

a partnership
for sustainable
community
development
between the people
of nagarote,
nicaragua and the
greater norwalk
area in connecticut

Norwalk) Nagarote

SISTER CITY PROJECT

Spring
16

Visit Our Web Site at www.sistercityproject.org

US Senator Chris Murphy to be honored at 30th Anniversary Gala

CONNECTICUT SENATOR CHRIS MURPHY will be accepting the first "International Insight Award" at our 30th Anniversary celebration May 13th.

Addressing the new world order of foreign policy demands, Senators Murphy, Brian Schatz (Hawaii) and Martin Heinrich (New Mexico), authored the article in Foreign Affairs, "Principles for a Progressive Foreign Policy" outlining steps Congress needs to take. "The United States must think anew about the tools that it will use to lead the world, including reaching beyond the military budget to rediscover the power of non-kinetic statecraft." They cite eight steps needed including a new Marshall

We hope that you will be on hand to congratulate Senator Murphy and celebrate the 30 years of accomplishments in Nagarote by N/NSCP and you.

Plan, partnering with allies, dealing with climate change and modeling and valuing civil and human rights.

Our Project was founded on the principal that "making friends is making peace." Senator Murphy's proposal is consistent with our values and insightful in a way that often goes unrecognized. We applaud the thinking behind the article and hope the rest of Congress realizes the importance of taking up the tools of statecraft.

We hope that you will be on hand to congratulate Senator Murphy and celebrate the 30 years of accomplishments in Nagarote by N/NSCP and you. See you at 6:30!

Cooking Local is a Hit with Teens

THE COOKING CLASS THAT WAS PART of our Healthy Children program funded in 2015 by a \$12,000 grant from the International Foundation was so popular that we've hired our talented chef, Marina, to teach the class twice a week. Marina attended the series of workshops on nutrition and created recipes, using less oil and more local fresh fruit and vegetables, which she compiled into a beautiful cookbook as part of the grant.

When our recent board delegation arrived in Nagarote, the cooking class was underway. The children's enthusiasm and excitement filled the air along with the smells of the delicious food they prepared. The class is so popular that we need another stove. Marina tells us that in her class, they don't just talk about cooking. The kids share their concerns with her and she welcomes their trust and companionship.



Chef Marina's cooking class at our kitchen on the patio of our Community Center

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Please make your tax deductible check payable to NNSCP and return it with this form to:

John Woyke, Treasurer, P.O. Box 382, Norwalk CT 06852 • Or use your credit card to donate on line at www.sistercityproject.org

Leadership Class Teaches the Benefits of Planning

WHILE IN NICARAGUA IN MARCH, our board was able to observe the new Leadership Class designed and taught by our Field Director, Miguel Salinas. Viewing the 2 hour program was amazing. Miguel had the students engaged every second participating in creative exercises that demonstrated the importance of planning and team building.

The Leadership Class, funded with a grant from the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, directly addresses sustainability and empowerment. Miguel has done an outstanding job in creating this program. The 15 teens selected are all college scholarship students.



Our college scholarship students learning to be leaders

Seeds of Youth Farm Burns

ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, fire struck our Seeds of Youth Model Sustainable Farm. Apparently someone was hunting iguanas nearby by setting fire to the grass to trap an iguana and the fire got out of hand. Unfortunately, we did not have power at the farm that day so we were unable to pump water to douse the flames. Pablo, our new farm hand, and Vernon our Farm Manager had to use branches and soil to put out the fire which the wind had spread. Many of our passion fruit, dragon fruit and guava trees were damaged, but amazingly when our board visited the farm on March 11, the trees had partially recovered and the rest of the farm was in better shape than ever.

We're looking forward to having a solar pump at the farm in a few weeks, which should make future fires less of a problem. Meanwhile, we harvested peppers, guava, mint, hibiscus and plantain in March and watermelons are just ripening as we write.

Meet Catherine Bagg

YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM CATHERINE BAGG.

Catherine has joined N/NSCP as Project Administrator handling social media and donor relations, and providing much needed and very competent assistance in every aspect of the Project. Catherine has a degree in film making from NYU and has worked at the New Canaan Nature Center and Booktopia Fairs. She is also a caterer and has volunteered extensively with AmeriCares and Riverkeepers.

Catherine joined our board delegation for a visit to Nagarote in March and on her return attended the Annual Conference of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in Boston.

JOIN US FOR OUR

**30th Anniversary
Fiesta**

Friday, May 13, 2016, 6:30 PM

The Norwalk Inn

99 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT.

Silent Auction, Presentation of Award
to Senator Chris Murphy
Dinner (cash bar with the first drink on us)
RSVP by April 25.
Pwoyke@gmail.com / 203-966-1565

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