



Dear friends and benefactors:

May Christ come to you this Christmas Season with the gift of health, the blessing of hope and the promise of peace. As we at Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños look back at 2007, we remember with much GRATITUDE all our friends and donors abroad.

We would like to share with you some of the many blessings received through your kind assistance.

Sister Maria Rosa Featured in the National Catholic Reporter

The April 20th, 2007 issue of the National Catholic Reporter featured an article entitled “Her Way” depicting Sister’s life and work written by John L. Allen, jr. She is described as the “Mother Theresa of Central America” and those of us who have worked with her over the years know and understand this reference well. Her mantra, “we always have room for one more” has meant a brighter future for over 35,000 children in her 41 years of working with the poor of Honduras.

Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños Develops a Strategic Plan

Building on over 40 years of experience and the loving leadership of Sister Maria Rosa, Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños (SAN) has launched their Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan was designed in response to the urgent demands placed on the organization’s resources and staff, which often make it difficult to maintain focus on the long term sustainable activities vital to the survival of SAN. It will provide a framework of resources and objectives against which the organization will be able to measure and evaluate its activities. For a more detailed description of the Strategic Plan, please visit www.saninos.org.hn.

Meehan Family Foundation Continues Support of Santa Rosa de Lima Clinic

Mrs. Eileen and Dan Meehan continue to send containers of supplies to assist the various hospitals, schools and programs of Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños. In addition, Mr. Meehan has made the development of the third phase of Santa Rosa de Lima Medical Center possible. Your generosity is inspiring!

Child Sponsorship Program Exceeds Goal for 2007

Thanks to Friends of Honduran Children, Canada, we now have 208 sponsors in the Canadian program. This is an increase of 113 for 2007. We have gone above and beyond our goal of 70 in 2007! This number continues to grow as FHC’s various brigades are taking a very active role in finding new sponsors when they return to Canada. Strengthening the sponsorship program is one of the priority Programs under the new Strategic Plan. Thank you for your contribution to the success of this project.



Brick Factory Experiences Increase in Productivity

Working in conjunction with Jim Hope of Indianapolis, the management team of the brick factory has experienced an 18% increase in productivity. The monetary and management support provided by Friends of Honduran Children, Indiana, has played an instrumental role in the brick factory's increased success. Thank you Indianapolis! We couldn't have done it without you!

Nuevo Paraiso Completes Expansion Project

Quique and Global Medical Brigades came up with the brilliant idea to build an additional apartment building in Nuevo Paraiso to house more mission teams. The project was completed in March. Thanks to his team, we can now house seventy or more volunteers at Nuevo!

Salon Transformed into Spacious Dining Hall

To accommodate our growing number of volunteers, the salon has been transformed into a much larger kitchen and dining area that can seat over 100 people. The new and improved **Gerry Coakley Dining Hall** opened in late October and will be blessed in February during the Gesu mission trip. Our goal for 2008 is to make the outside as comfortable and inviting as the inside by planting gardens and providing outdoor seating for our guests. Thanks to all who made the dining hall expansion possible! The Gilmour Academy was the first to start working on this renovation. Thank you.

"Restaurante Aurora" Provides Service to Santa Rosa de Lima Patients

Dña. Aurora Atoche, Director of Caja Sur in Spain, through Nazaria Moreno Sirodey, Director of International Cooperation in the Diputación de Sevilla, has granted Sister Maria Rosa the construction of Aurora, a restaurant which serves hundreds of patients who attend the Santa Rosa de Lima clinic daily. At the moment, a dining room is being constructed adjacent to the restaurant so that patients can eat in a clean, safe and hygienic environment.

Hope for Honduran Children Foundation Brings Internet Café to Nuevo Paraiso

On behalf of the children living at Flor Azul, we would like to thank John and Karen Godt for their continued support. Thanks to their generosity we were able to open an internet café, which provides phone and internet services at a very reasonable price. They are also in the process of developing a mini market, which will sell meat and produce grown on the farm. Proceeds will provide food for the boys living at Flor Azul.



Hope for Honduran Children Hosts Holiday Fundraiser

Hope for Honduran Children will be hosting a night of friends, music and dancing to benefit Flor Azul on December 30th, 2007 at 7:00pm at Shaker Country Club in Cleveland. We encourage you to participate in this opportunity to raise funds for the food, shelter and education of the boys living at Flor Azul. Please visit www.hopeforhonduranchildren.org or contact Karen Godt at 216-932-2123 for more details.

Fundraising Events in the United States and Canada are a Success

Several fundraising events took place throughout 2007, including the Honduran Children Rescue Fund benefit at the Gran El Dorado in Cleveland, and the Friends of Honduran Children Golf Outing in Canada. Friends of Honduran Children, Indiana, also hosted a fish fry to raise funds and awareness for Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños. Thank you for your efforts! With your help, we were able to raise much needed funds to feed, clothe and educate the children.

Honduran Children Rescue Fund Provides Much Needed Support to Reyes Irene Valenzuela Training Center

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Honduran Children Rescue Fund for its donation to the Reyes Irene Valenzuela School for girls. Its donation allowed a significant number of students to complete the academic year. Thank you for your contribution!

Gesu Catholic Church Spreads Our Message

Your involvement and support have made a tremendous impact on the lives of the children and young adults living in Nuevo Paraiso. Your continued presence has inspired other churches and schools to become part of this great family. Thank you for all you have done for us! We look forward to your February visit!

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Welcomes New Pastor

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Fr. Robert Sims, the new pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis. We look forward to meeting you in the near future! We wish Fr. Jeff Godecker the best at Butler University and look forward to his continued presence in Honduras.

Grace United Church Provides Accommodations for Twelve New Children

Two groups led by Rev. Lyle Horn of Grace United Church in Peterborough built and furnished a home for the arrival of twelve new children in November. They are currently working on the construction of a second home and have donated a water tank that will serve two homes in Nuevo Paraiso. Their efforts in the construction and sponsorship of the homes are greatly appreciated! We would also like to extend our gratitude to Grace United for providing Flor Azul with a new water pump. Thank you so much for your support!

Congratulations Class of 2007!

Please join us in congratulating our 2007 graduates! We proudly announce that seventeen girls from Reyes Irene Valenzuela and forty children from Nuevo Paraiso graduated from elementary school in late November. Six young men from Flor Azul and thirteen young men and women from Nuevo Paraiso earned high school degrees in a variety of subjects including carpentry, mechanics, commerce, and metallic structures. We are so proud!

We would like to extend our prayers and gratitude to all those who provide support to Sociedad Amigos de Los Niños. Thank you for taking the time to come to Honduras and share your talents with us! Your presence, hard work and love have made a great difference in the lives of many children and young adults. We are especially grateful to the following groups for making 2007 such a success:

- ***Meehan Family Foundation. Milwaukee**
- ***Friends of Honduran Children, Canada**
- ***Friends of Honduran Children, Indiana**
- ***Honduran Children Rescue Fund, Cleveland**
- ***Hope for Honduran Children, Cleveland**
- ***The Fedeli Family Charitable Foundation**
- ***Fundación Copan, Sevilla, Spain**
- ***Fundazione Mas Alla, Italia**
- ***Fundazione Raphael Onlus, Italia**

Thank you again for your love and support! May God bless you and your loved ones throughout this joyful holiday season!

With love and gratitude,

Sister Maria Rosa and Mae



Happy Holidays!