

**The health clinic's lab is receiving additional equipment** for more extensive tests from a grant pursued by the Boston College nurses. We are so grateful for this expansion.



We hosted a dentist and hygienist from Seattle who worked in our clinic and two rural areas for a week. As this newsletter goes to press, we are hosting an ob/gyn and two nurses from Alaska.

We've figured that it costs about \$300/day to run the clinic. Some patients make donations of money as opposed to giving community labor in exchange for an exam, lab work, and medicine. We are bringing in C\$80/day which is about \$4.50/day. So we are lacking \$295.50/day... your gifts are precious.

### **El Porvenir lost much of their coffee**

**due to excessive rains.** We do have buyers for what coffee they have salvaged. They have benefited from the services of the above mentioned dentist,

hygienist, ob/gyn, nurses and a vet also from Alaska.

In October they hosted a **delegation** from Lakeview Presbyterian Church (FL) and Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church (SC) who had hoped to help them repair their coffee drying patio but the rains prevented the prepared materials from getting delivered...both churches did raise funds to help with this project.



### **We lost the opportunity to plant a great deal more cotton because funding to give credits to the growers arrived too late for planting.**

The rains have helped with Nicaragua's water table level but are wreaking havoc on crops, including some of the cotton that was planted. As far as we know the sesame is holding in there...it really is a hardy crop.



### **As we get ready for Thanksgiving** - a special day we still mark as U.S. citizens - we give thanks for much!

- for the Dutch people of faith who continue to help us fund the cotton project
- for businesspeople who struggle with us to help Nicaraguans live a dream of self-reliance
- for the Boston College nurses, Bucknell Brigades, and many others who work diligently to see the clinic funded
- for **volunteers** like Johann and others here and there working alongside Nicaraguans literally and figuratively
- for you who keep the CDCA operating with your generous gifts



### **As we look to 2009** we need special help in these areas:

- **people / foundations / loan funds who are willing to grant or invest in the projects.**

The Nicaraguans need capital to plant, to build, to purchase machinery, and to get the organic cotton production chain really started. So far we have helped them piece-meal a budget.

We know, with the economy so iffy in the U.S., that the middle class will have a hard time investing, so what we need are people who can wait on their investment's return for a "longer time horizon with patient capital".

- **And we need people like you to continue to give.**

We look at what the projects need and it looks horrifically huge, but we see church budgets, entertainment budgets for many, and building budgets for projects in the First World that don't serve the poor, and the amount we need is, as my baby brother would say, "chump change." Please help.

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