



# Annual Report 2016



## Together we are empowering a community.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to journey with us as we look back through 2016. We are excited to share a summary and some highlights of what has transpired over the last year in Nicaragua and beyond. It might sound cliché, but we thank God that lives truly are being changed and we could not be more thrilled!

- 5,000 guests were welcomed to the Skylark Retreat Centre in 2016; this was a full 1,000 more than in 2015. This means that 20% more people were involved in Christian events, received Christian-based instruction, benefitted from various forms of training or health care, and more.
- 42 of the events at the Skylark Retreat Centre were specifically Nicaraguan (local); 31 of these Christian events catered to youth and children, while the remainder were geared towards women, couples, teachers and pastors
- Through your support of the Best Start in Christ programs we touched the lives of 30 children and walked alongside 28 mothers-to-be
- The Building a Better Future program saw 5 'graduates' - women who have received trained in new skills, been provided with a start-up package of materials, and received educated in basic business finance. The training and micro-financing will aid these women as they work to bring in much-needed income to their families.
- 600 community members attended medical and/or dental clinics on-site, and almost 500 prescriptions were issued and filled
- 50 individuals, many of them volunteer firefighters, received basic and intermediate first-response training, and 20 emergency (i.e. enhanced first-aid) kits were distributed
- 26 couples involved in local Christian ministry received training, guidance, advice and materials geared specifically to them and the important and unique roles they play as they guide their community members



So many have been touched. Thank you for supporting this work and may God bless you. We look forward to your continued partnership in 2017.

*Turn over to read some inspiring stories of how your support and donations had impact →*

## *A fresh start*

An observation by one of our medical team doctors led to a diagnosis of Human papillomavirus (HPV) in one of the young mothers who was participating in our Best Start program. The resulting infection was quite worrisome. After many tears, prayers and much support by our Skylark staff, and with intensive medical treatment, her infection has cleared! She has expressed her thanks to Threefold throughout the ordeal indicating that Threefold has been a light and a great blessing in her life and to the larger community.



## *Continuity of care*

Some time back, another of our visiting medical teams diagnosed a child of 4 with diabetes. Her mother was provided with monitoring equipment, and diabetes education. She continued her education as participant with the First-Response teams, returning this year for a refresher. Distraught after losing the glucometer, a team member was able to source one, plus supplies for her. What she shares with us says it all:

**“...I can continue believing in kindness, love and humanity. God has been so good to us, sending Threefold to this [community].... Skylark is a place where miracles happen...”**



## *Looking to the future*

We are watching, with great interest, a young woman's story evolve. At the tender age of 16, she is a recent 'graduate' of our introductory and advanced First-response training curriculums. She volunteers at the local fire station and is looking forward to a career in medicine. Our intent is to feature her story through 2017 so that you are able to watch her .

## *The Skylark Retreat Centre*

Thanks in large part to some amazing volunteers, some much-needed work was completed this year, including the extension of the security wall, re-tiling of the floor in the medical building and repairs to the multi-use facility roof. These and other much-needed repairs were completed as part of gearing up for **celebrations of our 10th year of operations** in 2017; various on-site community events are being planned. Follow [threefoldministries](#) and [skylark.centre](#) on Facebook for updates.



## *VELA Ministries*

Threefold Ministries continues to partner with, and support, the work of VELA Ministries. Their focus is on the training of Pastors and Church leaders throughout Mexico and broader Latin America. Events held by VELA brought in almost 5000 church leaders! VELA's goal is to see 20% of the Mexican population following Christ by 2020. Find out more at [velaministries.org](#), and contact us if you'd like to support this wonderful work.

## *Why we do what we do*

The Skylark Centre is located in the community of **Los Medranos**. Approximately **30%** of those living in the surrounding area **subsist in poverty**. There are **no local health care centres** in the immediate area and transportation options to larger centres are limited. Water is available for residents for **3 hours or less per day**. Children make up 1/3 of the population. The need is great. It's through your generosity that we are able to provide assistance. We envision communities that are healthy and sustainable, reflecting God's love and care . Thank you for the support that you have provided through 2016. Be a part of the change as we continue to **Build, Empower and Follow!**