

Megan Riggott – seeking & serving God among & alongside those in Tijuana, Mexico – with the Latin America Mission

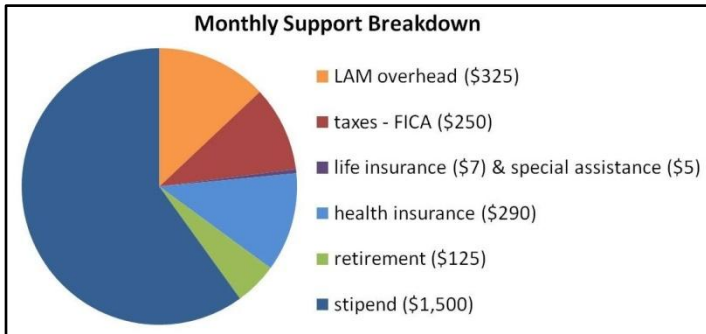
Financial FAQs

I'd like to answer the most frequently asked questions that I've encountered in regards to the financial support of my ministry in Mexico:

- **When are you going to Mexico?**
- **How much money do you need to raise?**
- **How can I help?**
- **How can I give financial support?**
- **When should I start giving?**
- **Why do you have to raise support?**

When are you going to Mexico? My hope is to go to Mexico sometime during the summer of 2009. Basically, I can go once my financial support is at 100%. I must have all of my ongoing monthly support pledged before leaving – so in order to be able to go, I am still in need of people who will commit to supporting me monthly/annually throughout the time that I am in Mexico.

How much money do you need to raise? I need to raise ongoing monthly support – about \$2,500 per month. This may seem like a lot; this is what it's all for:



My monthly stipend will be the money that I use for everyday living expenses (such as food, rent, utilities, bus/taxi fares, laundry, internet cafes, medications, etc) as well as saving for other expenses (for example, my thyroid cancer follow-up tests).

For this, I need people who are willing to commit to giving monthly/annually while I am in Mexico. I do also need to raise money for my "travel & equipment" fund which will help to cover certain expenses (such as trainings, visas & airfare). This is where one-time gifts will be helpful.

How can I help? My greatest need right now is for ministry partners – people like you who are willing to commit to partnering with me, & in doing so, to participate in the ministry in Mexico. I am especially in need of such people who will help me to meet my ongoing support needs by pledging to give monthly/annually during my time in Mexico.

How can I give financial support? If you would like to support me financially*, you can do so in one of several ways:

- **Give by check:** Make your checks payable to "LAM" & include a separate note saying that your gift is for "Megan Riggott." Mail to the Latin America Mission, PO Box 52-7900, Miami, FL 33152-7900.
- **Give online by credit card:** Go to riggott.lam.org. Choose "support" if your gift is toward my ongoing support, or "travel & equipment" if your gift is for my initial one-time expenses. (There is currently no option yet to give recurring donations online – please see below for this.)
- **Give through LAM's automatic contribution program:** If you'd like to give monthly in this way, either contact LAM (donorservices@lam.org or 1.800.275.8410 x32) or let me know & I'll send you the form!

*All financial donations for my ministry made through LAM are tax-deductible & you'll receive a receipt for this purpose.

When should I start giving? If you are planning to give monthly/annually, please let LAM know this by filling out a pledge card (please let me know if you still need one!). And if you're wondering when to begin giving your monthly gifts, you can start now – any money given before I leave will go into that one-time fund, so you will be helping me to meet both ongoing & one-time support goals! And, by starting to give now, you will help me to have a better idea of where I am in the support-raising process – that is, how close I am to 100% of my financial support & thus a departure date for Mexico.

Why do you have to raise support? While serving in Mexico, I will essentially be a volunteer who won't be receiving any pay from either LAM or *El Refugio* (both of which are non-profit ministries who also raise money for their own expenses) – so I need to raise financial support for my own living costs while I'm there, as well as to help with ministry expenses as needed.

Besides the practical necessity of such, I also believe that raising support is so important because it reminds me that I am not doing this work on my own, but rather I am dependent on God & on this community of people that He is providing to partner with me – & because it allows others like you to participate in the work that God is doing in Tijuana among the abandoned elderly at *El Refugio* & in the surrounding community!

Please let me know if you have any other questions, about my financial support or otherwise!

I will keep my blog (megan-in-mexico.blogspot.com – see graphs partway down on the right side) updated with the percentages of my monthly support pledged & my initial support raised – think of this as a sort of a "countdown to Mexico"!

