



Honduras Outreach, Inc. strives to integrate the spiritual, physical, educational and economic development of the residents in the Agalta Valley of Honduras through community directed programming. Much of our work is enabled and sustained by the 900+ short term missionaries we send to serve in partnership with these residents in a normal year.

However, 2009 was not a normal year for our organization. Despite the economic downturn in the US which affected donations and the numbers of travelers, our mission team program welcomed over 700 North Americans before the program was suspended in late July following a political upheaval in Honduras which resulted in a president being ousted and an interim president taking office until regularly scheduled elections were held in November.

In the US, as friends and supporters learned of the tenuous financial situation of the organization their hearts were touched and pocketbooks were opened.

Despite the reduction in funding, a loss of momentum derived by the visiting mission teams and a federal government in turmoil, our staff held steadfast to their responsibilities and vision. Below are some of the accomplishments in 2009. HOI believes in miracles because of what we experienced in the past few months; we look forward to equally remarkable accomplishments in 2010.

Health/Medical

- Attended 7491 patients; 20% were under five years of age
- Provided prenatal care for 1457 women; performed 256 PAP smears
- Provided 648 therapy treatments over an eight month period by the only therapist in San Esteban/Gualaco zone
- Continued excellence with
 - immunizations: 97% in the HOI health area
 - malaria prevention: only one case of malaria reported in the HOI health zone
 - live births: for the 3rd year in a row no infant deaths were reported in the HOI health zone
- Oversaw a nutrition program as follows:
 - Intervened with counseling and food supplements for 84 families in nutritional distress
 - Evaluated 334 children for malnutrition with the following results:
 - 177 – Normal
 - 114 – Grade I mild
 - 36 - Grade II moderate
 - 7 - Grade III severe

Community Development

- Provided training in parasite and litter control, reforestation, standing water drainage and health and hygiene including dental and vision care
- Worked on potable water systems for 12 communities
- Trained leaders in 46 communities in the community development process of organization, diagnosis, planning, execution, supervision and evaluation
- Oversaw a nutrition program as follows:
 - Intervened with counseling and food supplements for 84 families in nutritional distress
 - Participated in 226 family garden projects
 - Provided school meals to students in 19 rural kindergartens
- Completed construction of one kindergarten
- Implemented bi-lateral work projects between North American Mission Teams and local residents in 26 communities

Education

- 28 4 & 5 year olds attended the Ranch Kindergarten; 15 graduated to First Grade
- 586 children attended the 41 Rural Kindergartens; 314 graduated to First Grade;
- 122 students attended Aldersgate Elementary School; 18 graduated from 6th grade
- 128 students attended Hope Middle School; 43 completed 9th grade
- 19 students initiated Grace High School focusing on Environmental Sciences
- Seven adults worked toward literacy and will graduate from 7th grade in February 2010
- 116 students attend four different middle and high schools thanks to scholarships from HOI donors

Spiritual Life

- Developed a pan-denominational Association of Pastors in the Agalta Valley
- Spear-headed a worship service in San Esteban for National Day of the Bible attended by 1,800 people
- Initiated an hour-long weekday radio program with rotating preachers dedicated to preaching and faith sharing
- Shepherded and taught nine students who graduated in October from the Mahaffey Bible Training Center
- Organized a new session with 22 students in the Mahaffey Bible Training Center
- Oversaw construction of churches in Potrero de Casas and in El Quebrachal
- Provided improvements to 10 community churches

Agriculture

- Graduated 15 students from the Vocational Agriculture School
- Added five new cattlemen's groups with 50 farmers; there are now 14 such groups
- Mentored 12 coffee producers who committed to work toward producing free trade, sustainable coffee
- Trained 83 people to the use Distance Diagnostic Digital Imaging (DDDI) equipment
- Provided vet work to 26 communities through HOI staff and visiting vet groups
- Helped organize the Agalta Valley Milk Producers Association
- Continued positive agri-business results:
 - 30% growth in the cattle program
 - Raised and sold seven groups of chickens with 600 per group
 - Increased hog production
 - Re-established tilapia project with anticipated initial harvest in January 2010
 - Earned more than \$48,500 from sales of livestock, poultry and farm produce

Groups

- Hosted 26 church groups, two education groups, a therapy group, three vet groups, and a maintenance group before the political situation in caused HOI to suspend group activity in late July 2009
- Completed home improvement projects as follows: 71 latrines, 264 floors, 52 roofs, and 68 room additions
- Shared the Gospel with 1612 children in Bible School using stories, crafts and songs
- Provided health screenings to 558 patients
- Veterinarians vaccinated, de-wormed and performed surgeries on over 1800 animals

Will you consider being a part of the work that is improving the lives of residents of and visitors to the Valley of the Agalta, Olancho, Honduras?