



Servants in Faith and Technology /
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SIFAT Doctor in your House Provides Food and Medical Care

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Because of COVID-19, our international mission teams were forced to cancel all trips for 2020. SIFAT Ecuador director Dr. Roberto Contreras approached us with a plan that would let our team members and supporters still serve the people with whom we work, even during this time when we cannot physically be there. This idea became *SIFAT Doctor in your House*, a two-part approach to provide basic needs—food and medicine.

When they can find work, most people in these communities have

part-time jobs that are considered informal by the government, which means they have no access to benefits or unemployment. In the best of times, they are just scraping by. When the government began taking extreme measures to protect its citizens from spreading coronavirus, these jobs were immediately lost. Until early June, a curfew started at 2 p.m., public transportation was shut down and those with cars were only allowed to drive one day each week. The only time anyone was allowed in public was to go to pharmacies or grocery stores. Hunger became very real in the neighborhoods where our projects are located.

You are responding! So far, our donors have given \$28,255 to *SIFAT Doctor in your House*. This money is allowing our five main projects — Atucucho, Villaflora, Puengasi, Calderon and Aida Leon — to provide food and cleaning supplies to the neediest families in their churches and after-school programs. In Atucucho, Ledy is actually delivering hot meals to many elderly two days a week. The other four projects have already provided a month's worth of rice for 320 families, an estimated 1920 people that will now have something to eat!

Dr. Roberto started making virtual house calls on June 8 using

#GivingTuesdayNow Helps SIFAT



Thank You!

On May 5, people came together for an additional global day of giving to benefit nonprofits being impacted because of COVID-19. Because of your generosity and support, SIFAT raised a total of **\$90,670**, including our \$25,000 matching fund.

Thank you for helping spread the word and for continuing to contribute to SIFAT's ministry.



Pastor Rafael (center) distributes food to people who would otherwise go hungry.

teleconferencing. The first week, 25 patients had chronic medical conditions, such as epilepsy, hypertension and thyroid problems. Because they currently cannot find work, they have no money to buy the medicines that keep their conditions under control. The government programs they would normally use have no funding, since the government is directing all of its resources to fight the pandemic.

We want to share a few of the stories we have received so far from our SIFAT graduates who are on the frontlines in Quito. We will be posting more stories and pictures on our blog at www.sifat.org. You can also follow our social media (Facebook and Twitter) for news updates and announcements of blog posts. Please pray for these families and their neighbors, who are all facing similar situations.



Ecuadorian families, such as Galo and Paula, are struggling because of unemployment caused by COVID-19.

From the Villaflora project:

Anthony (pictured at right) is a 10-year-old boy with lymphatic cancer. He has been undergoing chemo for a year and a half. A recent relapse led to a week's stay in ICU. Because his father lost his job as a bricklayer when construction was halted, Anthony's access to socialized medicine is limited. He could only receive treatments through the end of May. Pastor Rafael and Anita are praying that they can provide groceries through SIFAT's program at least once a month to keep Anthony well nourished as his body fights this disease.



Anthony, age 10, is battling cancer

From the Aida Leon project:

Galo, Paula and their two children (pictured bottom left) are facing difficult times. Both Galo and Paula have lost their jobs, so they do not have money for food or medicine. Because of SIFAT's contribution, Pastor Wilson and the church can help this family and others facing similar situations.

From the Atucucho project:

An elderly gentleman does not know his name or age. This man suffers from Alzheimer's, but has no family to care for him. This is one of the harshest realities in the Atucucho neighborhood, where many are homeless or live alone. He is one of the many elderly to whom Ledy is providing hot meals each week.



SIFAT Ecuador director Dr. Roberto Contreras uses video conferences to provide virtual home visits to patients in our projects who currently do not have access to medical care. SIFAT Doctor in your House provides free medications for these patients.