Welcome New Program Directors, Abigale and Kate!

Meet our two new Program Directors at our Ecuador site, Abigale and Kate! Abigale (pictured left) will soon be entering her fourth year at Northeastern University, majoring in International Business and Spanish, and minoring in Global Social Entrepreneurship and Food Systems Sustainability. She joined Manna because she wanted to apply the skills she cultivated in the classroom while also learning more about international development and nonprofit management. She looks forward to improving her Spanish and falling in love with Latin American living. Kate (pictured right) graduated from UCLA last spring with a degree in Human Biology and Society and a concentration in Bioethics and Public Science Policy. She plans to attend law school following her time with Manna. As one with strong familial ties to Nicaragua, Kate was drawn to Manna because it presented a unique opportunity to develop an intimate familiarity with a new part of Latin America, Ecuador, and its culture. She is also very passionate about helping underserved Latin American populations. Welcome to the Mannamily, Abigale and Kate!

Ecuador Updates

Guayaquil Community Spotlight: Mateo

22 year-old Mateo found Manna by word of mouth in August and started visiting our Community Center because he wanted to improve his English. Since then, he has become one of the most active members of our community. In addition to promoting knowledge and helping others achieve their goals, Mateo has always believed that teaching is the best tool for encouraging people to express their emotions constructively and adopt healthy values. From working the front desk at our Community Center to filling in as the instructor for our guitar classes and everything in between, Mateo enthusiastically volunteers his time whenever we are in need of an extra hand. We are deeply grateful to have him.

Rainbow Days Program: Building Children’s Leadership Skills

Rainbow Days is a program we offer here in Ecuador that was started by a Peace Corps volunteer, Imhotep (second to the left), who regularly works with us. The program provides local youth with a safe space to share their emotions, thoughts, or life experiences that they may not have the opportunity to share elsewhere. Rainbow Days promotes healthy values, acting with integrity, and recognizing one’s self-worth. Though this program just began last November, it already has a dedicated and engaged following. Rousy and Valentina, two regular Rainbow Days attendees, recently asked to help Imhotep guide a session. It was wonderful to watch them lead with enthusiasm! This is just one example of how Rainbow Days is helping build children’s initiative and leadership!

Nicaragua Updates

Providing Affordable Healthcare at our Nicaragua Clinics!

Did you know that both the Villa Guadalupe and Cedro Galán clinics are fully stocked with a wide variety of medications that our patients receive at no extra charge? That’s right! For less than $1, community members are able to have a consult with the doctor and get any medications they are prescribed! In the photo above, you can see our Villa Guadalupe clinic administrator, Yamileth, hard at work reviewing the most recent order of medication to restock the clinic. We are proud to be able to offer such affordable and quality healthcare to the communities in which we serve!

Celebrating our Hardworking Local Staff: Julio

As Manna continues our 15th birthday celebration, we'd also like to continue recognizing some of the wonderful local staff members who have helped us to get to where we are. This month we'd like to highlight our amazing social worker and health promoter for the Villa Guadalupe Clinic: Julio Gonzalez. Julio has been working with MPI for almost as long as we've been operating in Nicaragua! In addition to performing all of the patient intake and file upkeep at the clinic, Julio also helps us to reach new patients in need by advertising the health services we provide throughout the community. We are so grateful to him for his hard work and dedication throughout his years with Manna in Nicaragua!

Manna Project International Volunteer Opportunities!

Do you know a college student, college graduate, or gap year student looking for the experience of a lifetime in Ecuador? A unique chance to immerse themselves in a different culture, gain leadership experience, develop valuable workforce skills, become part of a growing international community, and gain lifelong friends?

We are accepting applications for Manna Project’s 2019-2020 Program Director Position and 2019 Summer Internship Program! APPLY TODAY!