



November 17, 2020 Report from Oblate Youth Ministry in Tijuana.

This week we were privileged to have three of students studying to be doctors take time out to visit families. There are people who just need to be checked from time to time because it is difficult for them to obtain medical services. We ended up visiting 9 families in one day, including 3 new families.

One medical student, Joselin, visited a 32-year-old man named Jose Luis, who suffered a gun shot wound 3 years ago in his leg.



He has had some surgeries, including one to put in a metal plate. However, something went amiss, and his bone broke back through the skin. He has



been cleaning this wound with female napkins, since those are the most affordable clean gauze-like item. He has not been able to work and must live very modestly with his wife and daughter. Joselin cleaned the wound,

and we gave him some better bandaging materials.

We also took Joselin to visit a 16-year-old immigrant, who suffers from a hernia. Since he is not Mexican, he does not have access to government medical services. She also visited Vicki, a mostly blind woman. She had been cleaning her eyes with orange juice as some sort of home remedy. Joselin told her this was not a good practice recommended something different.

We also visited a 28-year-old man (right), whose back had been crushed by a failed car-lift, breaking his spine. Miraculously, after two surgeries and 2 years, he can walk, however, he cannot work. Unfortunately, it has left him incontinent. We brought him diapers, but they were the wrong size. We invited him to come to the Thursday mass promising to give him a supply of diapers there. Realizing that the fact that he is alive and able to walk



thanks to God, he accepted our offer. He has two young sons and a wife to be thankful for also. The next day after mass we gave him a large supply of diapers and introduced him to Eduardo, our resident psychologist. He accepted the offer to make an appointment.



Our other two medical students, Karla and Fe, traveled together and first visited Vicky, an obese woman, to whom we frequently bring diapers. They examined her swollen feet and arranged to get her some medication refills. They also checked her for high blood pressure and bed sores.

Next, they visited our long time 89-year-old friend, Josefina, who has suffered from

bleeding, hemorrhoids, and the aches and pains of old age. It turned out her blood pressure was sky high. So, we managed to get her up a difficult hillside climb and to a clinic. There we got a prescription for the hemorrhoids and blood pressure. After getting her home, we sat with her for an hour and a half, because the doctor wanted her to receive the medication in small doses. This afforded the students the opportunity to attend their online medical class via cellphone, which they were thinking they would miss.



Next Karla and Fe visited Vicente, who is a double amputee. He had not been able to get his blood test device to work, so the students resolved that. But the resultant test was dangerously high. The students taught Vicente how to use the device properly and showed a neighbor, so that he could be of assistance in checking his glucose more often.

The previous week student Karla visited Luis (right), our new 20-year-old migrant friend with tuberculosis. She checked him over and confirmed he was taking an appropriate medication. However, she was very concerned that he was living in a one



room studio with two roommates. Finally, we finished the day visiting Hortencia, who is severely stricken with arthritis. After checking her joints, she asked the girls to do her hair, which they braided nicely.

So, we now have a list of creams, ointments, a sitz bath, medication refills, bandage materials, Ensure, gloves, blood test strips, a special donut pillow, and a commode all to

aid in our next visits. Jocelyn, Karla, and Fe all said they were excited to have some hands-on experience and hoped to convince fellow students to also participate, realizing how big the need is in this community. They also thought they could work some arrangement with a hospital or clinic to get a special rate.



Our featured student this week is Rosalinda, whose donor is Mary (Kay) Tenorio. Rosalinda accompanied us on some of the visits mentioned above, even though she is majoring in business administration, not medicine. She won an international award in 2019 for a business improvement submittal. She has a beautiful opera voice.