**Announcing MPI’s New Executive Director**

We are excited and pleased to introduce you to Samantha Church, the new Executive Director of Manna Project International (MPI). Samantha has successfully implemented organizational vision, values, and core systems that will support MPI in growing and advancing its mission of sharing the love of Jesus with students and youth around the globe. She has led the team in ensuring our staff is well equipped to serve our communities. Here are highlights of her work at MPI:

- Strong communication and collaboration among all levels of the organization
- Development of new systems and processes
- Effective implementation of organizational vision, values, and core systems

Samantha brings a wealth of experience to MPI, having served in leadership positions at several organizations, including the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, Suncoast Health Council, Hawaii Pacific University, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She has a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Pacific Islands Campus Compact (HIPICC), and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She has certificates in Leadership Development, Nonprofit Management, and Volunteer Management.

**Welcome, New Subscribers!**

We’re glad you are here! Thank you for subscribing to the monthly MannaMail. Whether you are the parent of a volunteer or are interested in volunteering yourself, we're so glad you are here! Thank you for subscribing to the monthly MannaMail.

**English Students Advance to Intermediate and Advanced Levels**

We are excited to announce that English students have advanced to intermediate and advanced levels. Students have shown great progress in their English skills and are ready to advance to the next level of difficulty. This is a significant achievement for them and a testament to their hard work and dedication.

**July Program Director Orientation in Miami**

On July 1st, our new Program Directors arrived in Miami for orientation. They were introduced to the culture, history, and challenges of their host countries. The orientation provided an opportunity for the new Program Directors to meet the MPI community and learn about the work they will be doing.

**Virginia YMCA Friendship Exchange**

Welcome to the Virginia YMCA Friendship Exchange! This program is designed to promote cultural exchange and friendship between Virginia and Ecuador.

**Bienvenida/Despedida Celebration**

Community Members in Ecuador gathered to celebrate the transition of outgoing staff and the arrival of new Program Directors. There was dancing, food, and music to celebrate the community. It was a wonderful celebration of friendship and diversity.

**You Can Count On Clemencia!**

Clemencia (one of our Program Directors) is a very special lady who arrived to welcome our new Program Directors. She has been a volunteer with MPI for several years and is a great role model for the new Program Directors. We are thrilled to have her back and ready to welcome the new team.

**You Can Count On Clemencia!**

Clemencia has been an integral part of the MPI community for many years. She is loved by all and brings so much joy and energy to the team. We are excited for her to continue supporting the new Program Directors.

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**A Trip to Nicaragua!**

After orientation in Miami, our new teams headed to Nicaragua and began their work with the community. They spent their first week in Spanish school and homestays in Matagalpa in order to immerse themselves in the culture right away. They spent their first week in Spanish school and homestays in Matagalpa in order to immerse themselves in the culture right away.

**Gigante for their last retreat of the program!**

The Nicaragua Program Directors went to Playa Gigante for their last retreat of the program. It was a great opportunity for them to bond and reflect on their experiences.

**Outgoing Team Prepares for Home**

Our outgoing Program Directors are preparing for their return home. They have spent the past few months working with volunteering teams and helping to prepare the new Program Directors for their arrival.

**What Do You Know About?**

What have this month’s Facebook challenges taught you? They spent their first week in Spain learning about the culture, and their second week in Thailand learning about the culture.

**Intermediate and Advanced Levels**

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