

NICARAGUA-DIRECT

100% DIRECT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
SINCE 1996

Service Beyond Self



Dates: November 1st to November 15th, 2017.

234 Forest Avenue
Itasca, IL 60143-2012 - U.S.A.

Tel. +1 630-773-2552
Fax. +1 630-773-2550



NICARAGUA HUMANITARIAN JOURNEY 2017

22nd
Year

With the 22nd journey completed successfully, thanks in large to our loyal supporters, individuals and businesses both in the United States and in Nicaragua. The same holds true for our dedicated volunteers in both countries. Our heartfelt thanks to all benefactors.

Nicaragua is still a country in transition with many challenges facing the approximately 75 percent of the population. Education is a huge challenge, one that cannot be ignored. Nicaragua-Direct is totally focused on making a difference in this vital area. Also Senior Care Facilities are receiving assistance in the form of food and supplies. Numerous requests are received from families each year for building supplies, mostly roofing needs. We try to accommodate as many needs as possible. A brief listing of services provided this year include:

- ◇ Five Schools including a Kindergarten facility with school supplies to be delivered at the beginning of the next school term commencing in January 2018. These materials will be given directly to each teacher to assure proper distribution.
- ◇ Four Senior Care facilities with Food Items, Adult Diapers and, in some circumstances, also Funds.
- ◇ Roof requests approved for 6 families. The work will begin shortly. Also, work requests approved in 2016 were inspected for proper completion. In addition to pictures posted here more will be on our web-site www.Nicaragua-Direct.Org

On every journey to Nicaragua, we get introduced to something out of the ordinary. This year being no different. After meeting with the new Principal at the Rafaela Herrera School, Ms. Juanita in Los Marqueses, we were also introduced to the Ima School in El Socorro. This school teaches classes from Kindergarten to Sixth Grade in a former horse barn which lacks very basic needs. We are presently evaluating what we can do in addition to providing school supplies.

*Service
Beyond Self*

Appreciatively,

Jens C. Nielsen
Founder/Facilitator

Robert M. Anthony
Humanitarian



Students at the Ima Kindergarten/
Elementary School, a converted Horse
barn in need of much attention



A newly acquired structure, an old Horse barn which now functions as a school building serving Kindergarten through 6th grade. Kindergarten and 1st. Grade Classes are combined and likewise, 3rd and 4th. Nicaragua-Direct is assisting with educational supplies to both Students and Teachers....

Nicaragua-Direct is always in need of ...

Medical: Wheel Chairs - Canes and Walkers, Hospital and other Medical Supplies, Bandages, Tooth Paste & Brushes, Eye Glasses & Eye Care items, Hearing Aids & Batteries, Burial Caskets (Funds for only) and Adult Diapers ...

School supplies: School Supplies, e.g., Pencils, Erasers, Water Colors, Ballpoint Pens, Markers, Notebooks, Dictionaries and Atlases, Solar Powered Calculators, Laptops or Notebook Computers, Flat Panel Monitors, Software: Educational and Productivity (Legal issues only)...

Other items: 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.) and large Roller Boards...

Items not listed: Please ask us... Thank you!

As of the last few years, we have been purchasing more items from within Nicaragua thus enabling us to stimulate the local economy as well as avoiding numerous issues associated with shipping. We can nevertheless still ship when needed and appropriate...

Funds should be addressed to: NICARAGUA-DIRECT, 234 Forest Avenue, Itasca, IL 60143-2012 -USA

From our website, **www.Nicaragua-Direct.Org** can also be used. Also, available by scanning the **QR Code** on page one.

We personally absorb any transaction fees, so that the full amount contributed will be applied to our work in Nicaragua.
Any size donation is always welcome and appreciated by us and the recipients.....

It has always been important for us to point out that there are no administrative expenses at all. All expenditures associated with each trip are paid by us personally since 1996.

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

Our contact information is:

www.Nicaragua-Direct.Org

Jens C. Nielsen, Founder/Facilitator
234 Forest Ave, Itasca, IL 60143-2012,
USA

Phone: +1 (630) 773-2552
Fax: +1 (630) 773-2550
E-mail: Nicaragua-Direct@Comcast.Net

and

Robert M. Anthony
34W103 Wagner Rd, Batavia, IL 60510,
USA

Phone: +1 (630) 879-1475
E-mail: BAnthony103@Comcast.Net



Robert Anthony sorting School supplies for five schools to be delivered in January 2018 when the new school year commences. The school supplies will be handed over directly to the instructional staff at each school.

