

New Haven/León Sister City Project

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NEW HAVEN/LEÓN

Sister City Project
Annual Report 2012



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Sister City Project
Annual Report



Board of Directors

- Susan Bramhall, Treasurer**
- Virginia Chapman, Co-President**
- Hillary Hildane**
- Henry Lowendorf**
- Roy Money**
- Ray Pagliaro, Co-President**
- Susan Power Trucksess**
- Mike Soares**
- William Vasquez**

León Staff

- Luis Chavarria
Finance/Sustainability
- Ivett Fonseca
Education Coordinator
- Erendira Venegas
Delegation Coordinator

New Haven Staff

- Megan Fountain
Development Associate
- Patty Nuelsen
Director of Development
- Chris Schweitzer
Program Director

Yaranexi Pérez and Raquel Delgado are starting to attend university (UNAN) in Leon this year. Yara will be studying natural sciences and Raquel math and computer science. Both also work in Goyena with NH/LSCP.

New Haven/ León Sister City Project supports education and sustainable development in Nicaragua and New Haven.

S I S T E R S

New Haven, Connecticut / León, Nicaragua Since 1984

FRIENDS...THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU MAKE POSSIBLE

In October, board members Ginger Chapman, Susan Power Trucksess and I, spent a week in Goyena. We returned to New Haven filled with renewed hope for the people with whom we work.

One of the advantages of working in a small community is the impact that is possible community wide. Women, who are parents of preschool children, also participate in the theater and domestic violence programs. They speak with pride as they talk about their rights, including the knowledge that they need not live with abuse. Their voices brim over with their growing self esteem. Their body language speaks for itself.

Mothers who have never spoken up in a large group talk about what the preschool and after school programs have meant in their children's lives. Other mothers shared that they themselves have not had the opportunity to go to school. Imagine that, never having had the opportunity of schooling, not knowing how to read, and seeing your children start preschool at three, moving through primary school and then having the possibility of attending secondary school. And for some the possibility of college. Just imagine.

Most of the Project's work is with women and children, and not because men are excluded. Many are working in the neighboring sugar cane fields, brutal work and long hours. Others have gone to Costa Rica or the U.S. looking for work. While families face daunting circumstances, they, nonetheless, struggle and work hard to make life better. They are a wonderful group of people. As are you, our donors and friends. Without your support we could not do the work. Without your generosity the NH/LSCP would not be moving with such confidence, into our 29th year.

Know that the community, our León staff, and our staff and board in New Haven, send our heartfelt thanks. Muchas Gracias! Patty Nuelsen



Yale delegates boarding launch for tour of Isla Juan Venado Nature Reserve.

NHLSCP Financial Statements FY 2012

Current Assets

Cash and Other Current Assets 137,811

Liabilities and Equity

Total Deferred Support 17,232
Total Liabilities 17,232

Equity

Total Net Assets 101,445
Unrestricted Net Assets 18,054
Net Income 1,080
Total Equity 120,579
Total Liabilities and Equity 137,811

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Support and Revenue

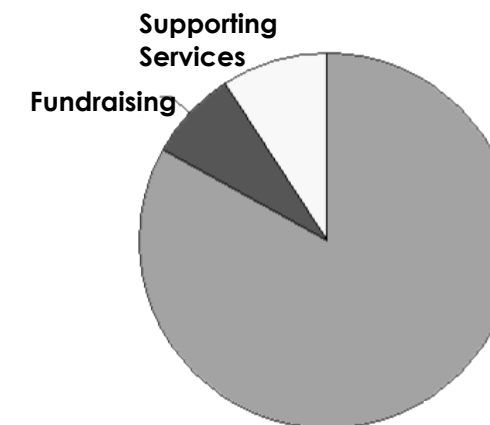
Contributions 128,597
Net Service Revenue 17,982
Investment Income 126
Total 146,705*

