

1. What are some of the highlights of working with C-Quest teams?

C-Quest's work in Hunucma has been a huge blessing and support for our ministry. Many people have benefited from the things you have brought, and especially the work the team accomplished here.

2. How does the C-Quest evangelism program and our service projects help your ministry?

It is definitely very helpful, even if we don't see immediate changes in the people. We must persevere and pray for the people in need because of their living conditions and situations.

3. What challenges does the local Church face, in general? And specifically in your church?

The challenge for me is to establish a congregation and have all the ministries needed to run a church such as:

- ⇒ Sunday School
- ⇒ Ministry of Evangelism
- ⇒ Ministry of Christian Education
- ⇒ Ministry of Literacy
- ⇒ Missions Ministry to establish new congregations

4. How can we pray for you and your ministry?

As God tells you and puts in your heart.

CENTRO FAMILIAR CRISTIANO FILADELFIA (PHILADELPHIA CHRISTIAN FAMILY CENTRE)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

God bless you brother Gary. I really appreciate the interest you've shown in supporting the church in Hunucma. The truth is, I am not seeing the progress that I had hoped to see; however, we are progressing little-by-little.

Hunucma is different than Mérida. It is a place of great idolatry, alcoholism, and poverty. The people in Hunucma have been the subject of abuse, and therefore are suspicious of me when I come and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Plus they are deeply rooted in their customs and traditions. This is a great challenge for the Church to help them see that following Christ requires a change from those deeply-rooted customs. For now they believe that changing religion is enough, but it is not.

We must be patient and trust that what we are doing to help these people is for the Lord. I have always worked with low-income and illiterate families, and it has been a challenge for me. But I will keep serving these noble and humble people, until God leads elsewhere.

My current occupation in Hunucma is to provide teachings on the following:

- a) **Doctrine of Water Baptism**
- b) **Doctrine of Biblical Stewardship**
- c) **Children's Ministry (We need teachers)**
- d) **Doctrine of Prayer**
- e) **Doctrine of Praise and Worship**

As well, to provide visitation and social services in the community. Hunucma is a very poor area where the majority of men and women are illiterate, and most of the men struggle with alcoholism. However, I have found that the people in the community attend more enthusiastically when food and clothing are distributed.

To help the people of Hunucma have a better life, I would like to

- a) **Start a social assistance program:** Serving dinner every Saturday after the service, then organizing healthy activities such as volleyball, kids' games, watching movies, or various other activities for those who live close by and who have come out when your teams are here. For this project, I will be looking for sponsors who would like to provide a meal (dinner) once a month.

We have been trying to get support from the Secretary of Social Development, because Hunucma is in economic crisis, with high unemployment and many who are handicapped, sick, or alcoholics – with children who do not attend school, and whose parents do not earn enough money to give them adequate food. There is so much poverty, and the living conditions are far below standard.

- b) **Provide help with groceries (fruits and vegetables) to poor people in the area.**
- c) **Offer a sporting events program for healthy living for adolescents and young people.** In order to start this project we need various sports equipment like baseballs, bats, and other equipment. There are many adult men here who are alcoholics, but used to play baseball. When they see us playing baseball with the kids, they

remember how it used to be – before they became alcoholics. This is an opportunity to earn their trust by giving them hope through healthy activities that they love from the past; then perhaps they will learn to trust us so we can offer them the hope we have in Jesus, and present the Gospel message to them, which is our main goal.

- d) Construction:** Finally, what I see now as the most difficult, is to build the church. Most of the sisters and brothers are short of money, and my resources are also insufficient. In Hunucma work is scarce and underpaid. God has called me to this ministry – to go to places of greatest need and establish a church; places where there is no money, and where most people will not go to help because the investment is too much. For this reason, I have to go; it is both a privilege and a duty. And while I have the means, I will go with joy and gladness.

Building is not a priority for now, but it is important for the future. That's why I have attached the budgets. If there is support for it, Glory to God, and if not, also glory to God. God knows when and where. Meanwhile, when I can, I will invest something, even if it is little.

I have asked the government to help us with materials to build the Baptistery, the Baptistery room, the walls, columns, platform, locks, and the ceilings. We made the request, but now we wait. For the Mexican government it is not a priority to build a Christian church.

- e) Support for Sick sisters:** Frequently, I have to get medicine for two women who are very sick, and a widow who, although she has children, they do not have consistent work. I am also taking steps to help with some home improvements, since their living conditions are very critical.

Well brother Gary, these are my views and projects in Hunucma. Please feel free to support the project that you consider most suitable.

Attentively,

Brother Ricardo Rodriguez Villanueva