



Chacocente News

PO Box 128, Lexington, MA 02420

www.outofthedump.org

November 2021

WATER FOR THE COMMUNITY

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” -Matthew 25:35

Last month our in-country director, Omar, informed us that the well which for years has supplied fresh potable water to the community surrounding Chacocente campus had run dry. Chacocente’s well (which supplies the school and the original families of the Project) remains productive, and Chacocente is now meeting the water needs of thirty additional families. So far, so good, and we have promised to continue to provide them water as long as we are able.

The government agency responsible for the community’s water says they will drill a new well, but when it will begin and how long it will take remain to be seen.

Chacocente is acting on faith. Nothing is more fundamental to Christian mission and witness than the provision of potable water to those who don’t have enough. If necessary, we will consider undertaking a formal reassessment of our well’s water table, aquifer and pumping capacity to see how much water we can sustainably supply.

Want a good – that is, a joyful - cry? Take a look at this YouTube video from 2007: the first 2 minutes or so shows indelible scenes from La Chureca, the Managua dump, from which Project Chacocente originated. The last 2 minutes show the first wonderful eureka moments when water erupted from Chacocente’s newly drilled well, a gift of inexpressible value from the Ecclesia community of Houston, TX in partnership with Advent Conspiracy and Living Water International. https://youtu.be/Z_WUfJYYJs4



Chacocente is sharing water with families from the surrounding neighborhood.

“THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE ON EARTH” - REV. ERIC PUGH JOINS OUR BOARD



Our board of directors, an all-volunteer “force” of 10 lovers of God, the people of Nicaragua and all things Chacocente, is delighted to welcome a new member! Reverend Eric Pugh is Executive Pastor at John Wesley United Methodist Church in Houston, TX. In addition to being a skilled preacher and teacher, Eric brings to us skills in spiritual direction, leadership development and team building, innovation, social services, and social media. Eric has a Master of Theological Studies degree with a focus on

Practical Theology from Southern Methodist University. He first learned of the Project a decade ago through a Sunday School class that sponsored the English teacher at Chacocente Christian School. Eric has visited Chacocente five times since 2013. Chacocente has a special place in my heart,” he says. “I think it’s the most beautiful place on Earth.”

CHACOCENTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL- CARING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



School Director Jacqueline makes home visits to offer guidance and support to student’s families.

MAKING MORE SCHOLARS - AN UPDATE FROM CHACOCENTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Our Nicaraguan staff sends a monthly report to the Board about the activities - over and above classroom instruction - taking place at Chacocente Christian School. As you can see, our staff is vitally concerned with the whole person, and parents are active participants. (It has been edited slightly for brevity.)

August 2021 School Report

Orchard School Activities: During July the citrus orchard was cleaned. The parents cut the grass, cleaned around the school and fumigated the classrooms for mosquitoes.

8/3: We cleaned the new Chapel once construction was finished. All parents who worked in the orchard helped.

Meetings and Training

8/5: Professor Marisela Juárez taught students in grades 6 - 11 about the importance of setting goals, about physical, mental, and emotional maturity, and about the positive and negative consequences of [delayed vs. immediate] gratification in the field of human sexuality.

8/9: Students in the Rescue, Fire and First Aid Brigades were trained by teachers on how to act and help others rescue, evacuate, and provide first aid during emergencies or natural disasters.

8/19: We provided ongoing counseling to high school students who are going through a grieving process due to COVID-19 mortality of friends or family.

Parent Meetings

8/10: We held a meeting with the parents of the students who will graduate this year from preschool, 6th grade and high school to organize and prepare. We talked about the purchase of the gown and the documentation needed to get the diplomas.

Ministry of Education (MINED) news, mandates, teacher training

8/23: We started the 3rd Exam Evaluation process [these are essentially government-mandated standardized quarterly exams]. All students have to take exams in all subjects.

8/27: Teacher training to plan curriculum for September and October.

News from the Psychologist

8/24: the school psychologist provided training for parents of the preschool students for the purpose of creating/forming good habits in children, starting at home. The preschool teacher Melania and Jacqueline were present at the training.

Other significant events:

8/11: INSS [the Nicaraguan Social Security Institute] sent a technician to perform weight, height, thyroid, glucose, and blood pressure testing for staff.



Parents help tend the Orchard School

CHACOCENTE STAFF LEAD A CLASS ON HEALTH AND DISTRIBUTE FEMININE CARE KITS TO STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES



THE CONTINUED CHALLENGE(!) OF FUNDRAISING DURING A PANDEMIC - HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS YEAR

As a small non-profit, we rely entirely on donations from you, our generous supporters. Traditionally, we receive vital donations from visiting delegations and from churches in the USA who hold fundraising events for us. Because of COVID-19, delegations and fundraising events have not been possible. As we approach the end of the year, we hope that two “virtual events” will encourage the giving needed to see Project Chacocente through the end of 2021.

We are especially blessed to have a generous donor who is offering a **\$5,000 Match for EACH event**, and 100% of funds raised will go directly to benefit Project Chacocente.



TWO WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS MONTH

“IGUANA TROT” - 2ND ANNUAL VIRTUAL 5K

Spend the month of November walking, running, biking, or trotting (as in Turkey Trot) as many 5Ks as you can. Registration is \$50 and includes a t-shirt which will be mailed to you in December; 100% of your registration fee goes to help Chacocente.

Consider also inviting family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to sponsor you per kilometer and to send their check—payable to Project Chacocente—to PO Box 128, Lexington, MA 02420.

There are two ways to register:

1. Online at <https://forms.gle/p8WyFbGp9GkMHMLdA>

OR

2. Send a \$50 check made out to Project Chacocente with “Iguana Trot” in the memo line. Include a separate piece of paper with your T-shirt size (Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL). Mail to: Project Chacocente, c/o Robyn Gage, 9 Glenmore Circle, Pittsford NY 14534

#GIVINGTUESDAY - SHARING WATER, SHARING LIFE

Once again, we will take part in #GivingTuesday, the national online giving event that occurs on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving; this year, Giving Tuesday falls on November 30th. We have chosen the theme “Sharing Water, Sharing Life” because the people of Chacocente are generously sharing their water supply with their neighbors in need. What a beautiful example of “Blessed to be a blessing.” During November, look on our website, Facebook page and Instagram for shining examples of the gift of water. You will also be able to donate on our website and Facebook page.

The logo for #GivingTuesday, featuring the text '#GIVING' in blue with a red heart symbol replacing the 'V', and 'TUESDAY' in black below it.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT CHACOCENTE

Your prayers, donations and efforts to share the unfolding Chacocente story make all the difference.

We appreciate you!

To make a donation by PayPal or to learn about sponsoring a student, a scholarship, or a teacher, visit our website: www.outofthedump.org Donations may be mailed to: **Project Chacocente, PO Box 128, Lexington, MA 02420.**

We welcome your questions! Email us: projectchacocente@gmail.com

Feel free to cut out this section and mail it with your donation:

YES! I want to sponsor a:

___ Child (\$30/month or \$360/year)

___ Teacher (\$525/month or \$6300/year)

I'd to make a one-time donation of:

___ \$50, ___ \$100, ___ \$500, other amount \$ ___