

Wine Country
Rotary Cluster
for International
Service

September 15, 2026

Rotary Club of
Kelowna Ogopogo

September 16, 2026

Honduras

Trip Recap

A visual journey of my latest trip to Honduras to monitor Rotary Projects — moments, people, and impact from the field.

AyO Market Children School Program



- Review of 2025 and 2026 academic year stats by Reyna, program educator at AyO
- Fani Hersalis Carlos Sierra (24 years) and her mother, Matha
 - Graduated from nursing, Martha is a street vendor
- Scarlet, pharmacy student and her mother, Maria Veronica
 - Her mother learned to read and write through AyO
 - Her father has grade 6 education
 - Scarlett wants to get her doctorate in pharmacy and work to help support her family.
 - Maria Veronica is very proud of her three children who have all received support through the program.

DAY 1

AyO Market Children School Program



Gral. Jose de San Martin School Visit



- Mother Leaders presentation Against Gender Violence
- Mother Leader Testimonials
 - Minia has a 14-year-old son in grade 9 who has academic excellence. He started in the early childhood stimulation program for which I wrote the GG applications. That was 10 years ago! That is "Lasting Impact".
- Observed a kindergarten class receiving extra tutoring
- Youth Leader group gave us a presentation on Leadership

DAY 1

Gral. Jose de San Martin School Visit



Meeting with Ayo Board Chair & AyO Staff



- Classes started this academic year on Feb. 16th. For the current year, HELP Honduras has provided \$200,000 CDN to the program.
- Tutoring is done for students for Spanish, Math, English, Chemistry, and Physics.
- They are no longer doing computer tutoring because their computers are obsolete and they needed the room for another program
- Mother/Father (Caregiver) must participate for one full year before children are eligible for the market children's program. 1st year is mandator. More years are voluntary.
- There is a wait list for students to get into the program. Some students have waited up to 4 years to participate.
- For students to stay in the program, they must continue in the other workshops/programs offered by AyO.

Rachel Project – School Visits



- Escuela Maria Teresa Argueta (Grades 1 to 6)
- Rachel System is a closed internet system used to teach students how to research on the internet.
- It can also be used in normal classroom instruction
- We monitored two different classes
 - Grade 6 students – geography lesson – Where is Europe? Where is Canada?
 - Grade 3 – Blocky Games to match names of animals with photos of animals and special blocks

Rachel Project – School Visits



- Institute Eben Ezer – Technical High School
- Since the Rachel System was installed, students stay in school longer and it helps to attract students to the school.
- The school uses the system both in math & science as well as art, English, and cooking classes!
- We watched a class using the system to do some basic computer programming.

Chispa Project Libraries



- Schools do not usually have libraries and there are no public libraries in Honduras.
- Chispa Project has installed 120 libraries in schools. They operate in 10 of 18 departments in Honduras
- There are 600 schools on the Chispa wait list for a school library.
- CEB Immaculada Conception School (Kindergarten to Grade 9)
- We visited two classrooms (Grade 4 and Grade 5).
- Several students did presentations about a book they have read.
- We saw how they track what they have read and how much time they read.
- We visited the library and saw the excitement of the students as they got to select books to read!

Chispa Project Libraries



- Ivan Betancourth School
- A fifth-grade teacher told us about a student who was 9 years old and could not read. Once the library was opened, she was interested in reading and pushed herself to read. She will now be able to pass grade 5 because she can read.
- The students at this school come from families with little resources. The students are unhappy when the school closes for too long because they can't read!
- Note all new school libraries now include two full years of monitoring by Chispa Project to provide support and training to the teachers and school library committees.
- Teachers and students work on the 3-1-1 Reading Goals: reading in the class 3 times a week, visiting the library once a week, and exchanging classroom books once a month.

Fundacion Autismo Siguatepeque



- We visited a special education school for students with autism.
- There are 20 students who attend the school, ageing from 3 to 21 years old.
- Students get one on one attention for an hour at a time.
- Out of town students can have up to three hours at a time.
- The president of the board for the school came to speak to us even though she is on medical leave as she battles cancer.
- There had been significant improvements made to the school over the three years BC Rotarians have been visiting the school.

Escuela Gracias a Dios



- Escuela Gracias a Dios
 - Has a dental clinic that supports five schools in the area staffed by dentists and university students from the dental college
- We looked at areas to possibly install a playground for the school by Interact Students who were scheduled to visit this summer from BC.
- Also visited the Rachel system at this school and presented an air conditioner from the Comayagua Rotary Club for the room to reduce the temperature for the students.

Medical Clinic Visit



- We were to confirm the delivery of medical equipment sent from Victoria Harbourside Rotary Club
 - Clinic was testing for Dengue Fever and doing eye exams as well as providing medication
- We photographed the shipping containers and contents
- Maureen went inside the clinic to photograph equipment that was already being utilized.
- We were shown where the new medical clinic will be built later this year to expand their services and to utilize the equipment in the containers.

School Visit



- We visited another school with a possible project for the BC Interact Students this summer.
- The school needs a new classroom.
- They want to build it between two existing buildings that have more space between them.
- Students are currently in a room meant to be a storage room!

Industrial School Visit



- The industrial school teaches electrical and welding
- Two groups of students with 11 on one side and 21 on the other side.
- 3-4 hours per day, 10 months of the year
- When not used by the trade students, the building is used for an early stimulation program for children 0-6 years old.
- Originally funded by BC and Honduras Rotary clubs, as well as individual Rotarians

Gracias

Thank you for supporting the children of Honduras through H.E.L.P.
Honduras, Rotary Global Grants and Rotary District Grants