

## **El Salvador 2016**

### **Dear Friends and Family,**

I'd like to tell you about an exciting opportunity I have been given again to travel back with a group of adults and teens to help work in a community in El Salvador this February.

The residents of Rancho Grade and Taura, two small villages an hour from San Salvador, were displaced during the civil war in the 1990s but were given land by the El Salvadoran government after the war ended. The land is in a rural area, it is difficult to farm and it floods fairly regularly. Young Life groups from Rochester and Syracuse, along with a church-sponsored group from Syracuse, have developed a strong relationship with these faith-filled towns over the past 7 years. The groups have partnered with Convoy of Hope and Living Water to help build wells, paint, and provide the community with school and medical supplies, and just this past year, help construct an addition to the local school.

Last year, a group of us adults and teens affiliated with Rochester Young Life worked in Taura, painting the village's church, helping build the foundation for a new building that will be able to house doctors who visit the community as well as holding a medical clinic for a few days. The needs are great in this community and a Rochester group of about 35 teens and adults is planning on making another trip this February to provide funds and assistance building a much-needed irrigation system. We will also help build and fund a fish hatchery, possibly renovate the church and provide another simple medical clinic with our own doctor and nurse.

I would consider it a great privilege to be part of this trip again as a college leader for the Rochester team, as I believe it would be a great opportunity to immerse myself back in the culture, being among Godly people who are much less fortunate than myself. Part of making the trip requires that I ask people to help support me with prayer and financial support and also that I gather medical and school supplies that we plan to take with us.

The cost of the trip is \$1,500. While much of this expense is airfare and expenses for the week while I am in El Salvador, a good portion (approximately \$500) will go toward the projects we will be working on while we are there.

If you wish to donate to help the people of Taura on my behalf, I would appreciate it greatly. Tax-deductible donations can be made out to Young Life (memo: El Salvador) and sent to me by January 1.

I'm sure you know of many groups or individuals who could benefit from your generosity during this holiday season. I greatly appreciate your consideration of this worthy cause.

**Sincerely,**

**Joshua Klatt**

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