

ANNUAL REPORT ON EL GOLFO FAMILY FOOD PROGRAM
FALL 2016 - SPRING 2017

Our support program for Families needing food in El Golfo has completed another year with generous support from Holy Spirit (\$300) and two of our members (\$800).

This season, we took food to 108 different families with 592 people, along with hundreds of pounds of clothing, blankets, shoes, etc. which we and our friends brought down.

Following is a summary of income and expense:

Start of Season Balance (11/1/17)	\$4,741.53
Cost of food from local Diconsa grocery	4,050.00
Total Income & source:	4,057.20
Donations	\$1,779.20
* Mike Grant's beard	391.00
* Steve/Michelle soup	367.00
Live Auction	1,520.00
End of Season Balance (4/1/17)	\$4,748.72

*(Before we got to El Golfo, Mike Grant had a party to sell clips from his year long beard for donations to the Food Program, and Steve & Michelle provided a three soup, salad and bread dinner for donations)



EL GOLFO STATUS: In the 18 years we have spent the winters there, things have significantly improved: More newer cars, slow improvements to houses, concrete floors, more electric and water service. some paved roads and this year, a new water system, main street curbs and sidewalks and street lights. (No bike lanes yet.) Two years ago all gill net fishing was stopped in the upper Sea north of a line from Puerto Penasco to San Filipe to protect the Vaquita porpoise. This was compensated by monthly debit cards to certain fish dependent people. Illegal fishing continues to catch the endangered Totoaba. (Black sea bass) whose swim bladder sells for \$10-15,000 a kilo for Chinese medicine. The economy struggles with no fishing. The lack of fresh water from the Colorado River from the US makes the upper Sea too salty for good hatches of all species so the outlook is not great. There is one Community Kitchen with Government provided basic food if unpaid volunteers will cook it 6 days a week.

We have a loyal group of volunteers who help buy and deliver food and sort and stack clothing etc. Maria, our Mexican friend continues to find and verify need by families. She now has a small family restaurant and the police regularly eat there and she sells us tomallies and chili rellenos for \$1 each. She feeds hungry families even when we aren't there.

Recognizing our aging bodies we transferred the Food Program leadership to Suzi Colmer a long time helper who has caught the bug of helping families. She lives in the RV park year around. We will continue to help as we can and I will continue as Treasurer. We have taken on another program to help kids stay in school which will be explained in another letter.

Thank you for your support to this program,
Chuck and Maggi Teague