Expense

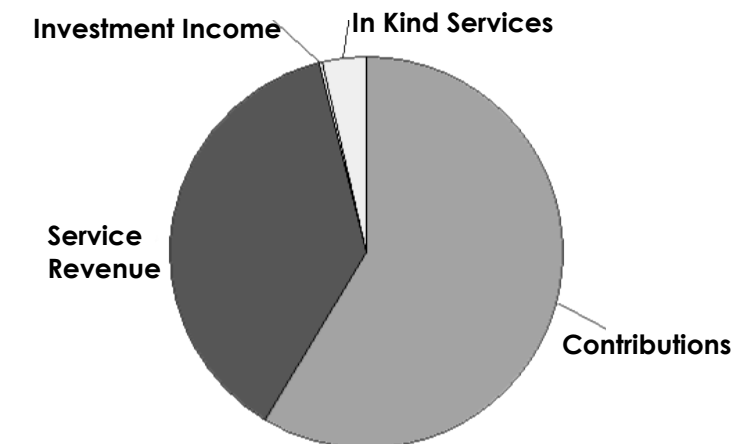
Program 120,866
Supporting Services 10,340
Fundraising 14,418
Total 145,624
Net Income **1,081**

* Does not include In-Kind Services - \$ 6,017

Expenses 2012



Support and Revenue 2012



2012 Contributions

Foundations & Grants

Aetna Foundation
Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
Mayor's Community Arts Grant Program
New England Biolabs Foundations
New Haven Green Fund
Phoebe Foundation
Trico Foundation
William and Jean Graustein Fund

Memorial Gifts in honor of

Rose Dubrow
Polly Tuhus
Patricia Pessar

Contributors

Anonymous (4)
Lori Accuosti
Rev. Harry & Manette Adams
Jean-Christophe Agnew
Valerie Alberti
Nancy Apfel
Bob Appicelli
Leo & Nicole Arnaboldi
Kristen & Ron Axelrad
Matt Naclerio & Marlene Baldizon
Kimball Cartwright & Sherill Baldwin
Betty Bazin
Clarice Begeman
Chris Bell
Julia Berger
Bob & Evelyn Bergstrom
Dean Singewald & Kathy Bidney
Bill Bloss
Marie Borroff
Taffy & Jay Bowes
Shelly Altman & Susan Bramhall
Don Wunderlee & Janet Brodie
Lois Bromson
George & Josephine Buchanan
Maz Burbank
Lucile Burgo-Black
Trudy & Ron Buxenbaum
Pietro Decamilli & Claudia Buzzi
Paul Thomas & Elsa Calderon
Nancy L. Carrington
John & Wendy Champion
Jean Cherniavsky
Victor Polk & Cathy Chapman
David Thompson & Ginger Chapman
Olive Chupka
Shannon Clarkson
Frank Cochran
Elena & Patrick Coffey
Katherine & Tom Cole
Mary Colwell
Judy & Rob Cope
Maureen Coughlin
Lisa Covert
Lynn Coville
Jane Curtis
Steven & Martha Cutts
Bob Gelbach

Jayne Bauman De Gant
Fran Dennis
Mary Diamante
Paula Diehl
Joe Dimow
Victoria Dodd
Mildred & Jay Doody
Carol Dorfman
William Segraves & Carol Dorfman
Douglas Gollin & Cheryl Doss
David Duffner
Sean Duffy
Peter Boone & Gina Dunston-Boone
Bill Dyson
Deb Elkin
John & Sherrill Ellis
Elliot & Emma Ephraim
Gloria Eustis
Bob & Alice Evans
Robert & Lucille Evans
John & Kathy Fabish
Paul Fabish
Edith Fairgrieve
Jim Farnam
FCMcpa
Carlos & Rosemary Feal
Art Perlo & Joelle Fishman
Elaine Fitzpatrick
Joan Forsberg
Teresa Freeman
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David Jones & Becky Friedkin
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Frances Giffin
Andrew Kuritzkes & Amy Glickman
David & Yolanda Goff
Jason Golden
Carol & Michael Gordon
Joy Gordon
William & Jean Graustein
Fethi Meghelli & Barbara Greenwood
Paul Bloom & Millie Grenough
Frances Grodzinsky
Leticia Garcia Guerra
Ioanna & Dmitri Gutas
M.T. Hallaran
Hildegard Hannum
Ray Pagliaro & Yasmin Haque
John & Carol Hay
Richard Taylor & Patricia Helm
Anne Higgins
Lesley & John Higgins-Biddle
David Dickson & Susan Hill
Joel Lachance & Jane Hindenlang
Barbara Hobbs
Michele Hoffnung
Rob Hoffnung
Susan Holahan
Arnold Holzman
John Hughes
Mary & Arthur Hunt
Lucile Hutchinson
Charisse Hutton
Michael Isko
Cathy Jackson
Elizabeth Jackson
Aaron Jafferis

