

AHUAS SPOTLIGHT

CLINICA EVANGELICA MORAVA AHUAS FUNDADO 16 JUNIO DEL AÑO 1946



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<https://www.moravian.org/mission/>



“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” Matt 25:35-36

CLINIC SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Kenneth Serapio



Dr. Kenneth Serapio, who holds the distinction of being the first Miskito surgeon, is retiring at the end of February after several years of dedicated service at the Ahuas Clinic.

Dr. Kenneth was born in Raití, a village on the Río Coco in Nicaragua, near the current border with Honduras. When his home country was engulfed in war in the 1970s and 80s, Dr. Kenneth's life was in danger and he had to leave Nicaragua. He traveled to the United States for a time to visit friends and then traveled to Honduras, where he visited the border to see what the conditions were for refugees in the camps there. It was during this time that Dr. Kenneth first connected with the Ahuas Clinic. He managed the clinic from 1985 until 1990, visiting the refugee camps when he could spare time on the weekends. Many refugees were coming to the Ahuas Clinic, as well, so there was much work to be done there. When the war ended he returned to Nicaragua with the refugees. He served most of his medical career in Nicaragua. After his retirement, he was contacted by the Clinic and, after hearing about the great needs in Ahuas, he agreed to come back to the clinic for two years. Well, two years came and went, and February marks ten years of service since his return to the clinic. In those ten years, he has completed over 2,300 surgeries.

Passionate about the Miskito people and their right to receive quality medical care in their own language, Dr. Kenneth has been a source of comfort and hope to many through his work at the Ahuas Clinic. We give thanks for his many years of service and his dedication to his work, even as war and discrimination threatened his career path many times along the way. Thank you, Dr. Kenneth!

We encourage you to read more about Dr. Kenneth in this fascinating article from the Petra Foundation, which works in his hometown of Raití. This short biography was written before Dr. Kenneth's return to the Ahuas Clinic:

<http://petrafoundation.org/fellows/kenneth-serapio-hunter/index.html>

We also invite you to watch this interview of Dr. Kenneth, taken in March of 2023:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDH1fGtlr9s>

For those viewing this in a printed version, you can also find all of this information at www.MoravianMission.org/Honduras/.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: BLESSINGS FLOW

Thank you for your overwhelming support of the Board of World Mission's Blessings Flow Project, which has provided clean water to over 400 families in the La Moskitia region of Honduras through the distribution of household water filters through a partnership with local leaders and an organization called One Atta Time,

As 2023 came to a close, Moravian congregations and individuals went above and beyond to make the blessings overflow. Our goal was to provide five La Moskitia villages with clean water for over a decade, but your generosity blew this goal out of the water! The project is far from over, but at this point, we have raised over \$150,000 to share the blessing of safe, clean drinking water.

- Filtration systems will be provided to over 2,500 households.
- We are now moving toward a goal of... clean water flowing for at least a decade in every home in 10+ communities!
- Most importantly, health and hope will be restored in an area where 100% of families experience symptoms of waterborne illness in any given two-week period.

At this very moment, we have staff and partners on the ground in Honduras continuing the work and making plans for the future of this project. Read more about their work so far on the next page.

We will continue to share about this project as future locations are identified and filters are distributed. If you would like to continue to hear about this work, we encourage you to follow the Board of World Mission on social media. This impact would not be possible without each and every person who engages in our ministry. Thank you for being part of this mission!



**CONNECTION AND PRAYER AT
PRE-DISTRIBUTION CLINIC**



**FILTERS ARE TRANSPORTED
OVER LAND, AIR, AND SEA.**



**FILTER
ASSESSMENT**



BLESSINGS FLOW: VILLAGE UPDATES

Board of World Mission staff member Rick Nelson is currently in Honduras helping to facilitate filter distribution and continued work related to the Blessings Flow project. He has also spent time at the Ahuas Clinic assisting with their budget and other administrative tasks. Below, you will find updates from his Blessings Flow travel.

WARUNTA

Warunta is the easternmost community in the municipality of Ahuas, a six-hour walk from the Ahuas Clinic. Locals in Warunta are engaged in traditional Miskito agriculture, but other employment is limited. There are very few wells in the community as people for generations have been obtaining their drinking water from the same lagoon where they wash clothes and bathe. 200 filters were distributed in Warunta in October of 2023.

These photos are from the Warunta follow-up visit a couple of weeks ago. The woman with the bucket is the wife of the local Baptist pastor who came to register her bucket for the follow up. The young girl is getting water that will be filtered.



PAKWI

Pakwi is a village that consists of about 200 families who live by cultivating rice, beans, and other crops traditional to the region. There are also some people who have cattle. Being relatively close to the ocean, some families fish for a living and fish is an important part of everyone's diet. Many families obtain their drinking water from the nearby Kruta River, though during the dry season, they may be forced to travel to the large Apalka Lagoon to find a cleaner source.

Water buckets and filters have been unloaded and stored in anticipation of a distribution in Pakwi next Tuesday. The photo in the church is a gathering of the entire town three weeks ago.

