

Dear Friends of GYTTE:

We hope that you are enjoying spring as well as your mission work to support others.

Many of you have donated over the years for "More than a Bandage," our community-based health program carried out by women who have been trained by GYTTE to be Health Promotors. Currently there are about 80 active Promotors serving their church and community.

One very important thing they do is help the medical teams that come from the US three times a year. When the US teams go to a community there are very long lines so the Promotors teach different health topics while people are waiting.



Recently we had five health promotors and 4 youth who volunteered for this work in Tochimizolco. The four youth did a type of vacation Bible School with the children. The children were thrilled to get the attention. The medical team that serves here is from Grace UMC in Olathe, KS and also Dayspring UMC in Phoenix, Arizona.



Twice a year, US medical teams serve in Ixtepec where there is a high percentage of Indigenous people. All of the communities served are impoverished. These medical teams are from Fountain City UMC in Tennessee. Just as they do in Tochimizolco, Health Promotors volunteer to accompany one of our health staff to help the medical team.



The Health Promotors give classes like basic hygiene and hand-washing; nutrition – where they provide healthy snacks, and other classes. They also cut hair. We have at least four health promotors who are good at cutting hair and this is a big draw.





The poverty in Ixtepec, especially among the elderly, is such that the Promotors also wash and clean their feet and cut their nails. This is a true labor of love.



Now switching topics completely, the palm roof of the Palapa (a round building we use for classes) was in very bad shape. For the last 7 weeks, 7 to 8 men (fulltime and part-time) have been working to redo the structure, then put on the palm leaves. It's a big job, especially because it's the hottest time of the year. We thank God that they finished!



Please consider joining an AWARE mission trip. This fall, Rev. Marian Hartman will facilitate two teams (if she gets enough people). You can be in touch with her: mhartman@susumc.org or by phone: 814 441 0235 Thanks!

In Christ,

Nan, Miguel, Clara, Cata and the rest of the team