

## HONDURANS

Howard S. Muscott, Ed.D.\*



*Holding on to Faith. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.*

Most of the time, photographing the elders in each community is one of my most difficult challenges. Walking back from passing out supplies to the Ojustal community, Karen Avery and I came upon the aunt of the children who attend Escuelita Nazareth on her porch holding the rosaries that were passed out earlier in the evening. Cameras ready, we were both able to take an image before she was fully aware of our presence, capturing the prayerful look.



*The Matriarch of Ojustal. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.*

With the soft glow of the afternoon sun filtering through the forest behind her and a tear coming down her face, the grandmother of the children from Ojustal who are deaf seems very much the wise matriarch, having experienced much sorrow and happiness in her years.





*Portrait of a Honduran Woman. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.*

At favorite stopover at the halfway point on the road between the airport in Tegucigalpa and the Universidad de Catholica in Julticalpa is a bakery stand and restaurant owned and operated by a Mormon family. I have been fortunate to see this woman at the stand during both of my trips and she has been willing to let me photograph her each time.





*A Cross-Cultural Embrace. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.*

Giving thanks, an elderly Honduran woman hugs Liz Wright after receiving treatment at the La Empalizada clinic.

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\* **Dr. HOWARD S. MUSCOTT** is professor of education and director of undergraduate special education programs and graduate programs in emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD) in the department of education at Rivier College. Dr. Muscott currently co-directs the New Hampshire Center for Effective Behavioral Interventions and Supports, a statewide technical assistance and training network aimed at promoting positive and preventive school discipline systems and improving the emotional well-being of all children including those with emotional/behavioral disorders. Muscott received his doctorate in educating students with EBD from Teachers College, Columbia University and joined the Rivier faculty in 1992. He has more than 30 years of experience in education ranging from preschool through high school and higher education. He has been a special education teacher and principal of three different schools for students with disabilities. He has been nominated for two national awards, United States Professor of the Year and the Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service-Learning, and was honored with an Excellence in Education Award by the New Hampshire College and University Council as the New Hampshire Professor of the Year in 2000. Muscott was named Distinguished Alumnae from the State University College at Buffalo, New York in 2003 for his lifelong commitment to special education. In 2004, the New Hampshire Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI-NH) honored him with their Outstanding Special Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Muscott is nationally known for his work and publications in the fields of educating students with emotional/behavioral disorders, schoolwide discipline, and service-learning. A frequent keynote speaker and consultant to schools, he has delivered more than 250 presentations to educators and families in both New Hampshire and across the country.