



THE MICAH PROJECT

SUMMER 2021

Early Saturday morning, I found two of our fifteen-year-olds sitting on the front porch of the Micah House, brows furrowed. I had just popped out of my cabin on Micah's property to get a fresh five-gallon bottle of drinking water from our storage area to make my morning coffee. It was way too early to deal with teenage crankiness, but before I could re-route around the front porch, they spotted me.

"Necesitamos hablar con usted, Michael. We need to talk to you, Michael." Ugh. They sounded so serious. Why hadn't I replenished my water supply last night so that I could have at least brought a mug of coffee into this conversation? I sat down on the rocking chair next to them to see what they had on their minds.

"We wanted to ask you if we could sign up for culinary classes at a school downtown on Saturdays. We love our cooking classes with Chef Arle here at Micah, but they are only four hours a week. We want to learn faster!"

Wait. What? Two teenage boys had gotten up early on a Saturday to ask for *more* school? Was I dreaming? They went on to share their dreams of becoming master chefs. I explained to them that the culinary school (and really all schools in Honduras) are still shut down due to the pandemic, but that Micah grad Arle was probably the best culinary chef in the city right now anyway. Before heading back to my cabin to make my coffee, I promised to get them more time in the kitchen!

Even though I feign surprise over the boys' request, their excitement to learn more is symbolic of what's been happening at the Micah Project these days. There is a buzz of energy in the air, which was sparked by an intense strategic planning process that our staff began in August of last year. We asked ourselves the question: what should we add, subtract, or change in our programs to help our boys to be successful in the quickly-changing realities of their country—and the world?

This booklet is our answer to that question. In it, you will see the faces of kids who once called the streets home. But if you look closely at the pictures on each page, what you will notice most of all is that they are flourishing this year at the Micah Project. God has been faithful to each one of these lives even through one

of the most challenging years most of us have ever known. In fact, we are confident that when our Heavenly Father called us to open the Micah Project's doors in the year 2000 it was for such a time as this.

We hope that this booklet helps you to understand how God is using your investment in these lives. We also have some exciting news: thanks to some generous supporters who have set up a matching challenge, **any donation given to the Micah Project between August 15 and September 30 will be doubled—up to \$230,000!** Any amount you can give during that time will doubly bless each of these lives as God uses the Micah Project to help them find freedom, family, and a future in Christ.

One of the values we teach to the boys every day is the importance of gratitude. On behalf of each of the young men and women who have experienced the fullness of God's love through your support, **THANK YOU** for being a part of the Micah Family!

Su hermano en Cristo,

Michael S. Hill

