



# New Haven/León Sister City Project

*Winter 2016 E-Newsletter*

*Friends of NH/LSCP,*

*Here's a photo review of a very full 2015...!! Thanks for all your support and involvement!*

*Chris*

## January

Starting with the year end celebration in the Trolio community preschool (bottom right), students in Troilo classroom (right), and Goyena preschool students at outdoor activity.





# February

Right, Fairfield University student doing research in Goyena; delegation ,lead by professor Gisela Gil-Egui (3rd from left) meeting in Goyena; delegates paint school in Troilo. Below, Chris's annual trip to Leon included a attending a women's rights concert in La Paz Centro; seeing new bike friendly cycle tracks in Leon, and meeting the preschool teachers in Troilo.





# March

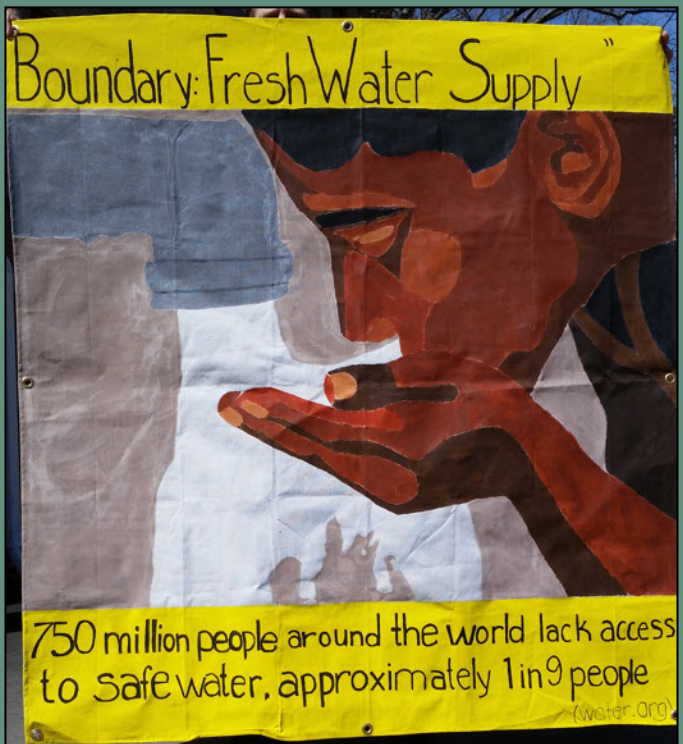
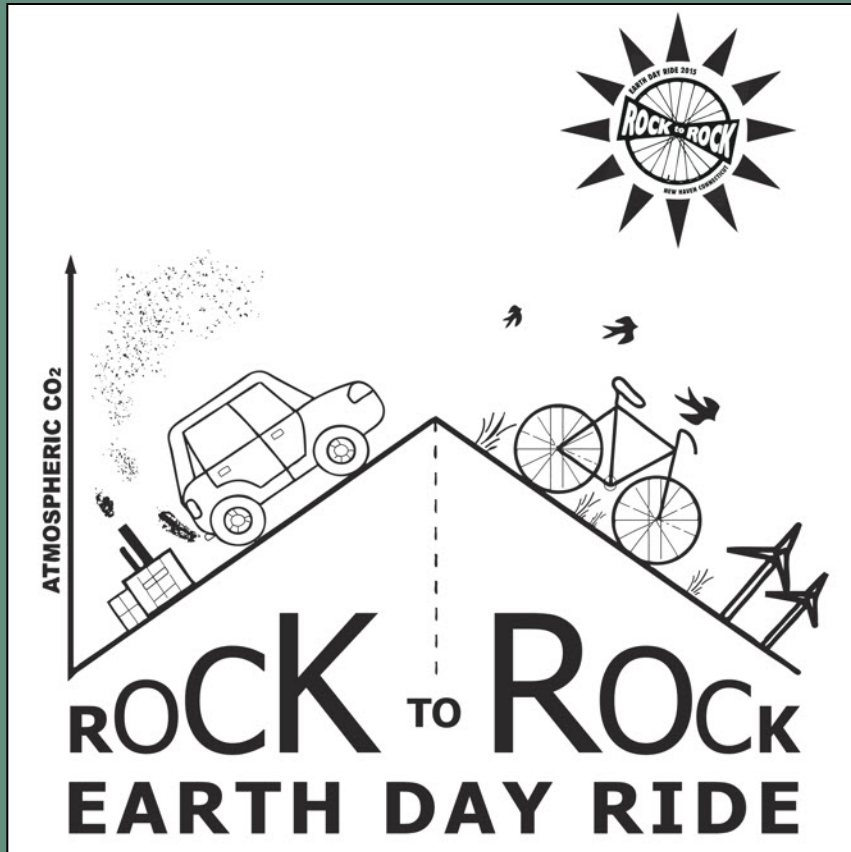
Successful fundraising and generous donations to our 30th Anniversary celebration allowed León staff to buy a much needed new truck (shopping in Managua below; old truck as school bus right). And March 8th NHLSCP helped organize a women's rights march in León (left and below)





