

## Out Reach Ministries in Southern Belize

### Farm Ministry

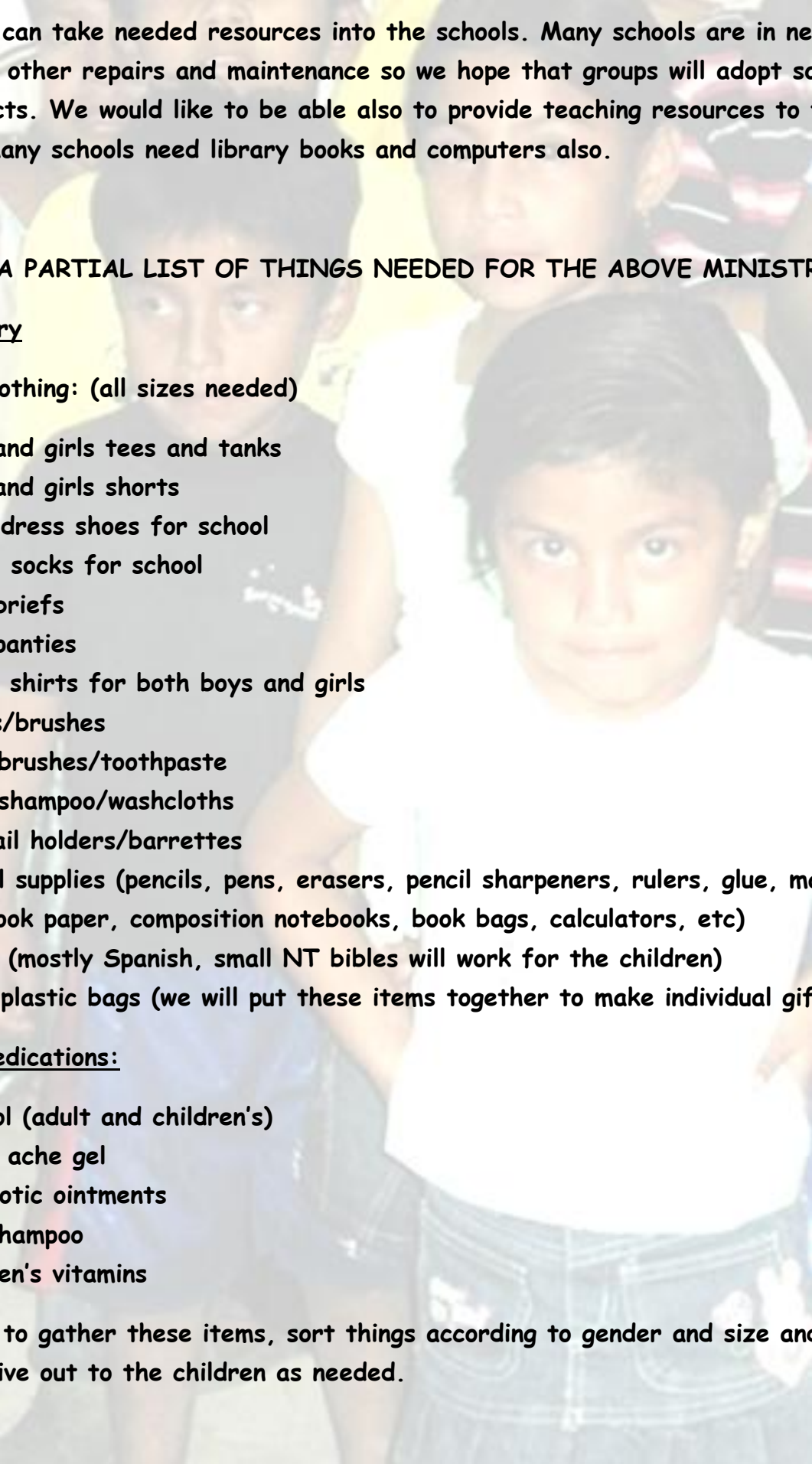
The banana and citrus farms of Southern Belize employ mostly immigrant workers from Spanish speaking countries such as Guatemala and Honduras. Many of the workers live in company housing. However, the housing at these farms is usually sub-standard and consists of one room in most cases. Large families sometimes reside together in one small room. Because housing is provided for these families, the income is very low. They work 10 to 12 hour days, 6 days a week and average about \$150.00 US for the week.