Service Beyond Self

*Humanitarian Assistance received in 2017 from the following:

Individuals: *

-Allekian, Connie
-Al-Wazzan, Christine & Noor
-Anthony, Robert & Mary Ann
-Artola, Sonia & Manuel
-Asmund, Erik
-Bibly, Carol
-Bolling, Birgitta A. M.
-Bondi, Thomas F.
-Brillhart, Lia
-Burgwald, Christa
-Bøgehegn, Nora & Per
-Christensen, David L.
-Cullen, Jane
-Danzer, Magdalene & Gerald
-Dearborn, Frederick
-Degrado, Francis
-Drewsen, Maureen
-Erwin, Aline H.
-Felbinger, Robert & Sue
-Field, Donna & Vern
-Fischer, Richard C.
-Fredricks, Denise
-Goranson, Eva & Gordon
-Green, Lora & William
-Hart, Jim
-Hausler, Elizabeth G.
-Jeans, Mary
-Jennetta, Faith & Steven
-Karsbæk, Barbara & Rune
-Keller, Christa Ørum & Craig
-Kozlowski, Sharon & David
-Knecht, Ellen E. & John
-Lane, Lucy G. & Larry G.
-Maskell, Odette & Richard
-Martin, Suzanne C.
-Meyers, David
-Nielsen, Valerie & Leif
-Nielsen, Jette K. & Jens
-Nielsen, Marie Louise B.
-Nørmølle, Birgitte F. & Hans
-Olson, Jean T.
-Piwowar, Kenneth R.
-Radeck, Jim
-Reisner, Virginia L & Don
-Remick, Roseann & Steve
-Rizzi, Rebecca & Steven
-Sargent, Patricia
-Silva, John
-Sindberg, Eva & Ole
-Sisko, Rita
-Sonn, Marianne
-Soto, Rafaela
-Unity of Fox Valley Church
-Wade, M. Hahn & Francis M.
-Walter, Hazel P.
-Weichselbaum, Hart F.
-Wolfe, Andrea
-Ørum, Irma & Peter

*...If, inadvertently, your name was omitted you from the above list, please accept my apology. We would like you to know that we are grateful for all support received to-date.... **Thank you.***

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time with questions, concerns and ideas.

Together, we have made huge difference in many people's lives, since 1996....

We are indeed thankful and appreciative of the support we are receiving every year.

The trust that has been bestowed on us, will never be broken and one that we take very seriously.

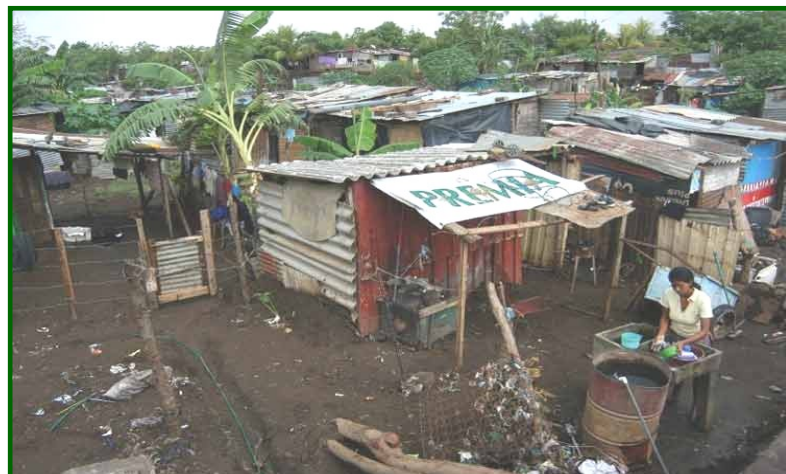
This along with the support from our trusted team in Nicaragua. Without Jose Herrera and Rodolfo Aburto we would not be able to accomplish as much as we set out to do each year. Thank you for your loyal support.

Together, we are accomplishing more than was initially thought possible and it has been a life changing undertaking for both Bob and myself. Bob Anthony and myself do not believe that any greater calling exists.

Thank you for being a part of the effort to improve the living conditions of many in Nicaragua....



La Casona can be viewed on "YouTube"



View of many dwellings throughout Nicaragua. We are assisting to the extend possible with your support. Our web-site will have pictures of past completed projects.

Thank You.

