

Amigos for Christ

Spring 2004

An Organic Success Story

Take an ambitious young Nicaraguan man, educate him, empower him to use his skills to serve his community, and you have Humberto Baca. He is 26 years old, married and the father of two. A survivor of Hurricane Mitch in October of 1998, he was among the displaced families relocated to the Chinandega city dump. In 2001, when we established Santa Matilde, Humberto and his family moved to their own cinder block home on a small plot of land. Humberto yearned to cultivate the rich volcanic soil around him and approached us about financing his agricultural engineering education at a local school. He promised to use his skills to benefit Amigos for Christ and the Chinandega 2001 Foundation. Impressed by his entrepreneurial spirit, we agreed. Two years later and armed with his degree, Humberto has embraced the land and a sense of service. He is in charge of all our agricultural projects, including the micro farming and drip irrigation operations at Santa Matilde, Casa Jacinto y San Francisco (Leon), and Haldo Dubon School (Chinandega). Humberto is passing his knowledge on to a new generation of young people. The fruits of their labor supplies vegetable supplements for the feeding programs at all of our schools. Best of all, he uses organic techniques, protecting the precious soil from harmful contaminants. Humberto Baca truly exemplifies the positive effect of our work in Nicaragua!



Mission Trips Flourish

Since the first group of 38 traveled to Nicaragua in the spring of 1999, our mission trip program has grown every year. We are proud to sponsor 11 trips in 2004, comprised of over 300 high school and college students, church groups, families, surgical teams and well drillers from around the United States. The focus of these trips is assisting our Nicaraguan partner, Fundación Chinandega 2001, with housing, educational, medical and clean water programs around Chinandega, an underserved part of the country. Our teams have helped establish 5 new communities: Villa Esperanza, San Marcos, Villa San Francisco, Miguel Cristiano, and Santa Matilde. We are beginning a sixth, Villa Catalina, this spring. Working alongside the families who inhabit them, we have helped build over 550 houses! We helped construct schools, churches, feeding centers, drilled wells, performed life-altering surgeries, entertained children, conducted health clinics, played sports, laughed, cried and prayed together. We all return to our comfortable existence transformed in some way. We become more mindful of the "have-nots", even those in our own back yards. Most of us travel to Chinandega again and again, amazed at the positive strides in the communities.

We invite you to join us on a mission trip. Please call us at (770) 614-9250 or e-mail us at patty@amigosforchrist.org.



MISSION TRIPS FOR 2003

EXPERIENCE THE LIFE OF THOSE WE SERVE!

You are cordially invited to participate in our mission trips to Chinandega this year. Your life will never be the same. Sign-up now as space is limited. The dates:

March 8 (Sat) – March 15 (Sat)

April 5 (Sat) – April 13 (Sun)

June 7 (Sat) – June 15 (Sun)

July 26 (Sat) – Aug 3 (Sun)

There are also opportunities for longer-term summer missions and for well drilling trips. Please contact our office.

“What you did for the least, you did for me...”



Amigos for Christ
1845 South Lee Ct., Suite A
Buford, GA 30518

Getsemani Boys' Choir

Boys take Atlanta and New Orleans by Storm

Wow! The month of October provided some of the most memorable moments of the year as the Getsemani Boys' Choir performed at over 30 different locations in Atlanta and New Orleans. Some of the highlights included two very successful galas at the Fabulous Fox Theater in Atlanta and the Riverfront Room at Jackson Brewery in New Orleans. They were the hit of the Mensaje Spanish Festival in New Orleans as thousands danced to their songs. In addition, the choir visited many schools, churches, and other venues and brought smiles to all they met. Thank you to everyone who helped organize all these awesome events and made the boys feel welcome.

These boys also taught us the meaning of sacrifice. Leaving their homes for 2 months (the youngest is 8 years old), they sang, played, and danced simply to bring hope to the many poor children that are in Nicaragua. We thank them for teaching us such an important lesson.

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