

#### BUILD . EMPOWER . FOLLO

#### Winter 2018

# The Highs of the Fall

What a stellar wind-up to 2017! The final months of the year were comprised of:

- four fabulous Threefold teams
- an Anniversary celebration of the ten years that the Skylark Centre has been in operation
- over 700 local Nicaraguans using the Centre

- a graduation ceremony for nine preschoolers
- congratulating nine participants who completed 2017`s ``Building a Better Future`` program requirements
- distributing 14
  ``welcome baby`` packages to new moms
- taking part in the 2017 "Ride for Refuge",

raising funds for our Nicaraguan projects

 recovery from a tropical visitor named Nate!
 Those are just SOME of the highlights! Continue
 reading to find out more.
 Our 2017 Annual Report also provides more detail. It
 was a good year overall.
 God sightings were
 everywhere. Your support, in its various forms, is a blessing to us, and to a small community in Nicaragua.

Nicaragua

Are you holding a paper right now? If so, sign up today for our electronic updates at the bottom of our threefold-ministries.org home page. Help us to save valuable resources.

Thank you to you all!

#### Pastoral Couples Conference Team



Many couples involved in ministry rarely have opportunities to share their challenges and frustrations. Tears were shed, joy was shared, connections were made, leaders were encouraged and empowered, and marriages were strengthened. Sessions included 'the person of the leader', managing change, grief and personal prayer, a focus on ministry and community prayer, and segments of The Marriage Course. The conferences had many opportunities for couples to interact with the team.

This ministry has a significant impact on the lives of Christian ministry leaders in Nicaragua.

Thank you to Bruce, Janice, Helen, Deane and Annette for joining Wayne on this October team.

## Paramedic/First Response Training Team

This was the 10<sup>th</sup> First-Responder training week at Skylark! In November, nine paramedics and paramedic students trained 33 individuals in important skills such as managing lifethreatening medical situations, traumatic emergencies and emergency child-birth (always a favourite, but scary topic!). It is gratifying to work with local bombaros (firefighters) from nearby Jinotepe.

An exciting aspect of the

last two missions as well has been the development of an Emergency Management Plan for Skylark.

Thanks to Susan, Carina, Rachel, Jairuz, Steve W, Kristina, Preeti, Ricardo and Anny for joining Steve B!



Photo courtesy Dr. R. Johnson

### Construction Team

The story of this year's construction team is best told in pictures. Projects included the installation of a community bus shelter, the addition of an on-site shelter for staff use, significant painting refreshes and more! We recognize the efforts of Susan,

Carmen, Ed, Ari, Dave, John, Joe and Doug who joined Ray and Rob for a week of hard work and great comradery.





# Program updates

### Medical Team

Strangers met in Nicaragua! This cross-Canada team came together for a week in November to serve 243 patients, and provide health education sessions to community

members. The team also proved to be a catalyst for some community initiatives that will commence in 2018.

Much thanks goes out to Dianne, Samantha, Jalayne, Dr. Gen and Dr. Mark in joining Tammy and Amanda

support to some new

mothers, enabling them to

pronounced malnutrition.

purchase formula to address

for this productive, fun and consistently enlightening adventure!



this ongoing effort.

Thank you for supporting our "Ride" in 2017, raising funds for these great programs!

"Best Start in Christ" Graduation day was an exciting event for the nine little ones and their families! Great pictures are available on our Facebook page.

'Getting started' kits were handed out to those that completed 2017's "Building a Better Future" program. Our prayer is that the learning has instilled confidence and skills that will propel the women forward in providing for their families.

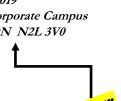
We were happy to provide some necessary financial

The disaster recovery work took top priority in Mexico in the latter half of 2017. We are proud to partner with VELA Ministries in



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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 improved. We thank you wholeheartedly for your support. Would you consider providing new support through joining a *future team* (or recommending one to someone you know), or *donating* to something of particular interest to you? Most of all, we ask for your prayers as we journey through 2018 and beyond.

#### Building Community, Empowering Communities, Following Faithfully