

The Kautz Family

We are Corey and Tona Kautz, missionaries to Colombia since 2006. We focus on reaching children and youth in Colombia by equipping churches, leaders, teachers and parents to impact the next generation with hope in Christ.



Connect With Us

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To Donate: s1.ag.org/kautz Account # 293813



WE ARE IN COLOMBIA!

This summer was incredibly unpredictable. We thought we'd be returning in May, which turned to June, and finally happened at the end of July. Our reentry to Colombia has been equally full of unpredictability as we learn about changes that have happened since the pandemic began. While it normally takes us about three weeks to get settled into a new apartment, we have just hit the nine week mark of being here and we still do not have our own place. The process has been difficult, but we have tried to carry on despite the frustration of living out of our suitcases.



BGMC HDYRATE PROJECT

Over the last few years, Tona participated in the launch of AG Kidmin's Hydrate program, an online video based platform to train children's ministry workers. We talked to the leader of Hydrate about how great it would be to dub the Hydrate program so that we could use it here in Colombia. Our colleague, Kevin Elder, has created an audio and video recording studio here at the Bible School and has a great assortment of excellent equipment and an excellent team. We have created it as a



BGMC project, which means the project is being funded by children in churches all over the US! We are so excited that not only will we be able to use it here in Colombia, but we are creating a resource that will be available to Latin churches in the US and other Spanish-speaking children's workers around the world.

NEW JERUSALEM HELP

Shortly after arriving in Colombia, a fire swept through a vulnerable neighborhood. One way we were able to help was by donating portable stovetops to families so that they could cook their food.



IMPORTANT EMAIL UPDATE:

Our @agmd.org email address is being discontinued, please whitelist @kautzfamily.org wherever you check your email and use it to communicate with us. We have found that it has been going straight to spam boxes.

THE COMUNA 13 PROJECT

We have been working on the logistics of getting the community center opened. Covid has made some processes complicated, but we are planning on launching at the first of the year. It has been great fun to walk through the community and see the kids again! We noticed that a lot in the comuna has changed, and not all for the better. If you have not heard previously about what it is like in Comuna 13, it is a place where many displaced people live. The poverty is overwhelming. It has a very dark history of violence, but in the last decade, there has been a shift where those who were children turned to art, specifically graffiti art, to express the trauma they had been through. When we first came to the comuna, the art was still fairly new. The government installed outdoor escalators in the area so that the elderly could get to their homes, since it required a steep climb of many stairs. Between the escalators, the graffiti, and the poverty, it became a place for tourism. People would visit to see this unique place, hear the stories of those who lived through war and see the art that told their stories. It became quite beautiful. Over the last few years, we watched as people began to find ways to maximize the tourism. Dance troupe find corners of the walkway to show off their talent. Rappers and singers set up stands to entertain those walking through. When we left in 2020, there was a very cool vibe in the comuna. It was not without complications. Tourism gets messy when parents find their children can make money taking pictures with tourists, which leads to children leaving school in order to work. When we returned this year to the comuna, we noticed the walkway was more crowded with more mini-shops. What really surprised us was how many mini-bars popped up. It feels overwhelming walking through the comuna. Each mini-bar pumps out the music of their choice and it is hard to walk through the commotion. It feels a little darker than before. We felt disappointed, but we also felt renewed in our call. There is much work to be done.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING

Since returning we had one Zoom class, followed by our first hybrid class. We had a handful of students who came in person while several stayed online. Moving forward, we will continue to work the hybrid setup until Colombia is fully opened.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE

If you would like to give either a one-time gift or become a monthly supporter, please visit www.kautzfamily.org and click on the donate button. Or scan the QR code to the right. If you need help, please email us at corey@kautzfamily.org or give us a call at (770)901-9077.

We will be sending out a letter soon with more giving information. AGWM is updating the giving platform and it will be easier than ever to become a financial partner!



LATIN AMERICA





