



“I AM MAKING EVERYTHING NEW!”

Each year our school, Colegio La Luz de Jesús, gets a classroom full of new students. Each one is four years old, each one is a little nervous, but every single one of them excited to see what going to school is about. Some of their bright, smiling little faces are in the picture above.

Over the course of the year, they make friends; they learn about letters and numbers; they spend days coloring and painting and singing. They learn so many little things that help them grow in independence. And, each day they are reminded how much they are loved by God.

By the end of the school year, these little ones have undergone a transformation. They're braver and stronger and surer because they spend each day at a school where they are filled with the knowledge of Whose they are.

As an organization, we're experiencing newness this year. This is our first newsletter under our new name: **Bright Hill Collective.**

This name was chosen because it represents where we are and what we are, and, like our students learn each day, it shows Whose we are.

We still work on the same hillside in El Salvador and still work together with our neighbors to build a community filled with greater opportunities.

But, most importantly, we still point our neighbors to the One who makes all things new, who promises “a new heaven and a new earth,” and who tells each of us that we can become “a new creation.”

OUR DREAM



These fifth graders were so excited to get a filling, nourishing lunch at school, and our team had a lot of fun dishing out lunches and hanging out with our students.

Imagine that you're seven years old. Today is your first day of school. You have a new backpack, a school uniform that's nicer than any of your other clothes, new shoes, and lunchbox with your favorite cartoon character on it. Your mom made sure that your hair looked perfect when you left the house. Maybe you cried a little bit when your mom left you at school, but within half an hour or so, you've learned that you have the sweetest teacher and that you're going to spend every single day playing with your new best friends.

Finally, it's snack time. Thank goodness because you're really hungry. There wasn't a lot for breakfast. You open your new lunchbox and realize there's not much for snack either. You look around the room and see that you're not the only one whose lunchbox is pretty empty. The teacher sees, too, and she gives you a granola bar and a banana to add to what you brought from home. Now you have enough to fill you up and keep you going. You might not have much to eat when you get home for lunch or even for dinner, but now you know that you can count on getting a little something extra at school.

That "little something extra" is our dream, which is why we're working toward having a snack and lunch program. The snack program would help our Kindergarten students whose days end at noon, and the lunch program would address the needs of our first through fifth grade students who are in school until 2:00 pm. In total, this program would help 120 students who face food insecurity.

Our students come from families that make, on average, about \$300 each month. Jobs are scarce, if any are available at all. Less money is coming in from relatives who've moved to other countries seeking a better life. El Salvador has grown safer, but extreme poverty still exists.

During our spring break trips, we provided our students two lunches each week. By doing this, we learned that we can provide this program for roughly \$18,000 per year.

If this need touches your heart and you'd like to know more about it, get in touch with us at 979.260.7447 or go to our website: brighthillcollective.org and click on the donate button.



SPRING BREAK 2025

Team members from The Hanna Project got to spend time with their sponsored child. For some of them, this was a first meeting, but others are old friends with our sweet student Eunice.

Spring Break 2025 will go down as the time that God showed us that all things get done because of Him, not because of us.

Imagine, if you will, two back-to-back trips full of hardworking trippers ready to do good and our team of Bright Hill staff members who, one by one, keep getting knocked out by illness. You can't just hang up a shingle that says "Be back next year" when you've got a team ready to go, even when you're dragging along.

Fortunately, our teams kept going even with minimal supervision. So, what did they do? The list is impressive. Our two teams:

- Worked on the apartment for our missionary family. They painted, installed cabinets, cleared a path to make a walkway to the front door, and completed so many other needed tasks.
- Served in Bible studies, working with adults, teens, and children.
- Dished up delicious food for the students at our school. The students had sandwiches and delicious chicken soup made by our dear friend Blanca.

- Made dinners for hundreds of our friends and neighbors who attended the Monday night outreaches.
- Delivered baskets of food to families in need. Small groups from each team got to help our missionaries, Yenifer and Edwin Escudero, make these deliveries and spend time praying with the families.
- Spent time with their sponsored students. Every Sunday after church we have sponsor lunch, and our sponsors meet (or get reacquainted with) the students they sponsor. That lunch is always one of the sweetest times of the trip.

Our two teams were such a blessing, both to us and to our friends in El Salvador. We look forward to seeing them again next year.

Are you interested in going to El Salvador?

We would LOVE to take you there. Our summer trips are full, but we'll be posting our 2026 dates by the end of this summer. If you are thinking of assembling a large group from your church or other organization, get in touch with us so that we can start planning.



**Bright
Hill** COLLECTIVE
P.O. Box 3003, Bryan, TX 77805.3003

A city shining on a hill

Can there be a more blessed sight than this? You're seeing the women of our neighborhood joining together for Bible study. They come each week to learn more about God, to deepen their faith, and to find others who encourage them.

Most of the families in our community are led by women. Having mothers who are steeped in faith means so much for these families. It means that they have someone praying for them, someone seeking God's will in her life and in theirs, someone who is learning to love like Jesus.

As you go throughout your days, will you be praying for these women? Please pray that they will come to know Christ deeply, that our leaders will have wisdom and strength to minister, and that families will come to know Christ through these women's faith.



979.260.7447 | contact@brighthillcollective.org | www.brighthillcollective.org | P.O. Box 3003, Bryan, TX 77805.3003

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