

#### MAE EL SALVADOR 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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### A NOTE FROM THE HIBBS

I swallowed hard as the lump in my throat began to form. I watched as \*Diane walked slowly away, head down, hair gently blowing in the warm afternoon breeze. We had just shared lunch together and now I was dropping her off at her home. I sat there for a moment taking everything in, wondering if this would be the last time I would see her. In 10 days Diane would board a plane for LA to begin a new life - a dream she had treasured since the day I first met her. It was 10 years ago that she showed up at a Saturday service with her infant son in her arms. A confused teenage mother with no parents to guide her, I quickly took her under my wing. She soon committed her life to Christ and I accompanied her on her journey. We celebrated birthdays and processed hurt and loss. We prayed, served, and even occasionally engaged in a healthy disagreement. She was a hard worker and eventually made her way up to assistant manager of a local restaurant. All the while, she dreamed of one day going to LA. On February 7th her dream finally came true.

This past year has been about the pursuit of dreams. About discovery. From launching our new scholarship program, to the relaunch of our music and literacy programs, to visiting new places and embracing new youth, we have had the joy of watching and helping youth reach the dreams that God has placed in their hearts.

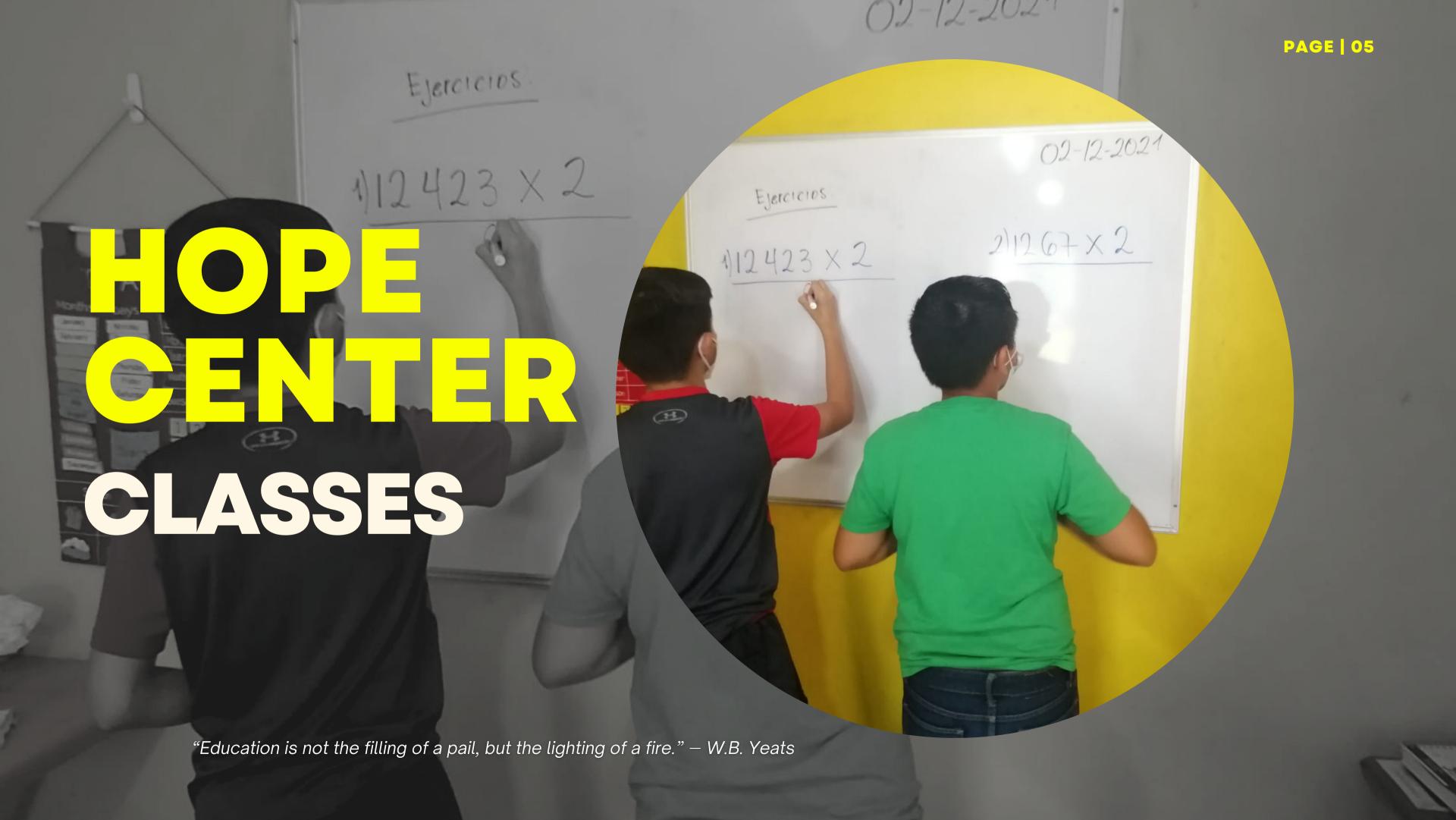
I spent years discipling Diane and my last words to her were reminders of who she is in Christ. She has roots. I had taken her under my wing and now it was time to let her spread her own.

