On March 18th, eight teams will lead residents of Cedro Galán, Nicaragua in a 5k to raise $8,000 for their community health clinic. The teams have currently reached 42% of their collective goal. Your gift ensures a year of medical care in Cedro Galán for over 1,500 community members.

Meet the Team Leaders!

Lisseth
Milagros
Emiliano
Emerito

SUPPORT THE CEDRO 5K

ECUADOR UPDATES
Teen Center Renovated

The Ecuador site recently renovated its Teen Center thanks to short-term volunteer Lucy. She visited the Ecuador site with the goal of enhancing the kid-friendly space. Lucy donated money and games, buying bean bag chairs, a new ping pong net, and even pop-up soccer goals! The Teen Center hosts over 200 youth annually.

Nutrition Fair with Hidalgo School

After attending a month of nutrition classes at Manna Project’s community center, middle school students from Hidalgo School presented information to their peers and parents at a nutrition fair. Students discussed the health benefits of fruits, vegetables, and drinking plenty of water.

MPI’s health programs

Schmitz Funded Computer Lab

The Ecuador site has been awarded a grant from the W. P. Schmitz Foundation to implement TEACHES, Teacher Empowerment and Advancement of Children’s English in Sangolqui. The project was developed as a resource for aspiring and current Ecuadorian teachers struggling to understand their curriculum. TEACHES equips participants to succeed in the classroom through preparation for the B2 certification. Passing the B2 exam is required to teach English in public institutions in Ecuador. Last week, the Ecuador site received 10 laptops purchased with Schmitz grant funding! TEACHES classes will begin in the coming month with the goal of preparing 10 teachers to pass the B2 exam by May 2017.

Check out the Schmitz website →

NICARAGUA UPDATES
Cedro Galán 5k Bootcamp

In preparation for the upcoming 4th Annual Cedro Galán 5k, team leaders and community members are participating in a 6-week training boot camp. In addition to water aerobics, high-intensity interval training workouts, and weekly walks, the boot camp teaches women about healthy diet habits!

You can support the 5k here →

USF Women’s Health Week

MPI Nicaragua is happy to welcome a group of three doctors and five medical students from the USF Medical School! The team is hosting Women’s Health Week, supporting the health needs of the women in the Cedro Galán community. In addition to offering a number of birth control options, the team is also providing prenatal check-ups and well-women exams, which include breast exams and Pap smears.

Learn more about the USF partnership →

Cedro Galán Homestay

7-month volunteer Program Directors Heather, Nicole, and Ethan each participated in a week-long homestay in the Cedro Galán community. This opportunity allows Program Directors to better understand the everyday lives of community members and form close relationships! Heather says, “It was so nice to get to know Doña Chepita’s family. I loved seeing the family’s interactions; it made me feel like I was with my family. I especially loved all the children running around!”

MPI’s volunteer opportunities →

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