

SimplyHelp El Salvador

February 2016

Vice President of the General Assembly of El Salvador, Dr. Norman Quijano, presents SimplyHelp with a Certificate of Recognition for their ongoing efforts in his country.



Taiwan Ambassador Andrea Lee, Tina Bow, and General Assembly V.P. Dr. Norman Quijano pose with the eight members of the SimplyHelp New Jersey delegates who joined Tina on this trip.



In this baking school in San Salvador, unskilled mothers learn a trade. This effort towards sustainability is one of the keys to improving the quality-of-life in the poorest areas of the country.



Former First Lady Dona Elly joined with SimplyHelp to distribute food and clothing to the poor in the community of La Libertad, El Salvador. SimplyHelp has been a long-time partner with the former First Lady on a number of social projects.



SimplyHelp always makes a special effort to bring toys and gifts for the children on these distribution trips, as these types of treats are rarely seen in the poorest communities.



The Mayor of La Libertad, Miguel Jimenez, joined with SimplyHelp on this distribution, which aided 150 poor families.



The SimplyHelp volunteers were invited by First Lady Margarita Villalta de Sanchez to the Presidential Palace for a special recognition ceremony.



Ambassador Lee and First Lady Margarita Villata de Sanchez pose with samples of the many items donated in support of the First Lady's social programs for the poor.



Elda Ortiz, the wife of the Vice President of El Salvador, took the SimplyHelp volunteers on a tour of the ISNA training center in San Salvador, which aids poor, abused and orphaned children toward obtaining a quality education and vocational skills.



SimplyHelp donated suitcases to the ISNA center for the students who complete the program and are ready to move on to jobs in the private sector.



Low-income parents await donations of food and clothing in the city of Lourdes, La Libertad, El Salvador.



Pastor Soto, Tina Bow and Mayor Guillermo Gonzalez
address the appreciative crowd.



SimplyHelp volunteers unload and stack the truckload of donations for distribution. 150 poor families were selected to receive food and clothing on this day.



After the distribution, many of the women that received goods were seen walking home with the bags balanced on their heads. Life is a daily struggle in this area that most of us can't even imagine.



Some of residents from SimplyHelp Senior Center #1 in Lourdes, La Libertad, El Salvador. Their heartfelt greetings make all the effort worthwhile.



On the left is Senior Center Manager Elizabeth de Flores, who has managed three of the centers since 2004. She is much loved by the seniors, and her efforts are greatly appreciated by the SimplyHelp Foundation.



Celebrating the visits by sharing cake and juice with the seniors is a treat that they really enjoy. Since everyone seems to know the song “Happy Birthday to You”, the visits usually end with a rousing sing-a-long that the seniors get a great kick out of.



The group also visited Senior Center #4, which was donated and is supported every year by SimplyHelp's New Jersey chapter member Grace Juei-Hua Wang.



SimplyHelp recently shipped commercial-duty washers and dryers to all five centers. These are invaluable, as numerous loads are done on a daily basis.



The Computer Training School in Zaragosa, La Libertad, helps low-income students learn valuable skills for the future. SimplyHelp assists in this effort with the donation of computers.



Senior Center #3 is the only center that was not purpose-built, but was a large house that was converted. In the foreground is one of the many wheelchairs that SimplyHelp has supplied, not only to the Senior Centers, but throughout the country.



A very special treat on this visit was the batting of a piñata, which the more spry seniors attacked with amazing gusto.



Center #3 Manager Claudio Martinez, Pastor Soto and nurse Wilfredo Climaco. This is the only center with a full-time nurse, although SimplyHelp would like to have one at each center.



Cohutepeque Mayor Rosa Serrano de Martinez addresses the crowd at the City Hall, where low-income families assembled for a distribution of food and clothing.



150 Cojutepeque families received much-needed donations from SimplyHelp. The volunteers from New Jersey were a great help on all the distributions.



The final distribution location on the trip was to the draught-stricken town of Jiquilisco. This town's fishing economy was devastated by a 30-foot tidal wave that destroyed much of the waterfront and boats.



Tina, Mayor David Barahona Merroquin, and ambassador Lee addressed the crowd, who gave a warm welcome to SimplyHelp. This was the largest distribution on the trip, servicing 200 local residents.



A grateful mother and her daughter receive the much-needed supplies, which included clothing, flour, corn meal, beans, rice, and other food items.



Vice-President of El Salvador Oscar Ortiz showed his appreciation to the SimplyHelp volunteers by inviting everyone to his home to personally express his gratitude.



Video footage of distribution setup.



Video footage of distribution.