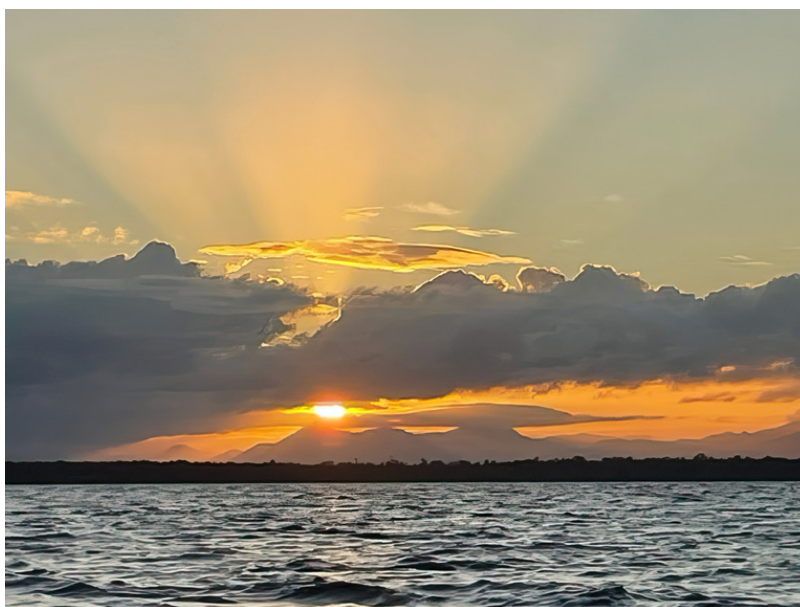


BLESSINGS FLOW: VILLAGE UPDATES

RÍO PLÁTANO

Río Plátano is located at the mouth of the river of the same name. “Río Plátano” is, of course, Spanish. The Miskito name for the village, Ras, is used less frequently even by the local Miskito population. Located at the mouth of the river and on the shore of the ocean, many people fish both for profit and for their personal diet. Agricultural fields are situated further upriver. Due to recent storms and hurricanes, there has been much beach erosion and the community is now much smaller than it once was. Between Río Plátano and the neighboring communities of Uvla Almuk and Tasba Pauni, there are approximately 200 families who will soon benefit from the Blessings Flow project. Most of these families continue to collect water from the Plátano River.

Last week, buckets, filters and meds were loaded onto the Margarita 2 for shipment to Brus Laguna. The team hopes to pick them up next week as they travel from Puerto Lempira to Paptalaya to Brus to Tasba Pauni for distribution next week. The people assembled in the Tasba Pauni (Red Earth) church last week to hear about the water filter program. As the Blessings Flow team crossed the lagoon of Brus, the sun was setting.



MISSION TEAM SPOTLIGHT

BOARD OF WORLD MISSION - NOVEMBER 2023

In November of 2023, Board of World Mission (BWM) Outreach Director Angelica Regalado Cieza traveled to Ahuas with Katie Hill, a volunteer from Friedberg Moravian Church. Together, they visited projects funded by BWM mission grants, including a bakery and a t-shirt shop that are providing financial stability to the church and to individual community members. They also visited several congregations, spent time with the clinic staff, preached at clinic devotions, and visited the Infant Feeding Program. As part of the visit, they had the opportunity to deliver Moravian resources that the BWM has translated into Spanish, including Our Moravian Treasures and the Covenant for Christian Living. Katie was able to spend some time speaking with recipients of medical debt relief through the recent Debt Jubilee Project, which you may have read about in previous editions of the Ahuas Spotlight. We look forward to sharing these interviews as they are available.

Angelica spent much of her time in the clinic's medical board meetings, where they discussed ongoing projects, clinic finances, and the potential for future self-sustaining projects. The next medical board meetings will be held in March and attended by BWM Executive Director Justin Rabbach and Ahuas Committee Chair Andy Starr. The BWM will once again be funding the annual audit of the clinic to ensure the best possible financial accountability.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Financially

U.S. Donation Information: Mail donations to: Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. You may also make your donation online. Click the green "Give" button at the top of the page. Please indicate that your gift is for "Ahuas Clinic."

<https://www.moravian.org/mission/give/>

Canada Donation Information: Mail donations to: Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8. Interac e-Transfer donations may be sent to treasurer@moravian.ca. In the comments section, mark the donations as "Ahuas Clinic" and include your name and address to receive a tax receipt.

Be sure to specify that your donation go to the Ahuas clinic, infant feeding program, or a "second mile project" at the clinic. You can now set up online giving to be recurring.

Mission team - *Serve with us*

Join a mission team that is now forming to serve at the clinic. God will use whatever skills you bring. Please contact one of the Ahuas committee for more information.

Contact Information - *Ahuas Committee*

The Ahuas Committee is committed to being a bridge to help resource the life giving and life saving ministry at the Ahuas Clinic. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee if you would like more information on ways to serve or support this mission.

1. Andrew Starr, Committee Chair - andrew.starr@dcmedical.org
2. Justin Rabbach - BWM Executive Director, justin@moravianmission.org
3. Lisa Pampe - BWM Board of Directors, lispampe@gmail.com
4. Benno Marx - bntmarx@gmail.com
5. Brian Stephens - Brian.Stephens@dcmedical.org
6. Loren Jendro - lorenmjendro@aol.com



"For I was sick and you looked after me"

Matt 25:36