

June 29, 2006

Project H.O.P.E. Supporters:

Things have been very busy around our office, since the first quarter newsletter in March! We have shipped three containers overseas, hosted a Festival in Esteli, Nicaragua and organized a golf tournament. As a result, this will serve as our second quarter newsletter. Let me fill you in on much of our goings on...

Though it never rains during the dry season in Nicaragua, it did this April. Not only did it rain, it rained hard and did so for three days. The Festival proceeded as planned with the attendance being less than we hoped. More than 230 people now have a personal relationship with Jesus. That's what it's all about, and we won't be the ones to put a price tag on winning souls to Christ.

We returned from the Festival in Esteli to host Project H.O.P.E.'s annual golf tournament. We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day, May 13. We raised the most ever on the tournament at over \$8,400. The winning team, with a score of 59, was made up of Jammie Hathcock, Chris Hanner, Shad McCue and Bobby Hendrickson. Thank you to all our golfers, hole sponsors and event sponsor, McAlister's Deli.

Days later, May 17, our Project H.O.P.E. family suffered a great loss. Jerson & Jennifer Gonzales lost their little girl weeks away from Jennifer's due date. Jerson is one of our pastor trainers and has been with Project H.O.P.E. for about five years. This was a devastating loss for this young couple. Though they have turned to the Lord for comfort, Jennifer is struggling with deep depression. Jerson would welcome your prayers as he faces hernia reparation surgery around the first of July. Please pray for, both, Jerson and Jennifer as they heal physically and emotionally.

I spent a few, unplanned days in Managua in June meeting with staff making some adjustments in job responsibilities. Since the arrival of the McCullah family in April, whom you met in our March newsletter, it has freed up some staff time. With the additional staff, the Directors found we could expand into some new areas. Our desire is to identify ways in which our staff is gifted, in addition to discovering each of their individual passions. Our charge is to, then, equip each of them to that particular passion, gift or ministry.

For example, Marvin Sanchez has been with Project H.O.P.E. for over six years. Marvin currently works with Jerson in our pastor-training program. Marvin was once a member of a gang in Managua. Not until a life threatening stab-wound, which landed him in the hospital, did Marvin decide it was time to turn his life over to Jesus. With his history, Marvin's passion is ministering to gangs. He has already submitted a proposal, complete with mission statement, objectives and timeline and has even gone so far as to meet with the police chief. Marvin's work will center in the area of Ciudad Sandino, near H.O.P.E. Central.

The first of five, consecutive weeklong construction teams, made up of 21 eager youth and 13 adults, left Springfield Friday, June 23, with Muy Muy as their destination. This project of 20 homes is challenging, because of its remote location. Extra care was taken in procuring all the building supplies. In other words, it's not a quick, ten-minute trip to the local hardware store, when you run out of lumber. This project is co-funded by Duncanville, Texas Church of Christ and East Sunshine Church of Christ, Springfield. This is the first mission trip with Project H.O.P.E. for East Sunshine.

Sinai Valley is located on the Western shores of Nicaragua and is the destination for our second, third and fourth weeklong teams, and building 35 homes. Right near there, in 2002, Project H.O.P.E. built 40 houses in Canaan Valley, so we are very excited at the opportunity to return and visit old friends.

The team breaking ground in Sinai Valley is our largest construction team ever at 52 members, with more than 50% being first-timers. A group this large takes extra planning, like renting an extra bus to transport everyone. Most of the folks come from Fellowship Bible Church, Rogersville and The Bridge, Nixa, with a handful from Hope Community Church, Springfield.

Following week one is a dynamic group of 39 people, mostly youth, from T.H.E.E. Camp (The Heaven and Earth Experience, Gene Gibbons, Executive Director). Team members come from Branson, Kimberling City, Springfield, Dexter and Kansas City. Some of the returning team members dug water lines in this same area one year ago and are thrilled to return.

A 43-member group from Crossroads Baptist and Plaza Heights Baptist in the Kansas City area will continue building July 15-22. Members of this team worked painting houses in the above-mentioned community of Canaan Valley in July 2005.

Our fifth summer team is a partnership of Calvary Baptist, Republic and First Baptist, Nixa. They'll be returning to Diriamba the last week of July to build an additional 18 homes.

Please be in prayer for the people of these communities – that they will be receptive to the message we have to share.

We would tremendously appreciate your prayers for our staff. It is a grueling undertaking to host five teams back-to-back. At times there will be two teams in Managua at once – one preparing return home, while the other has just arrived the night before, almost 100 people at once to coordinate! Please, just remember them, and pray for health, patience, endurance, and a servant's heart.

September brings the fourth and final team to Sinai Valley to complete the last of the 35 homes. This is a joint venture between East Grand Church of Christ and Second Baptist Church, Springfield. The trip dates are September 2-9, and there are spots available. If you are interested, contact Stacey at 886-HOPE (4673) or Stacey@pjhope.org by July 27. This will be our final community construction trip of the calendar year.

Though we had hoped to host our summer teams at H.O.P.E. Central, a delay in one of our container shipments, with operational supplies and equipment to complete construction, set us back. Not to worry, plans are already in the works for projects in the Managua area for 2007 in order to take advantage of what has become an amazing facility, which will only further enable us to do God's work.

Our third quarter newsletter will hold testimonies and photos from the summer's ventures. I know you will enjoy hearing from youth and adults who have seen God's presence in Nicaragua, Central America.

Sincerely,

Kim Bradley

Remember our short-term mission teams.

- June 23-July 1 Muy Muy
- July 1-8 Sinai Valley
- July 7-15 Sinai Valley
- July 15-22 Sinai Valley
- July 22-29 Diriamba
- September 2-9 Sinai Valley

Please mark your calendars.

- Annual Pig Roast and Auction – September 30
 - 2nd Annual Bike Ride – September 30
 - 2007 Medical Mission Trip
 - Week 1 – January 19-27, 2007
 - Week 2 – January 27 – February 3, 2007
- If you have an interest in sharing your medical skills with the Nicaraguan people, contact Stacey Schultz at (417) 886-HOPE (4673 or stacey@pjhope.org.)