

NICARAGUA-DIRECT

100% DIRECT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
SINCE 1996

Service Beyond Self ~ Always!



18th Year.

Dates: November 4 to November 18, 2013.

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Life goes on with little or no change...

...for three quarters of the population, the exception are those individuals and entities that we and other groups are able to assist on an ongoing basis. Bob Anthony and I are humbled and appreciative for the support that we receive year after year. If you read some of the recipient's comments it is clear that our work does have an impact and must go on for as long as we are able to carry it out. There will, however, come a time when both Bob and I would like to hand this over to someone "like-minded" and carry-on with the objectives in a similar spirit. Presently, we are aiming for 20 years and then we will re-visit the subject again. We would like to see this continue since there is much more to be done now and in the future.

This year we provided support to 5 senior care facilities, 4 schools, and tuition payments for 2 individuals furthering their educational pursuits (both of them are already teachers). We had several requests for roofing material that were delivered and installed.

Also, wheel chairs, walkers, canes, and laptop computers were distributed. In 2013 we were able to send 22 boxes (in 3 different shipments) with the cooperation of Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners in Stevens Point, WI. The content represents many of the items listed under Items Needed and was distributed by Rodolfo Aburto and Jose Herrera, our dedicated volunteers in San Marcos, Carazo. We cannot thank them enough for their service. The pictures from this year's journey have been posted on the web-site.

Rodolfo Aburto travelled with us back to the United States to visit with friends in South Carolina and also experienced a bit of winter here in Chicago. The temperature when we left Managua was 27 degrees Celsius (80.6 Fahrenheit) and in Chicago it was 2.7 C. (36.8 F) . Presently, the HOT season is approaching and lasting until late May where the RAINY season takes over again.



Before and after pictures of Maria Lourdes Sanchez' s roof installation in San Marcos completed December 2013.

Reflections by Robert M. Anthony on the 2013 Humanitarian Journey:

Jens and I would like to recognize two colleagues in Nicaragua who continue to support our humanitarian efforts there. Rodolfo Aburto Castellon (a former hospitality student in Jens' first class in Nicaragua and currently the Head of the IT Department at Keiser University in San Marco) is our translator during school visits and oversees projects during the year. He also is in charge of the Nicaragua-Direct website. Jose Herrera arranges for the purchase of supplies for the five homes for the aged in Nicaragua and also provides transportation for us during our two-week visit. Jose is able to negotiate prices for us often below market value since we are providing goods to the homes for the aged.

Each visit provides unique experiences. This year Jens and I were joined by Father Bob of Keiser University in an effort to provide a compound miter saw for an employee at the college. The saw will not only provide an additional source of income for the family but also allow friends and neighbors a way to

improve their properties. The deeply moving response of a woman receiving one of the two wheelchairs we gave away was another indication of how small gestures on our part make significant changes in the lives of others. We were also amused by an event we observed concerning levels of authority. On a trip Jens, Jose, Jose's aunt, and I took to the city of Granada, we were pulled over by a policeman at a roadblock. As the policeman walked over to our truck, Jose's aunt, sitting in the back seat, rolled down her window and looked out at him. When the policeman saw her, he quickly signaled us to go ahead without checking our credentials. She happens to be a Catholic Nun, actually the Principal at a Granada High School, and was wearing her white habit. It appeared like the policeman didn't want to challenge that level of authority.

I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to those that support us in our efforts to improve the lives of others. Thank you.



From left: Bob Anthony - Sor. Melania Martinez Alvarez and Jens Nielsen in Granada.



Rainbow over Laguna de Perlas



San Antonio Pre-School Teacher Meyling Suarez with her students.



Julio Gutiérrez with wife and daughter taking possession of a new power saw. A VERY HAPPY DAY.



A home in need of a new roof. We get many requests...

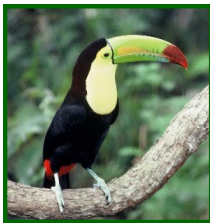
"Service Beyond Self - Always"

We have an ongoing need for these items:

Items that are underlined are in greatest demand. Please also read the recipients comments with regard to need, thank you.

