

The Micah Project - March 2013 Monthly Photo Update

March begins a two-month period of hot, dry weather in Honduras, usually called "verano", or summer, by the locals. The apex of this season is Holy Week, the week between Good Friday and Easter, which is celebrated by several religious festivals and a nationwide Spring break! While we did a little "spring-breaking" ourselves as the Micah family, we also were full steam ahead with our educational program, construction on Micah 2.0, ministries, and outreach to the children on the streets.

School Year Continues



March is the second month of the Honduras school year, and our educational program is definitely full steam ahead! Here, Manuel works on measurement and technical drawing in our Micah Tech program.



Axelito concentrates hard in order to improve his technical drawing skills!



Here, you can see the model of the new Micah House with the real thing in the background so that you can see how far we come and what's left to do!



The boys took a field trip to the National Telephone Company to visit their telecommunications museum. Here, Axelito and Yoni try out some of the old equipment on the tour.

Micah 2.0 Progress

Speaking of full steam ahead, the new Micah House at Micah 2.0 took some huge steps forward in March! It was so exciting to see the first roofing tiles go on to the house; you could really start to see what the house was going to look like once finished! The building process is in good shape in order to finish the house before our August 17th inauguration!



A great view of our new roof from the second floor terrace of the new Micah House!



Micah 11th grader Moises helps to lay the asphalt cover on the wooden ceiling above the new bedrooms.



A couple of views of the Micah House in Micah 2.0. You can see that our brick walls have now been entirely covered by cement stucco.

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Street Ministry Emphasis

In March, we began to take our street ministry to the next level. Stephen Kusmer has worked so hard to get to know the children and teens right where they are~on the streets, in the market alleyways and in the broken down buildings of Tegucigalpa. We felt that it was important for a few of them to get to know the rest of the Micah boys as well, so we began to invite them to a pool every Thursday afternoon with the Micah boys. The transformation is amazing: as we drive out of the city into the mountains, the fumes of yellow glue begin to fade, and once they jump into the water, the grime of street life disappears as well! Soon, they are just little kids again, splashing in the water and enjoying life. We are praying that this outreach would convince these boys to leave the streets behind forever and join the Micah family!



Nine-year old Eduar takes a flying leap into the pool on one of our Thursday outings.



After swimming, 14-year old Oscar enjoys the swings; it is so beautiful to see him able to forget life on the streets, if even for a few minutes. He spends his days going through the trash bins of Tegucigalpa, collecting plastic bottles to recycle.



After enjoying the pool, Stephen chats with Oscar and Jose over a cup of soup.



Carlos is another boy who spends his days picking through trash in downtown dumpsters. It was great to see his smile at the pool!



This is daily life for a growing number of kids and teens in Tegucigalpa.



At our Friday street kid soccer ministry, a larger number of street youth arrive every Friday afternoon for soccer, dinner, and a message of hope. It was so touching to see the Miguelito and Axeli reaching out to the youth that came on a March Friday, especially knowing that we met these two on this very spot, at our weekly Friday soccer outreach in 2010. Here, Miguelito washes the feet of a street boy named Morris.

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Axeliito spends some time with his older brother Obec, who is a mentally disabled street youth. Please keep these young boys in your prayers as we strive to show them hope beyond the desolation of street life!

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2013 Mission Teams

We are also so grateful to the mission's teams that come to Honduras to encourage us and work with us!



In early March, the Honduras Project team from Wheaton College came to spend an afternoon with the Micah family.



During Holy Week, we received a group from Santa Tecla, El Salvador. This group of Christian brothers and sisters is from the church that our Salvadoran missionary Israel Zaldaña grew up in, and these folks came to work! They helped in our street ministry, worked on the roof of Micah 2.0, and were a great encouragement to the Micah boys!



Israel's dad, who is a pastor at the church, stains the wood beams for the ceiling of the new Micah House!

Holy Week Spring Break

Omoa: During the first few days of Honduras' Holy Week Spring Break, we whisked the boys off to the Caribbean coast of Honduras for a couple days at the beach! We ended up in Omoa, a small beach town near Puerto Cortes, the largest commercial port in Honduras. It is also so refreshing to take the entire Micah family out of our hectic urban life and spend some quality time together in such a beautiful spot.



The boys take a wild ride on a banana boat in the bay of Omoa!



Yoel, Michael and Moises enjoy the Caribbean sunshine!



We also spent a morning in a mountain stream just outside of Omoa. Here, Hector and Wilmer enjoy the cool, crystal-clear water!



The Micah missionary staff does not often get a lot of time to kick back and relax; it was nice to see them take some beach down-time in Omoa! Here, Israel, Jenna, Megan, Timothy House resident Juan Carlos, and Jeremy enjoy the sand and sun!

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Micah Project Success

It is also SO encouraging to celebrate the successes of the young men that have gone through the Micah Project and are now taking on the world. Several of our graduates celebrated accomplishments in March!



Tino and his wife Noralina brought their new baby Genesis by the Micah House in March! Tino graduated from Missouri Baptist University in 2009 and has been working for a pharmaceutical company in Tegucigalpa since then. He and Noralina married in December, 2011.



Micah grad Hector Licona joined us for a couple of days on our Spring break trip to Omoa. Hector has been serving for over a year as a missionary with a new ministry working with street kids in the Caribbean city of La Ceiba. Here, he smiles with his younger brother Jose Luis!



This is our current group of Timothy House guys (minus Juan Carlos and Junior...not pictured here). They are working hard and studying hard...ready to be the next generation of Micah grads! Here, Maycol, Pedro, Arle, Brayan and Jeferson smile with Jeremy. Jeremy has been such a fiercely-devoted advocate of these young men, helping them envision their future and giving them the means to keep moving forward. We are excited to see what the Lord is going to do in these young men in the next few years!



Edwin joined the Micah family in 2001, and this month, he moved out of the Timothy House into his own apartment! Edwin has grown into a mature young man, a faithful member of his church who is working as a teacher in a bilingual school in Tegucigalpa. Here, the entire Micah family celebrates Edwin's "graduation" from the Timothy House!

