This is a short newsletter just to inform you that we are beginning the move to Nicaragua to continue our work in the Center for Development in Central America. After the caravan leaves (see back), a longer, more detailed newsletter will follow.

Cesar Fajardo, the JHC's staff person provided by FUNDECI, is here with us helping us get ready to go. He will be one of the drivers on the caravan.

Cesar has been helping us learn and improve our Spanish. He and Michael have been planning the present and scheming on the future.

He told us that when we got to Nicaragua, the folks of Ciudad Sandino are going to kill a small bull for a fiesta! They are going to kill the fatted calf because the prodigal son (the lost children) are coming home. We will finally be coming home to them.

Many people of Ciudad Sandino put much hope in the Center. We pray we won't let them down.

The First Question that may pop into your head is, "Where are they getting the money to make the move with and to live on in Nicaragua?"

Well, it is the overwhelming question for us. Where are we getting the money?!

Actually, we are trusting that a loan will be forthcoming from the Self-Help Credit Union. Glenn Yoder there is really doing the work to pull this off for us. We'll be renting the two houses we own, with Marcia Gibbs' efforts, to pay off the loan.

We have a few grants in the works and have our fingers crossed. Mostly we're just going, and trying to trust without great anxiety. Who knows? Maybe in several months Nicaragua may have a Chinese restaurant being run by gringos to fund a Center for Development?

THANKS go to many people... here we'll mention just a few:

Jean Goven for all her expertise and hard work on fundraising.
Bobby Brawley for all his work on helping us solve mechanical problems.
Tio Max Couchman for his fundraising efforts.
Mab Segret for her expertise in fundraising.
Sally Porter for leading our Board retreat.
All our drivers.
All our Board members who are working to get us moved and providing much needed emotional support.

What do we need?

- Lots of prayer - we are making a huge change in our lives and the lives of our children.
- Lots of help - in spreading the word of the Center to interested people and in working to get the last of us gone.
- Lots of commitment - we need pledges of financial support to show when raising money from foundations (pledges will also help to reduce our anxiety.

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YES! I want to support the JHC's Center for Development in Central America. Enclosed please find my tax-deductible contribution of $__________.

YES! I want to support the JHC's Center for Development in Central America. For 1994 I pledge $________ per [ ] month [ ] quarter [ ] year.

YES! I want to remain on the JHC mailing list. Please correct my name and address to:

__________________________
phone:

YES! I want to support the JHC's Center for Development in Central America. Please contact me about: [ ] investment in the Micro-Enterprise Fund
[ ] arranging a speaking engagement
[ ] volunteering
[ ] other ____________________________
HOLY MACKEREL they are actually GOING!!!

The caravan with ten drivers and most of our worldly wealth is headed to Nicaragua March 23rd. Yes! You read correctly... March 23rd. We are taking a bus, 2 pick-ups, a van, and an old EPA mobile lab filled with household items, supplies for the Center for Development, medicines, school supplies, and other needed items for the folks there.

The drivers are courageous, adventuresome people who are definitely in for a trip they will long remember. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. They'll be driving over steep mountains, across many international borders, in hot, dry/wet climates, in war zones, and in deserted areas that banditos love. They'll also be driving in close company with each other. They'll need your energy.

Below is a map of the route, with proposed dates for each stopping place, trusting that our capable drivers can keep our vintage vehicles intact well enough to move on along...!

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