

New Proposal to Strengthen White Dove Financial Support



Student Sponsorships Emphasized

After I sent out my most recent newsletter, I got the following note from Peter Borg, who had just returned from Honduras where he discussed the White Dove financial situation with Arturo and Suyapa. Below is his note suggesting how student sponsorships mentioned in the newsletter would be a good way to get the school out of deficit financing.

Feedback on an urgent need

Friends,

I asked Allen if it would be ok to add my thoughts to the newsletter, given I was in Honduras last week.

The biggest issue the school faces (other than the crop losses) is that they are still burdened by the number of children who go to school for free or pay partial tuition.

When WDSC's vision was initiated, there was a large focus on giving an education to the very poor, thus the number of kids who go on "scholarship". In the beginning, there was a huge commitment by the United Way of Honduras and the North American support was greater. All of that has changed.

Despite their efforts to become self-sufficient, that has not happened and with the crop losses, they have taken a step backwards.

So this is what I see. Of the 91 students enrolled, there are about 35 children who pay little or nothing to go to school. At a minimum, there needs to be a child sponsor for each one. Per Allen's email, that is \$500 per child.

Now let me make a suggestion. My organization, Osman Hope, took on an additional 60 children a few years ago. We did not have child sponsors to do this and counted on various other donations to fund them. This year the Board made a decision that we needed to get our child sponsorships to the point where we have a sponsorship for each child and not have to rely on the non-designated funding.

Each of the 8 Osman Hope Board members were tasked with developing ten potential sponsors. We are then writing to each of the candidates using the Board member who gave their name as a reference. I would suggest the Friends of WDSC do something similar.

Peter

So that's the suggestion. A few people who have been faithful supporters for many years have been contacted regarding how we might implement this suggestion. Please give this some serious consideration and contact either Suyapa or me if you can help by sponsoring a child at White Dove. The need is real. The need is now.

For more information, contact . . .

By phone:

Suyapa Perdomo, in Honduras [011-504-2625-1300]

Allen Blancett, in the U.S. [803-295-7395]

By email:

[whitedovesantaclara@yahoo.com](mailto:white dovesantaclara@yahoo.com)

alblancett@gforcecable.com



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