**Clinica Nueva Vida** means New Life Clinic. This clinic was established 20 years ago in a refugee resettlement camp, after Hurricane Mitch devastated Nicaragua in 1998. The camp of 12,000 people was named Nueva Vida. It is still filled with the desperately poor. Our dental clinic was started 11 years ago. In 2012 the JHC partnered with ORPHANetwork to reach the poorest children who attend the feeding centers supported by ORPHANetwork. Now we attend children from 17 feeding centers.

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**We need your help!**

**What do we need?**

- **Funds** for staffing, supplies, equipment, technical support for the equipment, educational materials, phones, electricity, water, office materials, etc.
- **Volunteer dental professionals** to come and work a week each month to help us see all the people who need to be treated.
- **Toothbrushes, toothpaste**, and especially **dental floss**… daily flossing will add years to a lifespan.
- **People to spread the word** that two organizations working together are truly making a difference and could make a larger impact if we just have the help.

**Will you help?**

*Please contact us at: [www.jhc-cdca.org](http://www.jhc-cdca.org)*

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**Dental Clinic of Nueva Vida:**

**Providing Preventive and Restorative Dental Care to the Children of Nueva Vida**

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**A Cooperative Program of the Jubilee House Community and ORPHANetwork**
Why the need?

Our dentist, hygienist, and assistant are the only professionals offering dental care in the Nueva Vida barrio of over 12,000 people, and the only ones offering low cost dental care in a city of over 200,000 people.

Studies have shown that good oral hygiene is critical to a healthy body.

When the body has to fight low-grade infections in the mouth, it has fewer reserves to fight more serious infections in the rest of the body.

Bad oral hygiene increases heart disease and the chances of developing type 2 diabetes, a disease that is exploding in Nicaragua. Now 1 in every 10 adults have type 2 diabetes and 1 in every 4 women die from complications due to the disease. In 2025, it is estimated that 1 in every 4 Nicaraguan adults will suffer from diabetes.

When people learn good habits as children, they are more likely to continue to maintain a healthy mouth as adults.

Will you help?

A full-time dentist, hygienist, and assistant see children and adults Monday – Friday. We offer cleanings, fluoride, sealants, fillings of various kinds, stainless steel crowns, silver diamine fluoride to stop the progression of a cavity, and education.... always education.

We give out toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss – when we have enough. Please help! We also include hand-outs on how to properly care for the teeth and mouth. We teach each patient how to brush and floss correctly and what foods are bad for the teeth.

Our dentist applies sealants, restores teeth and when necessary, extracts teeth. Most poor Nicaraguans only go to the dentist when a tooth is rotten and is hurting, but in our clinic it is different. In 2018, 55% of our dental care was preventative (cleanings & sealants); 31% was restorative (fillings); and only 8% were extractions.

“The Nueva Vida dental clinic staff are really making a difference! This is much different from other Third World clinics where I have gone to work. They do sealants and the sealants are holding. They are really making a difference!” said Dr. Art Kaslow, who volunteered in the clinic with Solvang Rotary Club (CA).

1 http://www.cdc.gov/
2 http://blog.psiimpact.com/
3 http://blog.psiimpact.com/