ACTSINACTION

An Update from the BGsEnRoute

ABFMS Missionaries & MKs Nicaragua

November 2016

The Lord opened her heart...



November: Thanksgiving is around the corner and the change of season, the smells, and the weather all point to a special time ahead to spend with our loved ones: to that one day a year that we set aside to thank God for His goodness and ongoing provision.

While preparing for this journal, we looked back at these four years of service in Nicaragua and realized a common thread from the beginning: the pillowcase dresses, shorts, and flip flops... It all started with two emails that arrived early in 2013 (before and after we arrived in Nicaragua), both from Hoosierland. One from **Jo Besser** (Jan 14th) and the other from **Jan "Giggles" Haworth** (Feb 9th).

Jo (Huron BC) said: "Our Circle is 'itching' to get to sewing again in the new year. ... Our ${f Judy}$ ${f Moser}$ is a real worker when it comes to sewing."

And Jan (Calvary BC/Kokomo) said: "The girls here at church have been working on their mission project: Pillowcase Dresses. ... This summer we will be collecting flip flops also."

And hence began the production and collection of what ended up being more than 1,500 pillowcase dresses, more than 600 shorts, and more than 90 pairs of flip flops...







What started with Huron BC and Calvary BC/Kokomo extended to Faith BC/Fort Wayne, FBCs of Greensburg, South Bend, Tell City, Hayden BC, and Milan BC: 8 churches in *Indiana* alone plus their wonderful ABGirls. They were joined by FBC Hornell, *New York*, Lubeck Community BC/Parkersburg, *West Virginia*, and Calvary BC/Oak Hill, West Virginia. A dozen sets of

girls and women; their hearts were opened by the Lord to fill a need in Nicaragua for more than 2,000 children...

Quite often we get to meet many of you first through your emails and cards. We were fortunate enough to also meet in person our dearest Jo and Jan during our visits to the churches, as well as Judy, Jennifer, Tracy, Terri, Glenda, Tana, Debbie, Isabelle, Becky, Peggy, Lisa, and countless seemstresses that have devoted many hours and prayers to bless these children. These are the kind of serendipitious connections that we have seen flourish for years to come.

When Giggles moved to heaven in January 2014, we lost her giggles and have missed her in subsequent visits to Calvary BC/Kokomo. Her heritage continues thanks to a very active ABWM.

We were saddened to learn of Jo's recent move to heaven this past September 2016 and know Judy and her Huron siblings, not to mention her beloved Joe, miss her as we will when we visit next our Huron BC siblings. Yet, we know that the Lord who opened their hearts to serve through these pillowcase dresses/shorts/flip flops will continue to open the hearts of others to serve in these and many other ways.

As we continue preparing to leave Nicaragua for Puerto Rico next month, to start our US/PR assignment season, we are grateful to the ABWM and ABGirls of Indiana, New York, and West Virginia, for opening your hearts to God's call. We are also grateful to God for your counterparts in Nicaragua (USMIFEBAN) that helped us distribute in 9 of their 11 regions. We are grateful to God that each of these were a testimony of God's love and care to His children, through a simple piece of clothing or a pair of flip flops that said: "God cares and so do we!".

And it all started with two emails sent in early 2013 with lots of love and commitment. Jo and Jan's heritage continues in the many that pray through each stitch with open hearts to love their neighbors as themselves. More than 2,000 children and your BGs say: **THANK YOU!**

Seeking the Lord to open our hearts every day, your BGsEnRoute (www.facebook.com/BGsEnRoute for more pics and updates)

You are invited to join Acts In Action Team & Network of individuals and churches who support the ministry of the Bonilla-Giovanetti family (the BGsEnRoute) through prayer, encouragement, or financial support. To learn more or join their Missionary Partnership Network (MPN), email Mark Sorrels (IN/KY) marksorrels@gmail.com or call Cori Catellier (GI) at 317-881-3457 / 317-626-6169.

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