# April

The Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride brought out over 1200 hundred riders including (right) intern Ceyda Durmaz Dogan and her husband Mehmet dressed to bike to work; Ceyda also won the t-shirt design contest (design below); and riders get ready to ride including with our Statue of Bike Liberty. Bottom left, artists gather for presentation of the ten Planetary Boundary banners created by different organizations and schools for Earth Day.... Below left, the banner done by Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School.







## May

The Fossil Fuel Dragon made its debut at the 500 person strong March for Climate Justice in Hartford (below). Above, students at Barnard Elementary paint images (top left); middle, intern Charles Allison Godfrey helps assemble the dragon; above, trial run in downtown New Haven; and left, artist Haley Grunloh adds wildlife dealing with an oil spill.





# June

NHLSCP helped birth goNewHavenGo alternative transportation program with Healthy City/Healthy Climate Challenge and other groups. Right is the website, a press conference at City Hall, and a goNHGo ad. Below, New Haven intern Megan Ratcliffe (from Connecticut College) pulled together three climate-related videos on Cows Cars Coal and Planes, on a call to act climate change, and for the Nicaraguan Carbon Offset Fund.





# July

Charles Allison Godfrey, after interning in New Haven, went to work in León for three months on the clean cook stove project. Right, he's with a family that received a new stove; below right with a community member at the EcoFogon stove factory in Leon. Bottom, intern Elsa Rose Farnum helps bring cow to downtown presentation of Cows, Car, Coal, and Planes art event encouraging people to avoid these GHG producers... speaking below is Ceyda Durman Dogan and in blue is organizer and intern Megan Ratcliffe.





# August

The Storytelling Delegation arrived in Leon to share stories, yoga, theater games, listening and campfires with Goyena community members... a successful bi-lingual, multi-cultural experiment lead by Susan Bramhall.







## September

Above left, Goyena parents participate in a workshop on assertive communication at the Miguel Larreynaga school; above, afterschool children celebrate the anniversary of Nicaraguan independence; left, staff members Erendira Vanegas and Megan Fountain interviewed by Yale Herald reporter at a Planned Parenthood rally - Erendira was in town for two weeks of presentations and meetings; and below, Quinnipiac University students help with outreach at the East Rock Festival.

