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If you want to help for a day, give rice;  
If you want to help for a while give trees;  
If you want to help for an eternity, give an education.

Winter 2014

**Looking Back at 2013**

**RESPONSIBILITY IN MATAGALPA, NICARAGUA**

**The People We Are Servicing:** Eighty percent of the municipal dump scavengers are single mothers with four to eight children. The mom takes all her children to work. Babies come in cardboard boxes and laid next to the mother while she scavenges for recyclables. Together a family earns about \$1.50 a day. Along with recyclables, they usually find breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They also find clothes, shoes, and whatever may be of use for their homes. Approximately 400 children and adults scavenge the dump for survival.



**The Responsibility and Oasis de Esperanza School:** The 2013 school year had an enrollment of 563 students. In the morning, we had kindergarten classes and regular primary school. In the afternoons we had an elementary school specifically for older children who scavenge the city dump to support their families and had dropped out of school or never attended. This describes most of the kids who scavenge the city dump for survival.



**Drinking Water**

**Project:** We continue to provide drinking water for roughly 600 children. The ground water is contaminated so drinking water is trucked in and stored in a 2000-gallon tank.

**Thanksgiving and Christmas:** We shared Thanksgiving dinner with 550 people and 150 families took home grocery bags of food and essentials. For Christmas our director, Leonardo, purchased a cow, had it slaughtered and the community workers cooked it for the 750 guests. Five hundred children received presents such as Barbie Dolls



and remote control cars. And again, 150 families were given grocery bags filled with foods, drinks, and cleaning supplies. Both events are quite a treat for people who are used to just eating beans and rice and edibles found in the dump.



## RESPONSIBILITY IN TIJUANA, MEXICO

**Kindergarten and English/Computer Schools:** Our main emphasis at Responsibility is education for the children whose families scavenge city dumps for survival. In Tijuana, we have been operating a school for 30 years. We have a preschool/ kindergarten, English classes, and a computer lab for all ages.



**Summer Camp:** This past summer you sent 125 children from the old Tijuana garbage dump to camp for

one to four weeks. They had classes in dance, art, computers, English, and sports. In the afternoons the kids went on field trips to museums, parks, and their favorite place- the beach. (Right picture: a field trip to a museum. We rented a bus.)



**College Scholarships:** Cinthia Vanessa Quiroz Padilla, Daniel Tolentino, and Alex Tolentino, all former Responsibility students received full college scholarships.

**Christmas in Tijuana:** We played Santa to 400 children. A special thanks to St. Martin's Academy, San Diego Breakfast Rotary, and Shari Sapp and friends for your support of our Santa program. (Pictured left: Special Education School's holiday party. Right: Bikes were a big hit for our kindergarten kids.)



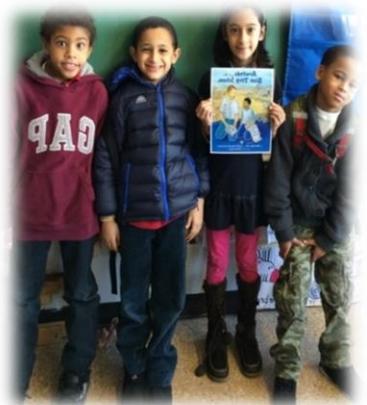
## UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Along with our teaching the children in Mexico and Nicaragua, we have been providing educational programs for



American students. Lynch is a guest speaker at all levels of schools, kindergarten through college. Elementary school students read the book, **Armando and the Blue Tarp School**, which is about Lynch's early years of teaching in Mexico, and as a follow up schools invite him to speak to the children.

(Pictures: Lynch speaking with the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at the Academy of the City Charter School in Queens, New York City. )



## THANK YOU BILL O'REILLY, EDWARD JAMES OLMOS, and SUSAN SARANDON



Bill O'Reilly, Edward James Olmos, and Susan Sarandon continue to support our work with financial donations and their time. All these celebrities donated a "Meet and Greet" for our silent auction fund raisers which are always the most popular items. And we never know what the "Meet and Greet" will be. Last year, Bill gave the winner two tickets to his show and passes to meet him and Dennis Miller backstage which she will be doing on Feb. 21. Sarandon invited last year's winners to a gala where she and Hilliary Clinton were being honored. Olmos always invites his winner to lunch. **Pictured:** Bill O'Reilly with David Lynch at his Fox Studios



office in New York. **Right:** Susan Sarandon in 2006 at our Tijuana School

## MANY THANKS TO EACH OF YOU!

As always, friends, we thank you for your support in 2013. If you didn't receive a thank you card for your gift, please accept my apology. I do all the administrative office work alone, so sometimes I make mistakes. This doesn't mean your gift is any less appreciated. It means I should hire an assistant but I won't. I prefer to use your donations for the education of the kids. Your continued support is both needed and appreciated, especially today.

Gratefully, David Lynch, The Board of Directors, The Mexican Staff, The Nicaraguan Staff, and all of our students.