**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**XYZ Lends a Helping Hand in Guatemala**

**at the James Project of Latin America**

DATE: January 24, 2019

TOWN, STATE. – XYZ Team from XYZ Church recently participated in an international mission trip to James Project of Latin America in Monjas, Jalapa Guatemala. The journey supported the work of James Project which includes Shadow of His Wings Children’s Home for displaced youth in Guatemala, the onsite Evangelical Freedom School, the Redeemed Program that promotes micro-business development for Guatemalan women, and ministry outreach to a severely impoverished region of the world. The XYZ team was comprised of # members who traveled # hours to serve.

“There wasn’t a moment when I didn’t feel genuine humility to be serving at the James Project. I’m very grateful for the opportunity to make a difference for the children and women of Guatemala by serving on a team to provide both physical and spiritual support,” commented [team member name.}

The XYZ team [describe in more detail what the group did] over the # day trip.

Guatemala is a country in Central America which is bordered by El Salvador, Honduras, Belize and Mexico. The county is home to 16.5 million people making it the most populous country in Central America. The poverty rate in Guatemala is extremely high. According to the World Bank, 59.3 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and 23 percent live in extreme poverty. Additionally, with the second highest child murder rate in the world, Guatemala is one of the worst places in the world for children to live.

“We are eternally grateful for the short-term mission teams who visit James Project of Latin America annually to support our work and enrich the lives of the children and women of Guatemala. Teams return to the US with new friendships, a strengthened and renewed faith in God, and a greater appreciation for all that we have in the United States.” shared JPLA Director Tiffany Applegate.

The James Project of Latin America started in 2001 to provide abandoned, abused, and trafficked children and women the spiritual, physical, emotional, and educational support they need. The vision of the James Project is to build a sustainable organization capable of meeting the needs of the precious women and children of Guatemala and in turn provide hope and faith for the future. The needs are great including providing a home for displaced children, promoting micro-businesses for women, educating both displaced and local youth, and advocating for real change in Guatemala.

Additional information about missionary opportunities and how to support the James Project of Latin America can be found at [www.jamesproject.org](http://www.jamesproject.org).

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