

Honduras Fresh from the Field

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Happy, Healthy, and Dressed in Pink

A Story of Transformation



by Matt DeKam Program Consultant Honduras Team

This story is more on the "rescue" end of the spectrum because of the high levels of poverty in southern Honduras, but it shows necessary steps toward a sustainable solution.

Dayana Arely is two years old, and standing proudly to show off her pink dress. What a change from a year ago when she and her family entered the health program of Diaconia Nacional, a local partner of World Renew in Honduras.

María and Erlin, Dayana's young parents, were struggling. Dayana was nine months old and Maria was pregnant with Dayana's little sister. Dayana was losing weight and having problems with mobility. The doctor of the community health center diagnosed her with severe malnutrition. Fortunately, the staff of Diaconía Nacional heard about little Dayana and began to provide her with the attention and treatment she needed.

Dayana's parents began to take her to weight and height measurement meetings hosted by Diaconia Nacional and the health program nurse and health volunteer. Dayana was given micronutrients, milk, and food supplements, and her mother was given soybeans and shown how to make soy milk and soy meal. Dayana was treated for para-



sites and given vitamins to help improve her health.

Today Dayana has recovered, and is in good health, happily showing off her pink dress. We are thankful to God that Dayana's health and nutrition have improved through the efforts of this program and the perseverance of her parents, who have been following the instructions of the health professional. Her family was able to install a cement floor in their house with help from Diaconia Nacional, which helps to keep them healthy. Dayana can now walk and explore her surroundings and fully enjoy the love of her family and all the blessings that God has provided.