



Travel to Latin America

Susanna Shapiro, Program Officer for Latin American and the Caribbean at The Global Fund for Children (GFC), recently traveled to Central America. She visited eleven current grantee partners and eight prospective partners in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala. See blogs from her visit at www.gfcontheroad.org.

While in Guatemala, Susanna visited *Instituto para la Superación de la Miseria Urbana* (ISMU). Following a landslide at a local garbage dump, many of the children ISMU serves were left orphaned. Living in a poor community in Guatemala City, their parents earned an income by recycling and selling scrap metal, car parts, and anything else of value they recovered from the city dump. Recent heavy rains made areas of the dump unstable. This caused a landslide of trash which killed over twenty people. ISMU is helping to place the orphaned children with extended family, as well as helping to provide food, clothing, and medicine. ISMU has also taken in orphaned children at its childcare facilities. GFC provided an emergency grant to help our partner's recovery efforts.