

GUATEMALA MICROLOAN PROJECT UPDATE: February 2026

January 2026 Microloan Delegation Trip to Guatemala Enjoy these snapshots of our journey!

A group of ten women from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina traveled to Guatemala from January 20–28 to visit the Microloan Project. It was both a joy and a privilege to meet with Flor and Reyna, the project’s administrators, and to spend meaningful time with each of the four microloan groups. Each



gathering began with introductions and offered opportunities to get to know the participants, learn about their business ventures, and hear firsthand about the benefits they have experienced from their participation in the project.

Sharing meals of traditional Guatemalan food provided additional time for conversation and connection. The meals were prepared either by microloan participants, allowing us to support their businesses, or collaboratively by group members.

We also visited several individual businesses. Delegates were inspired by the women’s strength, imagination, resourcefulness, and perseverance. Participants repeatedly expressed heartfelt gratitude for the opportunities they have received through this project; we pass on those thanks to all of you who have helped make this project possible.



With the Morelia Microloan Group



Flor leading all of us in exercises and games.

Some of the Businesses We Visited:

Santa Isabel and her husband have a sewing business that they started in Mexico. She joined the microloan project 3 years ago and used some of her loans to buy fabric. She makes skirts, blouses, and other clothing, but recently has been sewing school uniforms since a new school year is beginning in Guatemala. Her daughter helps by serging the seams of the garments. She asked us to express her thanks to all those who support the microloan project.



Selene showed us the large variety of succulents and cactus plants she sells. She began growing them because she enjoys these plants very much and thought others would enjoy them, too. She showed us examples of plants she has grafted together. "I see my project as something that makes me feel good, it relaxes me," Selene shares. "I don't see it as work because it helps me emotionally. Growing plants is beautiful, and seeing the flowers in so many colors gives me peace, joy, and the satisfaction of learning new things. The Microloan Project has helped me so much. My business has grown and I've been able to earn an income while staying at home with my son.





Juanita studies social work at the university on Saturdays and joined the project about a year ago. As a first-time participant in the project, Juanita feels both curious and excited about the opportunity to learn new things and grow her business. Her store offers a wide variety of products including internet services, household supplies, pinatas, electronics, and stuffed animals. She is the daughter of Rosa, a long-time group member.

Reyna commented that the women recognize this microloan project is different from others. It is much more than just loans; it goes much deeper. Here they are concerned with the well-being of the women and offer support. The women are very happy with it.

A Highlight: Delegates Meeting Their Prayer Partners for the First Time!



Lynne Noble with her sister in prayer, Delia



Karen Mills with her sister in prayer, Reyna G.

One aspect the participants most appreciate about the project is having prayer partners, or as the Guatemalans refer to them, sisters in prayer. Flor emphasized that even if the sisters in prayer don't know the details of what is happening in the lives of the women, the women are strengthened by this prayer support. Despite the distance and barriers, these relationships have provided very meaningful connections.

If you are interested in serving as a sister in prayer, contact our prayer partner coordinator Sharon Meares at shmeares@hotmail.com. She will send you a profile of the woman you will support through prayer, and you can be assured that you will be prayed for as well!

Organizational Update

We are grateful to Flor and Reyna, Microloan Project staff, for organizing our visit. It was a joy to witness their leadership in action. Delegation members expressed how impressed they were with their intelligence, enthusiasm, and competence, as well as how they have stepped up to continue the program and make it even stronger.

The paperwork to establish a legal organization for their work has been filed and Flor and Reyna anticipate the approval process may take several months. They are thankful for the continued prayer support and look ahead with hope as they complete this important stage of transition. Once their organization is approved, we eagerly anticipate beginning additional microloan groups.

Feedback from Our Visit:

Lynne Noble: *From the first time I was aware of a microloan program (elsewhere) and then in our presbytery, I was a supporter of the concept. But, to actually see it in action was an eye, head and heart opener. To meet these women who work so hard, with such joy and confidence was a mountain top experience. They were so warm and welcoming, offering huge hugs and great gratitude for their opportunities. It felt like instant family, as did the camaraderie of our traveling group. Thanks be to God.*

Delilah Bragg: *What I found meaningful on this trip was the warmth of the Guatemalan women. They were so proud of their businesses and so grateful for the relationships created by the Microloan Program. I was also impressed with Reyna and Flor. Their guidance and passion will serve the Microloan Program well.*

Flor: *We are grateful for your visit. When you come it feeds our souls and our hearts. It means so much that you love Guatemala and love us.*

Reyna: *Your visit made us happy and the women very happy. It strengthened the women. The women are also strengthened by their sisters in prayer. The women are all wanting to meet their sisters in prayer!*

Why go on a Delegation Trip?

Participants have found the experience both meaningful and inspiring. The visits are also incredibly uplifting for the microloan staff and participants, who deeply appreciate the support. Consider joining us on our next Microloan Delegation Trip in 2027.

There Is So Much More to Share!

For more details on our trip and the project in general:

- Follow our “Guatemala Microloan Project” Facebook page.
- Arrange a program for your group or church by contacting Susan Maveety at susan.maveety@gmail.com.
- Visit our website at GuatemalaMicroloanProject.org

Alternative Giving Cards featuring photos of microloan participants and suitable for any occasion are available by contacting Sandra Teubner at steubner@charter.net.

To provide financial support donate online through our website or send checks payable to PW PWNC to Amy Yenderusiak, 604 7th St NE, Conover NC 28613.