



n|n
SISTER CITY PROJECT

The Norwalk/Nagarote Sister City Project

is a partnership for sustainable community

development between the people of Nagarote,

Nicaragua and the Greater Norwalk Area

in Connecticut.

2012

WE HAVE

82 SCHOLARSHIP

STUDENTS,

17 OF WHOM ARE

IN COLLEGE.

Highlights

- After 10 years, it has become clear that our Afterschool Project for teens has not only eliminated gangs but is also having a significant impact on teen pregnancy as few, if any, of the girls in our program have become pregnant over the years, even though Nicaragua has the highest incidence of teen pregnancy in Latin America.
- Our board trip in February was a fabulous experience for the eight board members and six friends culminating in a delightful and insightful trip with a group of our teens to a nature reserve.
- Tom and Sandi Kretsch made a magnificent donation to underwrite the cost of adding a pavilion to our Community Center to provide shade for classes and meetings, as well as to begin a class in theater and an afterschool program for elementary school children. The pavilion was constructed in August and the two classes will start in January.

Afterschool Project

- Our new Program Coordinator, Ana Isabel, began work in January and has done a superb job. Her energy, enthusiasm and warmth have energized the Project kids. She has a background in community education with other NGOs in Nicaragua.

- We began admitting the most disadvantaged students from barrios near our new Community Center, adding 25 new teens to the Afterschool Project.
- The December Youth Fair at our Community Center was a great success. All Project kids, staff and many parents were involved in organizing games as well as making and selling handcrafts, food made by the baking class and produce from the farm. Our new neighbors loved it and hundreds attended.
- Ana Isabel provided new workshops on self-esteem, violence in school and home, and teen sexuality.
- Community Service activities included painting a mural, conducting a marketing survey, working on the farm, delivering fresh farm produce for preschool lunches, providing free haircuts, and donating clothes made by the sewing class to other needy children.

Reading Circles

- The younger reading circle has 20 children (11 girls and 9 boys, ages 7-12). They are reading and writing about the environment and writing poems and short stories which they act out with puppets.

WE RECEIVED A \$10,000 GRANT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION TO EXPAND OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN INTO A MODEL ORGANIC FARM.

- The older girls' group has been reading about recycling. Cynthia, a Peace Corps volunteer, led workshops on making jewelry and photo frames out of recycled cans which they sold at the Youth Fair.

Model Organic Farm and Tree Nursery

- We raised close to 5,000 pounds of organic produce on our farm.
- We received a \$10,000 grant from the International Foundation to expand our community garden into a Model Organic Farm including the addition of a tool shed and growing tent. The evaluation just completed by the agro/ecology staff at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, Leon (UNAN) was very positive and positions us to seek additional funding to continue expanding the farm.
- Kids had a contest to choose a name for the farm; "Semillas de Juventud" or "Seeds of Youth" won. A perfect choice!
- An irrigation system funded in part by the First Congregational Church of Greenwich was put in place in time to help with the unexpected drought in August.
- Our agro/ecologist, Javier, did a series of workshops on organic farming and global warming.
- We added 100 fruit trees to the farm.

Scholarships

- We have 82 scholarship students 17 of whom are in college. One, Anielka, who is on our staff, just graduated from college and four more just completed high school—not bad for a group of kids whose parents never finished sixth grade.
- We provided workshops for tutors and preschool staff on basic elements of education, learning styles, and learning disabilities.
- Tutoring is well organized and effective with college students earning their scholarships by working as tutors and aides.
- Ana Isabel provided counseling for parents dealing with challenging situations. She also talked with parents about how to apply discipline without destroying self-esteem.





Preschool

- Fifty-three students are enrolled in the Darling Preschool, which we support. It has one of the best enrollment and attendance records of Nagarote preschools. Eleven students graduated and will receive our scholarships to first grade.
- The “Opening Doors” videos, donated by Sandra Guitierrez for involving preschool parents, is improving parent involvement in school activities.
- Our staff organized the Ministry of Education, a local cement supply business, and parents to join forces to enclose our old pavilion to make an additional classroom.

Bike Loans

- Nine new bike loans were made in November. Over the years we have made hundreds of bike loans to teachers, health workers and others who need bikes to get to work with a remarkably good track record for loan repayment.

Partnerships

We have extensive partnerships which enable us to do amazing things with very little money:

- We’re planning a joint reforestation project with Trees for the Future.
- Peace Corps volunteers help with many activities.
- SosteNica and CEPRODEL provide loans to small business in Nagarote as well as a kitchen garden program for our Project families.
- Carl Baily of Quest for Peace arranged for 28 of our kids to have dental examinations and procedures and for two children with cleft palates to have evaluations and surgery.
- The director of the agro/ecology program at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, Leon evaluated our Model Organic Farm.
- Three professors from the University of Puerto Rico provided workshops for staff and students.



