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

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Responsibility's Newest Project: Working with the scavengers of the Matagalpa municipal dump

The Robert Keenan Family School, Matagalpa, Nicaragua



Araceli Moreno, my administrative assistant, and I arrived in Matagalpa in the beginning of June to **"Place the First Stone"** of the Robert Keenan Family School. For the past two years, we have been using borrowed space to provide kindergarten classes for the children whose families scavenge the municipal dump for survival. Our new school will have three classrooms and an outhouse. (No running water in this area).

The pictures tell our story:

First Picture: It is the custom in Nicaragua to write a note on the "first stone." We thanked Bob Keenan for funding the school and wished God's love and success to all the thousands of students who will be attending it in future years.

Second and Third Pictures:

Araceli, David, and Leonardo are placing the first stone. This is truly one of life's most memorable experiences for all of us. Just look at the expressions on all our faces. This is the fifth school Responsibility donors have built for "the World's Most Destitute" quoting Mother Theresa of Calcutta who visited the Tijuana dump twenty years ago.

Fourth Picture: This is the progress made in just two weeks. We were anticipating the completion of the entire school to be in October, but at this rate it will be sooner.

Fifth Picture: These are just a few of the hundreds of children who work in the Matagalpa Dump. Families working together search for food, clothing, cardboard and large black

plastic bags to construct walls in their hovels, and whatever may be worth a penny (colon) to sell.

Everyone works in a family which earns between \$1 and \$2 per day.

Bottom Picture: Water Project Responsibility donors for a second year have funded a drinking water project for 500 children. Prior to this project, the kids drank from a contaminated river that borders the garbage dump.



Mark Your Calendar!

October 16, 2010, from 5:00 to 8:30 pm, at the Faculty Club on the UCSD campus, is our annual fund raiser. Come say hello to Bill O'Reilly and Cuba Gooding during the reception hour.

A million Thanks!

As always, thanks a million times over for your support.

Sincerely,

David Lynch and Responsibility

Summer Camp in Tijuana (Second notice)

This summer, I would like to bus the children living in the next to the old Tijuana municipal dump out of their surroundings - the only time many leave their neighborhood is when we take them out - and send them to day camp.

The program will include morning classes in English, sports, art, computers, and dance. We will also have a class for incoming kindergarten students who did not attend preschool. The afternoons will be spent at the beach.

The cost for one child to go to camp for one week, \$35; two

weeks, \$70; three weeks, \$105.

400 children live in the old garbage dump and another 50 kids not going to any school live in the new garbage dump. All would love a summer at the beach away from the stench of the decaying garbage. If you would like to send a child to camp, please write "Summer Camp" on the memo line of your check. You can also donate online by going to our website:

www.responsibilityonline.org. Click on donate.

(FYI: The amount of children who get to go to camp entirely depends on the number of people who sponsor a child.)



Kindergarten Graduation 2010, Tijuana, Mexico



A report from Principal Lili: Fifty-two kindergartners learned addition, subtraction, colors, the numbers 1 to 20, the alphabet, and geometric shapes. They learned the concept of more or less than, and how to classify objects. Along with that, they worked on developing their language skills, practiced better communication skills, shared their feelings and worked in teams. All can write their names, copy, take simple

dictation, read short simple sentences, work with jigsaw puzzles, and name the days and months of the year. These concepts were reinforced with computer lab assignments. And this past year, the PTA participated in various jobs around the school. The parents repaired the playground equipment and the jungle gym. They painted the school and replaced all the doors to the classrooms to meet with the fire

department's code. (Since the earthquake a few months ago, a new regulation has gone into effect for all schools: All doors must open outward.)



Here Are the Biographies of Four of Our 2010 Graduates



Josue: I am six years old and live right by the school with my mama, papa, and one younger sister. Both my parents work in a factory. About a month ago, a lemon size growth grew out of my spine. My mother thinks it is just fat, but my teacher is telling my mother to bring me to a doctor to check it. In class, I like to talk a lot and like to play on the jungle gym during recess. I am a hard working student. My teacher says I have a great memory especially when it comes to models of cars.

Paloma: I am five years old and live with my mother and two brothers. They are 15 and 17

years old, and they are the ones who take care of me while my mother works all day in a factory. They even bring me to school and pick me up. I like to talk a lot with my two girlfriends, and they also help me a lot with my studies because I find it a little hard to learn.

Victor: I am five years old. I live with my mama and my two brothers; one is in primary and the other is in secondary school. My mama works in a factory that pays her \$45 per week. We live in a small wooden house. I was absent a lot during this year because I was sick often but my mama never took me to the doctors because she had to

work and also didn't have the money.

(Profe Lili describes Victor as a boy full of love and hugs and likes to help all the teachers in the school.)

Lizbeth: I am five years old. I am an only child. My mama works as a servant in a house and my papa works in a recycling factory. I like to work and study hard in school and my teacher says I learn fast. My favorite thing to do in school is color and paint. I also like to play with my classmates during recess.

Just to give you an idea what things costs Responsibility and to say thank you for funding our various projects.

TIJUANA, MEXICO

\$1400	To send one student to school in for one year, 10 months.
\$35	To send one student to school in for one week.
\$7	Cost to send one child to school for one day
\$116,000	Total Salaries for the 7 staff/faculty of our school
\$22	The cost of government medical insurance for one student for one year. (It is required)
\$2940	The cost of school books only each year.
\$35	The cost of one student's school books for one year.
\$4500	The value of school teaching materials, computer lab supplies, and arts and crafts materials for one year
\$7,700	The cost for insurance, gas, and repairs for the school vehicles for one year.
\$22,000	The value of the Santa Present Project at Christmas
\$1,000	Yearly gift to Miguel and Laura, the blind couple with 3 children

MATAGALPA, NICARAGUA

\$21,000	The cost to build our new school. (Most but not all of the funds have been raised)
\$21,000	The cost to build our future community center.
\$4,500	Price paid for the land by the dump to build our community center
\$700	Price paid to supply drinking water to 500 children for one year
\$50	Value of the groceries given to each family working in the dump at Easter. Along with that we had a community dinner for 255 people.
\$25	Weekly stipend for one kindergarten teacher for this school year.
\$50	The weekly salary for each teacher starting January 2011.
\$2500	Christmas Presents for the kids of the dump.

These are just a sample of where your donations go.