To those of you who have accompanied us on this journey. We thank you. May we continue to raise up a generation firmly rooted in Christ and confidently prepared to spread their wings and soar.

Bobby and Britney Hibbs







## \* EDUCATION FOR ALL

On April 7th, 2021 we were ecstatic to restart our Hope Center classes once again. After a year of only being able to offer virtual classes, we were finally given the green light to begin offering in-person classes once more. Although we were now able to meet in person, we made the decision to continue offering virtual classes as well. Why? Because we were able to reach so many more youth! During the quarantine, our newly formed online classes began to fill up with youth who lived far away from our ministry center. We even had students from Italy and Panama! It is our desire to provide educational opportunities to as many youth as possible, no matter where in the world they live, so we continued to make virtual classes an ongoing part of our class schedule. In addition, we were thrilled to add three new teachers to our Hope Center team in 2021 as well as restart our music classes. The Ministry of Education also approved the relaunch of our literacy program. To end the year, we offered our largest summer school program to date. With over 21 different classes ranging from sign language to cooking to computers, there was something for everyone.

It is our desire to remove obstacles and provide excellent and life changing educational opportunities to as many youth as possible. We seek to fulfill this in three ways:









### FREE CLASSES

With the exception of three of our summer school classes, all classes in the Hope Center are free of charge. Classes are offered to a variety of age ranges with a virtual option whenever possible. In 2021, we offered classes to over 200 students in the following areas:

- TUTORING
- LEVELING
- LITERACY
- MUSIC
- COMPUTERS
- CRAFTS

- SIGN LANGUAGE
- COOKING
- JEWELRY MAKING
- READING/WRITING
- PAINTING
- ART







## TESTIMONIALS



"MAE helped me to finish my studies when I thought I could no longer continue. They extended a helping hand so that I could better myself and, as a result, have more job opportunities. I am grateful to them for everything."

