

## **2021 Was a Big Year!**

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 turned out to be an amazing year of growth for us at El Pozo de Vida. After finding a new rhythm of work, we continued to reach the vulnerable and at-risk. With the help of our partners, we gave out over 70 tons of food. We also distributed several hundred boxes of clothes, generously donated by Old Navy. We started receiving teams again, block parties resumed, and our work in the red-light district was deep and personal.

### **Something to celebrate:**

More women are starting their own businesses from our DreamKits program this week! They will receive the resources, training, and inventory to start the business of their dreams and leave the red-light district behind.

Our prevention programs have resumed in-person, with new opportunities to launch programs nationwide through government centers located in high-risk communities.

Also, we continue to receive new girls at our safe house, and the women at our transition homes have now found found seasonal jobs at Old Navy through their Move-Up program.

### **Exciting things to come for 2022:**

At the local level, the Mexican UNODC (Office of Drugs and Crime) has reached out to El Pozo to participate in the development of standards for safe houses for human-trafficking victims. They have referenced our holistic care model as exemplary, and have asked us to work along side them in the process of certifying other safe homes, developing future protocols for holistic care of victims and survivors. The exciting thing about this new endeavor is that typically, the United Nations unilaterally develops these protocols, so we are honored to participate.

Globally, we have been partnering with international anti-trafficking organizations through online forums, training resources and campaigns. We also have been receiving teams and interns from Europe and South America.

We sense from the Lord that 2022 may be the time for us to offer a Justice School internship. We plan to launch this coming summer, and anticipate receiving interns to learn and serve directly in our programs.

### **Things to pray for:**

We are praying for two new properties to purchase- one for our community center in the La Merced red-light district, and the other to house school interns, short-term teams and staff. For these purchases, we will need about 1.5 million US dollars. Remember- nothing is impossible!

Finally, due to our rapid growth, we need to fill some key positions. Please pray for the right people to come join our amazing team!



Benny Yu  
Founder