

GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP REPORT

July 7–14, 2018

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Kids Alive International (KAI) Oasis residential home is located in San Lucas, Guatemala -- about 7,000 feet above sea level and known as the land of perpetual spring, reflecting cool temperatures. Oasis is a safe haven for Guatemalan girls rescued from child labor and sexual abuse. At Oasis, Christian house parents oversee a loving, safe, living environment for the girls, who all bear scars of exploitation. They receive nutrition, health care, education, and trauma-focused therapy. Healing is integrated into a Christ-centered framework through the leadership of Guatemalan and North American Christians. Legal support to pursue justice on their behalf is also offered.



This was Valley's third trip to Oasis. Our team of eight people, ages 20 to 60, all had a keen desire to serve the Lord. We worked on crafts, meal preparation, construction, and painting projects, and also provided child care. Each morning began with a team devotion centered around Philippians 3:12-14. These were led by various team members and included lively discussions. The days concluded with a team member sharing his/her spiritual story and prayer concerns. The team bonded together as we described God's redemptive work in our lives.



Sunday: We attended Iglesia Galilea. Despite the language barrier, it was a precious experience to worship God with this indigenous church body. Once back at Oasis, we enjoyed time with the girls in crafts and athletic activities.

Monday: We visited with Cathy and Jay Fredlund, from Connecticut, who just completed language training to be KAI missionaries in Guatemala. This was followed by a presentation from Oasis Director Corby Dukes. Later, we visited with the girls. In the evening we sorted supplies and gifts we had brought from home.



Tuesday: We divided duties to efficiently use our manpower for nursery care, cabinet-building, and painting. We were also blessed by several missionary testimonies.

Wednesday: we attended the girls' midweek worship and Bible teaching session. We saw the transforming work of Jesus in the midst of brokenness and trauma.

Friday: We traveled to Antigua, where we saw historic sites and shopped. We returned to Oasis and split up to visit six different residences for the evening meal. The highlight was participating in activities with the girls in their own living spaces. God's love broke through the language barrier.

Saturday: We arrived home tired but grateful for the chance to serve the Lord. Our lives will be forever touched by our experiences.

Would you like to bring encouragement to these precious girls, national leaders, and missionaries? Join Valley's team next summer, July 6-13, 2019. Find out more at valleycommunity.cc/trips.




REACHING

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

IN SHORT-TERM MISSION
ACCREDITED
MEMBER