

AMIGUITOS

“Good Friends”

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Dear Friends (*Amiguitos*) -

I want to thank you for making 2009 a great year for AMIGUITOS. Your generosity has helped us complete our second full year of operations in Mexico. Highlights from the year include:

- ✚ Two work trips to Veracruz, Mexico, with an added work trip to Pénjamo, Mexico
- ✚ 13 medical clinics where we served 2530 patients (1560 children & 970 adults) and dispensed 6956 free prescriptions of much needed medicine
- ✚ Opened Amiguitos Pénjamo under the direction of Maria Elena Arredondo
- ✚ Purchased land for the permanent center/school in the vulnerable Laguna neighborhood in Veracruz, Mexico with a generous donation from The Peace and Justice Center in Phoenix, Arizona
- ✚ Broke ground in December for the new center and began construction of an essential retaining wall
- ✚ Donation of a pickup truck for Amiguitos to use in Veracruz from the people of Leadville, Colorado
- ✚ Fed children every single day of the year at the Amiguitos Laguna center
- ✚ Paid public school fees and uniforms for some of the public school students
- ✚ Started our Amiguitos school in September 2009 under the direction of Goldi Santana Mera
- ✚ Monthly health checks for all the children and adults by Dr. Porfi who comes directly to Laguna. Particularly welcome since the frightening outbreak of the N1H1 virus began only a few hundred miles from our center in Veracruz and Dengue Fever threatened the lives of several children.
- ✚ Provided \$500,000 of medicine to needy people in Veracruz this year with the help of Blessings International and the generosity of Amiguitos sponsors
- ✚ Doubled the number the children in Amiguitos school/programs

Our plans for 2010 are equally ambitious.

- ✚ We will continue construction of the Amiguitos permanent Laguna center in Veracruz and will leave our rented space this year (phased construction to continue building the campus for years to come)
- ✚ We will install a community water purification system as soon as possible with help of the Rotary Club
- ✚ We will continue with two weeks of medical clinics in June and a week of clinic in December at Laguna.
- ✚ We have planned extra weeks in both the June and December work trips to focus on construction.
- ✚ Begin a breakfast program for a select few students who are unable to have breakfast in their homes.
- ✚ We will look for additional sponsors to cover new tuition charges for each student in the Amiguitos School (cost is \$120/student/term USD for full-day students and \$60/student/term USD for half day homework support program collected each September, January & May)
- ✚ Continue food sponsorships (cost is \$100/student/term USD, collected each September, January & May)
- ✚ Continue sponsorships for the few students needing help with public school fees and uniforms (August)
- ✚ We will be scouting for a second Amiguitos center location in Veracruz since additional impoverished areas have been created since our work began in Veracruz in 2007.
- ✚ Encouraging community outreach in local communities

Thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely, *Curtis*

***Community Development Projects
in Veracruz, Mexico***

www.AMIGUITOS.net