MARLENE DIAZ,
HIGH SCHOOL LEVELING PROGRAM

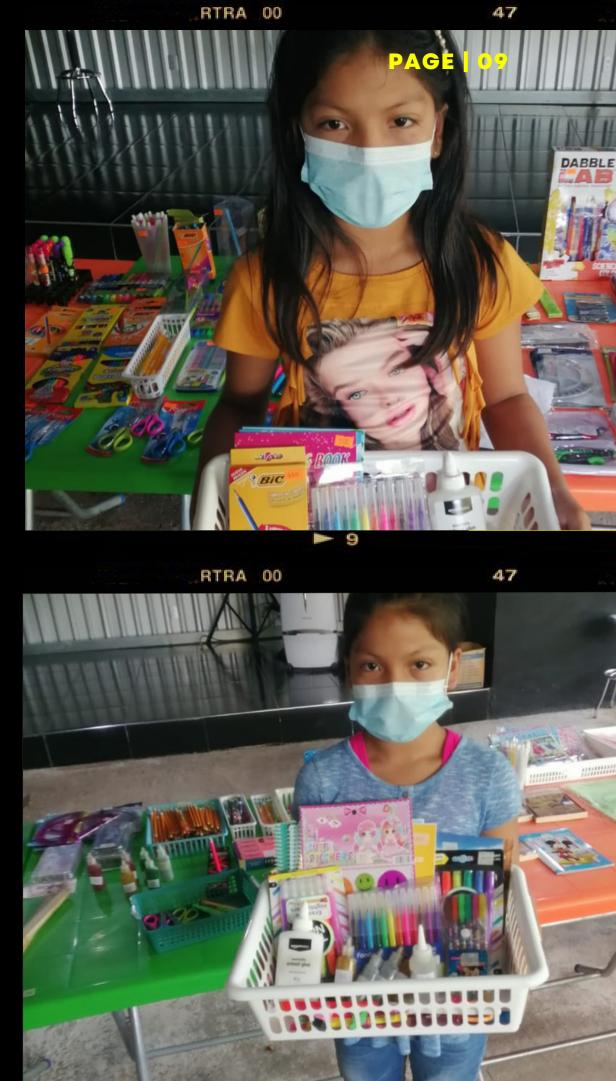
"I am very happy and grateful to MAE for the opportunity they give to people like me to continue studying. I am also grateful to the Ministry of Education and teachers for their support. In addition, I am super happy that MAE now offers high school classes; an opportunity I don't want to miss. For many years now I have wanted to continue my studies but hadn't been able to. Then, through a friend, I learned about this program and now, here I am, fulfilling a dream that had once seemed far off. Thank you, MAE."

#### SILVIA DE JESÚS SALAZAR, 6TH GRADE LEVELING PROGRAM



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND DATA PLANS

Most of the students in our education programs do not have wifi in their homes. In addition, a struggling economy due to Covid closures and job loss meant that 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 receives a weekly internet package which allows them to take our online classes. At the same time, they also earn points through class attendance and homework completion that they are able to use to "purchase" school supplies. It is our desire to remove as many obstacles as possible so that our students can have educational success and ultimately reach their dreams.





#### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



As part of our mission to restore hope to Salvadoran youths' lives, this year we were excited to launch our scholarship program. Candidates filled out an application and each were interviewed. We wanted to hear about their dreams and aspirations and how we might be able to help make those dreams possible. In total, six educational scholarships were awarded in 2021. In addition to educational scholarships, we also helped six youth obtain their driver's licenses. The cost of obtaining a driver's license in El Salvador is \$200. With minimum wage only being \$360 a month, the dream of getting a license can seem unsurmountable for most. We wanted to change that. Statistics show that higher education and having their license will open up more opportunities for their lives. But, this is so much more than statistics. These are dreams coming true.



EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2021:



TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED IN 2021:

\*3 UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS
\*3 LANGUAGE ACADEMY
SCHOLARSHIPS

\*6 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DRIVING ACADEMIES AND LICENSE FEES



With the quarantine and virtual education, the need for physical activity and social interaction is now more important than ever. In 2021 we were able to not only return to a full in-person program but also include additional activities such as soccer tournaments and family softball Saturdays. The MAE running team also participated in three road races during the course of 2021. We have a part-time coach who runs the program 6 days a week and we currently offer the following sports activities free of charge to youth in the community:



**RUNNING CLUB** 



**SOFTBALL** 



SOCCER







#### ON THE MOVE

At MAE El Salvador our goal is to help our youth grow spiritually, emotionally, and physically and we believe that getting outside is a great way to do it! From rural mountain hikes, to swimming in cool streams, to sunny days at the beach and family movie nights, we have been on the move with our youth over the past twelve months. In addition to our full-time sports program we offer regular activities and outings to get our youth moving, fellowshipping, and just having fun.

DID YOU KNOW THAT MORE THAN 80% OF THE WORLD'S ADOLESCENT POPULATION IS INSUFFICIENTLY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE?



