

The 2022 - 2023 Report on Amigos De Honduras Mission Trip and Projects Submitted By PDG Chris Parkinson

Over the last twenty-two years, Rotary District 7870 (60 Rotary Clubs in Southern NH and Southern VT) have had 30 mission trips and provided aid to Honduras which is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere. Twenty-four (24) trips to Danli and Six (6) to San Pedro Sula.

Amigos De Honduras is a program of the Rotary District 7870 Foundation which is a non-profit corporation and one of the trustees of the foundation, PDG Chris Parkinson, heads up the activities of Amigos De Honduras.

Since 2001, Amigos De Honduras has concentrated its efforts in four areas:

- **Medical Care -** We have seen approximately 28,200 medical and dental patients.
- **Medical Equipment and Supplies**
 - Over 13.5 Tons of Medical Supplies Transported by Team Members
 - 7 – 40' Containers of Medical Equipment & Supplies
 - 3 Ambulances shipped
- **School Construction & Education –** We have constructed 8 schools, expanded 5 schools, and converted 2 other buildings into schools. We have repaired and painted 17 schools, and we have worked on a youth center and a drug rehabilitation facility. We have also provided school uniforms to over 350 students – which are required for children to attend school. In 2022, we funded a school addition in El Barro which was completed and we were invited to the inauguration of the school during the 2023 mission trip. In 2023, we participated in the construction of a new school building which is part of the Martha Arias de Alacantha Basic Education Center in Danli, a school campus that serves over 400 students. This building will be a library and computer center.
- **Pure Water -** Working with another 501c3 Rotary partner, *Pure Water for the World (PWW)*, we have installed or funded over 11,100 water filters which provide clean water to more than 57,000 people. We have also provided wells and latrines to several villages. In 2020-21, we worked with PWW and provided emergency relief to restore wáter lines that were destroyed by Hurricanes Eta and Iota. In 2022, we funded a PWW wáter and sanitation project in El Chaguite which had not been completed as of the date of this report. In 2023, we worked with PWW at the CEB Francisco Morazan Scool in the town of Los Alamendros where we rehabilitated 3 latrines, built 4 new latrines, a hand washing station, installed a wáter line and cistern, and two wáter filters.

Summary

District 7870 has developed an excellent track record over the past 22 years and, as noted above, has accomplished a great deal. Amigos De Honduras is grateful to those that have funded and have participated on these Mission trips which include Rotary Clubs, individual Rotarians, friends of Rotarians, Concord Hospital, the Hampton Inn in Bow, and businesses in the NH and VT region. This year, Bethel and Keene were the 34th and 35th clubs to have members participate in our missions.

One of the founders and the soul of this effort was Mary Crooker, from Nashua, who had been on 23 of the mission trips. In 2015, Mary unfortunately died of ALS and the Rotarians in Danli named a school in her honor. Mary's spirit lives on in everything we do.

In 2022, another dedicated member of many mission teams, Henry Swierczynski, passed away. Henry, and his wife Nora, were from Springfield, Vermont, and Henry was a member of the Springfield Rotary Club. It was truly an honor to have had the opportunity to work along side of them. Their contributions over the years were a key factor in the success of Amigos De Honduras.

2020 - 2021 Efforts

Due to Covid-19, there was no Mission trip in 2021. But, in the fall of 2020, within a two-week period, Honduras was hit by Hurricanes Eta and Iota. Damage was particularly bad in the Trojes región and Pure Water for the World reached out to Amigos De Honduras to see if we could provide funding for emergency relief. The Danli Rotary Club was consulted and they agreed that assisting with this emergency relief effort was extremely important.

A fundraising effort was put forth and the response was excellent by the Rotary Clubs of District 7870, District Rotarians, Rotarians in Lancaster Pennsylvania, and Friends of Rotarians, including many members of past Mission Teams. This effort raised over \$13,400 and \$9,830 of this was provided to Pure Water for the World (PWW) to fund three projects in the Trojes regions (\$2,000 of this was contributed directly to PWW by Rutland South Rotary Club). The balance of the funds have been committed to future Mission Trips and/or Projects.

SANAA, the Honduras National Agency on Water and Sanitation, conducted initial assessments of damaged water systems throughout Trojes. They then requested that PWW assist with the funding and repair process for these systems.

Emergency Relief Effort #1 - Planes Arriba and Las Vegas Veracruz **

Serving 300 Homes (approximately 1,500 people) – Contribution by Amigos = \$6,000 and Rutland South \$2,000 for a Total of \$8,000

Thanks to generous funding from Amigos De Honduras and the Rotary Clubs of District 7870, PWW was able to launch the repair of two water systems in Planes Arriba and Las Vegas Veracruz, both located in Trojes. These communities had significant damage to their water systems thus creating issues with access to water and contaminated water.

