



THE ESTRELLA FAMILY

Missionaries to Ecuador | Free Methodist Church
“Here am I. Send me!” – Isaiah 6:8



HI THERE!

WELCOME!

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family and the mission God has placed on our hearts. We invite you to walk with us as we prepare to serve in Ecuador, partnering with the local church to see lives transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Latin America and the globe.



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LATIN AMERICA AREA

OUR FAMILY

Ordained in 2019, Dalia Sánchez and José Estrella are Free Methodist pastors with over 12 years of experience in church planting, leadership development, and cross-cultural ministry.

Dalia, originally from Puerto Rico, is an ordained Free Methodist pastor with a strong background in education, discipleship, worship leadership, and ministry with children and adults. She has a deep love for learning about the history and culture of places and even tried learning Korean for three months (she really did!).

José, originally from the Dominican Republic, is an ordained Free Methodist pastor with experience in pastoral ministry and church planting, creative arts, and digital storytelling through photography and videography. He enjoys photography, videography, running, and watching race cars.

They serve alongside their 9-year-old daughter, **Alyson**, who enjoys gymnastics, spending time with friends, and whose favorite color is baby blue.

As a family, they enjoy watching movies, cycling, and mild mountain biking.

OUR MINISTRY

**AS WE JOIN THE LATIN AMERICA MISSION TEAM, WE
ARE EXCITED TO SERVE IN COMPLEMENTARY ROLES:**

JOSE'S MINISTRY FOCUS

José will serve throughout Latin America, engaging local churches, learning culture, and supporting national leaders in discipleship, church growth, and holistic ministry. He will also create videos and stories in English and Spanish to share the work God is doing with U.S. churches, partners, and donors, while guiding our family in cross-cultural life.

DALIA'S MINISTRY FOCUS

Dalia will serve by supporting churches, developing leaders, and partnering with U.S. churches. She will work closely with Raíces and Free Methodist Schools to disciple children and students, strengthening ministries that are shaping the next generation, while guiding our family in cross-cultural life



OUR PARTNERS



FMWM makes disciples by mobilizing the global church and empowering international leaders to establish transformational churches.



Roots (“Raíces”) is a curriculum designed to fuel the fires of a deep, holy, authentic experience with God in the hearts of children. Children who pray – children who know God’s voice – children who love His Word



International Child Care Ministries serves children in need across the Americas by sharing the love of Jesus through education, care, and compassion. With over 50 years of work in Haiti and throughout Central and South America, ICCM is now expanding its mission to serve children in the United States.



WHY ECUADOR?

Ecuador is a beautiful and diverse nation with deep cultural roots, strong family values, and a growing spiritual hunger. While Christianity has a historical presence, many people have limited access to biblical discipleship, healthy churches, and trained leaders.

Only 11% of the population identifies as Evangelical, and many communities, especially outside major cities, remain unreached or under-resourced.

God is at work in Ecuador, and the Church is growing, but there is still a great need for equipping, encouragement, and partnership.

THE NEED IN ECUADOR

- Children and youth face spiritual, educational, and family challenges.
- Churches serve faithfully with limited training and resources.
- Pastors and leaders need discipleship and leadership development.

When leaders are equipped, churches are strengthened.

When children are discipled, communities are transformed.



Evangelical Christians

11%



Population: 19,078,506
(64% urban)

64%



Quito FMC Churches

8



QUITO COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Comedor Infantil

The “Comedor” focuses on providing nutritious meals to children and senior citizens in vulnerable communities. For many children, this program offers a consistent and reliable source of food, supporting their health, growth, and ability to learn. Beyond meals, the Comedor Infantil creates a safe space where children are cared for, valued, and shown the love of Christ through action.



Nuevo Jardín del Edén

The Nuevo Jardín del Edén project equips families and communities by teaching them how to grow fruits and vegetables sustainably. Through practical training and hands-on learning, this initiative helps improve food security, promotes self-sufficiency, and empowers families to care for their households with dignity.

This project not only meets physical needs but also builds relationships and creates opportunities for discipleship and community transformation.



WOULD YOU CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH US?



We believe God calls people to missions in different ways, but we all share the same mission: reaching those far from God and pointing them to salvation through Christ. We would be honored to partner with you through prayer, giving, and staying connected through our newsletter.



Phone

(813) 613-8903

Mail

Gabriel@strellafamily.com

Address

**1516 Flower Dust Dr, Ruskin, FL
33570**

