

Why do we want to give **opportunity** for Christmas? Look what it has done so far...

The Five Maria's

It would be a great name for a band, but this group of self starters has helped their families lift themselves out of extreme poverty. Moving out the Chinandega dump into the unknown at Villa Catalina, they have taken advantage of a very successful micro loan program. For example, Maria Castillo needed only \$100 last February to buy enough corn, milk, and cheese to launch her tortilla and cuajada business. At the time her family of 6 had only one bed and ate only one meal per day. Ten months later, due to Maria and her husband Guillermo's hard work, their family has 4 beds and eats 3 meals a day. Now on their 3rd loan cycle, they have a 100% repayment rate and continue to grow their small business so their family can continue to thrive.



The other members of the group include Maria Hermantes with a bicycle repair shop, Maria Isaires selling vegetables and fruits, Maria Maradiaga making the best Tamales in Chinandega, and Maria Blandon who has opened a small food store. Giving opportunity to them is **one of the best gifts we can give...**for it was not available to them before.

This Christmas please help us to provide more opportunity through micro loans and farm animals so more impoverished families can lift themselves up.

Would you like backstage passes to meet The Five Maria's? Check out our [2008 mission trip calendar](#) and you can see for yourselves the beautiful human spirit God has given them.

GIVE OPPORTUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS!

HONOR YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WITH THESE PERFECT GIFTS...

PAY IT FORWARD PROVIDE AN ANIMAL



Purchase an animal for a poor family in Nicaragua and honor your friend or family member!

MICRO LOANS HELP A FAMILY START A BUSINESS



Give the opportunity to start a new business in honor of your friend or family member!