



designing a world of hope

## **The Quail Family – Autumn 2022**

Serving with Engineering Ministries International  
in Nicaragua and across Latin America



Engineering Ministries International (EMI) is a Christian NGO made up of architects, engineers, surveyors, and construction managers. Since 1982 the worldwide mission of EMI has been to develop people, design structures, and construct facilities which serve communities and the Church. Together, we are designing a world of hope.

[www.emi-quails.com](http://www.emi-quails.com)



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## About Us

Hi! We're the Quail family: Rob, Helen, Chloe and Josh. We live in Managua, Nicaragua, and moved to Central America from the UK in April 2021. Rob is a professional engineer and project manager, he leads EMI design projects. Helen is a teacher and communications manager and coordinates the publicity and communications for the EMI office. She also teaches English to EMI's Nicaraguan staff and at a nearby Christian academy.

## EMI's Vision

People restored by God and the world restored through design.

## Mission

To develop people, design structures, and construct facilities which serve communities and the Church.

## Core Values

EMI revolves around the person of Jesus and serves the global Church to glorify God through:

**Design:** EMI works within the local context to design and construct culturally-appropriate facilities that are sustainable, affordable, and transformational.

**Discipleship:** EMI develops people spiritually and professionally through intentional discipleship and mentoring.

**Diversity:** EMI builds the Church by connecting people of diverse backgrounds, abilities and ethnicities to demonstrate our love for God, our love for the nations and the unity we share in Christ.



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## Stories of Impact

This is Samantha. Samantha was born premature whilst her mother was living on the streets of Cochabamba, Bolivia. Her mother struggles with drug addiction and is a victim of physical abuse from Samantha's father. Born weighing just 3 pounds, authorities in Cochabamba sought an organisation to care for Samantha and raise her in a loving home, so they reached out to Talita Cumi.



Talita Cumi is a home for orphaned, abused, and abandoned children and means "Child, arise!", words spoken by Jesus when he raised a child from the dead. Their home provides a place of hope where the children can know and experience the love of Christ through family, education, and prayer.

Rob met Samantha when he led a team of 10 architects, engineers and designers to Bolivia to visit Talita Cumi. Samantha is one of 21 children presently cared for by an inspiring team of 'aunties' who live at the existing home, contending with facilities that are not currently fit for purpose. EMI are working with Talita Cumi to design and build a new, beautiful and permanent home for Samantha and all the children that Talita Cumi care for, both now and for many years to come.



*The new land purchased by Talita Cumi*



*The new children's home design by EMI*



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## Stories of Impact

This is Pastor Jonny. Like 80% of Pastors in Guanacaste, northern Costa Rica, Jonny hasn't received any formal theological training, and yet has managed to lead a faithful group of Christians in his home community in Bagaces.



He has faced difficult times though and when he lost his wife a few years ago to cancer, he struggled to continue to support his community. Working with Arbol de Vida ('Tree of Life') Rob has been leading an EMI team on the design of a new pastor training facility which will provide teaching and support to hundreds of pastors like Jonny, transforming the prospects for the church in that region for generations to come.



*EMI's Masterplan design for the new Arbol de Vida Ministry Campus*



*Architectural renders of the proposed accommodation facilities.*

Talita Cumi and Arbol de Vida are just two of the ministries that Rob and Helen have been working with during their time at the EMI Nicaragua office. Others include the design of facilities for a therapy centre located just outside Managua for children with additional needs and a project to extend a school serving a community that has been relocated from a local land-fill site in central Managua.



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## Stories of Impact

This is Jan. Jan is from Masaya, central Nicaragua, and studied architecture in Managua. He joined EMI as an architectural intern in 2017 before onboarding as a staff architect. Jan has been a key member of EMI's design team in Nicaragua for over 5 years and has produced many exceptional designs on a variety of projects.



Helen has been giving English classes to Jan and Miguel, another Nicaraguan member of staff. Developing their English is important for Jan and Miguel in a professional capacity as it enables them to collaborate more effectively with EMI's other 11 offices around the world, sharing best practice in design.

Rob has worked on a number of projects with Jan including the Talita Cumi children's home design. Watching him grow in confidence as an architect and a team member has been a great encouragement.



Central to EMI's mission is training and developing local design professionals. The EMI intern programme offers an excellent and career-impacting training opportunity for local architectural and engineering students.



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# The Fundraising Need

When we left the UK in April 2021 we were fully funded as a missionary family and have been incredibly blessed by the generous donations of our supporters in the UK, USA and around the world which has made possible the missionary work here that we have carried out with EMI.

Our principle supporter has been our sending church in the UK, St Paul's Old Ford in East London. We are also supported on an annual basis by Holy Trinity Rudgwick, West Sussex. In addition, dozens of friends and family have been supporting us monthly or on a one-off basis.

For a number of reasons we are now seeking additional mission partners in order to raise further support going forward. Rob had continued to draw down a small salary from his management company in the UK through ongoing remote collaborations during the past year. That work is now winding down so the income needs replacing. The 20% fall of the pound against the dollar in the past year also means there is a sizeable amount we need to raise to compensate the difference. In addition we are responding to the recent rises in insurance, transport and general living costs that many are facing at the moment.

The cumulative impact of these developments mean that we are needing to raise an additional £750/month.

## Fundraising Target

£750/month

## Monthly Gifts Targets

		Total/month
£ 150	x 1 partner	£ 150
£ 100	x 3 partners	£ 300
£ 50	x 6 partners	£ 300
		£ 750



## Find out more

If you would like to know more about our ministry you can check out our website [www.emi-quails.com](http://www.emi-quails.com) or write to us at [quails.emi@gmail.com](mailto:quails.emi@gmail.com)

We will be visiting the UK during December and January and would be delighted to meet and share more about the work of EMI in Nicaragua. If you would like us to visit your church or community, please contact us at the email address above.

Thanks for taking the time to read about how God's been working through our ministry here in Latin America!



*Some of our team from EMI Nicaragua and EMI UK*



*The kid's at their school's Nicaraguan Independence day celebrations*



*The EMI design team for the Talita Cumi Children's Home in Bolivia*



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## About Nicaragua

Nicaragua is the largest country in Central America by area and is home to around 6.3 million people. Known as the 'land of lakes and volcanoes', it is a country of beautiful landscapes and dramatic scenery.

Nicaragua enjoys a rich heritage in literature, music, dance and cuisine and relative wealth exists in the capital Managua; however the country's average salary is one of the lowest in the Americas at around \$2,000/yr. The climate in Managua is tropical, with an average daily high of 31-34°C.



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