Fall 2019

## Maria and Jorge Guzman

Most of our newsletters are filled with stories of lives saved and changed by Michael's House thanks to your generous donations. There are so many others who need our help; we just don't have the funds. One person who needs our help is Maria Guzman, a 64-year old Honduran woman living in extreme poverty. She has many health issues and came to our care partner in Choloma where they gave her basic medical care. Then, about a month ago, she became extremely ill and was hospitalized with cardiac problems.

After her discharge from hospital, our care partner, Renée Duignan, went to visit her. Maria lives in a make-shift house near a polluted river, she has no electricity or running water. Her husband abandoned her when her three children were still young. Her children, now grown have left Choloma and she has no contact with them. Maria's eight-year-old grandson, Jorge, lives with her; he has never attended school. He clings to Maria and rarely leaves her side. Maria has no income, so she leaves her house every day searching for plastic bottles and tins in garbage dumps and at the end of the day she deposits them in a recycling center. Her income is about 12 lempiras per day which is less than 50 cents in U.S. dollars.



Above: Maria's home that she shares with her grandson, Jorge.

Left to right:
Jose (a
neighbor),
Maria, Jorge,
and MH Care
Partner, Renée.

Renee discovered the one mattress Maria owns was out in the sun drying out as it had rained heavily the previous night and the roof

which is put together with pieces of rusty corrugated iron has many holes. Maria has very little in the house and cooks outside on an open fire with wood she collects locally. Many of her health issues stem from poor diet and there is also concern over the nutrition the grandson receives.

Although our care partner was able to help Maria with food and medical care on an emergency basis, they do not have the funds to sustain the support she needs. Additional donations will enable us to expand our care to help people like Maria and her grandson, Jorge. One of our Trustees has funded the printing of a second copy of this newsletter. Would you consider sharing with a friend news of the good work Michael's House does?

## Michael's House Continues to Feed and Care for Elderly in Tanzania

Your donations fill hungry stomachs and provide medical care to destitute elderly who live in the rural area outside of Singida, Tanzania. The area sits just below the equator in a semi-arid central zone, which experiences low rainfall and short rainy seasons that are often erratic, with fairly widespread drought in one year out of four. Our care partner, led by Ngozika Nduaguba, manages the Makiungu Hospital where our elderly travel each month for miles by foot. Too weak and infirm to make the trip alone, the elderly depend on others to carry home the sacks of life-sustaining food.

As with all of our programs, our care partners choose the most destitute and infirm elderly to assure that your dollars go to relieve the suffering of those in greatest need.

## Michael's House Continues to Feed and Care for Elderly in Tanzania (Cont.)

The below photos are the elderly picking up food at the Makiungu Hospital to carry home.



# Golfers "Hit the Links" at the 10th Annual Michael's House Golf Tournament

On May 9, Hawkins Electric Service and Hawkins Electrical Construction hosted its 10th annual golf tournament to benefit Michael's House at Whiskey Creek Golf Course in Ijamsville, MD. Our deepest and heartfelt thanks for their continued support! Thank you also to the below sponsors and participants. It was a great day for a great cause! If you are interested in participating next year, please contact Patti Troy at Hawkins at 301-210-0900.



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To volunteer, contact us at 301 836-1006, info@michaels-house.org.

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