



**Family-to-Family**  
505 W. St. Thomas More Way  
Spokane, WA 99208

# FAMILY TO FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Third Quarter - 2020

## Family To Family Welcomes New Director



*Family To Family* is proud to welcome a new director, Julianne Sachs of Walla Walla, who will join this ministry with a broad range of experience and talent. Miriam Devaney plans to step down as director for the last six years in order to pursue additional charitable causes while maintaining a role on the Board. Julianne recently sent in this note of introduction about herself:

*Greetings, Family-to-Family sponsors and supporters!*

*It is my pleasure to introduce myself to you as the incoming director of Family-to-Family and to share with you part of my story.*

*I was born and raised in Spokane, attending St. Mary Catholic School and Gonzaga Preparatory School. I earned a BS in Mathematics and a BA in Spanish at Western Washington University, with one semester of study in Seville, Spain.*

*Upon graduating from Western Washington University, I volunteered for one year with the School Sisters of St. Francis in Guatemala. There, in the remote town of Chahal, Alta Verapaz, I taught middle-school*

*mathematics, physics, and physical education in Spanish to students aged twelve through twenty-five, while living in community with volunteers from six different countries. Additionally, I spent six weeks assisting at an orphanage in Santa Apolonia, Chimaltenango. I was in Guatemala during the years of 1997 and 1998, after the signing of the Peace Accords and during the time of Truth Commission work and the assassination of Archbishop Gerardi.*

*Upon returning to the United States, I worked as a bilingual Patient Care Representative at a sliding-scale medical clinic in Seattle for one year before moving to Bellingham to complete my Master's of Science in Mathematics. Since then, I have been working as a mathematics instructor at Walla Walla Community College, except for six months when my husband Kevin and I lived and volunteered in Cochabamba, Bolivia.*

*Last year I had the opportunity to visit Family-to-Family in Guatemala and was deeply impressed by the program. My two teenaged children and I were able to meet the family we sponsor and visit the home of another family in the program. I wholeheartedly believe in Family-to-Family's goal of fostering local economic development by providing opportunities that empower participants and communities to become self-sufficient and access a path out of poverty.*

*I am thrilled about this opportunity to partner with you for positive change. At a time when COVID-19 is reshaping the economic landscape of the world and there is greater focus on racial injustice, **Family-to-Family** offers an exceptional avenue to make a difference.*

*Gratefully looking forward to working with you,  
Julianne Sachs*

*Email: [ftfguatemala@gmail.com](mailto:ftfguatemala@gmail.com)*

## In Memorium

We wish to acknowledge the passing of William Howard Schlieman, 94, on May 15, 2020. Howard was born and raised in Montana and after graduating high school, served in the Navy during WWII until the war ended. After attending the Montana School of Mines, he worked as a petroleum engineer in the Middle East and Asia. Howard, along with his wife, Laura, raised a family of three while volunteering as a softball and baseball coach as well as a Boy Scout Leader. For over twenty years, Howard was an advocate for the poor served in Guatemala by **Family-to-Family**. May he rest in eternal peace.

## Donations for Sewing Machines Received

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to those donors who contributed toward the purchase of foot powered sewing machines for families who have completed our sewing programs in Guatemala. A total of \$3200 was collected since the appeal went out in April and will be used to purchase eight new sewing machines.

## COVID 19 Impact in Guatemala



The Covid 19 pandemic has touched every corner of the globe, so it's no surprise that Guatemala saw its first case in early March and to date, 48 confirmed deaths with 2,512 infected. Since March, the economic fallout from the pandemic has affected millions. To slow the spread of the virus, Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei suspended public transportation and imposed daily curfews which have hit those living in poverty the hardest. Since then, men, women and children have been spotted waving white flags, which signals hunger, by the thousands in the cities and highland communities.

Thanks to **Family-to-Family's** emergency fund (which has helped with hurricane relief and other emergencies in the past) and individual donors, Adela Tambriz and her field workers have delivered over 25,000 pounds of corn to families who are experiencing food insecurity as well as bags of beans, rice, sugar, salt, cereals, fruit, oil and soap. Community health providers have been visiting the "caserios" in our mission area to provide instruction on the proper use of masks, hand washing and social distancing guidelines.

Even though the Guatemalan government had approved of emergency measures worth millions of dollars to confront this health crisis, most of the remote highland communities served by **Family-to-Family** will not receive economic support.