The communities worked hard to repair the trenches, and where needed, dig new trenches for the water piping, and lay piping for Veracruz and Planes Arriba. Below are photos of these efforts:



The PWW team worked with these communities to support them with their efforts in completing the system repairs. The funds from Amigos de Honduras also supplied the communities with chlorine necessary for safe water during the construction process. In addition, PWW trained the water boards (communities are required to have a water board per each community water system) on how to properly manage their water systems. They worked with them on financial planning, proper maintenance, chlorine usage and water security. Overall, this project provided water access and safe water to 300 homes.

Emergency Relief Effort #2 - El Portillo**

Subsequent to the initial request for aid, PWW asked that Amigos assist with another Project in the región. This Project was in El Portillo and it served 85 homes and approximately 500 people. Serving 85 Homes (approximately 500 people), the Contribution by Amigos was \$1,850 of \$5,200 total.

2021 - 2022 Efforts

Due to Covid-19, once again there was no Mission trip in 2022. But, we decided to fund two projects. The Danli Rotary Club was consulted, and the two projects selected were to provide Pure Water for the World (PWW) with \$4,900 for a water and sanitation Project in El Chaguite, and provide \$8,500 to the Danli Rotary Club to fund an addition to a school in El Barro.

El Chaguite Water and Sanitation Project

Pure Water for the World (PWW) was provided \$4,946.00 to fund a **Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Education (WASH)** program at the Herlin Pastor Health Care Facility located in the community of El Chaguite in the municipality of Maraita, Honduras. This project provided improved water access, safe drinking water and improved sanitation and hygiene education for the health care workers and the surrounding community members.



It is the goal of PWW and our partners to implement comprehensive WASH projects in all 16 *communities* in the Maraita region. This specific project allowed us to work toward this goal by providing improved water access, improved sanitation, and hygiene education to the Herlin Pastor health care facility. This health care facility provides care to approximately 200 individuals a month, living in 5 communities located in the Maraita region. These communities are: Chaguite, Lizapa, El Chaguite Grande, Buenas Vista and

La Union. This is a long-term solution, which will support the health and wellness of both existing and new community members for generations to come.

A handwashing station was constructed, and a ceramic filter installed for safe water consumption, a 2500 liter Rotoplast rainwater harvesting tank was installed for water storage, improvements made to the current bathroom structures, and hygiene education training was provided for the three facility staff members.

El Barro School Addition

The Danli Rotary Club recommended building an addition to the Luis Landa School in El Barro. El Barro is a small village located approximately 42 miles south of Danli, beyond El Paraiso.

Budget:

Design and Prep work	\$	1,003
Excavation and Foundation		1,087
Construction of Walls		2,312
Construction of Floors		1,020
Construction of Roof		1,277
Doors and Windows		686
Other		615
Contingency		500
Total	\$	8,500

As noted above, the 2023 team was invited to a wonderful inauguration celebration and we toured the completed building. The City of Danli, added funding to our project to turn the building into a multi-purpose facility. As the pictures below show, the resulting project was very beautiful:



Danli Rotary President Roldan and PDG Chris Parkinson at the Inauguration Ceremony

2023 Mission Team

As noted above, there was no misión trip in 2021 or 2022. But, in 2023 a team of 19 Rotarians traveled to Danli. The trip was made more difficult because the airport was moved to Comayagua from Tegucigalpa. This resulted in a bus trip of less than two hours becoming a 3.5 hour trip.

Dave Lawrence, who has extensive experience in leading teams shared the leadership responsibilities with PDG Chris Parkinson, and he also led the construction efforts with respect to the School Construction Project. Dave is a Rotarian from Lancaster, Pennsylvania (formerly of Springfield Vermont). Jim Magennis, once again took the lead on the Pure Water and Sanitation Project. Dr. Kell Giffen, a Wallingford Rotarian, led the medical team, and Shannon Mills a Dentist and a Rotarian from Concord took the lead with respect to the Dental brigade. DG Randell Barclay and his wife Dianne also were members of the team. Ten Rotarians were on the team, as Bethel, Bow, Concord, Fairhaven, Henniker, Keene and Wallingford, as well as Lancaster, PA, all had team members participate.

2023 Mission Team (Cont.)

Contributors

Contributors and the team members of the 2023 Mission were as follows. The Lancaster Sunrise Rotary Club, from Lancaster Pennsylvania, was the lead contributor donating \$12,000 for the 2023 School Project.