In 2021 we took our youth on 5 different outings which included: the beach, Bicentennial Park, La Cinquera National Park, Morazon overnight hiking trip, and the botannical gardens.



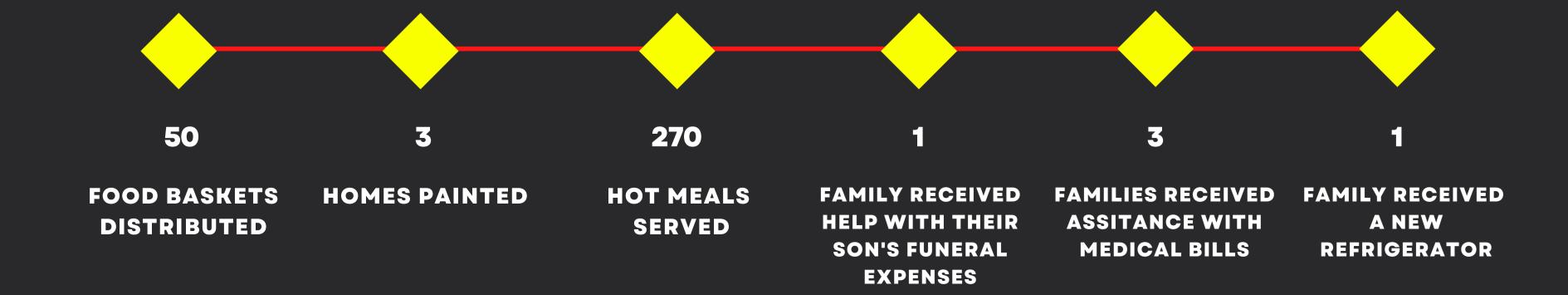
In addition to the outings we also held 3 community movie nights and one family game night.





In 2021 we continued being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community by meeting not only the spiritual needs of our neighbors but also by helping to meet their immediate physical needs as well.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide help and relief in the following areas:



### PROVIDING A NEW HOME

Since 2015 MAE El Salvador has been involved in the life of a very special young lady named Rina. When we first met Rina she lived with her family in a dark home made of mud and sticks. Because of her addiction, Rina's mother often left her daughter unattended for days. We had made several failed attempts to help the family but alas Rina's mom said that she no longer wanted to care for her daughter who suffered from Cerebal Palsy and needed complete care. After much prayer and searching, the Lord revealed to us a Christian family that was willing to take Rina in and make her part of their family. It's been 6 years since Rina moved into her new home and she is now thriving. MAE El Salvador continues to support Rina by providing assitance in the following areas:



**MEDICAL CARE** (MEDICATIONS, **PHYSICAL** THERAPY, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ETC)



**NUTRITION** (FOOD, **VITAMINS, AND SUPPLEMENTS)** 



**NURSING ASSISTANCE** (SUPPORTIVE AND **RESPITE NURSING** CARE)





## WEDOWHAT WEDO

Whether it's our sports outreach, educational classes, or activities and outings, everything we do at MAE comes down to one thing: reaching youth for Christ. Our deepest desire is to fulfill the Great Commission of making disciples, baptizing, and teaching youth to live a life of obedience and surrender to Christ. This is not only our mission, but the mission and standing orders for every believer no matter where you live.

Each Saturday afternoon we hold our main worship service in the Hope Center. The service is filled with worship through singing as well as by hearing and learning how to apply the Word of God in our lives. The service time also includes planned activities and games to help the youth connect with one another and increase their fellowship.

In addition to our main Saturday service we also hold a midweek prayer service as well as weekly group and individual discipleship. We believe our greatest calling here in El Salvador is to create disciples of Christ and discipleship is truly the heart of our ministry. Although there are many ways to disciple, we believe that small group and one-on-one discipleship is the most intimate and effective.

