

Honduras Humanitarian Project Continues to Make a Difference for over 450 Families

Written by Linda Frandsen and posted by Ed Kolybaba on May 23, 2017



Alternativas y Oportunidades (AyO) is an organization in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, whose board consists of Rotarians from four different clubs operating within a no-frills office near the poor markets. It manages ten programs which are supported from many different sources - Germany, Ireland, and Rotary clubs from Vancouver Island as well as two programs which involve multiple clubs from here, including the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise.

The best thing is that all of these projects convey the same message:

- commitment to give back as in being a Mother or Youth Leader, tutoring, etc
- importance of education at all ages and levels
- teaching economic development skills, rights of women and children and now anti-violence.

All of these programs are run by dedicated, competent staff who have developed teaching materials and manuals so that the volunteer community leaders can continue the programs.



The Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise has been involved with AyO since 1991 when Fred Lindsay first visited Honduras. This led to the approval of a Rotary Foundation Global Grant

to work with the families of the four poorest markets and at risk children. Over the years, the club has supported the school scholarship program which is now run with HELP Honduras and many of the Sunrise Rotary club members continue to sponsor children.

In 2014-15 Greg McPhee lead a Global Grant called Early Childhood Stimulation to provide developmental and psychological screening, nutritional help, parenting skills, and socializing skills for 200 families with children 0-5 years old. The Rotary Club of Kelowna Ogopogo continued this work with 100 families in another small community which will run until Dec 2017.



Recently, club member Linda Frandsen was fortunate to visit this project, meet the students, mothers, and staff and can tell her club that the money is well spent and truly making a difference for the 450 families directly involved and many others indirectly.