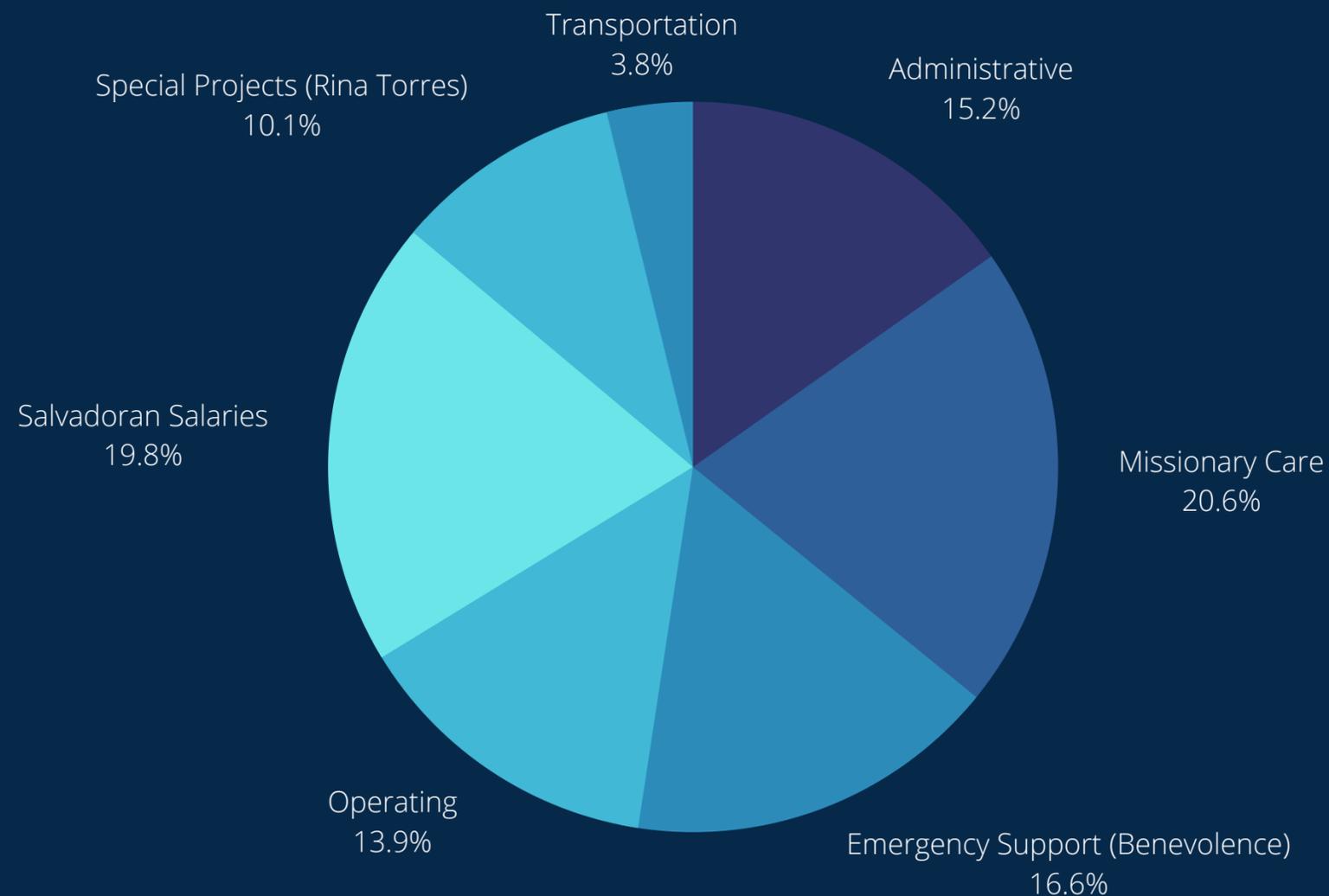


Budget



Financial Highlights

We are so incredibly grateful to our partners who continued to sacrificially give during very uncertain times. Due to the pandemic and natural disasters we had many unforeseen expenses but God met every one of those needs in an abundant way. To each one of our financial partners – THANK YOU! You aren't just giving a donation, but rather are making an eternal investment in the lives of those we serve.



MAE El Salvador received a total of \$121,490.46 in donations in 2020.



