



La Ceiba Update

Over the last 9 months the area surrounding our clinic in La Ceiba has seen some dramatic changes. Gang activity has increased in the area and safety has become an increasing issue. As you know, a young leader in the church in La Ceiba, Brian Rosales, died when he was caught in the middle of gun fight in January. Since then there have been some ongoing problems. Earlier this month Dago Irias, the pastor of the church we partner with in La Ceiba, began receiving extortion letters. The threat grew and it quickly became evident that if he did not pay the lives of his entire extended family would be at risk. With the support of other leaders in the area, Dago and his entire extended family were moved from town to a safe and undisclosed area. They have been there for a few weeks now as plans were made for what to do next. He and his family are now going to be relocated again for 2-3 months while they pray and seek guidance for their next step. All of us at Total Health would ask that you please pray for their continued safety and for guidance regarding their next ministry assignment.

Despite these ongoing dangers, the church, clinic, children's program, and housing ministry

are all ongoing. Other leaders at the church in La Ceiba have stepped into Dago's role and are carrying on all the work that is being done. The workers at Salud Total have not missed a day and the needs of the poor in the surrounding area are still being met. We are working with the local leadership to try and provide all the safety we can for the clinic. There are clearly risks still existing for the people there, but they have not received any threats to this point. We would again ask you to pray for all the workers still in La Ceiba.

While these issues will make it more complex and a little more expensive to do the work we are called to do, we at Total Health are fully committed to continuing to support Salud Total. When violence like this occurs the people that are most vulnerable are the very poor. They have no means to escape the danger and no resources to protect themselves. It is these people that we are so committed to helping. Providing for basic needs like healthcare, housing and food can make a lifelong difference.

This is where all of you who support Total Health change so many lives. We are fortunate



The Irias Family

to have the organizational structure that can continue to care for those in need, even when the surrounding area is seemingly falling apart. But, we can't do that without your help. You have all been so faithful in providing hope to desperate people and we have seen so many lives changed for the better. Please help us to continue this work.

We will have two upcoming needs that you can help with. Dago and his family have lost everything (it was not safe to take anything more than the clothes on their backs when they left). They will need temporary financial support to get re-established. We will also have additional security costs for the clinic. If you would like to help you can send a check to "Total Health" at the address below or you can donate on our web site at www.totalhealth.org.

Managua update

The medical clinic in Managua is quickly coming up on it's one year anniversary. We are really excited to see all the growth that has occurred in such a short time. Dr. Walter Bonilla and Cesar (our nurse at the clinic) are seeing patients daily and watching lives begin to change.

The clinic is located within a small neighborhood in Managua just a short distance from the church we partner with. Just like in Honduras,

our goal to is become part of the community. Providing ongoing primary care in one community allows to us develop relationships with the people there and help with not only their physical needs, but also the spiritual and psychological needs. There is simply no better way to prevent and treat diseases, provide education, and improve life choices than to live along side people, caring for them on a daily basis. As health care providers we

are better able to understand their problems and communicate solutions. Our patients are also much more likely to work cooperatively with us if we have taken the time to truly know them.

Thank you to everyone to has helped to make this ministry possible.

Coming soon: 3rd clinic site!

At our board meeting in January, Total Health committed to begin development for a third clinic site. We will be working closely with leaders from our partners churches (GCLA) to help choose a location. We hope to have a site chosen in early 2013. Stay tuned...

If you would like more information about [Total Health](http://www.totalhealth.org):

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