53 STUDENTS
ARE ENROLLED
IN THE DARLING
PRESCHOOL.



HEROES

Over \$2,500

Anonymous
Bill Collins & Tish Gibbs
Tom & Sandi Kretsch
John Levin & Diane Keefe
David & Catherine Murchie
Douglas & Joyce Tormey
John & Priscilla Woyke

BENEFACTORS

\$1,000-\$2,499

Anonymous
Iris Añorga-Cook
Virginia Auster
Jean Chappell
Mark & Angeles Dam
First Congregational Church of
Greenwich, Women's Fellowship
Bill & Roz McCarthy
Halford Park & Ann DeFeo
Bill & Susan Pascucci
Christina Smillie
John & Gail Wall
Frank White & Susan Mansfield

SUSTAINERS

\$200-\$999

Carl Bailey
Sandy & Kelly Banks
Anita Behnken
Ann Bello
Steve Berizzi

Esther Bess
Niki Bleifeld
Gary Burfoot
Thomas & Suzanne Calnon
Paul Cantor & Myska Lopaur
Adriano & Flora Cayetano
Jeff & Missy Conrad
Darien United Methodist Church
Matthew & Dana Dembski
Kirsten Denney
John & Stephanie Devita
Dan & Heidi Godleski
Sandra Gutierrez
Michael & Amanda Hatcher
Leslie Hauck
Sean & Laura Higgins
Johnathan Higgins
Tom & Karen Howes
Barbara Hudgins
Ray & Sarah Kamrath
Bruce Kimmel & Kay Anderson
Jud & Pam Koss
Bruce Lavine & Lisa Zimmerman
Levy Ratner PC Charitable
Partnership
Bill & Ann Low
Ann Mandel
Gerry & Joyce Moran
Paul Moss
Jesse & Joan Parris
John & Patricia Podkowsky

David & Pegeen Rubenstein
Billy & Sally Salancy
Albertus Schmitz &
Ceely Ackerman
Claire Schoen
Phyllis Silver
Jackie Steiner
Phuong Tran & Sue Anne Cayetano
Mark & Kimberly Tsoanos
Catherine Urbain
Steven & Susan Wallerstein
Hans Wilhelm & Judy Henderson
Wilton Friends Quakers
Nate & Mary Yordon

FRIENDS

\$50-\$199

Tom & Carol Aikenhead
Janet Aley
Jud & Maria Aley
Alpha Connection Limo Service
Christopher Anspach
Deirdre Antonello
Michael & Suzy Aubrey
Lucy Auster
Bachand Discala, LLC
Guy Bailey & Kathy King
Mike Barbis
Betsy Barosky
Judith Barry
Sean Barry & Jennifer Giering
Alice Bates
Jim & Lois Benfield

Liz Bradbury & Patricia Sullivan
William Brancaccio
Maria Briones
Eileen Brown
Rebecca Brown
Mary Budrawich
Bob & Mimi Burgess
Joan Calabrisotte
Doug & Erika Calais
David Callan & Jalna Jaeger
John Campbell
Dan & Pat Campbell
Joe & Roz Carpentieri
Cathy Cavender
Christie's Service, LLC
Paul & Marie Cifatte
Nick & Arline Cioffi
Steve & Michelle Cleary
Consolidated Color Press
Robert & Kathleen Coppola
Bill & Barbara Cox
Jack Cutler
Jo Ann Davidson
Dick & Paula Denney
John & Joan deRegt
Oscar & Margarita Destrugue
Ed & Anke Dew
Ed & Barbara Drotman
Alejandro Duhalde & Linda Wine
Christian & Helen Eidt
Alvin & Susan Epstein

Frank Fay
Bruce Ferreira & Kimberley White
Dulaney & Heather Foster
Joe & Susan Garofoli
Barbara Geraghty
Scott & Linda Giering
Roger & Marty Gilbert
Julius & Nancy Gluck
Art & Ann Goldblatt
Marvin & Chic Goldstein
Kathy Gorelick
Martin & Anne Greenberg
Peter Guarino
Ann Gubiotti
Hong Guo & Jing He
Saul & Barbara Haffner
Christian Halabi &
Carolyn Langelier
William & Margaret Hall
Scott & Nena Hasselmann
Celestino Heres
Donald & Jeanne Hersam, Jr.
Neil Hershkowitz & Judy Rivas
Jing Ho
Jim & Theresa Hoke
Richard & Heather Hopkins
Ellis Horowitz & Lisa Combs
Albert Hsu
Judy Hungaski
Christine Japely
James & Jeanine Johnsen
Suzanne Johnson
Ian Johnston

WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED ALL THIS THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF OUR MEMBERS AND DONORS



