

# Growing Servant Leaders

**The summer staff experience**, with a focus on discipleship, shaped 12 young servant-leaders who want to impact our world. “I learned a lot about people,” Hannah Ragsdale, summer staff, said. “I asked God how he loves them, and how I can love them. My time on summer staff taught me to communicate well and to find my identity in Him and not in what people think of me.” “I gained confidence in myself as a leader,” Ian Nash said.

“**Gleanings is the best representative** of provisional missions that I’ve ever seen,” Zach Johnston said. “Provisional missions is providing practical things, like food. The scale that it’s on is so intense. Every week, looking at how many servings we pumped out, the quantity, where we are sending it—it’s almost unbelievable. That’s a lot of food. To be a part of that—my cup overflows.”

**Everyone worked hard**, and no one got paid. Each one of these young people gave their summer as a gift to God, a time set aside to pack up food for the poor. It was a love offering. As you can see by the final production numbers, God used these summer staff, full-time staff, and mission builders to charge forward and produce over 27 million servings of food in just three months. These numbers are astounding. But it has never been about the numbers. It is about investing in relationships; loving God and loving our neighbors; being transformed by the love of God; and feeding impoverished people both physically and spiritually. “I love serving,” Bryn Baker said. “I want to do unexpected acts of love that people never see coming.”

**Thank you to everyone** who made Summer 2020 a success. Thank you for your enduring partnership through the good times and the rough times. What an honor to work together as the body of Christ.



Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn will be lifted high in honor. Psalm 112:8-9

## Summer Production

During the summer production period we ran two products - our high protein soup mix, and repackaged oatmeal. We would like to share the story of our summer production by the numbers:

Pounds of soup:	994,448	Pounds of oats packed:	76,767	<b>Total pounds:</b>	<b>1,071,215</b>
Servings of soup:	26,850,096	Servings of oats:	921,204	<b>Total servings:</b>	<b>27,771,300</b>
Pallets of soup:	502	Pallets of oats:	61	<b>Total pallets:</b>	<b>563</b>
Truckloads of soup:	20	Truckloads of oats:	1	<b>Total truckloads:</b>	<b>21</b>
Bags of soup:	321,280	Estimated bags of oats:	39,040	<b>Estimated total bags:</b>	<b>360,320</b>

# Ministry Report Honduras



**Convoy of Hope (COH)** began providing basic humanitarian aid to Honduras in 1998. In 2011 they started a nationwide children's feeding program along with 46 other community organizations, schools, and churches. At a minimum, they provide five meals per week to children who are experiencing food insecurity. **COH** is currently feeding 22,000 children each week in Honduras, with almost four million meals served last year in 257 communities around the country.

**This is Ana's story** as shared with us by **COH**, through a **COH** school principal Katherine Mejia: "Ana had a choice to make every day: she could dig for recyclables in a dump to sell so she could eat, or she could go to school and learn.

**Weakened by hunger**, Ana stumbled to school and dropped into her chair. Ana struggled to concentrate on her lessons as her eyes glazed over. Without warning, she tumbled onto the concrete floor. Ana was not the only child at the school struggling with hunger. Many came every day with an empty belly. "That was very hard for us, but it was impossible to provide [for them]," says Principal Mejia.

**Soon after Ana's incident**, **Convoy of Hope** began delivering food to her school. Since then, Ana's situation has changed dramatically. "Before, when she was hungry, she was super shy. She didn't talk and stared at the floor," says Mejia. "So, we can see her health is progressing [slowly with proper nutrition], but it's a long road ahead."

**From 2012 to 2014 COH piloted Mother's Clubs** around the country. The clubs serve to women's empowerment by teaching women to address physical needs through proper nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, and small-scale agriculture. They also educate secondary-school-age girls on life skills, harmful cultural practices, self-esteem building, and advocacy.

"**Convoy of Hope wants to see lives changed** as we promote healthy children and communities that are free from poverty and hunger. Many of the children enrolled in our program have their only meal of the day at school — a meal provided by **Convoy of Hope** — and **Gleanings For The Hungry** — as one of their partners."



## Director's Corner

Dear Gleanings Friend,

I wish this COVID pandemic could just go away as quickly as it came in the spring and we could all go back to normal. Unfortunately, it does not look like that is happening. Change is happening fast and what nobody did a year ago is now normal. **Gleanings** leadership spent time praying and seeking wisdom from God and we feel this is a time for preparation. We will step up a notch in our intention to grow. The Bible talks about being a disciple, being a person who reads the word and applies it. In Acts 2:42, the believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. We are intentionally returning to these roots of our faith in our **Gleanings** community. I believe God will meet us in this next season as we focus on our commitment to Jesus and one another.

We receive more requests than ever for our food from numerous places around the globe. Many times, we just pray for the Lord to show us His priority for where to send food. At the same time, our financial situation is more challenging since we do not have the volunteer teams who donate to the ministry when they serve with us. Our hope is to again host volunteer teams starting in November. Thank you for standing with us in prayer and in your support.

Blessings to all of you,

**Fritz Meier**