

**Dave and Blanca Gifford
Resonate Global Mission
Mexico City**



Vision:

1. The lives and ministries of the Resonate Mexico missionaries will be enriched and facilitated by Dave's supervision.
2. Presbyterian and other churches will have leaders equipped with training and resources through Dave's classes and web materials.
3. Unchurched families will come to Christ through Blanca's evangelistic childrens' ministry.
4. Local churches and campus ministries will be enhanced by our activities in preaching, teaching, and hospitality.

Home service contact information:

11414 Hunters Meadow Drive
Allendale, MI 49401
616-892-2163
dgifford@crcna.org
<http://www.giffmex.org>

Support gifts can be sent to:

Resonate Global Mission
1700 28th SE
Grand Rapids MI 49508

Please indicate that the donation is for fund code #802112.

2017 home service update

Dear friends, supporters and family members,

Greetings from Allendale, Michigan. We are now already a month into our six-month home service. We are visiting our nineteen supporting churches on weekends (see our schedule below), and about seventy individual donors on weekdays to thank them and encourage them.

We reached 80% of our 2016-2017 goal to raise 90% of our ministry's support needs. A big thank you to all our churches and donors for your kindness. We are hoping to find new churches and individuals to support our ministry, so we ask for your prayers and word-of-mouth.

Making a difference

Jazmin, 15, is one of several young people who have outgrown the age range for the kids' club but who continue to attend. In July, Blanca asked Jazmin for help organizing her supplies. This gave Blanca the opportunity to spend time with Jazmin and counsel her on difficult issues she faces.



Remaining schedule

Sep 3: Emanuel CRC, Wyoming, MI
Sep 10: Bethel CRC, DeMotte, IN
Sep 17: Crossroads CRC, WDM, IA
Sep 24: New Hope CRC, Kincheloe, MI
Oct 1: La Grave Ave CRC, Grand Rapids, MI
Oct 8: First CRC, South Holland, IL
Oct 14-19: Mexico for meetings
Oct 22: Maranatha CRC, Holland, MI
Oct 29: Ridgewood CRC, Jenison, MI
Nov 5: Cascade Fellowship CRC, Grand Rapids, MI
Nov 12: Central Ave CRC, Holland, MI
Nov 19: Ideal Park CRC, Wyoming, MI
Nov 26: Munster CRC, Munster, IN
Dec 3: Moline CRC, Moline, MI
Dec 10, 17, 24, 31: available
Jan 7: Cottonwood CRC, Jenison MI
Jan 14: available (GR area only)
January 18: leave for Mexico
Jan 21: Peace CRC, Houston, TX

Just before we left Mexico, Jazmin came over with several hand-drawn gifts she had made to thank Blanca for her friendship, and to show her how much she would miss her. Jazmin clearly had invested a lot of time, effort and creativity on the gifts. They were so personal and thoughtful that even my (Dave's) usually reserved heart got a little choked up.

During a church visit we connected with someone who encouraged us to consider Jazmin for a program that gives Christian high school scholarships to unchurched international students with a goal of guiding their spiritual formation as well as give them a solid academic education. We are going to investigate this possibility further. We are grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people like Jazmin, and ask you to pray for her and for all of our friends in Mexico.

Home service and beyond

We are grateful to the Lord to have a furnished home to rent (address in sidebar), a borrowed car to drive for personal errands, and offers from many kind people to help us.

I continue to serve as Mexico team leader during our home service, and am traveling to Mexico in October 14-19 for meetings there. Pray that I can maintain a healthy

balance between leadership responsibilities, home service activities, personal time and family time.

Family matters

Our son **Daniel** flew up and spent time in Michigan while we were driving up. He is now back in Mexico City "batching it", taking his final year of college. Daniel is studying digital animation.

Our daughter **Alexandra** is attending her last year of high school and took her first SAT test a week ago. She hopes to attend Calvin College next year. She will also be taking drivers ed this fall. Please pray for our kids at these transitional stages of their lives.

Our return to the field is scheduled for mid-January 2018. Blanca looks forward to resuming her participation in her evangelistic kids' club ministry. This ministry is continuing in her absence. Please pray for the volunteers and the unchurched children who attend.

I look forward to returning to the New Testament courses I teach at the seminary. In connection with those courses, I have a fun reading project for my "learning and growth" objective. Some of the reading is for personal development, some for future course packet materials. I also plan to make the notes from my reading available online in English for other Resonate personnel (and all of you!) by the end of the project in late June. Expect a link in the near future.

Thank you all again for your prayers, financial support, word-of-mouth, and encouragement!