

Minutes
New Castle Presbytery Guatemala Group
September 21, 2015

The Guatemala Group met by conference call at 6:00 pm on September 21, 2015. We opened with prayer by George Hall. Those participating were Sue Miller, George Hall, Bill Reed, Cathy Higgins, Carrie Saartoff, Cindie Moore, Lorna Cranston.

Cindie Moore Report. Her written report had been emailed out. It included pictures of the new sewing school building, good progress is being made on construction. The women's association will probably begin using a logo with several women holding hands. Carrie has been working on this. The logo will likely go on some of the pens that we are working on. There should be enough money in the Westminster PC budget to take care of this (a couple of hundred dollars).

Latrines. Improved latrines would supplement the health impacts of the in-home water filters. The Canadian group has developed a model latrine that is quite sturdy but can be moved. They have committed to providing two latrines at no cost as a pilot. They are about \$350 per latrine.

The Association (Mam Christian Women for Development) has developed relationships with both the Heifer Project and CEDEPCA. As a result, the association members have received some good training on cattle health and family violence prevention.

Report on Prayer Partnerships. Lorna (Community PC) is working on a list of women who would be interested in becoming prayer partners, will email to Cathy/Cindie tomorrow. PCDoer is working on one more group, FPC Georgetown has started one. So there are now there are three formed partnerships with two in progress.

Additional in-home filters. We are up to 303 filters supplied (mostly by Westminster, Wilmington PC) a couple need to be repaired. Things seem to be going well, some statistics are being developed. We are hoping to eventually get to 500 which would be enough for the women in the association and their families.

MDU grant application. Bill will prepare the form and circulate prior to submitting. The consensus was to ask for 10k, 5K for a new microloan group, something for travel, something for more filters, latrines.

Miscellaneous items. The Riverfront church had been considering a trip to GT in November, but will delay that into 2016. Cathy will present a plea for more prayer partners at the presbytery meeting. Several expressed some interest in a 2016 trip, but another March date might be hard. Will discuss next call. Cindie will be in Guatemala for World Toilet day. She needs items by November 1st to take it on the trip. We will plan for a face to face, most likely November 1. There may be some scholarships available in honor of Sally Cordrey, more on that next year.

Respectfully submitted
William M. Reed, Recorder

