



Summer 2018

Nicaragua Alert

April 18, 2018, will go down in history in Nicaragua. On that day, citizens initiated protests against the government. In the months since, over 350 have died, over 1500 have sustained injuries and a large number have been incarcerated, even while most protests are peaceful. Counted amongst the dead

are children as young as 10 months old, youth and young adults. The international community is in almost unanimous agreement that government forces are to blame for the majority of the atrocities.

Citizens are generally unarmed. Protests have

included marches, national strikes and construction of roadblocks. Food and fuel supplies have dwindled.

This story has not been prominent in the Canadian news media. We encourage you to refer to multiple reliable sources of information on-line.

The U.S. and Canada have

imposed travel restrictions. All travel to the Skylark Centre was suspended at the end of April. It has been necessary for local groups to cancel scheduled bookings.

The country is operating in a suspended state while we wait, watch, and pray.

The Skylark Impact



The Skylark Centre is a one-hour drive from the capital city of Managua in the province of Carazo. Nearby are the towns of San Marcos, Jinotepe and Diriamba, all of which have seen extensive and dramatic activity. The

Centre, off the main road, remains safe, as does the small Los Medranos community in which it is located. We continue to support as many staff as possible as they maintain and secure the grounds and run programs for local

participants who can safely attend “Best Start in Christ” programming, as staff are able to safely travel to Skylark.

All local and international group activity ceased in May.

Call to action

Will you join us in praying for the safety of the citizens, our staff, their families and the Centre, and for a swift and peaceful resolution of the conflict? We are being so bold as to ask you to help

us look after our Nicaraguan team and the community. Options to help are endless – from hosting your own fund-raising Nicaraguan meal, to simply sharing the situation with others. Let us know

if you have other ideas! Donations are greatly appreciated! See Page 2 for details. Consider supporting us in the Ride For Refuge, taking place in September (rideforrefuge.org).



April Paramedics

Members of this spring's team came from across Canada and with a wide range of experience—from students to supervisors.

The team trained 33 participants, including a few medical professionals and members of the Jinotepe Fire Department.

Participants left with newly-acquired emergency response skills and confidence in their ability to help. They would not have known that those skills might be put to the test so soon, as we know that some have been involved in front-line aid

during the last months of civil unrest. We pray for their safety!

Huge thanks goes out to Kevin, Mike, Heather, Tammy, Annie, Sarah, Courtney and Amber. You truly have impacted a country!



April Medical Team

This was a team of troopers! Never had we faced the new challenges that awaited this team of medical professionals and students as the civil unrest was ramping up—from limited medication supply

to unavailability of translators. Through it all, and more, they were able to see almost 400 patients. For many of the local residents, this will be the last medical personnel they will see for some

time.

Great thanks goes out to Dr. Jackie, Dr. Alison, Katie, Charlotte, Victoria, Matthew and Gord for going above and beyond!

Program and community updates

A community survey was undertaken in April in the Los Medranos area. It will help us to determine the direction of programming to be offered, aligning with our vision of a healthy, sustainable community.

The results are exciting! Although it was necessary to suspend some of the current “Best Start in Christ” programming over the past few months, we are looking forward to a ramp-up that will include

skills and trades offerings expressed as needs by the survey participants. We trust in God's timing as to when these program enhancements will be phased in.



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More information on these and other stories, plus regular updates, can be found on our website.

Now, more than ever, the people of Nicaragua, including the citizens of Los Medranos and staff of the Skylark Centre need your help. Thank you to all of those who support us regularly or who have given in response to appeals! We truly cannot do this without you.

If you have yet to donate to this amazing cause more information is available at <http://www.threefold-ministries.org/donate/> or [here](#).

Building Community, Empowering Communities, Following Faithfully