

Nicaragua Assistance 2002

100 % Direct Support

Trip 8 since 1996

Estimated Assistance To-Date: \$30,000.00+

Dates of Journey: May 27 to June 7, 2002

2002 Focus:

- *San Jose Hospital, Diriamba*
- *Old Peoples Home, Masaya*
- *Samuel Calera School, San Marcus*
- *Montessori School, Masaya*
- *Rodolfo Aburto Castellon, Student*
- *Daryl Pao, Student*
- *Fred Ulrich, Catering Business*
- *Other Families & Individuals*

During this trip several individuals come to me with notes written by their doctor indicating medicine needed for a family member, in most cases, a child. All of the prescriptions were, with one exception, less than \$5.00. Money is not there for anything including medicine. Another person, a housekeeper at the university, showed me the heels on her shoes which were just about to fall off. She, likewise, had no money to get them repaired. How can one not assist? 90% of the population are in this situation. Approximately \$1300.00 in goods and \$3600.00 in funds were dispersed during this journey.

Thanks to all who made this possible.



School supplies in use at the Maria Montessori School in Masaya. More supplies are needed for this and other schools in Nicaragua.

Basic Necessities Hard to Come By In Nicaragua...



A lady from Mastatepe on her way to sell homemade Candy, Juices, Fruits, etc. on the streets or onboard busses (the predominant mode of public transportation).

This year's journey to NI went very smooth as compared with last year's challenges. Thanks to all who assisted in making this trip productive and rewarding.

The focus this year was on Medical Supplies and Medicine. In addition, other items such as Computer Software/Hardware, Hand-Tools and Educational Material were included.

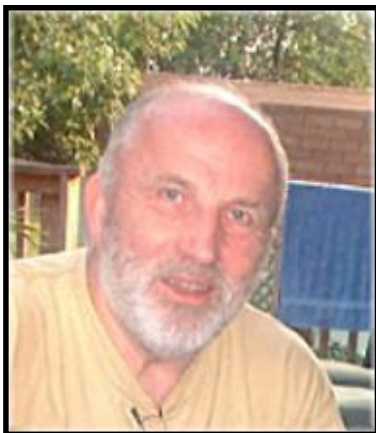
I visited two schools that had received supplies which were shipped to NI last year. The Administrators at both schools were eager to show me what they had received and hoped that they could get more in the future.



Sister Claudia Fernandez, Administrator, Hospital San Jose, Diriamba inspects the items brought to the Hospital this year.

The Medical Items and Medicine were given to a Hospital in Diriamba and an Old Peoples Home in Masaya. Twenty-four residents live at the home. The Nicaraguan government pays the home \$350.00 per month to cover all expenses. This equates to \$0.48 per day per resident. The administrator said to me: "I do not know how we make it from month-to-month", somehow they do.





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Sister Claudia Fernandez proudly showing off a blood analyzer purchased last year with funds partially donated. Neighboring town's medical staff now come to this hospital to use the equipment, as well. Total cost of the equipment was \$2500.00.



Young boy in Managua trying to make some money, most likely, to assist with supporting his family.



Unsolicited comments on file about the work in Nicaragua:

...The school supplies which we received plays a major role in the physical and mental development of our students.

Maria Lopez H., Director, Pre-Escolar Jardin de Niños Maria Montessori

...Our Hospital thank you for your valuable cooperation and generosity.

Sister Claudia Castillo Fernandez, Director General, Hospital San Jose, Diriamba

... You are doing what so many of us think about doing, but for some reason never get around to do. If each of us took on such a project of helping others in need, this world would be a much nicer place for it.

Richard A. Jackson, M.D. Bellaire, Texas

...Thank you for all you do for me. Nicaragua and especially those that know you are lucky to have a friend like you. You are just awesome.

Rodolfo Aburto Castellon, Student, San Marcos

...Rarely a week passes without someone asking about you or referring to some of the good things you did while here.

Hazel Petersen, Former Administrative Assistant, Now Retired, University of Mobile, San Marcus Campus

Without the goodwill from so many Individuals, Businesses and Organizations, this would not be possible. Therefore, the comments above belong to you. Being the facilitator I derive my reward from being able to contribute in this worthwhile endeavor.

Continental Airlines
Itasca Lions Club
Bensenville Lions Club
Il Pescatore Restaurant, Franklin Park
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Vito Barbanente, Owner
Richard & Odette Maskell
William B. Hanaford, M.D.
Jeff Borck
John & Dianne Pelletiere
David and Darlene Vecchione
James & Sharon Sadilek
Raymond and Dorothy Libner
Angela Weishsupt
Timothy and Ruth Stefl
Rita Ann Sisko
Robert M. Anthony
Kim Vitek
Jette K. Nielsen
Marie Louise Nielsen

Thank You.

◀ Family Cooking in Masaya

Items Needed For 2003 Journey.....

Medical

- Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil etc.
- New and/or used Eye Glasses
- Tooth Paste
- Tooth Brushes
- Bandages
- Canes and Walkers
- Any Hospital related items

Other

- Batteries - All Sizes
- Calculators - Solar Powered
- Used Suitcases or Trunks
- Laptop or Notebook Computers
- Computer Software
- Toys—Ages 2 to 10
- 2nd and 3rd Grade English Text Books
- Funds - Make Checks out to:
NICA DIRECT

All donations are distributed to carefully selected individuals and organizations. This being a 100% direct effort with zero administration expense. All expenses associated with each trip are personally absorbed.