

Jamie Schuler, '96

OAXACA MEXICO '95

JAMIE P. SCHULE

MARYKNOLL CALL & RESPONSE

*If you have come to help me
you are wasting my time.
But if you have come because
your liberation is so bound up with mine,
Then let us work together.*



I SPENT MY MORNINGS "WORKING" WITH THESE KIDS. SAMUEL (ON MY LAP) HAS CEREBRAL PALSY AND EACH MORNING WE DID PATTERNING EXERCISES WITH HIM TO KEEP HIM LOOSE. I SPENT MUCH OF THE REST OF THE MORNING PLAYING AND, PICK-UP STICKS, "GOLFISH", AND COLORING WITH ESTHER (12) AND NANCY (4).

MY AFTERNOONS WERE SPENT WITH ANDREA. ANDREA IS 21 YEARS OLD AND HAS DOWN'S SYNDROME. WE SPENT A LOT OF AFTERNOONS COOKING, PLAYING PICK UP STICKS AND VOLLEYBALL, AND LAUGHING! WHILE I WAS WITH ANDREA, MY FRIEND PAUL TUTORED HER BROTHER FERMIN WHO WAS BLIND, AND SO, THEIR MOTHER COULD GO TO A WOMEN'S LITERACY CLASS AT A NEIGHBOUR'S HOUSE.



ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS WE TAUGHT SEVERAL OF THE LOCAL ADULTS ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE. CLAUDIA, ANOTHER VOLUNTEER FROM GERMANY, AND I WORKED WITH LUCIO. TEACHING ESL WAS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO BEFRIEND SOME ADULTS AND ALSO TO LEARN ABOUT MEXICAN POLITICS AND CUSTOMS!

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