Of the total amount received in 2020, \$17,147.31 was raised for the expansion of the educational program in 2021

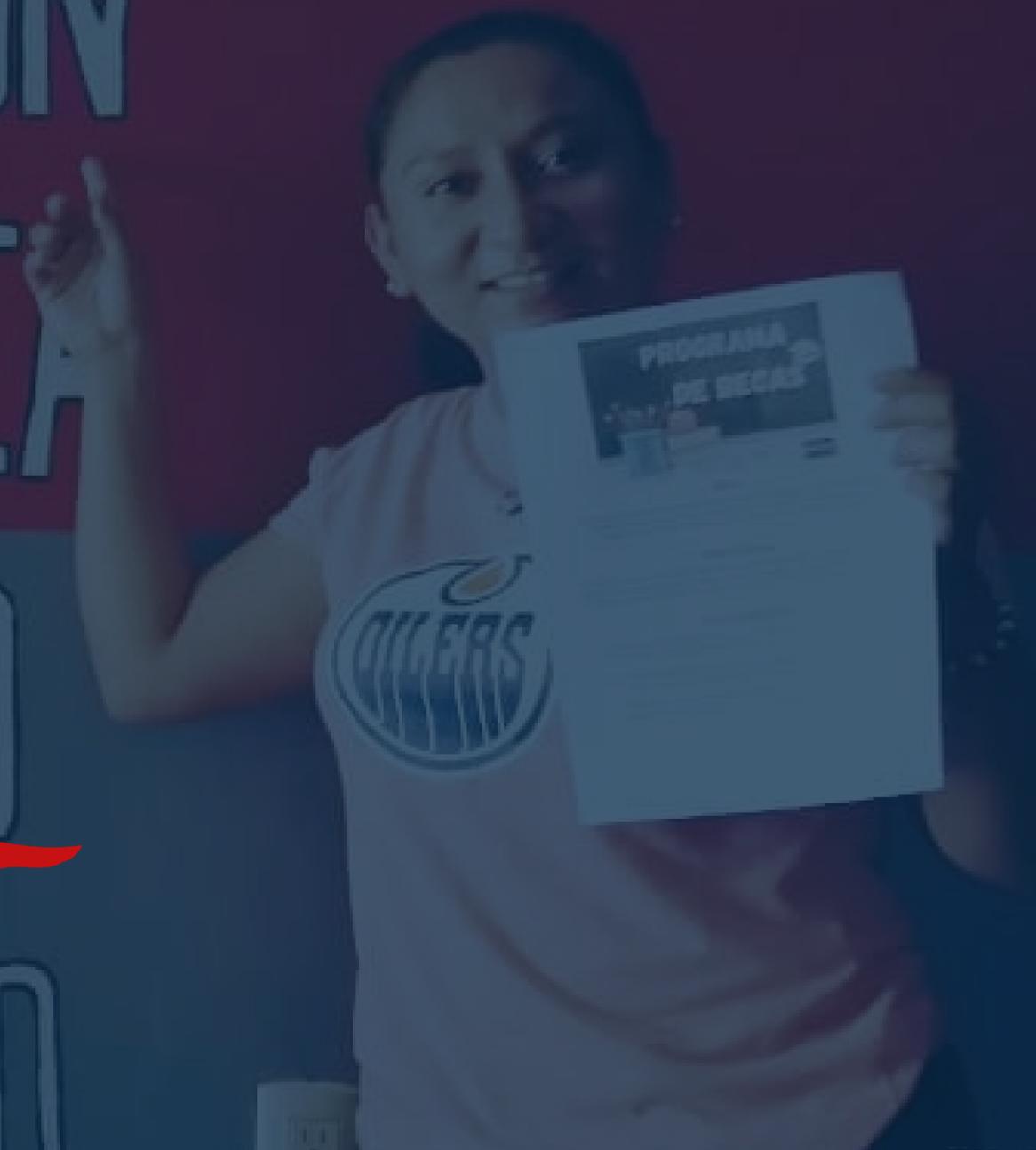


Four different Salvadoran ministries donated gifts-in-kind for emergency relief in 2020



In 2020 MAE El Salvador had 102 different donors from 2 different countries and 18 different states including Puerto Rico

The Future





Looking Ahead to 2021



The trials of 2020 caused many to fear what the future may hold. But for us, it only fueled our passion and expanded our vision. Now more than ever we see the importance of reaching Salvadoran youth for Christ and restoring hope to their lives. Our goals for 2021 include:



Expanding our tutoring program by hiring an additional teacher and offering more classes and resources to students



Launch a scholarship program for youth



Hire a social worker in order to help us better care for our youth, their families, and the community

