



YUGO's House Building Ministry Ensenada, Mexico

Greetings from Mexico! We are so excited to share with you the story of a family with whom you and your team will be sharing the love and hope of Jesus. Take the time to get to know them and begin to pray about how God could use you.

Meet your Family: The Martinez Martinez Family



THEIR STORY

Heriberto is from Veracruz. He has five siblings. He never knew his father. His mother moved to Ensenada when he was 5 to work. He and his siblings stayed with their grandparents and his mother went back and forth from Veracruz to Ensenada. When he was 13, she finally took him and his siblings to live with her in Ensenada. He has lived here ever since. Heriberto only completed elementary school. He started working full time in the fields when he was 16.

Gabriela was born and raised in Ensenada. She also has five siblings. She was raised by both mom and dad. She describes her childhood as great. Her parents worked hard to provide an education for her and her siblings. She is a high school graduate. Her parents are also Christians, so she raised in the church. Her family has been attending Pastor Abundis church her whole life.

Heriberto and Gabriela met at work when she was 16 and he was 19. They dated until she graduated from high school and then got married. They have been married for almost three years now and they have one son, Anderson. When they first got married, they were both working full time in the fields and were able to rent a small house. Since the birth of Anderson, only Heriberto works, and Gabriela stays home with the baby. He makes \$67 per week.

Despite their low income, they saved up their money and were able to invest in some property with the hopes of building a house on it one day. They are paying \$55 a month on the mortgage for the land. They can't afford to make the mortgage payment and rent a place to live so, they built a small shed on their property. The foundation is dirt, the walls are scrap pieces of plywood, and the roof is a combination of plywood and plastic tarps. They have no electricity or running water. Their bathroom is an outhouse that they also built themselves. They own a propane cooktop but only one burner works. And they have one queen size mattress that they all sleep on.

Pastor Abundis has known Gabriela her whole life and Heriberto for almost three years now. He tells us that they have been attending his Sunday services faithfully. They have also taken some discipleship classes that he offers. He says he chose this family for the House Building Ministry through YUGO because he has seen this young couple work hard to support themselves and their baby. Also, their living conditions are inadequate and unsafe. He believes that a home would be a great blessing and a good way to start a family in a stable environment. He believes that their faith in God is strong and that they will continue to seek Him as their guide.

Pastor Abundis asks that you join him in prayer for Heriberto and Gabriela's marriage to continue to include Jesus, for their finances to provide for all their needs, for their health to always be good, and for them to use this home to minister to others in their community. He thanks you for your interest in this ministry. He and the Martinez Martinez family look forward to meeting you all soon.



Heriberto Martinez

Father, 23 years old
Field Worker



Maria Gabriela Martinez

Mother, 20 years old
Housewife



Anderson
Son, 1.5 years old





Their Community

The Martinez Martinez family is currently living in a small rural town called Valle Turqueza, south of Ensenada. This area of the city is home to thousands of migrant families, who came from southern states of Mexico, looking for better opportunities. Many 'colonias' don't have the most basic services, such as running water, electricity, and sewage systems. However, these areas are often the ones that offer the lowest prices to acquire a piece of land, and for that reason many families will buy in those areas despite the lack of services. For these families, the most common job opportunity is as a field laborer, providing workers the equivalent of about 65 dollars per week. These factors combined create a challenging environment for families to grow and create a safe space to call home.





Meet their Pastor



Carlos Abundis

Capilla Calvario

We have an incredible team of local pastors that YUGO Ministries partners with and they really are the front line of our ministry. Many of the local pastors do not receive any kind of salary for their ministry - they live by faith that God will provide. Some pastors need to find part time work in order to provide for their families. The pastors who work with us to prepare for your team have put a lot of work and resources into the preparations as well.

The local pastor you are partnering with is Pastor Carlos Abundis.

Above and Beyond

Your missions team is already doing so much, but if you choose to go above and beyond to love this family, please consider these ways we've found to meet their specific needs .

- Platforms: 1 Double & 1 Twin
- Table
- Stove
- Food Basket
- House Basket
- Curtain Rods