

## Guatemala Conference Call April 15, 2015

A conference call was held on April 15, with the following members in attendance: George Hall, Cathy Higgins, Carrie Saathoff, Louise MacCallum, Bill Reed, Cindie Moore and Sue Miller. George opened the meeting with prayer.

Highlights of the discussion include:

1. The Guatemala trip resulted in a signed agreement between the Women's Association and the New Castle Presbytery. Those who participated on the trip agreed that a lot of progress has been made in the past 3-4 years, regarding the Women's Association program.
2. The remaining funds in the MDU Guatemala budget are \$5730.22.
3. The MAM Christian Women for Development's Board of Directors proposed funding another micro loan group. Cathy recommended that the sum of \$5,000 be used to fund this group. Discussion included why this amount is different than previous amounts given for micro loans, the cow versus the bull pricing and advantages, and the number of participants in each micro loan (see below). Several members felt the MDU should fund the Association's priorities. Cathy moved and George seconded that MDU will fund the new group for \$5,000.

Group	Members	Loan Amount	Year of Loan	NCP Entity	Prayer Partner
Ebenezer	12	\$3,000	2013	Westminster	Yes
Las Granadillas	10	\$3,000	2014	Dover	Yes
Los Claveles #2	18	\$3,500	2014	Dover	In Progress
Los Pinares	TBD	\$5,000	2014	MDU	No
New Group	15	\$5,000	2015	MDU	No

4. The MDU Micro Finance Group, Los Pinares, is making soap. They have requested help with their labels and packaging. Cathy worked with the Westminster graphic designer who created the label at no charge. Cindie sent the label electronically to Eddie's computer. Two representatives from Los Pinares will review the label to see if it is what they had in mind. The label is a standard Avery label, 2 ½ by 3. The idea is that the group will print the label in Guatemala and pay for that out of their micro finance money. The soap sample will be sent to Sue Miller to research the packaging.
5. The current status of Prayer Partners is listed above. Additional details include:
  - Louise stated that she will ask the Dover Seniors class (26 active members) if they would like to form a Prayer Partnership with Los Claveles #2.
  - Linda Williams has a group to form the Prayer Partnership with Los Pinares.
  - Cathy's circle at Westminster is considering forming a Prayer Partnership with the new group. They will decide on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
 Prayer Partnerships will be discussed more fully at the next meeting.
6. A Big Tent event is planned in Knoxville, TN on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The Guatemala Network Group will be holding a meeting. Cathy Higgins and Bill Reed are interested in attending.
7. The next conference call will be held on **Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.**