

Ministry opportunities

are considered in the context of overall strategies which have the intention of changing lives and the tenor of communities. Principles which are fundamental to our ministry to Nicaragua are:

- We serve under the authority of and in close partnership with government/national institutions.
- Nationals determine their vision/priorities for their communities and institutions. El Ayudante provides financial and human resource in support.
- Ministry is sustained and holistic.

Developing and cultivating personal relationships while we serve is our greatest pleasure!

Ministry priorities from January through August 2010

Construction

- Homes for families of children placed in protection centers because of extreme poverty and homes for other families without adequate shelter identified by community leaders
- Renovations/repairs of classrooms at the Leon Special Needs School
- Finish work at Carlos Fonseca Community Center which will also serve as facility for a preschool and clinic

Medical

- Teams will serve high need locations identified by the Ministry of Health (MINSAs) and the children/staff of the child development centers located in the Department of Leon.
- Personnel will serve in the El Ayudante Clinic located on campus
- Surgeons can serve in HEODRA, the university hospital, and conduct seminars with interns prior to surgeries.
- Professionals are encouraged to conduct classes on health related issues in community centers, schools, child protection centers and public health posts.
- Medical and non-medical teams are encouraged to bring much needed meds for distribution to Ministry of Health Public Clinics primarily serving poor, rural communities.

Education

- Provision of basic school supplies to schools in target communities---El Jardincito, Pablo Morales, Carlos Fonseca, William Fonseca, Platanal, La Majada, and Ruben Dario
- Classroom instruction in math, art , and science (experiments) in target communities
- Teacher training for educators in the Department of Leon

Spiritual

- Provision of Bibles/study materials for churches
- Pastor and lay leader training in churches
- Teaching Truth to children in Bible School settings
- Defining character and integrity beginning in the church while taking advantage of all public forums

Other Opportunities

- National Police---training seminars, encouragement luncheons for officers and their families, contribution to National Police Children's Christmas Fund, medical clinics for officers and their families
- Provision of sports equipment to local baseball and soccer leagues—sports camps
- Preparing leaders at El Ayudante's child protection center