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VOZ NUEVA

GIVING A NEW VOICE TO THE CHILDREN OF GUATEMALA IN ORDER
THAT THEY MAY "PROCLAIM WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE."
PSALM 118:17

STROLLERS AND STANDERS AND WALKERS OH MY!



This newsletter is a publication of Jennifer Giesemann, Speech

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For Jennifer Giesemann's Guatemala Mission Fund*

As a speech therapist in a third world country, my job description can be much wider than what it would be in the States. I recently was looking for specialized equipment for Monica, the new girl with cerebral palsy, and Juan Carlos, the other little one with CP. So I called a missionary friend,



Dick, who works with organizations that provide wheelchairs and other equipment for children with disabilities. I asked if he could come see them to fit them for the equipment they needed. He came up right away and measured them. He also said he knew about a stroller that was

specialized like a wheelchair for Juan Carlos. His mother was very excited! To my surprise and delight, Dick called the next day and said he had found exactly what we needed for both kids. He brought them up and fixed up a stroller and stander for Juan Carlos



and two different walkers for Monica. They could not have fitted them more perfectly! This was a huge blessing from God to both of these families. Juan Carlos' mom will not have to carry him on her back as much, and Monica can now improve her walking and hopefully walk on her own soon!! Thank you to Dick Rutgers and everyone else who contributed to giving these children these gifts!!

Support Group News: Building Trust

The women's support group continues to go well. We have had approximately 8-12 mothers in attendance each week over the past 3 months. Our meetings are twice a month for approximately an hour and a half to two hours. These women like to talk! There are some things that don't change across cultures! Sandra and I have created rules for the group to maintain confidentiality and build trust among the mothers. This is something in their society that is not always very common. We want them to feel like this group is a safe place for them to express their feelings and feel supported by each other. This is something that may take awhile as they do not easily trust people in general. Last session, we allowed the women to tell their stories of how they realized their child had a disability. This was hard for many of them. Many tears were shed, but I think they felt relieved to be able to share their struggles and have that burden lifted from them. These women are all in different places in their journey with their children with special needs. Some have many years of experience, and others are just starting out. So, meeting these women where they are at will be a challenge for us. We plan to talk next week about the goals they have for their children and how they can help their children accomplish these goals. Please pray for Sandra and I and the mothers as we walk this difficult path together and learn about God's purpose for each one of our lives here in Guatemala! Thank you!

