



Mission Possible  
care. connect. engage.



*"Let all that you do  
be done with love."*

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

Together we do great good for those in need in our mission community.  
The mission experience makes a significant impact in the lives of our missionaries.

*Making a real difference.*

# YOU MAKE the Mission Possible!



## 2018 Accomplishments

**Our mission team, and you, did this together!**

- **Arcellas, our first recipient** of the medical grant is doing well and now under government insurance. Thank you for giving the gift of health.
- **Sewer treatment plant was completed** and is able to serve the 100 homes we hope to build in our Second Neighborhood.
- **Proposito** – a women's empowerment group of former missionaries and a local Higuey resident was formed under the leadership of high school students.
- **Baseball field** is almost finished and will create a place for the entire region to gather...watch baseball...and build community. It will be dedicated in January of 2019.
- **Medical team** saw over **350** patients
- **Dental team** saw **180** patients
- Teams painted **49** houses to help prevent mold and water build up. It also sparked up the neighborhoods.
- **Health Fair** was conducted in June, covered a variety of topics. We are working hard to educate and promote healthy, holy living.
- Finished **13 homes** and moved families into them. A GREAT year and an amazing blessing for these families.
- **Regalo de Dar, a Miami University project** that provided each family with a Christmas box
- **2** students from our **English class** have received jobs in resorts because of this skill
- **8** homes will complete phase I of community II in 2019. They've been started and will be finished in June.
- We brought **56 missionaries** on the June trips
- Preventive maintenance program will hire a local handy man to keep up the communities.

Thanks to our mission board members, we have developed a comprehensive preventative maintenance plan with weekly calls to keep up-to-date on progress and community needs.

In 2018, Mission Possible helped form the hearts of our mission team members and created a better world for those we serve. It's been a blessed year.

*Your support makes the mission possible.  
Thank you so much.*

# El Regalo Perfecto!

**The perfect gift!** This time of year, we are all searching for the 'perfect gift' to give to that someone special. Thanks to your support and goodness, over the course of the year you, and us together, have given the perfect gift to our family in the mission community.

- **We have given them HOPE...**that comes from knowing they are never alone. There is always help and support from God and our mission team.
- **We have given them FAITH...**by gathering them in weekly prayer and providing meaningful classes to teach the children and their families the ways of the Lord.
- **We have given the gift of HEALTH...**we all say if you have your health... you are blessed. Over the course of the year, our mission efforts have brought both a medical mission and dental mission to our friends in the Dominican. Even more, office visits to the medical clinic have more than doubled.
- **We have given them HOMES and a safe place to live...**as we continue to build new homes, we are working hard to help all of our 120 families take care of their homes and community space.
- **We have given them WATER...**which we often take for granted in the USA. We have worked to ensure good, clean water to their houses.
- **We have given them a great place to live and raise their families.** Our communities are thriving with the values of faith and family...education and hard work...care and compassion for each other.

**Of all the gifts you give...your support for Mission Possible helps us give a 'perfect gift' to very special people** – brothers and sisters – who are among the poorest of the poor. Together we are giving them the help and support to live a better life in Christ.

May Christ bless you with the 'perfect gift' you need this Christmas and always. May you know the hope, love and peace of the Lord.

**Thank you so much!** Have a blessed Christmas and may you know God's abundant blessings in the New Year! Watch for more updates on the good we do together in our mission community.



Father Bob Stec  
on behalf of the Mission Board and those we care for in the D.R.



## VISION BOARD

Marlene Antonius  
Maria Antonius  
Haley Morgan  
Lori Betz  
Megan Cupach  
Eva Dolan  
Diane Graham  
Joel Hampton  
Carrie Heppner  
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David Margiotta  
Patrick Meindenbaur  
Gary Mock  
Kathy Plavecski  
Jennifer Preising  
Peter Roethler  
Michele Sumner  
Father Andy Turner

Father Bob Stec, *Advisor*  
Jake Bihari, *Advisor*

**If you are interested in helping and if you would like to contact any of our board members, please go to [www.missionpossible.us](http://www.missionpossible.us).**

**WE NEED YOU!** Use 2019 to do something really good – join us on the mission trip in June. We have two groups heading to the DR to serve in our mission community. All are welcome.

**To get trip information or to learn more, please contact Sarah Krieger 216-402-5212 or Marlene Antonius 216-904-2851.**

# Proposito: *purpose*

## **There's an amazing group of young women who have all gone on mission trips with Mission Possible.**

They have been coming together to discuss and explore ways they can make an even 'greater difference' for those we serve in our mission community. After much prayer and conversation, they have focused their efforts on empowering young women, like themselves, to develop their God-given potential....to be fully alive in Christ and find the path to a meaningful life.

### **If you were to sit in on the meeting and hear their discussions, you would know a couple of things:**

- ...their mission experience with Mission Possible has changed their lives.
- ...they want to go forth and change the world for others.
- ...they give all of us reason to have hope for our future....they are inspiring.

### **Here's the framework of their efforts. Watch for stories of the good they will do in 2019.**



*Yeymi Cedeno pictured here with her Mom is a TRI-C Mandel Scholar now living in the US that will be helping with the Proposito project.*

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

Empowering women of Higüey through faith, education and the understanding of other in order to fulfill their God-given purpose.

