

**PRAY AMERICA  
MANOS DE JESUS**

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**Special points of  
interest:**

- Get to know Ron under  
STAFF STORY
- Meet Michelle and her  
family under HOUSES  
FROM JESUS
- See how many kids are  
being fed by the ministry  
under FEEDING PRO-  
GRAMS
- How you can help the  
widows and orphans of  
Chichi under MINISTRY  
PRAYER REQUESTS

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# Chichi Chatt

August 2008

## Staff Story

Meet Ron Morin ...

Most of you know Ron as the face of Pray America. Ron has been serving Christ in Central America for over 20 years. He has been active in the current work in the Chichicastenango area for almost 5 years. This began in response to a call the Lord placed on his heart to reach the next generation of Guatemala.



At age 68 Ron seems to have more vision and passion than many of us possessed when we were 28. This is evidenced by him leading the ministry into its most recent, and largest project, Monte Flor, again as a response to the Lord's call on his heart. We are sure there is more to come...

Though Ron's most visible work has been in developing the feeding and discipleship programs, his most significant, though less visible, gifting is in the area of prayer and healing. Ron has been an intercessor for one cause of Christ or another for

over 30 years.

Whether the initiative was uniting churches in the city of Lansing MI, providing relief to hurricane victims, seeing miraculous healings in South America, building an orphanage in Guatemala City or creating feeding programs for children and widows in Chichicastenango – the foundation has always been the same – prayer. So when you are down on your next trip and Ron wanders off to be by himself shortly after dinner, don't take it personally – he is just headed to work.

## Ministry Update, by Mike Morin

It has been an incredibly blessed season for the ministry. Some highlights include the building of the 275th widow house, continued strong participation in the feeding programs, the launch of a successful pure water program for the community of Patzibal and the continued discipleship of over 1000 children and 200 widows on a weekly basis.

We celebrate what the Lord is doing through our local staff, the teams that have come down and the support of our church

partners.

Moving forward our hearts are drawn toward the development of Monte Flor, a sixty acre piece of property, with a guest house, that will eventually be transformed into an orphan care center with a variety of facilities to meet community needs.

We purchased the land on a contract that is due in November of 2009. To-date we are blessed to report that we have 90% of the money already

raised and are believing that this land will be fully paid for yet this year (\$40,000 left.)

....continued page 2



## Ministry Update continued...Monte Flor - Orphan Care Center



*Continued from page 1...*

As well, we have been able to make major renovations to the guest house over the past few months.

Once the land is completely paid for we will begin development of the facilities to care for the children and provide much needed services to families in the community. The goal is to prevent children from being orphaned and caring for children that have no safe home.

If you are interested in learning

more about Monte Flor please email me at

mike@prayamerica.org

by, Mike Morin

*Editor Note:*

*Monte Flor is Pray America's NEW 60-acre development on the outskirts of Chichi. The exact future of the property is being decided but the sketches include children homes, a medical building, feeding center, school and potentially a library and*

*computer lab.*

*Heavy equipment recently got stuck in the mud and had to stop land clearing for a children's house until rainy season is over. Please pray for God's direction on the land as work continues.*



***“ Her family is now sleeping on beds with mattresses for the first time!”***

The ministry and visiting teams have now built approximately 275 widow houses. All of them are presented to the new home owner as being from JESUS, not Pray America and not from America.

These 12 x 12 homes change a family and several generations lives.

One recipient is 15 year old Michelle and her family. The family lives in Santiago, near Lake Atitlan, where Michelle works each day. She has been the provider for her family (mom, grandma, and little brother) since about 7 years old. She makes bracelets to sell to tourists on the street and at the dock when they come to her village.

Their family home consisted of

a small one-room shack, made from plastic, cardboard, and some metal. No bed for any of them. Pray America became aware of their need and the family. With encouragement Michelle has started school to learn how to read and write. This will change her future and that of her family, being she is the sole provider.

Pray America was able to build the family a home, complete with beds and mattresses and has been helping Michelle for more than two years. Her family is now sleeping on beds with mattresses for the first time!

They are thrilled and she said, “Que suavecito!” which means “How soft!” Michele and her family know Jesus and feel so

blessed and encouraged in the Lord! A half of day's work, kindness, and Jesus in it all, has changed the life of a family.



## Feeding Programs

Each of three feeding programs feed approximately 350—400 kids a day, twice a week. The children first attend worship, where they learn about Jesus, their savior, then they receive a

balanced meal. This may be the only two balanced meals in the week that they receive.

There are approximately 30 teachers and cooks that work

at the feeding programs six days a week.

Many times the children's mother's come along too.

## Feeding Programs continued...

Many mothers have also joined the widow bible study to learn more about this Jesus that they hear about with their children.



One of feeding programs has had clean water since the end of last year. The villages have been trained by ministry volunteers to use only clean jugs provided to them for carrying

and storing the clean water.

A second clean water program is currently being installed at Pazibal.

Health studies have been done and will be repeated to track the difference that the clean water makes on child growth and infant mortality, currently at 25% due mostly to water-borne illness.

There are other large water filters ready for the other feeding programs once details can be worked out and money raised for wells to get them up and running.

Funding still needs to be found to dig each well in order to keep moving forward to bring clean water to the people of the mountainous area of Chichi.



## Needs

Current ministry needs for teams to bring down:

- Favor with the Guatemalan Government during an upcoming audit
- Favor in Chichi for wood for the widow houses given current restrictions
- Single bed sheets (lots of them)
- Portable CD players (small individual players for the feeding programs)
- Baking and cooking items for the new kitchen at Monte Flor
- School supplies for the feeding / worship programs
- Creamy peanut butter, pie fillings
- Prayers, prayers, prayers
- Funding / Donations

***“ We could never run the ministry without the cover of prayer.”***

## Ministry Prayer Requests

Please remember Pray America in your daily prayers. With the spiritual warfare and oppression of the region, the ministry needs your daily prayers for the staff and to make a difference for the Kingdom of Jesus.

We could never run the ministry without the cover of prayer. We appreciate every one of your prayers on our behalf.

- God’s Favor, as mentioned above in NEEDS
- Monte Flor funding to continue coming to pay for the new orphan care center
- Funding to continue for the feeding programs as the new projects begin
- Prayers for the staff for guidance and protection
- Staff positions open to be filled by the right people that God has for the ministry
- Blessings on the staff and teams every day



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**“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after widows and orphans in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” ~ James 1:27**

**Pray America is doing it's best to live by the Word in the corner of the world where God has called the ministry, Chichicastenango, Guatemala.**



## Ministry—FAQ

**Q.** How many widows are there in the Chichi and surrounding area?

**A.** Approximately 70,000 in the area, about the size of a county, as a result of the civil war that ended in 1997 as well as a result of the culture of poverty.

**Q.** How many children are fed by the ministry each week?

**A.** With three feeding programs in different villages feeding approximately 300+ children twice a week, 900+ children, or 1800+ meals, are served weekly.



**Q.** How can I help with the feeding programs?

**A.** Donations are accepted by the ministry and each \$10 feeds a child twice a week for a month. Donate online at [www.prayamerica.org](http://www.prayamerica.org).

**Q.** Can people come to work alongside Pray America in their serving?

**A.** Yes. We have a full calendar of week-long mission teams of approximately 15 people each. Go to [www.prayamerica.org](http://www.prayamerica.org) under Trip Calendar to check for date availability.