



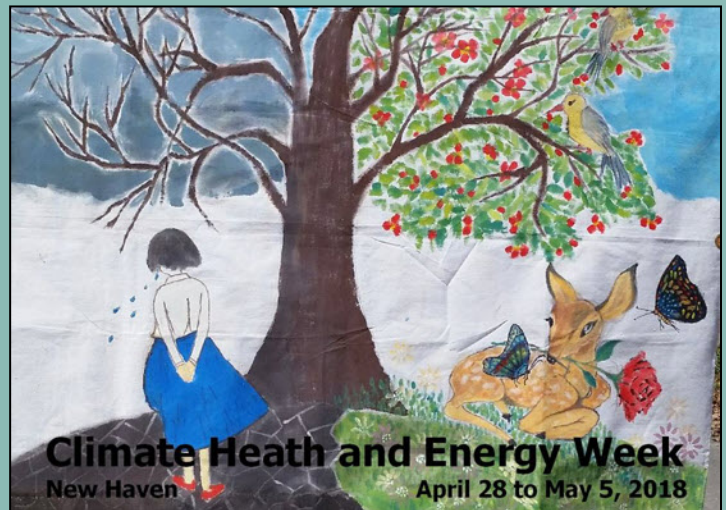
New Haven/León Sister City Project

Winter 2018-19 E-Newsletter

January 2018 has been a rough year for New Haven Leon SCP. The uprising shocked everybody at first, then created some hope with the energized protests. But the government crack down has led to an oppressive state with the economy in free fall. On the climate change front, 2018 brought weekly bad news of ecosystems collapse, and the year closed with a number international and US reports warning of the growing disaster.

This newsletter pulls together photos from each month to give an idea of the ongoing projects NHLSCP is working on, including rural education, climate change, public health, and domestic violence prevention.

Photos (clockwise): At City Hall press conference, Chief Engineer Giovanni Zinn announces climate change commitments; NHLSCP interns launched the Climate Health Education Project and recruited high schools for climate week 2018 in April; and school opened for a new year in Nicaragua.

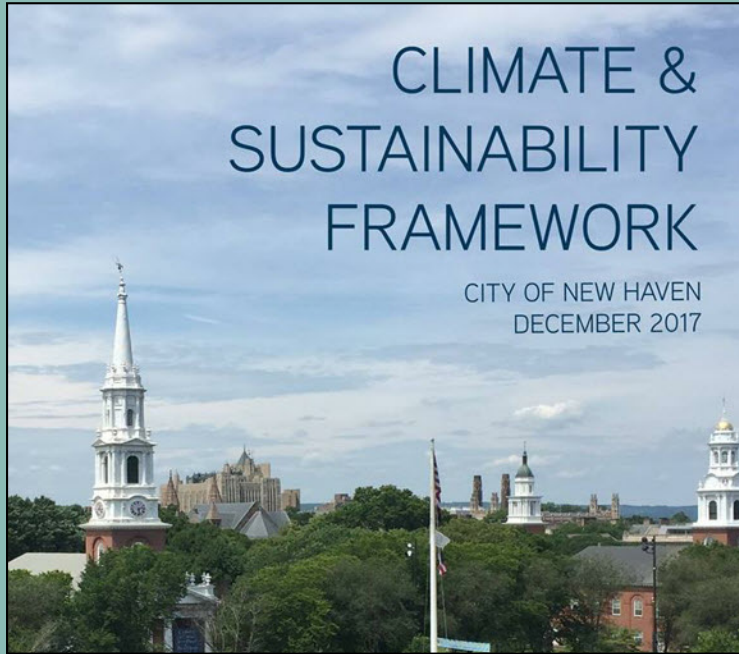


February

(clockwise): staff member Luis Chavarria visiting Goyena family and their new efficient cook stove; preschool kids in Goyena at lunch; Dutch intern Eef Verweij helping out with After School Program; and Leon staff, interns, and Goyena teachers celebrate women's day.



March (clockwise): Staff Erendira Vanegas leading women's march in León; two pictures of rural residents organized by NHLSCP to come to the march; staff member Ivett Fonseca with Eef at Goyena school; community leader Nubia Quiroga explaining Hurricane Mitch impacts, and cover of Climate and Sustainability Framework passed by City.



April (clockwise):. Mujeral en Acción member being helped up after being knocked down by Sandinista Youth at a social security protest on April 28th; students in Goyena working on Earth Day posters; High School in the Community students and teachers by the Troilo mural they helped paint; delegation members leading students in workout; Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride organizers at end of successful 10th anniversary event; march in Managua that was part of uprising protesting government repression.





May (clockwise): Protests and violent government attacks grew in April in Nicaragua, with marches, vigils, burnt building in central León, and student led protests; after school students working out; After School students working out and at celebration; winners at end of goNewHaven's 3rd annual Clean Air Run in New Haven.

From Board Statement on Uprising: *The New Haven/Leon Sister City Project values freedom of expression, freedom of association, and freedom of assembly as fundamental rights in an autonomous democratic society.... (and) supports the right of Nicaraguan people to choose their own government and create the future direction of their society without hostile interference from other states or non-state actors.*



June

(clockwise): As part of a strategy to both pressure the Nicaraguan government and to protect communities from paramilitary attacks, protesters built barricades in neighborhoods and on major highways; and a piñata making workshop as part of the Goyena After School Program.



July

(clockwise): paramilitary groups in Leon, opularly called, "Squadrons of Death"; barricades in Leon, which the government forcefully removed across the country in July; León march to demand respect for human rights; workshop for women on coping with stress; and public art installation promoting alternative transportation in New Haven built by NHLSCP volunteers.



August

(clockwise): NHLSCP staff meeting with community members to discuss political situation in Nicaragua; children planting trees around school buildings; rally in Nicaragua supporting student-led struggle; and United Nations official announcing their expulsion from Nicaragua after publishing report critical of government repression.



September

(clockwise): students in Goyena participate in Nicaraguan Independence Day activities; people gather on New Haven Green for climate rally and march organized by 350 CT; and ... Erendira visit....





October

Right, Indigenous People's Day celebration in Goyena with banner saying that America wasn't discovered, it was plundered; bottom right, parents at Troilo education program evaluation; below and above, rally for Children's Trust climate lawsuit against US government led by children from across the US.



November

(clockwise): Ana Quiros (far right) and other feminist leaders after Ana was expelled from Nicaragua. A Costa Rican and Nicaragua dual citizen, Ana has lived in Nicaragua for more than 40 years; rally calling Congresswoman DeLauro to support Green New Deal; Yale students painting climate emergency banner for campaign to get New Haven to pass emergency resolution; parents in Nicaragua playing and interacting as part of stress workshops.



December

(clockwise); The Nicaraguan government continues to arrest people speaking out or protesting; women outside prison in Managua where family members are held; end of school year activities in Troilo and Goyena; and vigil - with projected messages - launching climate emergency campaign in New Haven.

