



The CHIA Report

November 2008
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New Location - Villa Ahumada

CHIA has had another great year. We have continued our efforts with the Living Water Project as well as all of our construction projects within Mexico.

This year we were able to add another site to our list. Most CHIA missionaries that have gone with us all know about Oscars Restaurant in Villa Ahumada. Through many church leaders we were able to start working with many growing churches in the small city of Villa Ahumada. The city is located right off the main highway going South from Juarez and is only about 90 miles South of the border. CHIA had its first mission to Villa Ahumada this past August. We were able to take many families from Dallas and Alabama. For many it was the first mission trip they had ever taken and for others it was the first time to go as a family.

The trip was a great success in numerous areas. We were able to not only setup the clinic in the First Nazarene

Church, but also able to send multiple teams out to go door to door evangelizing the Gospel.

Amy Golston of Plano, Texas said *"The heart of the trip for me was being out on the street going door to door witnessing and seeing how people live."* Johnnie Stevens of Riverside, Alabama added by saying *"my most memorable time for me was praying with patients who knew that medicine was not the answer to their problems."*

It is CHIA's intentions to bring 2-3 teams a year to Villa Ahumada over the next few years as we continue to help and witness to this village. Greg Ligon of Murphy, Texas said *"It was so exciting to be in on the ground level of a new mission site."* We hope and pray that many teams will join us in building up Villa Ahumada.



CHIA group shot in front of the famous Oscars in Villa Ahumada Mexico this August



Meghan Sherman and Ally Simpson evangelizing in the town of Villa Ahumada



Group shot of the Spika and Williams family in Villa Ahumada

The mission of Christian Hands in Action is to touch the world with gifted hands and change hearts with the soul-saving message of Jesus Christ.

CHIA Update

Dear Friends of CHIA,

First, I want to thank you for the years of support you have given CHIA, myself and my family. Secondly, I want to get you up to date on the future of CHIA.

The future of CHIA looks great! It appears that we are going to have another busy year in 2009 with many large trips from churches and schools.

For many years The Board of Directors, along with myself, have been wanting and needing to bring another person on board that can work and help with operations in El Paso. A few years ago, a long time CHIA supporter who is a pastor from Totuskey Baptist Church in Virginia, Chance Mace showed interest in joining CHIA after his service would end in the Army as a chaplain in Iraq. He has completed his services now to our country and is now joining CHIA in El Paso as Director of Operations starting November 1st. This is a great move for CHIA! This will allow us to have a fulltime person in El Paso who has run trips before with CHIA in the past and already understands CHIA's operations. This move will allow us to take many of the daily tasks Dallas does and move them to El Paso where it needs to be. However, this move does make me reevaluate my current position within CHIA and my duties. This brings me to my second reason for writing you.

As of October 15th I have officially stepped down as Executive Director and President of CHIA. While this decision did not come easy, I know that it is what is best for CHIA. I have been talking with the Board of Directors for months about this move. After much prayer, I truly feel that it is best for CHIA and it is within God's plans to help further His Kingdom and not ours. The decision was mine to make, but I feel God is moving me aside to allow Chance and CHIA to continue what has been established over these past years. It is my intention, along with the other CHIA Board members, that I will stay heavily involved with CHIA. Although I am stepping down as President I will remain on the Board of Directors. Additionally, I am planning on assisting and advising Chance as he gets up to speed in El Paso.

I feel that it has been God's plan from the beginning since I first joined the Board of CHIA back in 1998. Over the past three years as Executive Director God has done many great things through me. The reason I mention this is that many of you were, and still are, a huge part of that success. Without your support I would have never been able to leave my "business" job back in 2006 and lead CHIA in a fulltime capacity which it needed. In those three years as Director we were able to double our trip volume and were able to put in place so many new and improved processes (so many I can't even list them all). Looking back I can see where and how God's plan has been laid out. The timing of Chance Mace coming off duty and the timing of many operational plans being complete just shows God's hands in all of it.

My request to you is that you would continue to support CHIA as you have over the years. Your continued support will be so vital to the success of CHIA and continued work in the Great Commission.

Again, I personally cannot thank you enough for your past support. It has been such a blessing to have your support and have you join me in this journey. I will never forget it.

**Blessings,
Mike Richardson
Executive Director**



Mike Richardson working the Pharmacy in Villa Ahumada in August with Evan Williams, Grant Spika and Daniel Ligon



Sandy Richardson with Pastor Chalo Sosa and Sue Sherman at the Baptist Church in Juarez, Mexico

New Director of Operation

Hello to all,

My name is Chance Mace and I have answered the “call” as “Director of CHIA Missions.” What follows will be an introduction to my life. I hope, as you read this article, you will get to know me a little. In turn, I very much look forward to getting to know each of you. May I first state, I pray this newsletter finds all of our readers, faithful supporters, and mission team members (past, present, and future) well and at peace in the arms of our Lord.

