

WAY-BI (HOUSE OF DREAMS)

I just had the most incredible two weeks of my life! It all started in January 2012 when my brother in law asked me to volunteer as translator for a group of volunteers that would come to Guatemala to help construct a hospice for children with terminal diseases called Way-Bi (House of Dreams).

Even though I did not know what I was up for I said yes to this calling. Little did I know what I was going to experience. I had the privilege of meeting an extraordinary group of human beings that worked harder than I could imagine; and they did the work for FREE! They just poured out their hearts for others!

I was motivated and inspired by them and was eager to join them working. I got myself a paint roller and started to paint. I got a shovel and started to trench holes for the "zapatas" (footers). I did not know what the footers were for, but it made no difference.

I really didn't realize I would become part of their family called Mission of Love, but fortunately I DID :).

Back in January I enjoyed working side by side with excellent people I learned so much from all of you. I learned how to be a better person through giving without expecting anything in return.

During that trip, Kathy promised she would send an Airlift with construction and educational materials, medical supplies, clothes, toys and corn. She said she would send a large plane full of Love. To our surprise it was the biggest airplane in the US Airforce! It was a C5 Galaxy filled with Love.



Locally (Guatemala) we organized a group of volunteers to help on the day of the airlift. We also were able to borrow several trailers, 3 forklifts and a warehouse to store all that was received.

The day of the airlift (17th of March) we had lots of fun! The team of volunteers worked all day long (from 8 am to 12 midnight). Young and old people, from different ways of life put all their effort on receiving a plane load of love; and they were very successful!

The journey did not end there. We then continued at the warehouse (which was so full) to sort and order all the things. We found several desks and chairs for the schools and lots of medical supplies for the Metropolitan Hospital. We found tools for the hospice construction and clothes and toys for the people of Tecpan! A group of 15 people spent their Sunday helping to get everything that was needed.

Monday was also a very productive day as we used the trailers to transport all that was going to be used by the Mission of Love volunteers at Tecpan!





The 21st of March we started the second construction journey that we had together with Mission of Love volunteers. We met another great group of people at the airport and where able to start "compartiendo" (sharing) while having lunch at Metropolitan Hospital. There we were introduced to another part of Way-bi project that is the Bocalan Program which will promote Animal Assisted Therapy to benefit people with special needs.

After a short tour throughout the hospital, we headed off to Tecpan. In Tecpan, lots of work was waiting for us. We divided the volunteers into 3 groups. Some welded and painted the metallic beams, another group cut metal plates and welded them to the footers to use as base for the beams and the last trenched a hole to construct a support wall. It was hard work, but everyone did it with joy and enthusiasm since we all knew all the work was for a higher purpose. A purpose of God!



Reflecting what these past weeks have meant to ME (what did I get back from this whole experience?) Well... I have to say that I got MUCH more than I was able to give. I learned about myself, patience, love, family, caring, giving, sharing and about understanding others needs.

Thank you GOD for allowing me to be part of Way-Bi and Mission of Love!

Love and Gratitude! EDWIN (wiwi)