James Johnson
Mary Johnson
Bennett Pudlin & Margaret Judd
Merrily Kaplan
Pat Kaplan
Henry Berliner & Mickey Kavanaugh
Eunice Kaymen
Linda & Drew Keyes
Henry Lowendorf & Susan Klein
Neil Kluepfel
Bill Carey & Dorreen Labby
Franca Labella
Tony Labruzzo
Ladies Home Missionary Society
Maxine Lampert
Rick Goodwin & Rachel Lampert
Kate Landon
Susan & Richard Landon
Louise Langheier
Dietrich Moor & Heather Lauver
Hannah Leckman
Catherine Le Grand
John Leinenweber
Roy Money & Mary Lesser
Robin & Barbara Levine-Ritterman
Adriane Lonzarich
MacAvoy / Leydon family
Michael Baron & Ruth J Magraw
Sherman Malone
Paul Wessel & Sandy Malmquist
Carey Dunne & Kate Manning
Al Marder
Virginia Jeanne Maurer
Victoria McEvoy
Pete & Alicia McKinnis
Robert & Lauren McManus
Letitia McPhedran
David & Elaine Mello
Ron & Cathie Miller
Maria Moniello
Bethany Moreton
William Morico
Derry Moritz
Al & Nancy Mueller
Sam & Lola Nash
Kenneth & Barbara Neuberger
Francis Braunlich & Liz Neuse
David Newton
Lisa Newton
John & Sherry Nieman
Dave Forman & Gilda Outremont
Genoveva Palmieri
Frank & Paula Panzarella
Kate Paranteau
Dae Song & Kelly Park
David Carter & Robert Parker
Randi Parker
John M. & Linda J. Pawelek
Charles Pillsbury & Allie Perry
Walter Scott & Nancy Power
Liz Prete
Nathan & Joanna Price
Jennifer Pugh
Julia Reston
John Buell & Beth Rosen
Michael & Gail Rosen
Beth Roth
Evan Markiewicz & Beth Rubenstein
Jeffrey Rubin & family
Nina & John Ruckes



Lunch at preschool in Goyena.

Michael Sheehan & Denise Saldana
Jill Savitt
Anne Scheffler
John & Karen Schneider
Peter Schultheiss
Richard Schulz
James & Jane Schweitzer
Dr. Ann Serow
Maria Sestito
Gary Sevitsky
Shalom UCC
Marion Shetty
Thomas B. Klubock & Sandhya Shukla
Rise Siegel
Jean Silk
Gaddis & Barclay Smith
Toni Smith
Corrinda & Michael Soares
Michael Soares
Stephen Kobasa & Anne Somsel
Gary & Janet Spinner
Craig & Donna Steinberg
Alec & Jane Stevens
Diana Swett
Swords Into Plowshares Honey
Walker Burns & Jennifer Tate
Beth Therien
Courtney & Jeff Trucksess
Jennifer Filardi & Eric Trucksess
Susan Trucksess
Sally Connolly & Semeon Tsalbins
Rob Dubrow & Melinda Tuhus
Maria Tupper
Shawn Upton
Flora Zoe Vandyke
Ezra Vazquez
Claudia Vestal
Barbara Wareck
Julie Weise
Irm & Morris Wessel
Rob & Sally Cole Whiffen
Barbara White
Joan Whitney
Lisa Kalner & Randolph Williams
Elizabeth & Mike Wills
Joel Wolfe
Yale University
Tim & Susan Yolen

"The more radical the person is, the more fully he or she enters into reality so that, knowing it better, he or she can transform it. This individual is not afraid to confront, to listen, to see the world unveiled. This person is not afraid to meet the people or to enter into a dialogue with them... he or she does commit himself or herself, within history, to fight at their side." Paolo Friere



Erendira Vanegas, Ivett Fonseca and Luis Chavarria at dinner during the October Board delegation.

