Introducing Our New Program Directors

We are thrilled to introduce 12 new volunteer Program Directors (1 not pictured above) to our sites in Ecuador and Nicaragua. These passionate individuals will be running our community programs alongside local staff and volunteers for the next 5-13 months. We are so grateful to them and to all of you who are supporting them along the way! Thank you!

ECUADOR UPDATES

Ecuador’s New Team

The 2017-2018 Eve reach Program Directors have arrived on site in Ecuador! Their first weeks have been filled with orientation, understanding the culture, and learning to get around town. Our group went to Quito for an orientation session in one of the cultural parks, Itchimbia, to learn about culture shock and having an inter-cultural mindset. This experience not only showed the incoming Program Directors a beautiful part of Quito but also gave them a new perspective on international travel. New Program Directors also stayed with host families for their first week on site to fully immerse into Ecuadorian culture.

UN Peace Keepers

The Manna Project Ecuador site works with the United Nations Peace Keepers to help with English classes. In July, the UNPK unit asked for help with a technical English class. Program Directors have taken turns teaching material to help these international peacekeepers feel better prepared. Activities included practicing interviews in English, speaking about common idioms, negotiation skills, and the difference between formal and informal speech. It was fun to work with this specific demographic and learn about their lives here in Ecuador.

Bienvenida & Despedida

While the Ecuador site is excited to welcome new Program Directors, the community has also started to say goodbye to the Program Directors who will be leaving in August. Each year the site hosts a party to celebrate time spent with old Program Directors and to welcome new ones. With the help of our community members, we had a successful party filled with fun and games.

NICARAGUA UPDATES

Nicaragua’s New Team

We are excited to have seven new Program Directors in Nicaragua. These seven have been working closely with the outgoing Program Directors to prepare for all programs and responsibilities. During their first weeks, they ran new Program Directors even looked to them to ensure they had the necessary skills and experience. During their first weeks, the new Program Directors also filled in for the outgoing Program Directors, making sure the transition was smooth.

Generation Graduation

In July we celebrated the graduation of seven students from our Generation program! The Generation program is specifically designed for high school students interested in medical and health related careers. With the help of all of our Medical Directors, the course included studying medical topics, anatomy, physiology, and other related sciences. It was fun to work with these students, get to know them, and help prepare them for their future careers.

Summer Venta Sale

Each year Manna Project International Nicaragua holds a large Summer “Venta” Sale. The event sells second hand clothes and goods to members of the Cedro Galán community at extremely low prices. All items for sale were donated by current or past Program Directors, short term volunteers, friends, family, and other Manna Project affiliates. 100% of the proceeds raised go directly towards keeping our programs running. It was a fun and successful event, with fun and games!