We have a burden for these families and want to begin ministering to the needs of the farm workers. These are not Villages so there are no churches in these areas. We plan to visit these farms and determine how many families live at each farm and evaluate the needs. We want to begin visiting these areas on a regular basis and provide needed resources to the workers.

The major ways that we hope to help these families is by providing clothing and shoes for the children; providing needed school supplies, first aid items and by providing staple food items when needed.

### School Ministry

The schools of Belize struggle to provide the needed resources for their students and teachers. Education is not free in Belize. Students entering High School must pay registration fees which are usually around \$200 US for the year. They then also have to purchase all their books which cost around \$150.00 US and then have uniforms made and buy shoes. They then of course still have to purchase all the usual school supply items such as pens, pencils, paper, book bags, etc. Many teachers spend money out of their own pocket to provide classroom resources. Many times, especially in the Primary schools, teachers have to come up with their own teaching materials. Principals and teachers in Belize work long, hard hours and are required to spend part of their summer break in workshops so they have very little vacation. There is no doubt that these teachers and Administrative staff are dedicated to providing education to the children of Belize. At this time, most schools have a "Religious Studies" course and still teach "Christianity". Most schools welcome visits from Foreign Mission groups who want to work in the schools. The major ways that we hope to help the schools is to set up ministry during school hours so



that groups can take needed resources into the schools. Many schools are in need of painting and other repairs and maintenance so we hope that groups will adopt some of these projects. We would like to be able also to provide teaching resources to the teachers. Many schools need library books and computers also.

**BELOW IS A PARTIAL LIST OF THINGS NEEDED FOR THE ABOVE MINISTRIES:**

**Farm Ministry**

**Children's clothing: (all sizes needed)**

- Boys and girls tees and tanks
- Boys and girls shorts
- Black dress shoes for school
- White socks for school
- Boys briefs
- Girls panties
- Under shirts for both boys and girls
- Combs/brushes
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Soap/shampoo/washcloths
- Ponytail holders/barrettes
- School supplies (pencils, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, rulers, glue, markers, notebook paper, composition notebooks, book bags, calculators, etc)
- Bibles (mostly Spanish, small NT bibles will work for the children)
- Many plastic bags (we will put these items together to make individual gift bags)

**First aid/Medications:**

- Tylenol (adult and children's)
- Tooth ache gel
- Antibiotic ointments
- Lice shampoo
- Children's vitamins

Our hope is to gather these items, sort things according to gender and size and put them in bags to give out to the children as needed.



**School Ministry:**

- Pencils and pens
- Paper and notebooks
- Calculators
- Rulers
- Pencil sharpeners
- Colored pencils/markers
- Dictionaries (English/Spanish)
- Back packs
- USB flash drives (for HS students)
- Used laptops (for HS students)
- Computers/printers for school
- Materials to assist teachers with lesson plans and creative teaching ideas
- Materials for helping teachers decorate and creative classroom bulletin boards

This of course is only a partial list of things that would benefit our schools. We may add to this list as we evaluate the needs.

Receiving and distributing donated items to the farms and to the schools is a huge task but we feel burdened for these children and for the needs of these families and for the schools. We truly feel led by the Lord to take on this additional ministry. We appreciate not only your donations of needed items but also we ask that you pray for these ministries. We hope to truly build relationships with the people living at these farms as well as with the teachers and students through the school ministry. It is our desire to just share the love of Christ in these areas by providing for their needs in Christ name.

*“Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? “ James 2:15 -16*

**[Return to Glasgow Missions Website](#)**

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