



Tim and Kallie Hutton
Canadian Baptist Ministries
Global Field Staff, Bolivia

Tim and Kallie Hutton, who have been serving in Bolivia with Canadian Baptist Ministries since 2013, live in the country's fourth-largest city, located in a valley in the Andes



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Mountains. Dwelling in the central Bolivian city of Cochabamba, they are well-placed to give meaningful insight into daily life in the country. The Huttons serve alongside CBM's partners, the Bolivian Baptist Union (UBB) and its development arm, OBADES.

Despite its vast reserves of natural resources, Bolivia remains the poorest country in South America. Almost one-half of the population is comprised of children and adolescents. For this reason, one of the UBB's ministry outreaches focuses on families. The children's projects continue at Casa de la Amistad (Friendship House), which cares for children who have an incarcerated parent. With the ever-changing restrictions of the pandemic, education has suffered. Many schools are doing virtual or semi-virtual classes, and the Casa

has accommodated its children and youth by offering greater access to the Internet, computers, and instructional help. Without this service many children would fail or drop out of school. Jireh, another project in Cochabamba that serves vulnerable children and youth, is operated by a local Bolivian church with oversight from the UBB. It has also pushed ahead to remain flexible to meet needs by providing a computer room.

Poor Bolivian families struggle to meet the nutritional needs of their children. Workers at some of CBM's partner ministries have been able to provide regular care packages of dried goods, fresh produce, and hygiene supplies since the restrictions have kept the projects from serving meals as they normally would. (See CBM's 2021–2022 Hopeful Gifts for Change catalogue to find out how you can help meet the needs of worldwide hunger.)

As Tim and Kallie strive to empower local churches to care for their communities through holistic ministries, they serve to maintain and expand the seminary's capacity to train leaders. The Baptist Theological Seminary has also been able to turn to the use of technology during the pandemic. The main campus in

Cochabamba as well as the satellite seminaries in La Paz, Oruro, Sucre, and Santa Cruz have all moved to online classes. Tim and Kallie have worked together with these schools to change over to online platforms, and have both taken on teaching courses, being personal mentors for students, supervising thesis writing, and helping students access resources for their research.

In the summer of 2021, the third wave of COVID-19 hit a medically unprepared population. Tim and Kallie grieve because sadly, they lost more friends, many of whom were leaders and partners in ministry. Their colleague, Patty Nacho, a CBM national field staff member in Bolivia, misses her father who succumbed to the virus earlier in the year.

The Huttons believe that God has led them to journey through this time of chaos with national believers. Continue to pray for them as they don't yet know if they will return to Canada for a furlough in 2022, though they have been four years away from their home in Saskatchewan. Kallie comments, "While it's been a crazy several years, we both make a point to develop habits that care for our physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health."



Photo: Tim and Kallie Hutton

Sources: www.cbmin.org, *CBM Calling* (June 2020); Patty Nacho CBM ministry update (April 2021), Hutton CBM ministry updates, *Acadia Divinity College News Student Spotlight on Kallie Hutton*, January 25, 2021; www.timandkallie.com (June 17, 2021).