Medical: Wheel Chairs, Canes & Walkers, Hospital and other Medical Supplies, Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil (Prescription Medicine must not have expired), Vitamin A, Bandages, Tooth Paste & Brushes, Eye Glasses & Eye Care items, Hearing Aids & Batteries. Burial Caskets (Funds)

Other items: Adult Diapers, School Supplies (e.g., Pencils, Erasers, Water Colors, Ballpoint Pens, Markers, Notebooks, Dictionaries and Atlases, Solar Powered Calculators, Laptops or Notebook Computers, Hard Drives, PC Memory, Flat Panel Monitors, Software: Educational and Productivity, Hand Tools for all lines of work, Sewing Machines, Tools, Fabric, Supplies, Culinary/Baking Equipment, Water Purification Equipment, Toys: Ages 2 to 10 (Non Battery Operated), All forms of Sporting Equipment (Soccer Balls, etc.) & Large Roller Boards. Other Items: Please ask us.



Tucan

Fore more information go to our web-site:
www.Nicaragua-Direct.org or contact us at:

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Funds should be directed to:

NICARAGUA-DIRECT, 234 Forest Avenue, Itasca, IL 60143-2012

It is now also possible to donate using **PayPal** from our website, www.Nicaragua-Direct.Org. The site is also available by scanning the QR Code on the first page. We personally absorb the transaction fee so the full amount contributed will be applied to the humanitarian efforts. - Any size donation is welcome. Funds are used for direct purchases of food, medicine, educational expenses, building material and for any emergency requests that might arise during the journey.

It is important for us to point out that there are no administrative expenses. All expenditures associated with each trip are paid by us personally.

On behalf of all recipients to-date, a huge ...

Thank you!



"OUR TEAM"- from left:
Robert M. Anthony, Jens C. Nielsen
Rodolfo Aburto Castellon, Jose S. Herrera M. Toro

2013 Assistance - Items and Funds:: \$16,000.00
Conservative Estimate of Total Support since 1996 : \$135,000.00

***Humanitarian Assistance received in 2012/ 2013 from:**

Individuals: *

- Ailabouni, Helen & Saïd
- Armorer, Althea
- Al-Wazzan, Christine & Noor
- Anthony, Robert & Mary Ann
- Artola, Sonia & Manuel
- Baker, Nancy
- Barlev, Pauline
- Beine, Alice & Keith
- Bibly, Carol
- Bolling, Birgitta R.
- Brillhart, Lia V.
- Bøgehegn, Nora & Per
- Campbell, Anna-Clara
- Cartina, Carmella & Michael
- Danzer, Magdalene & Gerald
- Dearborn, Frederick
- DeCarlo, Liz
- Drewsen, Maureen B.
- Dubey, Meena
- Erickson, Carol
- Felbinger, Robert & Sue
- Fischer, Richard C.
- Fredericks, Angelina & Marianna
- Goranson, Eva & Gordon
- Green, William R.
- Hart, Jim
- Karsbæk, Rune & Barbara
- Kern, Joan
- Kozeluh, David D.D.S.
- Kozlowski, Sharon & David
- Knecht, Ellen & John
- Lewis, Paul S. D.D.S., M.S.
- Lindstrom, Jackie
- Maskell, Odette & Richard
- Martin, Mark & Connie
- McGhee, Larry
- McKay, Marsha & Richard
- Mikkelsen, Robert A.
- Miller, Kristi
- Nespor, Anne M.
- Nielsen, Jette Kofoed
- Nielsen, Marie Louise B.
- Nielsen, Peter & Martha
- Orchard, Marge & Jim
- Oviyack, Therese & Ray
- Ørum, Peter and Irma
- Pao Lindo, Karina & Daryl

- Pelletiere, Dianne
- Plattenberger, William and Shirley
- Riordan, Larry & Mieng
- Rizzi, Gloria, Lucy & Olivia
- Soto, Rafaela
- Tripicchio, Joan & Mike
- Tuchscherer, Mary & Ernie
- Volbrecht, Jackie L.
- Walter, Hazel P.
- Zack, Mary & Dan

...If we inadvertently omitted you from the list, please accept our apology and we would like you to know that are grateful. Thank you.