Our Dream

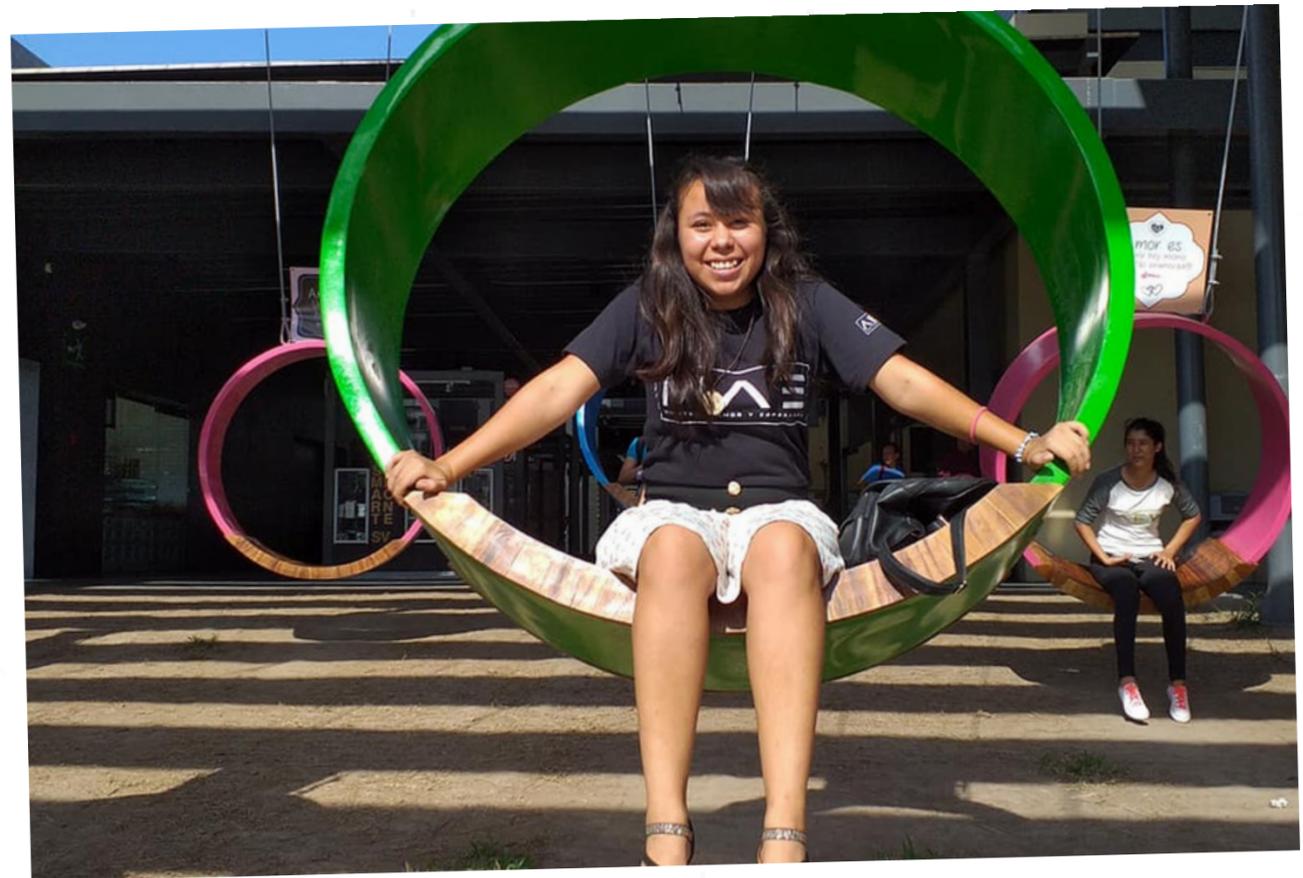
Perhaps the biggest, boldest, dream that we have for 2021 is to purchase land to build our ministry center. For years we have dreamed of purchasing a piece of land and building a ministry complex – one that is complete with sports fields and lots of classrooms and workshops where we can offer countless opportunities to youth. But, most of all, we dream of it being their safe place. A refuge. Salvadoran streets are dangerous and for some of our youth, home isn't a safe place either. We want to give them that place. A place where they can come, be encouraged, discover a new skill and learn that they have a Father who loves them deeply. A place where hope can be restored.

What is your role in restoring hope?



Would you like to play a pivotal role in restoring hope to youth? Do you want to make a difference but don't know how? Check out our list of 10 ways you can get involved and make an impact no matter where you're at in the world!

1. **Pray** (Join our prayer group!)
2. **Spread** the word
3. **Share** our page on social media
4. **Host** a fundraiser
5. **Give** a one-time gift
6. **Collect** in-kind donations
7. **Become** a monthly partner
8. **Assist** with administrative tasks from the US (newsletter mailings, etc)
9. **Invite** your church to become a partner
10. **Come** to El Salvador and serve alongside us!



LEARN MORE AT

www.maeelsalvador.org

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 **[@maeelsalvador](https://www.instagram.com/maeelsalvador)**

 **info@maeelsalvador.org**

Fearlessly reaching the forgotten youth of El Salvador with Christ's love, restoring hope to their lives, and discipling them to become mature and responsible adults, leaders of healthy families, and authentic followers of Christ.