

January 2017

# FRIENDS



## A Year of Firsts

Friends From Iowa Foundation experienced a year of many firsts in 2016 including: the first library, Kathy's first trip to El Salvador, the Inauguration, the completion of the first college Scholarship, the first English classes, the first Festival of Inclusion and the first Independence Day participation.

Friends From Iowa Foundation's Inauguration was held on March 14th, 2016. The day began at 4:00AM with the El Salvadorian tradition of serenading our Queen representative at her house,

blowing off fireworks, and enjoying traditional El Salvador fare.

Friends From Iowa held its Inauguration ceremony at the Foundation building from 9:00AM-12:00PM. We invited the Berlin community to tour our facilities, hear from the FFIF team about services provided, and enjoy food, pinatas, a raffle, and clowns.

From 8:00PM-1:00AM, we hosted a large outdoor party and fundraiser to raise money for future projects. A DJ was rented to provide a fun and lively atmosphere for the community.



FFIF founder, Jerry Burger, and his wife, Kathy, celebrate Palm Sunday during her first visit to El Salvador.

## “Much to be thankful for. Much to look forward to.”

### Cancer-Free



What a miracle! Following surgery to remove her arm and many chemo treatments later, our friend, Reina, is now cancer-free! Thank you for the many prayers, donations and well wishes that poured in for her. Your support is truly overwhelming.

Of course, much of what was accomplished in 2016 couldn't have been done without the support of our many FRIENDS from Iowa. It is thanks to you that we have made a huge impact in the lives of many Salvadorians.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your support.

As we begin 2017, there is much to look forward to. Work has begun on a kitchen addition to our Foundation building to serve hot meals to the homeless.

In addition, a single mother with 7 small children is in immediate need of shelter and assistance.

When friends like you partner with us, we can meet the urgent physical needs of the people.