Grace Kane
Peter Kautsky
Winifred Keane
Morgan & Jennifer Kennedy
Nolan & Barbara Kerschner
Jane Kiefer
Kimmerling & Wisdom, LLC
Debbie King
Joe Kirschner & Lisa Haugaard
Teri Klein
Merle Koteen
Yves & Carol Kraus
Paul & Pat Krause
Marian Kretsch
Bill & Regina Krummel
Lenny & Barbara Kuperman
Ed & Helen Kweskin
Candi LaClair
Peter & Ann Law
Irwin Lebish
Gerard & Kathleen Leonard
Steven & Jess Lewis
Lee & Margaret Lombardia
Linda Lovett
Brian Magee
Richard & Annette Maiberger
Flora Major
Nicholas Mancini
George Mandler
Denise Manzari
Craig & Kelly Marino
Robert & Sallie Marsico

Marie Martinez
Tim Massad & Charlotte Hart
Jose Matta
Lorenzo & Patricia Mattera
Marie McBennett
Judith McDowell
Christopher & Frances McGovern
John & Maria McIntyre
Dennis & Nancy Meany
Albert & Pamela Miller
Stacey Millman
Tony & Dorothy Mobilia
Brian & Mary Moran
Brecht & Sandy Morgan
Sidney & Miriam Moss
Richard & Doris Munger
Philip & Gail Negus
Bob Nixon
Bernard Nizet &
Nadine Quaezhagens
Patty Nuelsen
Pete & Cece Orvis
Mary Oster
Ethel Owens
Bill Papas
Hutchinson Pegler
Joel Perez & Meg Reilly
Gregory & Jane Perry
Art Perschino
Susan Pfeil
Philmark Lithographics, Inc.
Anne Pira
George Post

Lea Prince
Dana Raphael
David Rasekh & Diana Martinez
Judy Reinhardt
Kathleen Repole
Marco & Kathleen Restrepo
Tom & Sheila Rietano
Kathy Roberts
Michael Rodell
Richard & Carolyn Ross
William & Barbara Russo
Frances Salant
Lucie Sasaki-Scanlon
George & Diane Schauman
John & Patti Schippiletti
Theodore & Hannah Shear
Ronald & Barbara Smart
Donald & Katherine Snook
Mike & Tina Sollott
Brian Stacey & Denise Cesareo
Fortunato & Alba Stanziale
Robin & Sylvia Stein
John & Susan Strand
Tom & Grace Surace
Nick & Diane Trentacoste
Nelson Valdez
Aase VanDyke
Mark & Diane Vincent
Gilbert & Betty Vincent
Carolyn & Barry Wallach
Joan Warburg

Carol Way
Stuart & Galen Wells
Jeffrey & Patricia Wieser
Sherrie Winkworth
Jennifer Wood
Woyke & Company
Alan Wright & Paula Kline
Susan Wyper
Andrea Zacher-Brown
Charles Ziga & Lise Annie Roberts

MEMBERS

Under \$50

Harriet Abel
Paul Brown
Rosalinda Calamusa
Kevin & Pat Callahan
Gertrude Carey
Noel & Lindsey Carota
Pat Carpenter
Jeannette Chapman
Robert & Susan Colapinto
James & Kathleen Coyne
Andy D'Alessio
Bob & Judi Dennehy
Arlette Dolan
Bob & Tracey Duff
Dana Dunlap
Damir & Anna Durkovic
Nigel & Kimberley Ekern
Jason & Anne Farrow
Peter & Lisa Grant
Patricia Grassi

Dorothy Grimm
Thomas & Sharon Hager
Annelise Hansen
Scott Harris & Anna Manzo
Scott Kimmich & Kate Tepper
Urs & Yolanda Klarer
Blossom Kutscher
Lee & Mona Levy
Sandy Lippe
Joanne Manghirmalani
Peter & Renda McCaughan
Tucker Melancone & Diana Moore
Larry & Cathy Miners
Melissa O'Brien
William Paolino
Mary Peniston
David & Carol Porter
Jack & Ann Powers
Megan Pryor
Pauline Randall
Phil Rexon
Norha Rivera
Susan Snider
Craig & Sally Stansbury
Maggie Stevenson
John & Carol Sutton
Susie Swirbul
Barry Tavlin
Mike & Dalia Weiss
Rebecca White
Nadine Willig

N/NSCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kay Anderson	Karen Howes
Virginia Auster	Tom Kretsch
Jean Chappell	Bill McCarthy
Angeles Dam	Joan Parris
Kirsten Denney	Susan Pascucci
Tish Gibbs	John Woyke
Scott Harris	Priscilla Woyke

ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Ed Dew
Monzi Figures-Facio
Diane Keefe
John Levin
Rachel Lindsay
Warren Peña
Mary Peniston
Rev. Susan Pfeil
Dr. Walter Petry

EMERITUS BOARD

Dennis Bradbury
Paul Cantor
Barbara Hudgins
Ronnie Maher
Frank White

Norwalk/Nagarote Sister City Project

P.O. Box 382

Norwalk CT 06852-0382

203.846.9288

www.sistercityproject.org

nncsp@sistercityproject.org

DESIGN: ASHLEY LALONDE
PRODUCTION: MANSFIELD COMMUNICATIONS
PRINTER: COLBYCO GRAPHICS
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

