



IDENTITY MISSION NEWSLETTER

WHAT IS AHEAD IN 2020 FOR IDENTITY MISSION?

TARA GARCIA, IDENTITY MISSION CEO AND CO-FOUNDER

This month, all of the Identity Mission staff gathered together for a two-day planning retreat. It was a productive time where we were able to reflect on 2019, unite in our common mission, and set clear goals for 2020.

I want to share some of those goals with you in hopes that you will join us in praying and trusting the Lord that His hands will be upon each staff member and that He will take each plan and adjust and mold it to be His perfect will for our work here in Honduras.

Some highlights from our 2020 goals are:

- To engage and partner with the community through more local, Honduran pastors and churches to support local foster families and children and the movement as a whole. Our strategy to build our reach in this area is by establishing recruiting teams. Current staff members are taking on the responsibilities of improving our recruiting methods of both foster families and supportive partner churches!
- To improve on our organizational structure, this year, we are establishing the new position of regional directors for the Comayagua and San Pedro Sula regions. This is a role adjustment for current staff members that will now oversee office and administration needs in their region, as well as continue in their current role. Douglas Barahona will be our Regional Director in the Comayagua region, and Erica and Stephen Switzer will oversee the office in San Pedro Sula.
- We are embarking on the large endeavor to establish a system of monitoring and evaluating our services and programs. We want to ensure that every one of our programs is effective and accomplishing their purposes.



- Another monumental goal for 2020 is to fine-tuning our platform for training and the training sessions we offer. In foster care, that will be finalizing our foster family training manual and adding new topics to our current provided areas of training. We are also planning to offer new training to our local authority members, such as judges, police officers, etc. that will bring light to the life of a vulnerable child and best practices in responding to their needs.
- Finally, thanks to all of the generous partners and advocates for vulnerable children and families, we're planning to double our efforts in both foster care and family preservation.

While our entire team is committed to seeing and striving toward 2020 being the best year yet in serving here in Honduras, we also believe that Jesus has already FINISHED the work ahead of us. And we are so grateful that you are walking it out with us!

HOW YOU ARE FULFILLING THE MISSION AND VISION OF IDENTITY MISSION!

TARA GARCIA, IDENTITY MISSION CEO AND CO-FOUNDER

Whether you are new to advocating for vulnerable children and families with Identity Mission or you have partnered with us since the beginning, we want you to consider these mission and vision statements to be your personal mission and vision for serving vulnerable children. *Know that if you are praying, advocating, donating, or supporting in some capacity to the work of Identity Mission, you are just as much meeting the needs and providing solutions as the Identity Mission team in Honduras. **Your role is absolutely crucial!*** That is why, in 2020, we are eager to provide you with the tools necessary to be a strong voice that fights for the right of every child to grow up in a family.

You can and should pass on the knowledge to others that globally: **80 years of research proves that orphanages harm children. 80% of those children living in orphanages have a parent that, with support could raise them, and that despite this information, 8 million children worldwide are still growing up in orphanages today.** But, you have chosen to change these statistics by aligning with Identity Mission as we work to implement family-based care solutions for orphans in Honduras. **As you know, Identity Mission fights orphanhood by #1-implementing a formal foster care program and #2-Preventing orphans altogether through the Family Preservation program that partners with struggling parents and provides solutions to prevent separation of the family unit.**

You have chosen to make your stand in Honduras, and honestly, if we all would advocate and fight for the right of a child to grow up in a family from wherever and with whomever God has connected us, then we could truly see the day that orphanages are no longer the primary answer for a vulnerable child, that biological families receive the support they need, and that there are enough caring, Christian families to fill in the gap and to care for children when they do have to be separated from their families. **If we each do our part, then together, we can reach the ends of the earth with the solutions needed to end the age of children growing up without a family.** *What more can we do to equip you in this fight? Let us know today! We are here to equip you in your journey of carrying out this mission and vision as well. Thank you for walking with us!*

OUR MISSION

IDENTITY MISSION SUPPORTS VULNERABLE CHILDREN
BY PROVIDING FAMILY-BASED CARE SOLUTIONS
ALONGSIDE THE LOCAL CHURCH

OUR VISION

TO SEE A NATION WHERE EVERY CHILD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY
TO DEVELOP THEIR IDENTITY IN CHRIST WITHIN A LOVING FAMILY

MEET OUR NEWEST STAFF IN HONDURAS!



WELCOME ABEL!

Abel is our new social worker for Identity Mission. Abel has a bachelor's degree in social work and a master's degree in social intervention. We are thoroughly fortunate to have him join our team and share his expertise in social work. He has previously worked with vulnerable youth and assisting in development for justice among communities.



WELCOME ERIC!

Eric is the the new Family Preservation director for the Comayagua region. About a year ago, Eric began to feel the call of the Lord on his life to lay down his work in industrial engineering and work in the field of ministry. We are very pleased that he found his calling within Identity Mission and that the Lord brought him to us. We believe that his passion to serve coupled with his strong foundation from learning in seminary, along with his many other giftings will truly equip him for this position.

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