John R. Binneboese
Senior Executive Vice President



3400 N. River Rd
Franklin Park, IL 60131
Vito Barbanente, Owner



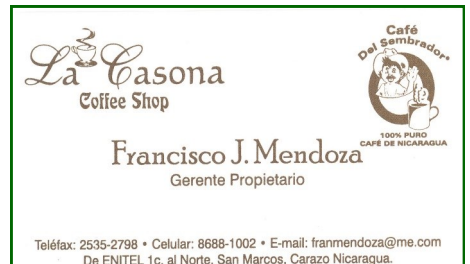
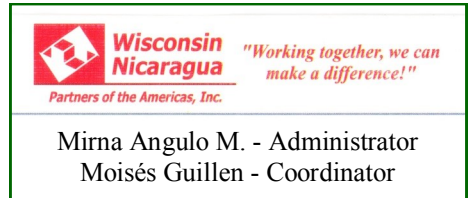
Linda Steffensen - Editor



St. Charles, IL

In Nicaragua: *

- Aburto Castellon, Rodolfo & Family
- Herrera, Jose & Family



If these business entities can assist in serving your needs, we ask that you consider using their services.

Thank you.

*Period from November 15, 2012 through December 1, 2013

Unsolicited Comments from recipients 2013:

... I am really grateful for this opportunity to own a power saw. For my family and me it will be a great help to improve my income since I will be able to work on extra projects in addition to my full time job at the University.

Julio Gutierrez, San Marcos, November 16, 2013

... I consider a computer to be very important as the technology moves on. In my personal case this computer will be really useful to accomplish my goals so that I am able to work on my college assignments.

Karina Avellan, San Marcos, November 15, 2013

... We greatly appreciate this donation of food. Presently we are almost out of food. We need walkers, crutches, wheel chairs and medicine for pain relief and flu-medicine.

La Purisima, Diriamba, November 5, 2013

... Thank you for understanding our needs. All of the supplies will be used to help our most needed students. We need to build a small room to accommodate the school's administration as well as to store the food provided to the school. Currently, we share a classroom to accommodate both of these objectives.

**Pedro Joaquin Chamorro School,
Las Esquinas, November 8, 2013**

... All we received from you is of great need for our home. Presently, we have 50 residents that is permanently living here. What we need most is pampers, cleaning supplies, bed clothing and towels. Thank you so much for your help.

**Hogar de Anciano La Providencia,
Granada, November 5, 2012**

... Thank you for your help. God bless you. The food donations are always needed and much appreciated. Your donation will be used to prepare our Christmas Dinner for the Residents and Staff. The rest of the money will be used to buy pampers. We are in need of pampers towels, deodorants and caskets. God bless you.

**Hogar de Anciano San Antonio,
Masaya, November 13, 2013**

... We are really grateful for this donation. The supplies provided to us are of great need for our students. We need more computers, markers for white boards as well as an office for the school administration. Our electrical system need to be repaired. We still have many needs, for example, teaching aids such as Banners and Maps. We also need items for Sports such as Soccer Balls and Volley Balls.

**Fernando Rojas School,
San Marcos, November 8, 2013**

... We are really grateful for the supplies. They will be of great help in the learning process and activities we do with our students. We need white board markers, dictionaries, glue, construction paper, academic posters and paper. God bless you for coming to our school.

**Rafaela Herrera School,
San Marcos, November 8, 2013**

... Food, milk and medicine help us to provide better life standard to our residents. We are grateful and feel happy that we are always in your thoughts. Our ongoing needs are for adult pampers, milk, cleaning supplies, gloves, wheel chairs, walkers, toilet seats and medicine like ointments and pain relievers.

Dr. Augustin Sanchez, Jinotepe, November 6, 2013

... Your donation is of great benefit for our home. We mostly depend on donations like this one. We also set up sales to raise money for our home. We need pampers, 2 wheel chairs, 2 walkers, We also have a project to fix the roof since it is in bad shape. We need at least one bucket of paint.

**Horizontes Hogar de Ancianos,
San Marcos, November 6, 2013**

... The \$400.00 will be used to assist poor families of students. Thank you very much for your priceless help.

**Sor. Melania Martinez Alvarez,
Granada, November 5, 2013**



2013 SNAP SHOTS

