

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gifts in 2017. Below is a quick summary of all the work that your gifts helped accomplish. Please take a few moments and see what your gifts have done and imagine all the children, mothers, fathers, teens, the elderly... all the people YOU have helped. We know that 2017 was a year of hurricanes (Nicaragua had one), earthquakes, fires...one disaster after another. We know that sometimes it all seems too much and there is nothing we can do to make the world a better place, but your gifts DO help make the world a better place for Nicaraguan families. When we are generous, goodness blooms.

- COPROEXNIC, the organic agriculture cooperative, with our help, **exported to two buyers 704,736 pounds of organic sesame... worth \$719,371!**
- Together, we **exported to three buyers 413,800 pounds of organic peanuts... worth \$420,657.12.**
- Together with El Porvenir, we **exported 23,250 pounds of organic coffee.** All mentioned exported crops were mostly grown in 2016.
- **COPROEXNIC received a three-year lease for the sesame processing plant, employing 32 workers.**
- The **sesame plant continues to undergo tremendous renovations** to make it a world class processing plant.
- Through the **Vida Fund we lent out \$556,485** in 2017.
- **Loan payments and interest received in 2017 were \$471,264.**
- We hosted **different groups of buyers**, including one from Once Again Nut Butter, to consult about a tahini processing plant in the future.
- Much of our efforts have been towards broadening the pool of financing for COPROEXNIC and slowly, financing is getting a bit more secure.

- In the **Nueva Vida Health Clinic**, we discovered through another NGO's survey, **that 80% of the residents of Nueva Vida preferred our clinic!**
- **In the clinic, we treated 11,111 patients** by our four part-time physicians (orthopedist, general, ob/gyn, and pediatrician), a full-time radiologist, and volunteer physicians.
- **1,438 visits in patients' homes provided better medical treatment.**
- Our a half-time ob/gyn took not only PAPs, but also biopsies, performed cryotherapies, conizations, and pre- and post-natal care.
- **Our family planning program offers free, consistent birth control for 279 women and 9 men...**very important with Zika. We began offering birth control implants lasting 3-5 years. We put in 117 implants and 18 IUDs which is in addition to the 279 women, and we provide birth control for about 50 women in a remote rural coffee cooperative.
- Our radiologist performed **1,658 ultrasound exams on 1,365 patients. We also did 325 EKGs.**
- We gave out treatment and medicines for **25,498 conditions and diseases.**
- We held block meetings and then did a survey on what the residents of Nueva Vida thought was their biggest need... sewage treatment of both black and grey water. We are researching how to get this for about 1,200 families.
- **We treated 140 patients monthly through our chronic care program.** Besides their check-ups, lab work, and medication, they also attend monthly meetings to learn about diet, exercise, taking the medications properly, and giving each other support. Most have type 2 diabetes and /or hypertension.
- **We hosted a volunteer plastic surgeon** who did 57 minor surgeries in our clean room
- Our part-time **counselor saw 405 clients working on an average of 2 and a half different issues in each session...** most were family problems and behavioral issues.
- **Our laboratory completed 6,411 tests in the clinic for 1,788 patients.** We also do weekly-to-monthly glucose checks as well as urine tests when patients are checked in. We sent out **417 PAP tests** to be read by a pathologist.
- We continued our dental program with ORPHANetwork **to see children in Nueva Vida, and have expanded to include children in their feeding centers from 8 other places.**
- Our **full-time dentist, hygienist, dental assistant, and volunteer dental professionals** saw **5,630 patients** (48% were under the age of 12 years). They performed **14,115 procedures.** Of those procedures: almost 46% were preventive care [cleanings, fluoride and sealants]; 26% were restorative care [fillings, etc.] and less than 6% were extractions... this is amazing for Nicaragua! We started a new treatment that halts a cavity from growing until it can be repaired.
- **Our dental staff continues to teach patients** on the importance of good oral hygiene in the clinic, in the public schools and in the above-mentioned feeding centers.

- Our **one-morning-a-week eye correction clinic expanded to three mornings with the help of a volunteer health promoter. The clinic saw 523 patients** and provided **670 pairs of glasses** (20% were custom-made glasses). Four visits for vision checks were made out in communities.
- We gave out wheelchairs, canes, handicapped toilet seats, crutches, etc. to 76 patients.
- Our community outreach and health education included the following:
 - ⇒ **Continued the new mothers' group** and included classes on pregnancy, labor and birth as well as family planning, **providing 97 talks/classes with a combined attendance of 2,375 women; a group of mothers of 0- 1 year babies; a group of mothers with toddlers; a group of pre-teen and teen girls** to build self-esteem and give options for the future other than being a teen mother; a boys' group to build a sense of responsibility and self-esteem as well; a support group for parents of children with asthma; a support group for the LGBT community; and continued a support system for patients who are HIV positive.
 - ⇒ We received another grant **to give our 30 lay health promoters a small monetary gift of appreciation each month for all that they do.** We maintained the nebulizers and first aid kits in the homes of these lay health promoters, **and these services helped 6,764 children and 6,764 adults totaling 13,528 people!**
 - ⇒ We held **an average of 25 health trainings** on various topics of diabetes, sexual health, family planning, etc. for **groups up to 40 attendees!**
- We received our final papers from the Ministry of Health as an approved Health Clinic.
- We hosted **14 delegations** that stayed from 3-22 days.
- In July we moved our delegations to a small hotel/NGO in Ciudad Sandino for a more Nicaraguan experience.
- We moved our cramped office quarters into the volunteers' former sleeping area.
- We hosted over **25 volunteer medical, dental, and public health professionals in the clinic, plus 4 classes of students in the medical profession.**
- We hosted **7 individual volunteers** from a week to a year.
- **Three speaking tours encompassed 9 states in the U.S. with 98 speaking engagements,** making many new contacts as well as renewing long-time supporters.
- We developed **3 social media fundraisers** for the growing new mothers and infants program, the boys' group, and our budget (we ended the year technically in the black, but the 7 international members of the staff of 31 people did not receive their stipends for 9 months).
- We were chosen to receive and manage the Casa Ben Linder in Managua in order to restore the murals and run a museum, remembering the fallen of the Nicaraguan wars and the benefits of the Revolution.
- Once each quarter we sent out over 15,000 newsletters with about half going by email.
- Our **on-line recurring donations increased by 48%!**
- **New donors gave 19% of our cash contributions,** and we received more gifts in euros. **NOTE:** Your gifts are extremely important! **More than three-fourths of our cash donations continue to be \$100 or less.**

Enclosed is a slip tallying your generous gifts to the Center for Development in Central America, a project of the Jubilee House Community, Inc. Please review it for accuracy because sometimes we do make entry errors. Send corrections via email to: Sarah@jhc-cdca.org.

Should you care to use this for tax purposes, know that the Jubilee House Community, Inc., has 501(c)(3) status in the United States and Mission International status in Nicaragua.

If you want more information, please ask us for our 2017 year-end booklet and we will send it to you. We hope you can picture the people you have helped, because without **YOU** this would not have happened... truly.

Gratefully for the Community,



Kathleen Murdock

Jubilee House Community, Inc. – Center for Development in Central America

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