Lancaster Sunshine Rotary Club

Bow Rotary Club

Concord Rotary Club

Chester Rotary Club

Fairhaven Rotary Club

Henniker Rotary Club

Hollis – Brookline Rotary Club

Milford Rotary Club

Springfield Rotary Club

Wallingford Rotary Club

Dianne and Randell Barclay

Alexander Buchanan

Nan Dubin

Tony Gilmore

Rick and Janet Manganello

Chris Parkinson

Steve Puderbaugh

Robert Sartini

Tosh Stickney

Kathie Stone

Nora in Memory of Henry Swierczinski

The District 7870 Golf Tournament

2023 Team Members

Dianne and Randell Barclay

Tim Claseman

Jeane Conde

Sam Davis

Caitlyn Giffin

Kell Giffin

Ed Grossman

Nicole Lang

David Lawrence

Kaleigh Lessieur

Jim Magennis

Anne Mills

Shannon Mills

Steve Neuhoff

Chris Parkinson

Brian Ruede

Tosh Stickney

Lorrie Vanni

The Martha Arias de Alacantara 2023 School Project

This years project was the construction of a new school building which is part of the Martha Arias de Alacantara Basic Education Center in Danli, a school campus that serves over 400 students. This building will be a library and a computer center. The team members that worked on the school were Dave Lawrence, Steve Neuhof, Tosh Stickney and Chris Parkinson. We joined the Mason, Antonio, and his team which included his sons Jose and Angel. They were great to work with and though not much had been done when we arrived, a great deal was accomplished in the five days we were on site. Carlos Felipe Castillo, was the Danli Rotarian overseeing the project and when we arrived he let us know that the school administration and many of the parents were waiting to welcome us in a very nice ceremony.

2023 Mission Team – School Construction (Cont.)



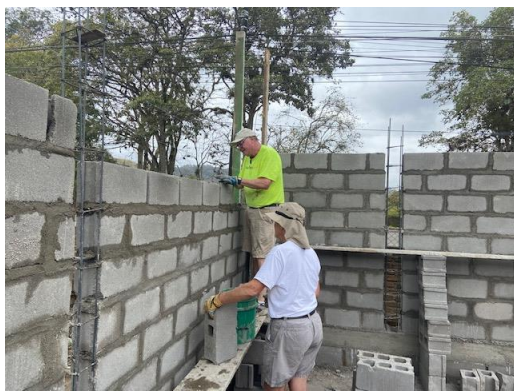
Dave and the Construction Team



**Dave working on Rebar
And Attracting the Ninos y Ninas**



Chris behind the Blocks



Dave and Steve



Steve, Dave, and Tosh



Jose and Angel



The Construction Team (Steve's taking the picture)



The entire team visited the morning of day 6

2023 Medical and Dental Team

Team Leaders Dr Kell Giffen and Shannon Mills, DMD

Medical and Dental Team members didn't vary that much this year as the entire team was small, only number 19. In addition to Kell and Shannon, team members included: NP Nicole Lang, DMD Tim Claseman, DMD Sam Davis, Dianne Barclay, Randell Barclay, Jeane Conde, Caitlyn Giffin, Ed Grossman, Kayleigh Lessieur, Anne Mills, Brian Ruede, and Lorrie Vanni. Jim Magennis would also assist when not leading the Water – Sanitation Team, and Jeane would participate one day on the Water – Sanitation Team.

2023 Mission Team – Medical and Dental (Cont.)

The Medical and Dental Team traveled to different communities per the following schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Danli Rotarian In Charge</u>
Sunday Feb 5th	La Carbonera	Edguaro V.
Mon 6	El Pozo Bendito	Roldan E.
Tue 7	San Julian	Alexis M
Wed 8	Pescadaro	Raul S.
Thur 9	El Barro	Pamela D.
Fri. 10	Danli Nursing Home	Raul S.
Totals	625 Medical 270 Dental for Total of 895	