Dear Friends,

A lot is happening in León and New Haven. And there is much more to do.

This past year has seen the creation of a new domestic violence project have a liberating impact on 30 women in Goyena; growing projects related to food security and using theater to explore conflicts here and in León; expanding efforts in New Haven to address climate change and limit its impact on rural communities globally; and continuing to improve the education program in Goyena and push the Ministry of Education to get more involved.

Clearly the dedicated support of the NH/LSCP community of volunteers and donors has enabled this and more to happen, and we get the pleasure to see first hand these positive impacts.

The credit for much of the growth in León goes to Ivett Fonseca, Erendira Vanegas (both with NH/LSCP for five years) and Luis Chavarria, who collectively run the office and range of programs there. We continue to have a dedicated team of staff and Board and volunteers who all make sacrifices - as have members of the NH/LSCP community for close to 30 years - to expand the work with marginalized people in Nicaragua.

But we continue to face global economic structures that keep people in Nicaragua poor, as we also see more and more concentration of wealth and power globally. It seems the system is broken. But we look to continue to both confront this systemic mess through education and activism, and create sustainable life giving alternatives Goyena.

We are also facing the tragic silence in front of the unfolding disaster that is climate change. The NH/LSCP Board has been spending a good amount of time discussing responses and looking at taking clear steps to reduce greenhouse gases, and we will through our WalkBikeTransit campaign continue to encourage people to act now to prevent further economic damage and suffering. The hopeful side of this needed transition is that it will create much healthier vibrant communities that will be better for all of us.

This 2012 Annual Report has a special focus on women, as you'll see on pages 4 and 5, who are out front in so much of what we do in Goyena as leaders, teachers, theater promoters. The above quote speaks to the need, as many women in Goyena do, to remain immersed in the pain, struggles and joys of those around them to be 'radical' leaders.

May we too not shy away from the challenges we face today, and commit in the coming years to continue to struggle for global liberation.

In hope,

Chris Schweitzer
Program Director

Mark Your Calendar,... 2014 will be
NH/LSCP's 30th Anniversary!!
All Year.



Yara Perez, 21 years old, has been a leader in the Environmental Youth Brigade for three years, and is now working as an assistant in the preschool. She just began her first year of college at UNAN León to study natural sciences. Yara remembers when her family was displaced from their farm by Hurricane Mitch in 1998, and talks about the storm when giving tours to visitors.



Marta Osejo, a great story teller, helped create the preschool program in Goyena when she was 16. Ten years later she continues to be active in its improvement, cajoling parents, and learning new educational strategies to use in the classroom. Marta is also active in the Goyena Forum theater group and with women working on domestic violence. A mother of two, Marta is married to a sugar cane worker.

Women Leading in Goyena.

“What I treasure most in life is being able to dream. During my most difficult moments and complex situations I have been able to dream of a more beautiful future.”

Rigoberta Menchu

Sonia Matute moved to Goyena to work as a teacher. She teaches in the first grade and also works in the Afterschool Program teaching 5th and 6th grades. Sonia is a strong role model for the youth of Goyena, a leader in the afterschool program and mentors the younger teachers. She is the mother of six adult children. She’s seen here teaching her first graders outside the school buildings.



Nuvia Quiroz, mother of two, a champion of human rights. She’s active in a women’s group promoting the end of violence against women in Goyena. In photo right she attends a march in León against domestic violence and holds a sign that says, “Don’t be silent. Speak out.”. Nuvia is also active using forum theater to raise awareness about this issue and other socioeconomic challenges affecting their community. She is the mother of two children.

