

Newsletter 03/2009

Dear volunteers, ex-volunteers, members and friends of Proyecto Mosaico!

Here comes our actual newsletter. Enjoy reading and we look forward to hearing your Feedback!

Greetings from your Proyecto Mosaico Team

PROJECT MOSAIK GUATEMALA (PMG)

Office

At the moment in the office we are updating all the data about our partner organizations and are creating new layouts for the folders in which we present every partner organization. We would like to thank Conchi and Julia for their huge help in the office. Both are visiting projects and Conchi translates many documents into Spanish. Thank you both.

Jobpostings

PMG is looking for a volunteer in October 2009 who stays min. 6 month in our office in Antigua. If you are interested, send your application (incl. letter, CV, and photo) to Regine: guatemala@promosaico.org

Volunteers

Unfortunately the number of volunteers is still small. We hope that we can welcome new volunteers in the next month for the rest of the year.

Partner organizations

We are very happy to welcome new partner organizations and hope that we can soon send some volunteers to these projects. We would like to briefly present them here:

J.04G: This Organization works with Kaqchiquel-Indigenas, offering them education and working with them in themes like nutrition and health. The volunteer work is to assist the teachers and give English classes.

J.05G: This project, in the center of Antigua, gives children the possibility to get an education and some food for three hours every afternoon. You can help them with their homework or make your own workshop with them.

J.06G: This is a school in which they urgently need volunteers to teach English classes. The children are among the poorest of this suburb of Antigua. You also can help the teachers in other classes, like sport, math, etc

Guatemala News

Denque fever in Izabal and more districts in Guatemala

In the region Izabal is a dengue-fever epidemic. Until today (15/08/09) there are 624 registered cases. Children are especially prone to this disease

Nutrition crisis

Guatemala is feeling the effects of an enormous nutritional crisis due to food shortages. Especially in the region El Progreso and Zacapa where farmers have lost up to 80% of their harvest, beans and corn.

Rainy season

After a long dry period, the rainy season started a few days ago. Due to the strong rain, rivers have risen and some houses are in threat of being flooded

PROJEKT MOSAIK NICARAGUA (PMN)

Office

We opened on 18th July with the inauguration of our office in Granada. After a short presentation about the history and work of Proyecto Mosaico, the volunteers presented their motivations to the people. We were pleased to see how many people are interested in our work.

Kyle, who was volunteered with us in the office until the end of July was a short but huge help. We would like to say thank you again to him for his help. We would also like to welcome Katharina. In Hamburg, Germany, she studies Social Work and due to the partnership between Hamburg and León has past experiences in and with Nicaragua. She will help us until the End of January.

Jobpostings

PMN is looking for a volunteer in March 2010 who will stay for min. 6 month and in august 2010 a volunteer or person who wants to do an internship in our office in Granada. If you are interested, send your application (inc. letter, CV and photo) to Sabrina: nicaragua@promosaico.org

Connection work

In our Wednesday activities, which we offer regularly to our volunteers, on the 18/08/09 we hosted a discussion about the „commercial sexual abuse of children in Granada“. Our volunteers and experts from different organizations and other people took part. We are really pleased at how motivated people are to cooperate with us, and aim to host more meetings to expand our connection work with and among the organizations.

Volunteers

In the first month we welcomed 20 volunteers from different countries. More volunteers are coming. Some work in coffee-cooperatives in the highlands of Nicaragua or in a center for malnourished children in Matagalpa, but most are working in or around Granada. Through their help it's possible to offer reading-hours in public places and in such a way to reach children who otherwise wouldn't have any access to literacy.

Partner organizations

We have now about 50 partner organizations. Examples of new projects near to Granada are:

F.11N: This project offers breakfast and lunch to children from underprivileged families. Also there is time and space for education or help with homework. The project also has a scholarship for children to get higher education.

F.15N: Close to Granada is the Laguna de Apoyo. The organization has an inquiry-center and tries through its investigations and development to protect the plants and the environment in the Lagoon. Volunteers can be investigators or be swimming-instructor.

Nicaragua News

Members of Juventud Sandinista attack workers of "Coordinadora Civil"

A group of youngsters, organized by members of FSLN, of „Juventud Sandinista“ and sympathizers attacked members of the opposition „Coodinadora Civil“, which had recently criticized the government, after a meeting in Managua on 08.08.2009. CENIDH (Nicaraguan

center for human rights) said that this was a new attack at the freedom of demonstration and the movement of the Nicaraguans.

The abolishment of the right to abortion in Nicaragua – Resume of Amnesty International (AI)

In the resume of 27.07.2009 AI says that due to the abolishment of abortion there have been 33 deaths. The clinical staff face punishment if they help mothers who are suffering from diseases such as HIV, cancer or malaria, which affects the fetus, to have an abortion. Those who do have abortions, when it is not clear if it was an accident or not, are facing threats. The year of 2008 saw a significant increase in the number of suicides among pregnant girls.

Other

Donation Activity

Due to an extraordinary donation-activity initiative from our ex-PMG and PMN volunteer Kyle, people could make a donation of US\$2,80 to pay for our office for one day, and buy typical handicraft and souvenirs. In this way we got US\$801. A great idea! Thanks Kyle!

Interesting Links

- Quetzal – Online Magazine about politics and culture in Latin America
<http://www.quetzal-leipzig.de/>
- Fair Trade clothes from Nicaragua
<http://www.shop.bekleidungssyndikat.de/>
- iFijáte!
www.guatemala.de/Fijate