



BUILD • EMPOWER • FOLLOW

Fall 2020



Nicaragua News

Medical clinic success stories

If you have yet to watch the video, Maria tells her story. She is a patient at the clinic which focuses on serving those in the community recognized to be dealing with specific chronic health issues. Maria was a patient of the medical mission in November 2019 and was **diagnosed with excessively high blood pressure**. She was previously unaware of her condition. Maria has been **rushed to hospital** by the Skylark staff twice since that time with dangerously high blood pressure levels. Clinic doctor, Dr. Martinez, has been working with her bi-monthly in an effort to find the correct combination of medications and lifestyle changes to manage the condition. Thankfully Maria's body has been responding well to the latest treatment!! **Her life was truly in the balance**. We watch, wait and pray for continued improvements and positive reports!



One of the primary goals of the clinic is to provide patients not only with (often life-saving) medications, but also with sound medical advice, encouraging patients to change ingrained habits that get to the underlying causes of some of the conditions. **We are seeing positive impacts** of this education and encouragement taking hold, which ultimately means reducing the need for bi-monthly visits. This will make room for others in the surrounding villages that desperately need the medical attention that the clinic provides.

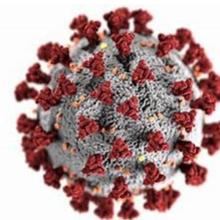
Please [watch the video](#), available on our Threefold Ministries homepage, for stories and notes of thanks from Maria and other clinic patients.

Activity uptick



It is rainy season in Nicaragua, but as with so many organizations, there has been a dry spell at the Skylark Centre. Operating in a global pandemic meant that the Skylark Centre went eerily quiet as groups, both local and international, ceased gathering. **COVID-19 is far from being eradicated, but we are seeing signs of community coming back together**. Some of the Christian churches are looking to Skylark to provide a safe place to hold their events. The Skylark staff are working diligently to ensure that all WHO recommendations are being followed or exceeded in an effort to minimize risk. We are looking ahead to late October as these Christ-based activities begin to slowly, and carefully, resume.

COVID-19 in Nicaragua



Nicaragua's Citizen Observatory is an interdisciplinary team of volunteers and medical professionals who are dedicated to collecting and providing COVID-19 statistics and dissemination of information to the population. This organization operates separately and independently from the government. As at October 14, the Observatory has identified almost **11,000 COVID-19 cases and over 2,600 deaths** directly attributable to the virus in the country. **Over 800 health care workers** have contracted the virus. Citizens are being encouraged by the Citizen Observatory to observe WHO social distancing, hygiene and mask-wearing recommendations. As with elsewhere around the globe case numbers continue to accumulate, but the 'curve' has been flattening.



A Ride and a Feast

On October 3rd Threefold Ministries participated in the **Ride for Refuge**, our primary fundraising event of the year. The Ride exists to bring like-minded organizations together in a common cause to **transform lives** negatively impacted by hate, greed or disaster. This was our fourth year participating, and it ran like never before due to the global pandemic. While some of our Canadian team rode 10 to 50 kms on their bicycles, others of us cooked up Nicaragua meals. It was a **day of celebration** in Nicaragua as women and children enrolled in our Best Start in Christ programs at the Skylark Centre also participated, alongside staff, to prepare and serve a wonderful "North American" meal to over 170 grateful community members. **Thank you so much** to the generous sponsors of the event in Nicaragua and great thanks to all of you who participated or donated. It was a landmark event and we praise God for the provision!

Work in Mexico

Through the work of VELA Ministries, a group of women, representing each of the 32 states, has formed to pray for Mexico. The group has been meeting monthly, virtually, for training in sharing the vision of mobilizing Christian women from across the country to pray for the nation. God is at work!

Thanks, Ray

We were devastated to lose one of our own this summer. As volunteer, Director and friend our beloved Ray Bauman devoted seemingly endless hours over the life of Threefold Ministries to the work in Nicaragua. He is sorely missed. We praise God for his life here on earth. A tribute to Ray's work in Nicaragua is available at <http://www.threefold-ministries.org/blog/a-tribute-to-ray-bauman/>.



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skylarkretreat

We are collectively part of something grand, something bigger than ourselves. God's handiwork is everywhere and evident!

We cannot forget to celebrate each day that programs run, that the Centre is used, that the lives of Nicaraguans are impacted.

We thank you wholeheartedly for your support. Most of all, we ask for your prayers as we continue our journey through 2020 and beyond.

threefold-ministries.org

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Building Community, Empowering Communities, Following Faithfully