It all comes down to reaching youth for Christ.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

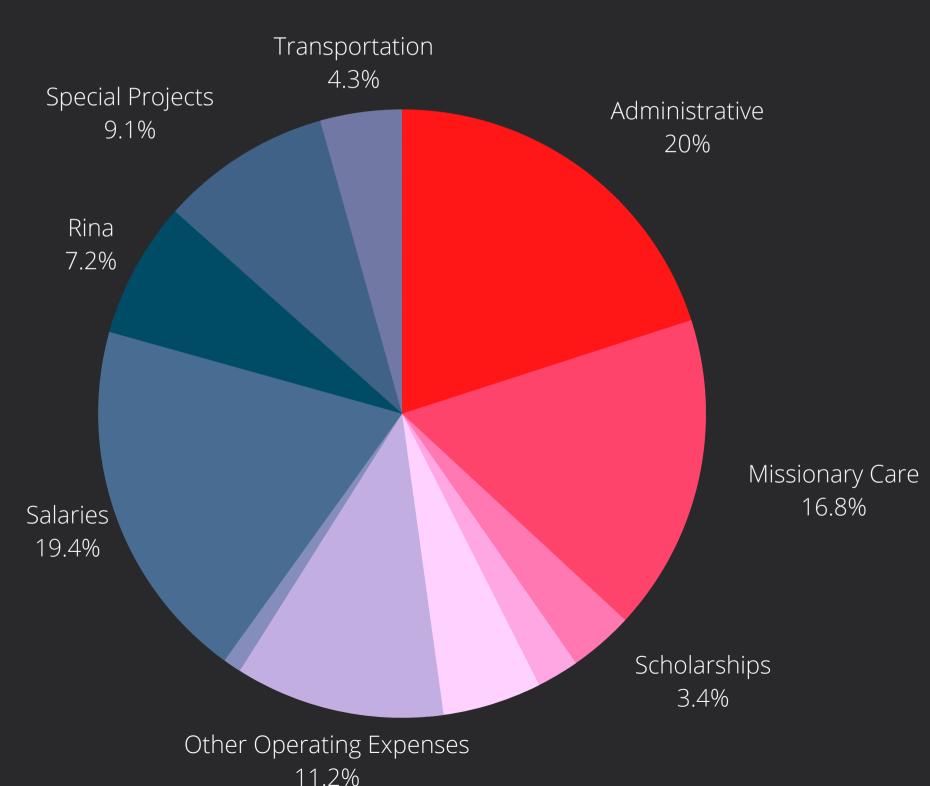
- In 2021 there were 7 leaders involved in our one-on-one discipleship program.
- Approximately 75% of our regular youth meet with a leader each week for one-on-one discipleship.



#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

We are so incredibly grateful to our partners who sacrificially give to the ministry. To each of you - THANK YOU! You are a critical part of the ministry and our lives. You aren't just giving a donation, but rather are making an eternal investment in the lives of those we serve.

- From April through December 2021, MAE El Salvador received a total of \$158,749.58 in donations.
- Donations were received from 77 different donors in 16 different states including Puerto Rico. In addition, MAE also received its first community grant.
- Prior to 2022, MAE El Salvador's fiscal year ran from April 1st to March 31st. Beginning in 2022, the fiscal year was changed to a calendar year.



# THE



"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." ~ Corrie Ten Boom

### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022

At the beginning of this report we shared with you the story of \*Diane. In fact, today as I was writing, she messaged me to give an update on a new job she started in LA as well as a class she is taking. 2022 has brought tremendous change to her life. Change that hasn't been easy but has also been filled with excitement as she nervously and ambitiously pursues her dreams.

Like Diane, we too are embarking on a new journey in 2022.

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.

Like Diane, this year we will begin pursuing our dream. However, this really isn't our dream. It's Jaime's, Noe's, Gabby's, and Marcela's. It's the dream of every youth we currently serve and will serve in the future. It's God's vision and we hope you will be part of it.

Over the coming months we will be sharing more details on the land purchase and how you can be part of making this dream come true. For those of you who have journeyed with us in some way over the past 15 years, we truly thank you. If you would like to join us, welcome. Together may we continue to fearlessly reach the forgotten youth of El Salvador with the love of Christ.





## 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!