#### **WHERE WE ARE:**

**Friends from Higüey, Yeymi Cedeño, and Yesenia Guerrero**

- Media resources in the Dominican
- Want to help their country
- Cultural understanding

#### **WHERE WE ARE GOING:**

**Personalized invitations for a "Women's Health Fair" in June**

**Scholarship for Private University:** \$1,600 or 10,000 pesos for a four-year scholarship for young girls in our communities to apply for, given they meet criteria.

#### **Sponsorship program**

- For girls who may not qualify or receive the scholarship
- Pen pal with missionaries
- Will keep up the motivation to hit certain benchmarks to receive special gifts such as a day at the salon, new outfit

#### **Facebook to promote self-esteem**

- Understanding that they have a purpose
- "Share your story"
- Follower of the month

#### **Financial literacy course focused on budgeting**

Applying for the AllState program where they will teach and give us a grant

**Donations towards Propósito** will be used towards the scholarship and the sponsorship program.



## UPDATE ON

# Puente Classes

Classroom instructor Andres reports that over 25 students are attending each English class offered on the weekends. A total of over 100 students (adult and children) participating. (Four classes are offered on Saturday and four classes on Sunday).

Good News! Puente student Armando has been hired as a "Steward" at a resort. This would not have happened without Andres and if Armando couldn't speak English!

When a person is offered a job, there are two requirements that must be completed to finalize the job offer, one is a health certificate and one is a report by local police. The cost is about \$30. The Puente Program is now offering a scholarship/reward to help with these costs.



*"Be joyful always.  
Pray continually. Give thanks  
in all circumstances."*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



Armando on his fourth day on the job. Andres and Armando.



## REGALO DE DAR

# Gift of Giving

**Regalo de Dar is Spanish for the "gift of giving."** Some of our high school and college-age mission team members have set the pace and reminded us of the real 'reason for the season.'

They've just spent the past few weeks collecting some of the most basic essentials (toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, and more) along with some fun items (coloring books and baseball gloves) to ship down to our mission family for Christmas. **Special thanks to Lizzy Springer for coordinating the students from Holy Name High School and Miami University.** Our friends in the mission will be excited to receive these gifts is an understatement.

What was even more exciting was to witness the energy and enthusiasm of our mission team members who went about asking friends and classmates to help them 'do something good' for Christmas for our mission family. What a blessing beyond words!

May these high school and college students inspire all of us to do an act of kindness...to give a perfect gift...in support of our efforts in our mission community.

**With your 'perfect gift', we can continue to build homes for families currently living in a tin shack by the river.** With your help, we can continue to provide education, catechesis and health care to some of the poorest of the poor. Mostly, with your help and support, we can continue to bring the light and hope of Christ to those we serve.

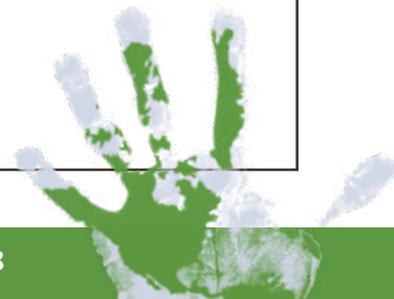
*"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."*

*-Mother Teresa*

**Please consider a 'perfect gift' to the Lord and our mission efforts this Christmas.** All gifts will do GREAT good and go directly to those we serve. All gifts are also tax-deductible.

**Go online to: [www.MissionPossible.us](http://www.MissionPossible.us)** to make your gift right now. You can direct your gift towards any aspect of our mission efforts. Our teens and college-students, of their own initiation, made sure that our friends in the Dominican received great gifts this Christmas. They inspire all of us to keep the mission going in 2019.

**Our goal is to construct 10 new homes in 2019. Each costs \$8,500. YOU make the mission possible. Go online to [www.MissionPossible.us](http://www.MissionPossible.us) to make your tax-deductible donation. God bless you!**





# DENTAL *trip*

**Smile...when your heart feels weary!**

Over the past few weeks, there's been a commercial playing, over and again, about a new toothbrush that's supposed to 'change the world'...or at least the way you brush. The commercial talks about a little appreciated fact – oral hygiene makes a real difference in the health of your entire body!! It's true. And the absence of oral hygiene can have serious effects on one's life, and health, and well-being.

**Mission Possible is blessed to have the support and active involvement of Dentists Mike Gurguis and Dave Flemming along with hygienist, Deb Flemming.** In October they lead a dental team to serve our mission community. They were supported in their efforts to care and educate by the hard work of Diane Graham, Donna Mazzone and Kathy Plavecski.

Over three days they cared for 180 patients – from tooth extraction to fluoride treatments – to restoring a front broken tooth of one of the women in our community. **When she saw her tooth repaired – she did not smile – she cried with tears of amazing joy and gratitude.**

The team started early each day and continued to late in the night to see as many patients as possible. They came home each night (and at the end of the trip) weary...but smiling from ear to ear for the blessing of bringing joy, a smile, health and happiness to those they served.

**Our hope and prayer is to help educate and care for those we serve which will lead to a healthier, happier and holier life!**

MISSION POSSIBLE  
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*Help us change the world in the new year...join us on the mission!*

*Thank you*  
**TO OUR SPONSORS**

# Save the Date

## 2019 GRAND SLAM GALA!

**Saturday, May 11, 2019**

The Corner Bar at Progressive Field is booked for our annual Grand Slam Gala to benefit Mission Possible.

In 2018 we raised \$96,124 together!



KOLER FINANCIAL GROUP

