



FAITH IN PRACTICE

4-Star Rating

November 2011



Charity Navigator awarded Faith In Practice a 4-Star rating for the **7th consecutive year** -- an honor only 2% of all national charities rated have received. [Learn more.](#)

Meet the Challenge

Faith In Practice was recently selected by a national foundation to participate in a challenge grant. The foundation will match every dollar from donors, up to \$5,000. [Read more.](#)

Bearing Fruit

"God has planted many seeds in and through Faith In Practice over the years, and it is amazing how much fruit has sprung forth from those seeds." Jesus Ramirez, volunteer from El Progreso, spoke these words at the recent leadership conference where volunteers gathered from across Guatemala to plan for next season. As I listened to his words, I saw before me the seeds and the fruit that humbled me and made me thank God once again for this ministry.

Seeds. Apolinario Lopez from El Peten stepping out in faith to become a volunteer after his grandson needed surgery. **Fruit.** Apolinario, who now says his purpose in life is to help others. His son, Yoni, following in Apolinario's footsteps as a volunteer from the Peten.



Apolinario Lopez

Seeds. Armando Najera assured that he would die because of a cancerous tumor on his face, encouraged by his priest to believe that God had a plan for his life. **Fruit.** Armando, now healed, a leader in his community, a mentor to the young man who proudly stands before the leadership to speak of how Armando has changed his life and given him a purpose. This young man now serving others in need in Jalapa.

Seeds. Floridalma Quintanilla serving the people of Santa Rosa despite societal norms which say she should serve her husband to the exclusion of all others. **Fruit.** Elvia Lima standing before leadership to express her appreciation for Floridalma, who has taught her that while she respects her husband, she does not need to ask permission to help others. Standing to thank Floridalma for teaching her that Elvia is called to serve God first.

Seeds and Fruit. Committed volunteers from across Guatemala sitting at table with tea lights under a starry sky sharing a meal

Life-Saving Work



Just days before their life-saving work was celebrated at the Gala, Dr. Peter and Nancy Thompson led a team that screened 1,050 women for cervical cancer.

[Watch a video tribute to the Thompsons.](#)

A Christmas Gift



Honor friends and family by bringing healing to the poor of Guatemala. Make a gift in honor of a loved one by December 15, and Faith In Practice will send a Christmas card to that person.

[Make a Christmas gift today.](#)

and stories. Brothers and sisters, who would never have met but for this mission. Servants who ate, laughed and danced together as one community. A community that bears great fruit. A community that is led forth in joy and led back in peace.

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty....For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:10-12

--Rev. Linda L. McCarty

Each year more than 600 Guatemalan volunteers serve beside more than 1,000 US volunteers through Faith In Practice.

Working Side By Side

They gathered together at the warehouse in Antigua. From the jungles of El Peten, Guatemala, and from across the United States, they came. Teenagers who traveled eight hours by bus, many leaving their village for the first time. Adults from Texas, Oregon, and Georgia, many visiting Guatemala for the first time. Spanish speakers. English speakers. Seated at tables, four by four, they worked together. Side by side, table by table, packing medications for the thousands of patients who will come to our village medical clinics this season, seeking healing.

Isaiah speaks of the great banquet table, of people from different worlds coming together, joyously, as one. So too was it in Antigua as the Pharmacy Team came together, in communion, to serve the poor of Guatemala, a witness to the kingdom that is and is to come.

Soon those same youth will serve again, this time in their own village. They will hand out the medications they so carefully packed, working side by side the Wells Medical Clinic Team who will make the long trek to the Peten in



Serving Together on the Pharmacy Team

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life changing gift](#)

March. The young volunteers will welcome this team, serving as a bridge between these volunteers and their own community. On that day, a new banquet table will be set, where the Spirit will surely be present. A banquet table around which you too shall be seated, part of this community through your support and prayers for the mission.

