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Did you know?

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Latin America. More than half of the population lives in poverty and per capita income is one of the lowest in the region. Poverty rates are higher among rural and indigenous people. In rural areas 6 out of 10 households live in extreme poverty, or on less than US \$2.50 per day. (IFAD 2014).

In addition to extreme poverty, rural communities face challenges with respect to economic opportunities, food security and access to adequate healthcare, clean drinking water and quality education. Levels of crime and violence are high. Economic inequality is the highest in Latin America. This is where Honduras Hope is transforming lives one person at a time.



Making a Difference!

Since 2001, Honduras Hope has been working with two rural and politically marginalized communities in the Department of Yoro: Plan Grande, a Tolupan reservation and San José, a mountain community of squatters (people with no formal title to their land). Our community development model is based on long-term cooperative partnerships with the communities we serve. The communities themselves identify the most important projects and we work together with them to achieve lasting results. This model helps ensure that the precious resources we provide have long-term impact, help build stronger and more resilient communities and enhance self-sufficiency. Our programs focus on 5 key areas:

Health & Wellness: Health Clinic; nurse; Nutrition Program; clean drinking water; Square-foot Gardening; Girls Empowerment

Education & Vocational Training: Boarding House; uniforms, tuition and supplies; kindergarten teacher; Beauty, Barber and Hospitality Schools

Infrastructure Development: Community Center; Health Clinic; housing; schools

Economic Development: Women's Co-op; Pine needle baskets; Farmer's Co-op

Community Engagement



Read on to learn more about how the programs of Honduras Hope, with your help, are making a difference.

Education Opens Doors

The fastest growing program of Honduras Hope is enabling students from Plan Grande and San José to study at the university or vocational schools such as nursing or agriculture. This year 22 students received grants totaling about US \$24,000. They are studying engineering, medicine, nursing, business and agriculture at a cost of less than one year's college tuition for one student in the US. After only 5 years of offering grants for post-secondary education, this program has already helped students earn their degrees in medicine, business, engineering, and nursing. We are very proud of our students and their accomplishments!

Did you know?

The average number of years of schooling stands at only 4.3 in rural areas. The main causes of these low numbers lie in inadequate teachers' competencies, scarcity of teaching materials, poor physical learning environments and limited interaction between schools and communities (UNICEF)



2018 University Students

Honduras Hope is a 501(c)(3) organization working to create stronger, more resilient, and self-sufficient communities in rural Honduras.

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A Better Future

Suyapa Benagas from Plan Grande was one of the first students in our University program. Following a successful 6 years in our high school grant program she attended the university in San Pedro Sula. In her junior year she fell in love and married an electrical lineman, then had a son. She appeared to be on a course for a successful, happy life. Tragically, her husband was killed in an auto accident the same week she learned she was pregnant with her second child. Now as a single mom with no money or a source of income she seemed destined for poverty. With support from Honduras Hope she attended a year of Beauty School to learn hair dressing. Drawing on her university years studying teaching she became the teacher at the newly opened Beauty School sponsored by Honduras Hope at CEVER. This spring a Barber School opened to train men. Today over 40 students attend the two schools under Suyapa's direction. When the students graduate they will open salons in their homes or partner with others for a solid career or extra income.

Financial support for HH education programs brightens the future and enables dreams to come true. Even a small donation can change a student's life.

Did you know?

The increased productivity needed to break Honduras' persistent high poverty rate depends, in part, on further improvements in educational attainment. (CIA World FactBook)



Suyapa (in white) supervising her students



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Dreams Become A Reality

This is the success story of two Plan Grande Tolupan people who pursued a dream that is about to come true this fall. Plan Grande is a Tolupan reservation. Although it is only 3 kilometers from the center of Yoro, it has no electricity, often impassable roads, and minimal government services. The houses are humble homes, whose roofs and walls leak every year during the torrential rains. The Tolupan people struggle to make a living, having few resources, lacking education, and suffering discrimination from the larger population. Working in the neighboring bean, corn or coffee fields for US \$2.00 a day, or washing laundry for middle class families in Yoro are the most common means of providing food and stability for one's family. Until Honduras Hope arrived in 2001, education beyond primary school was unthinkable.



Rosa, Kathy Swanson (Board Member), Noe

But with the assistance of Honduras Hope, a growing number of young people and a few brave adults are studying and graduating from high school, and pursuing their studies into professional careers. Rosa Hernandez and Noe Martinez are two students who are about to fulfill their dreams.

Rosa was a mature woman who decided, after having raised her children into their adolescent years, that she would like to learn to read and get a high school diploma. She went to school on weekends, participated in the "Radio School"

Did you know?

Some 18 % of the population has no access to basic health services, 10 % of the population lacks access to safe water and 33% of the population lacks access to sanitation. (UNICEF)

(taking courses offered over the radio) and finally received her high school diploma several years ago. Noe was a more traditional student, taking advantage of a Honduras Hope educational grant to attend the local high school.

Both decided after graduating from their secondary programs that they would like to become nurses. Rosa said she knew that the poor communities of Yoro needed nurses, and she wanted to help people. Noe admitted that he entered nursing school for economic reasons; it is cheaper and quicker than attending the university, and he also knew that he would be able to get a job.

Did you know?

The infant mortality rate is 17.2 deaths/1,000 live births
The under 5 mortality rate is 18.7 deaths/1,000 live births
The maternal mortality rate is 129/100,000 live births
(UNICEF)

The nursing program is a 3-year course of study, which includes a clinical experience in the final year. Both students work at the local hospital in their field of concentration. Rosa works in the maternity ward. Her final thesis is researching the causes of high mortality rates of mothers during delivery. Noe's thesis is on infectious diseases, investigating and teaching others how to avoid certain diseases, what precautions to take to limit transmitting diseases, and how to care for family members who are infected. A lot of his work has been on the Zika virus. This summer he will be part of a medical mission to visit families in the mountains to educate them about health care and nutrition.

Did you know?

Degree of risk is HIGH for food and water borne diseases: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever, and vector borne diseases: dengue fever and malaria
(CIA World FactBook)

Rosa and Noe are looking forward to this fall, when they will complete their studies and receive nursing certificates. Both hope to work locally so they will be able to remain in their own community and offer much needed medical attention to the Tolupan people.

SERVICE TRIPS

Travel with us to Honduras!

Experience our unique community development approach.

We travel to Honduras four times a year.

For more information, contact Bill Briggs
at 603-616-2133 or wbriggs507@aol.com



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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



Planting Seeds

After a seed germination science lab with sixth grade students at the Plan Grande Elementary School taught by Honduras Hope board members Peter and Kathy Swanson, students asked if they could bring the extra seeds home to plant. This was an unexpected but welcome outcome of making terrariums with the children. More importantly, the lab planted seeds of possibility in the children's minds. The students and teachers decided to turn the land in back of one of the school buildings into a vegetable garden. Students got started, and when the task seemed overwhelming Principal Walter Urbina Mencia enlisted municipal workers to finish the job. What was once a pile of rubble is now a bountiful garden. It is amazing what a single seed can do!

YOU CAN HELP!
Please make your tax-deductible donation securely on line at www.hondurashope.org or mail your check to:
Honduras Hope
PO Box 60
Franconia, NH 03580
THANK YOU!



BEFORE ... Hard at work!

Did you know?

25% of children suffer from chronic malnutrition due to limited availability of food, inadequate nutritional practices and the impact of disease (UNICEF)



AFTER ... Abundant harvest!