When writing a biography, we tend to include the highlights of our lives, and the true highlight of my life is my wife, Virginia Mace. Virginia and I celebrated sixteen years of marriage this month, and are the blessed parents of three wonderful daughters. The rest, as they say, is icing on the cake.

I was saved at age eleven, born a Texan, but grew up on a farm in Maryland. At age 18, I returned to Texas, and attended the University of Texas at El Paso. It was during this time that I met Virginia, and embarked upon a career as an El Paso Fire Fighter, at which I would spend the next twelve years. By now our children were born, and God laid the call of full time ministry upon my heart. I had been pastoring bi-vocationally in El Paso, transferring from UTEP to Howard Payne University, and completing a bachelor’s degree in Theology. God asked for more, and I was happy to give. More meant seminary and a move to New Orleans. I attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, earning a Master of Divinity, and served as Associate Pastor to a local church, while joining the United States Army Reserve Chaplain Corps. It was in New Orleans where we found ourselves in August of 2005, the month hurricane Katrina made its way into the Gulf Coast. Unexpected to us, but known fully to God, the storm swept our family to the State of Virginia. It was to Virginia where God had said “Go,” and it was here we stayed for the next two years. During these two years in Virginia, I pastored Totuskey Baptist Church, and completed the Chaplain training. It was now 2007, and the troop surge to Iraq was fully under way. Again, God said “Go.” Resigning as pastor to a wonderful church, moving my family back to Texas (closer to relatives), packing my bags, and saying good-bye to my wife and girls for the next year was no easy task by the world’s standards, but when we find ourselves yoked to Christ, the burden is light. Northern Iraq is where I spent the next year, ministering and serving the greatest group of men and women our country has to offer. In April of 2007, just prior to going to Iraq, I led, for the second year in a row, a CHIA mission team from Totuskey. I had, in some capacity, worked with CHIA since 1999, but it was during this trip when Dr. John Sherman broached the subject of a director based in El Paso. Uncertain of the future, I had no definitive answer, yet the e-mail dialog from Iraq with CHIA continued. I prayed, and God said “Wait, I have a job for you in Iraq right now,” and that is what I did.

I returned from Iraq in August of 2008, and it was in August when I laid the CHIA position at His feet. Through much prayer, meeting with the CHIA board of directors, and wonderful confirmation from the Lord, I accepted the call. I am excited to say that on November 1st, I will officially begin as Director of Operations for CHIA Missions. Director of Operations includes, but is not limited to, organizing trips, handling trip logistics, overseeing personnel, leading mission trips, and interfacing between the villages in Mexico and CHIA in El Paso. I will also be speaking at churches throughout the United States, raising awareness of and participation in CHIA.

Let me conclude by saying, God is Great! He continues to bless me, and I know He will bless you as you answer the call: Going into all the world to preach His Good News! I am excited to get to know each of you - it may be when I speak in your church, but I hope it is in the fields of Mexico, “The fields are ripe for harvest, but the workers are few.” CHIA is equipped to help each of you go, the questions is: will you?

Blessings,
Chance Mace
Director of Operation



Chaplain 1st LT. Chance Mace as he serves our country

Year End Giving can be done online!

You can make your donations on-line via our website (www.chiamissions.org). CHIA is a 501(C)(3) organization and your donations are tax deductible. Any gift is extremely appreciated.





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Do you have a Road Map for your family?

Our vision is to help families develop their Road Map and Mission. We will accomplish this by taking the entire family out of their familiar surroundings and exposing them to a third world country. This will help the family see things differently and more clearly. This will also allow them the opportunity to get out of the hustle and bustle and slow down for a weekend and work together to develop a Family Mission Plan.

This year CHIA will be taking families from Prestonwood Christian Academy (PCA) in Plano, Texas on a Family Mission Trip this January. Mary Carl Finkelstein, Special Assignments Coordinator PCA, said "I am so excited about the opportunity



our families at Prestonwood Christian Academy have to participate in our first Family Mission Trip to Juarez, Mexico. How great it is to combine Missions, evangelism, and serving others into a family mission trip. This trip will provide families the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone while surrounded by those who love them most. It will be a time to confront priorities in finances, time and talents and determine a plan for the family on just what these priorities should be. Every family member will be given the opportunity to experience a different culture and to share God's love with that culture. They will have a time to learn and grow together as they reflect on the things they see and experience.

PCA's Head of School, Mr. Larry Taylor will be leading each family in study and preparation time on "How to Have a Family Plan." This trip will could be the start of revival in the families who attend and then move through our families at PCA.."

If you are interested in CHIA helping facilitate a Family Mission trip for your church or school please contact the CHIA office for more information.

Upcoming CHIA Trips for 2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>
1/16/2009	PCA Family Mission	Family Mission	✔ Open
1/22/2009	Mom & Daughters - Juarez	Med/Dent/Opto	✔ Open
2/5/2009	Villa Ahumada	Med/Dent/Opto	✔ Open
2/19/2009	Women's Trip - Juarez	Med/Dent/Opto	✘ Full
3/19/2009	Constitucion (Bent Tree)	Med/Dent/Opto	✔ Open