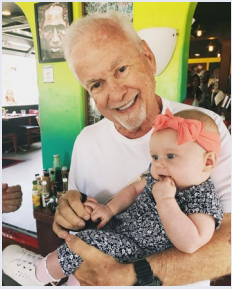


**Hi COC Friends,**



*George with Alyssa's first baby, Cora*

Carol asked me to write something for this newsletter and the moment she asked I knew what I wanted to say and I hope she prints it. I'm writing about Carol herself. I met Carol and her young family years ago at Ocean Hills Church at an alternative Halloween night. I was a pastor there and we became instant friends. Especially bonded with sweet daughter Alyssa and we are still close. The church gave me an important job that night; I ran a booth to see how high you could pile Oreo cookies, I made sure Alyssa won.

Carol worked for me in the early stages of COC. Awesome to work with. She and Terry, her husband always made me and COC look good. We started mission trips to Mexico in 1998 and we would have been taking a team to Sayulita this November but had to cancel naturally. We have rescheduled that for June 17-21, 2021.



*George and Veronica*

Because I became older than dirt, Carol took over COC several years ago. She is amazing along with her working Board of Directors, who are all close friends. I still help her as much as I can with planning and logistics and can hardly wait for 2021. Some of the team members have been on almost every trip mainly planting churches or serving current church's to grow. We have given away thousands of glasses, family photos and more, all the while sharing the gospel. One of my favorite things is blessing the orphanage in Bucerias, Veronica the director is definitely the right woman for the job.

In closing, Carol is the brains behind this ministry, growing it during these hard times. Carol, thank you for letting me share.

*Pastor George Wakeling*

Pastor George Wakeling

**TIJUANA PARTNER UPDATE:  
 MEXICO RED**

Because of Covid, Keith and Maya didn't know if they would be able to restart their school. They have now happily received permission from the government. Their students include children from Mexico, Central America and Haiti, and they are offering Secondary Education this year too! (This can save an adolescent child from getting involved in the sex trade!)

There are several reasons why this school is vitally important. First, it is one of the only viable education opportunities for high-risk children in North America's largest sex trade area. Second, and **most importantly**, **all the children will have an opportunity to hear about Jesus and learn to be His follower.** Third, this school acts as a filter to investigate and take action for children who are being abused, trafficked, and/or neglected. **Over a dozen children and single mothers have been extracted from prostitution, abuse and exploitation because of the existence of this vital school.**



**CHRISTMAS HOPE PROJECT**

\$15 to feed one family \$150 feeds 10 families

[circleoc.com/christmashopeproject](http://circleoc.com/christmashopeproject)

**UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS**

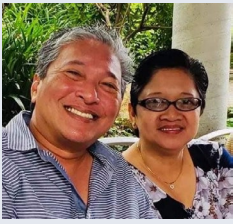
**SAYULITA, MEXICO:  
 June 17-21, 2021**

Learn more at  
[circleoc.com/outreach](http://circleoc.com/outreach)

**GUANAJUATO, MEXICO: Week after Christmas 2021**

**Build a Playground • Change a Community**

# HERO SPOTLIGHT: EMIL & G REYES



Carol first met Emily & G at church and realized right away they have such a heart for people and for sharing the Gospel. They founded the Christmas Hope Project which COC has become the conduit for the last two years. Christmas 2019 was the 12th year and over \$15,000 was raised with 100% all given away to needy families in 11 locations, in 7 countries. Groceries, blankets, socks and more. Working with local pastors in each country and location, the gospel message of hope was given and the true meaning of Christmas celebrated. We look forward to doing this again with G and Emil for Christmas 2020. I hope you can be a part. Recently I asked G a few questions, to hear their plans:

## *Has Covid19 affected your plans for The Christmas Hope Project 2020?*

Our plans have not changed as far as our mission is concerned: to feed those in need physically, spiritually and to allow them to celebrate the birth of Jesus. If COVID has any effect on that will depend on our partner churches and ministries in the countries we serve. If quarantine or travel restrictions are in effect, volunteers may not be able to buy groceries. Even if they can, distribution may be an issue. But, we will proceed as we have been doing the past 12 years. We will raise money and donate it to churches and organizations that God will use to bless the needy. Should there be some limitations and end up not giving away some of the funds, our plan is to have Christmas in July 2021.

## *What partners do you work with and what are your hopes for CHP?*

COC is our major partner. Last year, we partnered with churches and non-profit organizations from 7 countries (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Cuba, Philippines, USA, and Honduras). This year, by God's grace, our hope is to add a new country or at the very least, new churches,

## *Recently, you helped a single mom in the Philippines that touched my heart and COC was able to help. Can you tell me how you met Christine and how you have helped her?*



In November 2016, I took 18 members of my family to a vacation on what is considered one of the most beautiful island resorts in the world: Boracay. I didn't want it to be just a leisure trip, I made sure it was also an evangelism mission trip. So I had shirts printed with the words "PRAYER WARRIORS" and we set a time to walk along the beach and shared the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Christine was the front desk clerk of the hotel where we stayed. She was one of those who heard the good news and received the gift of salvation. I heard her story about being a single mom of 5 kids, one has epilepsy. So when I came back to the US, we started communicating and whenever she'd need it, I would send help. When I realized she just kept asking for money, I thought I was not helping her by paying for their needs. That's when the lesson of not giving fish, but teaching her to fish came to mind

and with the help of some friends (including COC), we were able to empower Christine to start a home business of cooking food and selling frozen meals. My heart is full because of people like you who immediately responded to a need.

## WAYS TO DONATE

### DONATE ONLINE

Donations can be made securely online at [circleoc.com/donate](https://circleoc.com/donate)

### USED CARS

Used cars can be donated to Circle of Concern. Call 1-855-500-RIDE.

Your giving goes directly to help those in need. We love to help single moms, widows, children in need and those ministries who are impacting their communities physically and spiritually.

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