Businesses: *



John R. Binneboese
Senior Vice President



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

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

In Nicaragua: *

Aburto Castellon, Rodolfo & Family
Herrera, Jose & Family



Mirna Angulo M. - Administrator
Moisés Guillen - Coordinator

Spontaneous comments from recipients - November—December 2017:

... We are thankful with God and Nicaragua-Direct for the generous assistance to this center. We have great needs and hands that gives will never be empty. Thanks and many blessings.

**Horizontes Hogar de Ancianos,
San Marcos, November 3, 2017**

... On behalf of Hogar San Antonio administered by the Josefinas Sisters located in Masaya, I extend my gratitude to Nicaragua Direct for this donation. It comes to serve the need of our residents. Most of them do not have relatives and we are in constant need of food and other items like shampoo, lotions and medicine. Thanks for being God's hand extended on earth. God bless you and we offer our prayers for you.

**Sor. Margoth Soto, Hogar de Anciano San Antonio,
Masaya, November 3, 2017**

... The donation of food items received from you is of great in feeding our seniors. Your help guarantees us being able to serve 59 persons (30 Females, 22 Males and 7 being served at their place of residence.

**La Purisima - Senior Care Facility
Diriamba, November 3, 2017**

...Thank you for the trust in us after years of donating much needed food items for our residents. Please do not forget us whenever it's possible to assist us. Thank you.

**Hogar de Ancianos,
Jinotepe, November 3, 2017**

....Comments from the Schools and Kindergartens will be posted on the web-site after the supplies has been delivered in late January to the middle of February 2018



The Rolando Guzman family in San Marcos which we have known since 1995. Unfortunately to this date they are still besieged with challenges. Nicaragua-Direct is assisting in critical circumstances i.e. medical.



Recently constructed house where Nicaragua-Direct provided the roofing material. The house is very well built and should last for many years to come.

*Service
Beyond Self*

Robert Anthony took pictures at the Fernando Rojas Zuniga School in San Marcos and is here showing them to eager students...



A family from about two hours away from San Marcos insisted on making the trip to thank us for helping them with a new roof last year. The mother, her son and his two children were excited about finally not having a leaking roof over their heads. The gentleman unfortunately was recently in an accident and is now almost blind. We are presently looking into how we might be able to assist the family....

RANDOM PHOTOS FROM THE 2017 HUMANITARIAN JOURNEY



NICARAGUA-DIRECT - REFLECTIONS:



Mr. Roger Gonzales, his wife Louisa & Dr. Hazel P. Walter were the driving force behind University of Mobile.

What started out as an exploratory visit to evaluate the feasibility of assisting a University in San Marcos, Carazo became a life altering event for quite a few individuals, both in San Marcos, Carazo and here in the United States As we now are approaching 23 years of humanitarian service to Nicaragua, I would like to share with you some of the pivotal moments in years past....

In 1995, my colleague, Jerome Drosos from Triton College and I visited the then University of Mobile in San Marcos. The University had English speaking students that were interested in Hospitality Industry careers. We prepared a concentrated curriculum and taught the subjects for two consecutive summers. We noticed right away the dire situation in Nicaragua and I have gone for that purpose ever since which will in 2018 become the 23 journey....

About 10 years ago, Robert B. Anthony, a former colleague from Triton College thankfully joined the effort. We work well together as a team and share in the objectives. Now, 22 plus years later we are still at it and thankful for having the health and the support to continue.



One of many wheel-chairs delivered to a needy person. This Lady in Jinotepe, Carazo was waiting for several years. Still being used today.



CDI Samual Calero-Kindergarten School-San Marcos, Carazo.

On every journey something out of the blue happens. This year after purchasing school supplies in the capital, Managua our truck broke down on the way back to San Marcos. A ball-joint broke and luckily it did not happen going 100 km/hour.



Those were the days,when Humanitarian work gave you a break with the airlines. Things have changed. The picture is from the departure at ORD-O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, IL in 2010 .

Service Beyond Self

Nicaragua-Direct is totally indebted to the support that we receive both here and in NICARAGUA.

In San Marcus we are fortunate to be assisted by two families namely, the Jose Herrera and the Rodolfo Aburto. A Big Thank You to both!

These families are making our journeys safe, more productive and efficient including the understanding the nuances of the Spanish language.

Both Bob and I look at coming to Nicaragua is that of going back to our second home, thanks to you.

ALL THE BEST WITH LOVE TO ALL



Shipment arrived in Managua in 2002. After two days only salvaged a few items before giving up. Learnt a great deal from that experience.