Medical Team Leader Dr. Kell Giffen



**Dental Team Leader Shannon Mills
With Brian Ruede Assisting**



Kayleigh Lessieur



Dianne and Randell Barclay



NP Nicole Lang

2023 Mission Team – Medical and Dental (Cont.)



Dental Assistant Lorrie Vanni Tim Claseman, Sam Davis, & Brian Ruede

Tim Claseman



Ed Grossman assisting Kell Giffin



DG Randell, Dianne Barclay, Jeane Conde, and Caitlyn Giffin

Pure Water and Sanitation Team

Los Almenendros is a community located an hour outside of the town of Danlí, Honduras. The Los Almenendros community school was in great need of improved sanitation. Thanks to the generous support of Amigos De Honduras, combined with funding from the Clarke Cares Foundation, PWW was able to construct comprehensive sanitation infrastructure and deliver essential water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) training. This sustainable program benefits the current 194 students and 12 teachers, and will continue its impact, supporting future generations. This project launched in early 2023, starting with socialization of the project among community leaders, parents, teachers, educational authorities, and municipal authorities. Socialization is the process of engaging and interacting with people who occupy influential positions within the community. This initial meeting is to ensure that the community is behind the project and willing to actively engage in and support the implementation process as well as future maintenance of the sanitation facilities. Thirteen community leaders participated in the socialization discussion.

2023 Mission Team - Pure Water and Sanitation (Cont.)

A water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) educational workshop was conducted with the 12 teachers from Los Almenendros school. Local educational authorities and the district secretary of education also participated. During the workshop, different practical and dynamic activities were carried out, with the main objective of learning more about foundational WASH practices. Group practices were carried out, in which teachers practiced integrating WASH topics into their school lesson plans. The teachers made commitments to utilize the practices and integrate the WASH curriculum into their existing school curriculum. At the conclusion of the workshop, a certificate of participation was awarded to each teacher, on behalf of PWW and the Honduran education authorities.

It was determined that the Los Almenendros school needed repair of existing bathroom facilities as well as construction of new facilities to accommodate the nearly 200 students and 12 teachers. The PWW team conducted work to improve the existing facilities, which included repairs to four (4) toilets and two (2) handwashing stations. The team was able to work alongside Rotarians, visiting from Vermont and New Hampshire, to complete construction of the six (6) new toilets (including one designed to support adolescent girls with menstrual hygiene management) and five (5) new handwashing stations.

The PWW team supported the Los Almenendros teachers in preparation of their first World Water Day celebration, held on March 22. Teachers and students prepared extensively. The event began with the singing of the National Anthem of Honduras, followed by prayers. Students then performed, sharing songs and poems that celebrate water.

Project Accomplishments Following highlights the primary accomplishments:

- **Repair of existing sanitary facilities: four toilets and two handwashing stations.**
- **Construction of new sanitary facilities: six toilets (including one designed for menstrual hygiene management); five handwashing stations.**
- **Two 2,500 liter Rotoplast tanks were installed for optimal water storage.**
- **Training of 12 teachers on essential WASH practices and integration of WASH tools and practices into school curriculum.**
- **PWW will continue to monitor and follow-up with the community to measure impact and support long-term efficacy.**



Four new Latrines and a Cistern



Tosh and Jim digging a water line



PWW's Oscar

2023 Mission Team - Pure Water and Sanitation (Cont.)



Rehabbing three Latrines



Jeanne Leaving her mark



Steve and Jim Painting

School Uniforms

Tosh Stickney, of Fairhaven, Vermont, and her students raised money for Amigos De Honduras to provide 75 school uniforms to young students in El Barro. Uniforms are required to attend school in Honduras and providing them is an important aspect of the things our teams have been able to provide over the years.

The 2023 Mission Team – Other Special Moments



Anne Mills with Members of Interact



Ed, Jean and Nicole at the Hotel Granada

The 2023 Mission Team – Other Special Moments (Cont.)



Dave and Tosh with Bonita Nina



Kayleigh with a young patient



Dave being presented with a Plaque by President Roldan

A summary Financial Report for the year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 is presented below:

Summary of Revenue and Expenditures: 2022 – 2023 (Per District 7870 Foundation)

Ending Fund Balance – June 2022:	\$	14,350
Revenue:		
Donations**	\$	19,050
Donation - From 7870 Golf Tournament		1,822
Team Member Fees		2,375
 Total Revenue	\$	23,247
Expenditures:		
Transfer to Danli Rotary		
School Construction***	\$	19,380
In-Country Transportation		1,625
In-Country Expenses (Lunches, Supplies, Etc.)		<u>400</u>
Total		21,405
Pure Water for the World (Los Alamendros)		5,000
Medical Supplies and Costs		996
Costs for Mission Team (T-shirts, Plaque, Lugg. Reimb)		627
Misc. Expense		70
 Total Expenditures	\$	28,098
Net Flow for 2022 - 23	\$	(4,851)
Ending Fund Balance – June 2023	\$	9,499

**** Note: Contributors in 2022-2023 are noted earlier in the report and we thank them for their support of Amigos De Honduras**

*****Awaiting a detailed breakdown of the School Construction Costs from the Danli Rotary Club as well as pictures of the finished building**