

CHANGING LIVES IN NICARAGUA

"The Children of The Dump"

History

- 1998 Hurricane Mitch hit the Northwest Coast of Nicaragua. It circled for a week and dropped 84 inches of rain. The cone of an active volcano near Chinandega cracked and caused mudslides killing 4,000 living on the slopes of the volcano. Survivors, almost 5,000, were moved to The Chinandega City Dump.
- Father Marco Dessey fed almost 45,000 for 90 days after the Hurricane
- Former Nicaraguan Frank Huezo from Houston came to Nicaragua to see how he could help
- Frank Huezo returned to Houston, joined Rotary and his new club from Humble, Texas began to work in Chinandega. Gathering partners, helping Father Dessey, the first school was built (Haldo Dubon, The School of The Dump)
- After a school was built and hot meals provided, 90 children of the 1,000 children from the dump came to school
- Year 2000, 330 new homes underway to move some families from the Dump to the New Village of Santa Matilde as well as another new school
- Rotarian Jim Kite from Brenham, Texas joined Frank Huezo to help in Nicaragua
- 2001 Father Dessey and Frank Huezo spoke at Rotary International Convention in San Antonio. Liz and Steve Thorpe returned to Waterloo, Iowa Downtown Rotary to recruit help for the Children of The Dump

the government and also school supplies to assist the educational process

- In the past few years we have been shipping 15 tons/year of dehydrated food to feed the students. This comes from 4 Wisconsin Rotary Clubs that formed a satellite for Kids Against Hunger. This is almost \$60,000 worth of food and allows us to feed a hot meal to all of our students every day of the school year.
- The last 5 or 6 years we have been shipping bicycles and many other items such as sergers and sewing machines
- We always need more help!!!!!!
- Since 2002 we have shipped from Waterloo 30 to 40 ton a year and in past 13 years over 500 ton

This work changes 1,000's of lives as well as our own and those we can get to help us.

We are always interested in people going to Nicaragua with us in March, July or late November or early December.

We have a U.S. Foundation called Hope and Relief International to help with financial donations for our work and allow donors a chance to help our work and qualify for a tax deduction. We then pass the support we receive to our Nicaraguan Partner, The Chinandega Foundation that manages and supervises the work we do in Nicaragua.

Do call Liz or Steve Thorpe with any questions. Office 319-235-3352 or home 319-984-9139 or contact us at: lsthorpe@msn.com or steve.thorpe@nm.com