## Information for teams/individuals on physical donations (not financial)

**Clothes:** Donated/used clothes are being scrutinized heavily at the border. You are welcome to bring what you think can be used by the family(s) that you are building for, but try to avoid bringing excessive bags of donated clothing. The customs inspection in Mexico may end up charging tax for excessive bags of used clothing. The team is responsible for the tax charged for bringing used clothing into Mexico (MM will cover at time of crossing and add to team cost worksheet).

**Furniture:** There are some families that request furniture. Sometimes it is asked for in the special needs section of the family story. Beds can **not** be taken over the border. MM has a local Mexican vendor the beds for mailies can be purchased through. If you wish to donate furniture to the family or the ministry in Mexico, please bring with you to El Paso and take over in the MM trailer with your team. (please let MM know ahead of time to make sure there is space for all the donations the team is arriving with to go to Mexico) Sometimes Mexico will charge a tax for furniture, the team is responsible for the tax charged for bringing used furniture into Mexico. (MM will cover at time of crossing and add to team cost worksheet).

**Medical**: OTC (Over the Counter) medicines for infants and children. Examples are Acetaminaphine, Ibuprofen, cough and cold syrup, Benadryl. Most of these are sold in 4 ounce bottles of liquid suspension bottles. Diarrhea and antacid liquids and tablets for all ages. Please call if you would like a more extensive and detailed list. (It is important to not bring expired meds across the border)

**Education**: Backpacks, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, single subject spirals, protractors, compasses, laptops, projectors, calculators, tablets. Sponsor a student to go to school, which helps pay for enrollment fees, uniforms, and school supplies. (Educational supplies are normally not taxed by Mexico customs)

**Food**: Teams are encouraged to help out the family they are building for by supplying canned food, and other types of nonperishable food donations (No large quantities of fruits and vegatables). Teams need to provide this and bring this themselves. (Food is normally not taxed by Mexico customs)

Infant Care:\_Once we realized that infant mortality rates were being driven by lack of nutrition and cleanliness, an infant formula and diaper ministry was started. Mothers experiencing poor nutrition themselves do not lactate, supplying the needed nutrition for their babies. Realizing that many babies wear the same diaper for a day and sometimes two, we understood why we were seeing the advanced development of infection due to exposure to feces (e coli) and acidic urine (because of dehydration). Formula with purified water (via water filters) and a diaper supply (to change several times a day) needed to be provided to stop the chronic health risk experiences by newborns. We accept formula, diapers, and donations to by the same supplies. (It is important o not bring expired formula across the border)