

**ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM THE TREASURER**  
**Re: THE MISSION MAZAHUA ADVISORY BOARD 2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

The reports of income, disbursements and balances carried forward into 2005 reflect the financial activity of the Board in summary form. Detailed ledger sheets are available for examination upon request as appropriate.

The reported total of account balances brought forward, \$8,644.61, reflects the major portion of the funds shown in the MMAB checkbook as of January 12, 2005, the date upon which the final 2004 deposit was made and account allocations were made. The Board also handles much of the Cortes family financial activity. There is a separate ledger for their funds, but the actual resources are pooled in a single checking account. As of January 12, 2004, the total balance in the checkbook was \$10,606.81.

The timing of funds transfer has changed since the beginning of 2004. I used to deposit any available funds to the Mission's General Fund checking account about once a month. Norberto has asked me now to keep him updated on what we have on hand, and he calls for a distribution when it will help most with the work of the Mission.

There are a couple of Program Support Funds that are building up large balances. There are particular reasons for each. The Solar Stoves Fund is building toward the day we have a large enough balance to buy bulk materials at wholesale prices. The Scholarship Fund is awaiting implementation of several projects that are in progress, and will be disbursed when students actually move into tuition based programs. Finally, this year we are trying to maintain a virtual "Christmas Club" account in the General Fund, a reserve with which to pay the December pay bonus mandated by Mexican law that has been such a problem in recent years. We are going all out to see that donations are applied as the donors have intended, and to see that each dollar has maximum impact for the Kingdom.

Beginning in 2005 there will be individual receipts issued for every donation, in addition to the year-end report of giving supplied for the purpose of verifying tax deductible contributions. January receipts will be out soon; I have just turned the corner on 2004 record keeping, and have been waiting to process new data until I could make changes to the system without compromising last year's data.

Please note that the subset of General Fund disbursements labeled as "loan payments" does NOT include the repayment of the loan made by the Cortes Family to complete the purchase payments on La Rosas. The La Rosas Fund is specifically directed to that goal. You will see the large January 2004 payment, which represents the accumulated encumbered funds from several prior years, released per the instructions of the President of the Board of Directors of the Asociacion Civil in Mexico. We still have \$675 to retire on that debt. Small regular donations continue to reduce that balance monthly.

The short term loans handled through the General Fund include three transactions. One involved underwriting travel to pick up the van donated by the Congregational Church of Sun City. Another was used to make a down payment on a pickup truck for the Mission.

The third was a means to conform to the funds routing options we had while converting Cortes Family checks into a fund that I could use to handle their credit card payments. We have observed for years that Norberto and Lisa simply plug in their own resources when there is a need at the Mission; now we are trying to track that more faithfully and assure the replacement of such personal investments.

There are a number of projects underway for which we will need very significant new resources in the near future. Some of these include:

1. **Medical assistance for Jovita Perez.** Jovita has been the director of the Special Friends ministry for several years, and has done an exemplary job. Last summer she was informed that substantial medical attention was required to correct worsening and potentially threatening conditions arising from her childhood bout with polio. She had the first of several surgeries on Nov. 28, 2004, and is now midway through a six-month bone stretching traction therapy, with more surgeries to come. After very generous support from several sources in Mexico, there remains a projected residue of \$10,000 when all of the associated costs of the process are in. The Mission seeks to cover that shortfall. There is an account open now in the MMAB accounts to support that effort. The staff team is anxious to have Jovita back on board in mid- to late summer this year.

2. **College funding for Judith Gonzalez.** Judith is one of the success stories of the school at La Rosas. She has completed her high school education and invested much effort in the study of English, while laboring faithfully and effectively at the Mission. She is now on track to start a five-year program of college studies in Michigan that will prepare her to be a teacher among the Mazahua. Her personal resources are nil; we seek to provide the funds to cover costs not met by scholarships, grants and work-study programs. We need about \$5000 by April or May, and are guessing \$10,000 yearly starting in Jan. 2006. There is an account open for those who want to help.

3. It looks like the summer of 2005 will be the timeframe for constructing large numbers of solar stoves. We just sent \$2000 down to buy materials for some spring building, but anticipate the need for an additional \$3000 to \$5000 to do the wholesale buying of materials that will make this project most cost-effective. We have an unusual team of workers available, and the work of introducing the stoves in the communities has made good progress, so this is "the fullness of time" for this project we began several years ago.

4. There are some accessibility projects that they want to do at the hacienda, the largest being construction of a whole new set of wheelchair accessible restrooms. I don't have cost figures on this list of projects yet, but these will be costs over and above the monthly operations budget; all donations are gratefully accepted! [Yes, I have an account here, too!]

5. Norberto has long dreamed of completing a second floor on the Molino that would provide the capacity to use that site as the community outreach center. Now there are some carpenters talking about going down to build it; the cost, again, is materials. The best estimate of the project cost so far is about \$40,000.

6. The sewing projects seem to be taking off lately! We need as many good sewing machines as we can get, and at least one serger, in order to provide opportunities for all of the ladies in the villages who are eager to learn and participate in the projects.

There are a host of other initiatives in the pipeline, of course, but these will serve as good examples of what is building in Mazahua country. We need to be much in prayer about how to support the work that God is calling people to, and how to provide increased stability at the same time for the basic costs of staff and facilities. They are working hard to build up some of the programs to the point of self-sufficiency and even contribution to the support of other ministry elements. Our part is to pray for their success, and to hold up their hands, financially speaking, until they "arrive".

This is an exciting time to be part of God's action in west central Mexico! In some ways, we are arriving at the "second generation" phase of the Mission's growth! We have people in whom Lisa and Norberto invested their lives, their ministry and the gospel 10, 15, 20, even 25 years ago, now finding their way into new chapters of ministry, a few with the Mission, most in an expanding network of influence. I can't wait to see what He has in mind next! Isn't it great to be invited by the Lord Himself to participate in the fulfillment of His plans? Ephesians 3:20-21 seems like an appropriate prayer here.

**Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than  
all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at  
work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in  
Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!  
Amen.**

All of us who support the ministry of Mission Mazahua appreciate your partnership in the work, whether by prayer, by giving, by spreading the word about what God is up to, or by visiting on site to serve. May God's blessings multiply as you engage in that which He opens before you!

For Christ and His people,  
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