

MINISTRY HELPS MOM AND DAUGHTER



Last July, Maria Marcelina and her infant daughter, Britany, visited the Skylark medical clinic. Maria was diagnosed with post partum depression while little Britany presented with serious health concerns which included being underweight and having reflux issues. Maria admitted to having suicidal thoughts and urges to hurt her baby. Her sickness meant there were times when she left Britany home alone all day long. Britany's father was working in Managua and did not know about the situation. Skylark staff committed to helping Maria because, in her depression, she felt incapable of looking after her child and feared for their future. Treatment was provided for Maria's depression as well as for Britany's health concerns. Maria and Britany live in Fatima, a community 12 km away, and Skylark was able to provide transportation for them so they could participate in the *Best Start in Christ* Program. With the support of the program and follow up care, Maria is gradually overcoming her depression. Improvement has been noted in the way she interacts with Britany and in her increasing self-confidence to care for her daughter. Britany's health has also improved and she is meeting some of the significant childhood milestones like taking her first steps! Maria Marcelina is very thankful for the people at the Skylark Centre and the way she was supported through a particularly difficult time in her life. (Above story shared with Maria's permission)

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



JANUARY 2015

OUTREACH MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS 2014

2014 was a full year of outreach ministry in Nicaragua!

Best Start in Christ

Prenatal and Infant Care

45 women attended prenatal and infant care classes and received Welcome Baby packages. 7 of them were teenagers between 14 -16 years old.
5 women were transported safely to the hospital to give birth.
3750 prenatal vitamins were distributed.
17 obstetric ultrasounds were sponsored.
37 babies were born in the area
11 prenatal talks were given

Newborn

12 newborns and their mothers attended the program.

Moms'n Tots

Between 10 - 16 mothers and their one year olds were encouraged in their abilities as young moms to connect with and help

their children develop.

Preschool

9 children graduated from the *Best Start in Christ* Preschool.

59 children have graduated from the program since 2009.

Change a Life

15 children were sponsored. 5 of them graduated from the program.

Medical Ministry

2,118 patients were seen by the 3 medical teams
9 follow up consultations were arranged
138 lab tests, ultrasounds, x-rays and biopsies were performed
203 dental patients were seen by the January dental team
Work included extractions, cleanings, restorations, x-rays & fluoride treatments

Paramedic Training

17 participants from different communities were trained in First Aids and Pre Hospital Care. 6 of them were

firemen.

22 doctors and nurses attended the training at the Hospital in Jinotepe.

3 First Aid kits were renewed and 4 were refilled. (These were given during Phase I in April 2014)

Teams

Youth

We hosted a combined youth/adult team from St. Andrew's Parry Sound in March. They came to help in several areas such as: painting, ministry, and sports.

Pastoral Ministry

19 pastoral couples received refreshment and renewal through a marriage retreat.

54 participants received instruction about how to treat and deal with their children and families.

Youth Outreach

About 200 neighbourhood kids participated in VBS activities

SKYLARK REPORT by Mauricio Manzanarez

God has been so faithful through the years that it sounds easy, but it is not, when you realize that our Center has been serving for more than nine years now. This would be our first "Jubilee", but without the idea of taking some rest, as we get into another year full of challenges and goals to reach for His Glory. We were able to serve up to 3,569 visitors last

year, with more events than in 2013 and more days in use (almost 300). We feel so privileged to be able to serve teams that come to our country from different parts of the world and come to spread the Gospel to those in need. From medical to training, from construction to exposure, all our visitors play an important role in expanding the Kingdom of God on

the earth. Our national teams are always present, as more churches become aware of the great services they can get at Skylark and the friendly staff that awaits for them to serve and partner with them. Our gratitude to our clients, staff, leaders and Board Members, as all of them play an important role in the life of the Skylark Retreat Cen-

tre . If you haven't had the chance to come and stay with us, you are more than welcome, God might do great things in your life. God bless you.





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NEW INITIATIVE FOR 2015

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE WITH MY HANDS is an exciting new 2015 initiative for the Skylark Centre. It is geared towards women from local communities around the Centre with the main objective of helping to develop their skills so they may contribute to their family's income. A parallel goal is to help raise the self-esteem of each participant as their handiwork will be made available for sale to both North American and Nicaraguan visitors to Skylark.

The program will focus on providing the participants with the necessary skills to make marketable crafts. The training will be divided into four modules which consist of foam crafts, card making, costume jewellery and embossed aluminum. The women will be given 70 hours of training over 35 weeks. They will attend two hour sessions every Wednesday afternoon from March through to October. At the end of each module, a certificate of completion will be granted to every participant.

Please pray for these women who are endeavouring to apply themselves to learning new skills. This program has the potential to have a sizeable impact on their lives. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Threefold Ministries is a registered charity and non governmental organization founded in 2006 to respond to the significant needs of the people of Nicaragua. Our goal is sustainability in long term missions work. We believe that it is absolutely essential that, if people are to be helped in a meaningful way, the commitment must be for the long haul. That means that if **projects** are to be initiated in a third world country, they must also be staffed with **people**, with the provision for their ongoing operational needs. Following that is the need to run meaningful **programs** to enhance the lives of those being given a hand up.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Threefold,

January 2015 marked the beginning of our tenth year of ministry in Nicaragua. It's hard to believe the changes that have taken place in our main center of operations, the Skylark Retreat Centre, during this period of time. We have moved from a 9 acre empty bean field to a fully functional ministry base that has the privilege of impacting 1000's of lives each year. The Centre continues to minister in four significant areas: as a base of operations for short term mission teams, as a conference center for Nicaraguan national events, as a kids camping facility and as a base for our outreach programs. I hope you enjoy reading some of the stories and statistics about our ministry in this Annual Report for 2014. We move into 2015 realizing that there will be challenges and celebrations ahead but we always give thanks for two significant things: God's presence and guidance in all we do and the partnership of many individuals and groups, like you, in our work for the Lord. Please stay involved. What we do together is having a major impact on the lives of so many.

Blessings,
 Gary Robinson

Short Term Mission Teams for 2015

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 31-Feb 8 | Stasko Dental Team |
| April 11-18 | Ottawa Paramedic Team |
| April 11-24 | NOSM Medical Team |
| May 9-19 | Denton Medical Team |
| July 4-11 | Memphis VBS and Medical Team |
| October 20-30 | Pastoral Training Team |
| Oct 31- Nov 7 | Bazak Paramedic Team |
| November 7-14 | Medical Eye Team |
| November 13-22 | Construction Team |

If you would like to help support Threefold Ministries financially, please complete the information below and enclose, with a cheque, to the Parry Sound address above.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Visit our website at www.threefold-ministries.org