

## Vilma Nohelia Paz and her children

Vilma Paz, at age 36, is a hard working, caring mother of four children. She labors each day washing and ironing clothes for family income, and also works in the fields at harvest time. Her husband, who, we were told, hasn't been able to hold a steady job because of alcoholism, and is home on occasion.

Vilma and the children have been living with her grandparents on land she inherited. We have seen a great need of this family is for a newly constructed home. Their house and lot currently has no indoor bathroom facility, nor electricity, water or drainage. The home was made of scrap lumber, and old metal strips. The land was a family inheritance. We, at BMI, are grateful we can now fulfill this need, with your help



The two older children are: Ruby, 17 years, who studies in 4th grade, and Lester, 14, in 2nd grade. They enjoy their school lessons, but often have had to take turns, sharing workbooks. The younger ones, pre-school sons, are Marvin, who is 4, and Elder is 1.

Rudy, the oldest and strongest, takes on work in the fields when available, as well as chopping wood to increase their income. The amount Vilma aims and hopes for is from \$80. to \$90. a month. She says this amount gives herself and her children their one full meal a day, and left-over tortillas for later in the day.

Cost of schooling is a weight to carry. Payment for school supplies, work-books, uniforms and shoes, has not always been immediately available for purchase, having only one solution; to take out a loan for the year's school attendance. This adds to the financial load of this low-income family.



## Lopez Cahueque Family



Jairo Cahueque (29) and his wife, Maria (30), have three children: young Jairo, age 9, Cristain, age 7, and Debora, age 2.

The two oldest are attending the local school; Jairo, in 2nd grade, and Cristain, just beginning, is in first.

Jairo labors long hours in the fields preparing the land, planting, and then harvesting crops of corn and beans. Maria, as Mama and home-maker, stays at home to care for their children and her family's needs.

They are a happy family, even though living in poverty having an income of about \$75. to \$80. per month.

Daily, the 2 meals Maria prepares for her family are generally made up of refried black beans, tortillas, and eggs with salsa, prepared and cooked outside over an open fire in a barrel; adding noodles, fruit, or veggies, and sausage when they can afford it.

They live in a house held together by scraps of both metal and old timber.

BMI has seen the great need of a new home for this family, for their health and well-being.



## Lucila Och and her children



Lucila is 38 years old and she has been a single mother for more than years, her husband never took responsibility and abandoned them.

The children are: Cristian who is 20 years old, he works. Bessie is 16 years old, he studies 11<sup>th</sup>. Grade. Angela is 15 years old, she studies. Grade a 9<sup>th</sup>. Grade, Maria is 8 years old, she studies 1<sup>st</sup>. grade.

Lucila works as janitor at a school, but their incomes are not enough for all the expenses during the month. Currently they are renting and they have to pay \$60 monthly and also they are paying a loan of \$ 204.00, which they used this money to buy school supplies, uniforms and black shoes required by the school so that her children can continue attending this year.

They usually eat eggs, beans, noodles, vegetables and tortillas and sometimes they have the opportunity eat chicken soups.

The land when BMI will built is inheritance of Lucila's grandparent and it doesn't have water, drainage or electricity.