

**Riverside Baptist Church's Partnership with FH and El Tamarindo, DR**  
**Interview with Alice Mora, FH Church Advocate**

Alice Mora, mother of 3 and wife of Victor Mora, lives in Miami, Florida where she is a homemaker and active volunteer in her church, community and with Food for the Hungry for the partnership her church has with El Tamarindo in the Dominican Republic. Alice has been to Tamarindo twice on short term trips, and has spearheaded many different fundraisers to benefit the work in Tamarindo.

***FH:** How has the partnership with Tamarindo affected your children?*

***AM:*** My children have a different perspective and sense of priorities now. They have a fresh vision of what it means to help those in need. We live in such a privileged society, and being involved with Tamarindo as a family has greatly impacted my children. They look at all their “stuff” differently, having come face to face with kids who don’t have a tenth of what they have. Partnering with Tamarindo is part of our family mission now.

My kids talk a lot about the school we have helped to build on the last 2 mission trips to Tamarindo. The Tamarindo kids find education important—they are so excited to finally have a real school building. They really value school, whereas before, my kids didn’t. My kids saw going to school as a burden; it was a shock to them and made them think when they realized the Tamarindo kids see going to school a blessing and privilege. My kids ask, “What will happen to the kids in Tamarindo after 6<sup>th</sup> grade? How can we help them learn a trade or get more education so they can have a better life?” There is no secondary school for them. My kids don’t take education for granted like they used to.

***FH:** How have your kids been impacted spiritually?*

***AM:*** My kids have seen God’s hand and God’s faithfulness in all the different ways we have tried to raise money for building the school in Tamarindo. Watching what we have talked about and prayed for actually happen has really impacted them. My kids have prayed and helped to raise money. My seven year old, Nicholas, volunteered when we were having a garage sale, “I can give some of my stuff to sell and it will help Tamarindo.” And, it has been a tremendous gift to me to see my kids change and grow and care about others.

The verse to “Love your neighbor as yourself” has taken on a whole new meaning for them. They are asking questions like, “How can we do more? Who will minister to the Tamarindo kids after our short term mission trip is done? Are we making a difference?” It has been a wonderful occasion to explain to them that God calls us to be faithful, and sometimes just to plant seeds, and he will take care of the results. God loves the people of Tamarindo much more than we can, and he will meet their needs, we just have to be faithful.