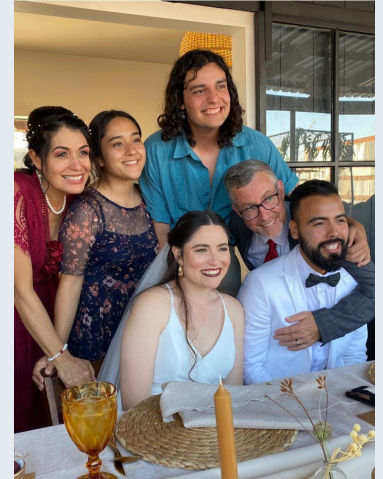


Dear COC Friend,

This past August we were blessed to join the Durkin family in Tijuana to celebrate the marriage of their daughter Misha to Julian.

It was a wonderful day and Terry's and my first time in Mexico since the pandemic! George Wakeling was with us too. Terry captured this photo of the whole family at the reception. AJ, Keith and Maya's son is engaged as well and will be getting married soon. His fiancé, Eveling is on staff with the Durkins' ministry. She runs the day to day operations of the school in Zona Norte the Durkins started several years ago.

We have known both Misha and AJ since they were just little kids. It's such a blessing to see them grow and become such amazing adults, following the Lord and serving Him. AJ and Eveling will be joining the Circle team for the Arandas, Jalisco playground build at the end of the year, which will be such a blessing for me personally.



Zona Norte, Tijuana School and Feeding Program

Since the Pandemic, the Durkins' ministry in Tijuana has expanded to having an elementary and secondary school for Mexican and immigrant children. The immigrant and refugee population that comes to Tijuana continues to swell in hopes for asylum state side. Over 25 volunteers help 3 days a week in the feeding program and they've added two more full time workers to help with teaching, feeding, logistics and social work. We love partnering with this ministry that makes it possible to educate, feed and rescue children!

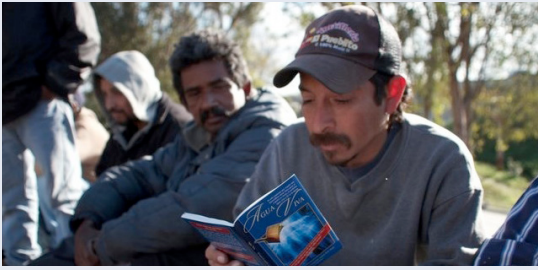
There are several reasons why the Zona Norte school is vitally important. Firstly, it is one of the only viable education opportunities for high risk children in North America's largest sex trade area. Secondly, and most importantly, all the children **will have an opportunity to hear about Jesus and learn to be His follower**. Thirdly, this school acts as a filter to investigate and take action for children who are being abused, trafficked, and/or neglected.

Along with running the school, there is also ministry given to those who are living in this very notorious area of Tijuana. Home to prostitutes, drug addicts, alcoholics, refugees and more, the needs are great. About 3,000 meals are being given out freely every month. As well people are loved on, prayed for, and relationships built. This is truly the work of the Gospel being lived out. **We look forward to bringing COC teams to serve with Keith and Maya in 2022.**



Arandas, Jalisco, Mexico • Playground Update & Need for Bibles

Our playground build for December 2021 is really coming together! We have raised the funds for the playgrounds thanks to some very generous gifts. We are building the team, have booked flights and are solidifying our plans. We may have some partner COC churches in Mexico joining us for the outreach which will be such a win. We are hoping to be able to not only



install the playgrounds but also do some local ministry with the community. I asked our partner, Donald if there was anything their ministry needs, and he said **Bibles**. I'd love to bring 100 Bibles with us. Each one costs about \$5, and we will need to pay for a checked bag or two on the plane. I also want to get other ministry supplies, especially for children.

2021 is going fast! My hope is that you have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season... full of family and friends.

Yours Truly,

Carol DeGraff, *Executive Director*
carol@circleoc.com

Can you help bring Bibles and Children's Supplies for the Arandas Playground Build? Mark 'Arandas' on your check or visit circleoc.com/playgrounds

All gifts of any size are greatly appreciated!

HOPE BEYOND BORDERS UPDATE: HELPING A KAZAKSTAN HOSPITAL

BY HUGH MARGESSON

It is not uncommon for us to find fault with the medical care in the United States. We lament the cost. We might complain about Medicare or the Affordable Care Act. One thing is for sure, the treatment offered for our ailments, the care we receive in our hospitals, the expertise of doctors, nurses and support staff is among the best in the world.

The Hope Beyond Borders team has been exposed to the often desperate or lacking of care and resources in many countries throughout the world. Recently, we were made aware of the critical medical needs in faraway Kazakhstan.

We knew nothing of the medical situation in the city of Semipalatinsk and the needs of the local hospital, called Zhan-Yer Medical Center. One of our team educated us about the area. *We learned that it was the primary area that Russia did nuclear testing in the 1950's and 1960's (more than 150 above and below ground nuclear detonations). We learned that the local population still experiences serious health problems as a result of the nuclear fallout.* We learned about the critical supply needs at Zhan-Yer Medical Center. Hope Beyond Borders has been blessed with an abundance of medical supplies from numerous hospitals and our team has recently completed filling a 53 foot container of medical supplies for the Zhan-Yer Medical Center. We look forward to its arrival to the hospital and the lives that the supplies will make a difference for.

Learn more at circleoc.com/hopebeyondborders



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