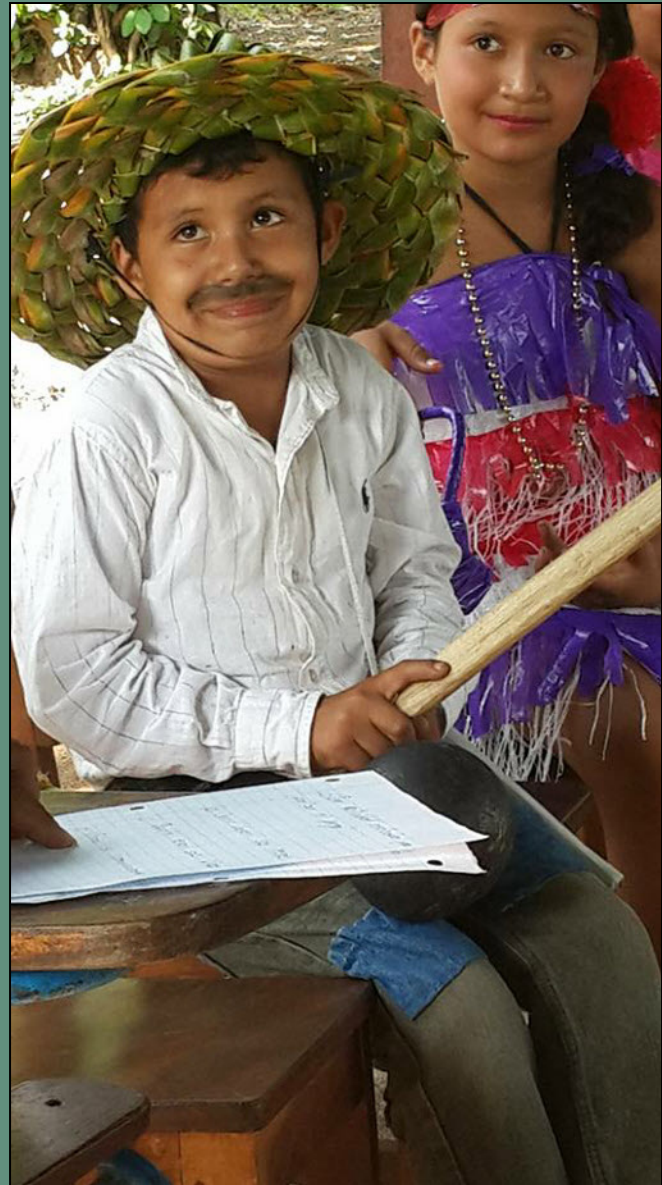






## October

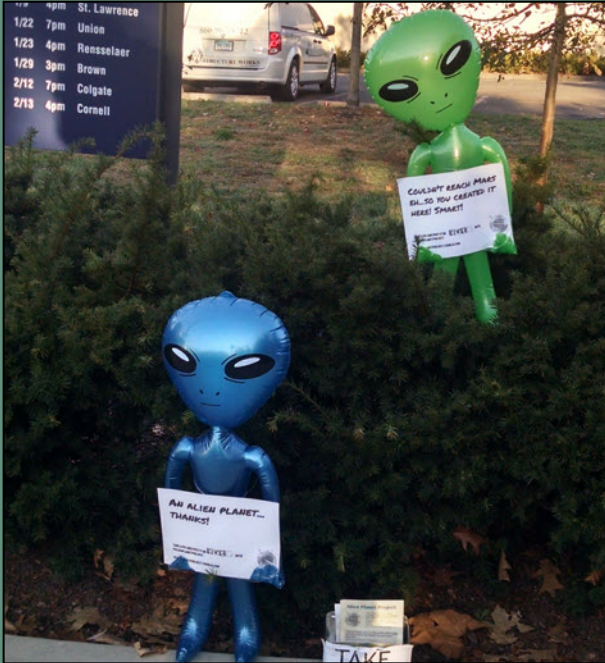
Bottom pictures, Goyena Afterschool Program celebrated the Day of Indigenous Resistance with children dressing up in traditional outfits... Goyena is an indigenous Sutiava community. Left, Fossil Free Yale member Emma Phelps speaks at City Hall as part of national day of action on climate change.





# November

This month brought an Alien invasion to warn humanity that we are creating an 'alien planet' through climate change... And below, Environmental Youth Brigade members on truck with coordinator Luis Chavarria and in meeting with Board member William Vasquez. Also, we're helping organize the new Clean Air Run for May 2016 to raise funds to support goNHgo and healthy alternative transportation in New Haven.



**CLEAN AIR RUN**

**MAY 15, 2016**

**goNewHaven**

**Clean Air Run 5k Course**

Start/Finish  
 Water Station  
 Mile Splits:  
 1  
 2  
 3

N  
 W E  
 S



# December

As global leaders were meeting for the critical Paris conference on climate change, we helped organize the *12 Days of Xmas*, inviting different organizations to speak out in New Haven about climate change. Right (near wall) intern Medinah Nabaddukah speaks about impact on low income communities during the March for Climate Justice in Fair Haven; collecting names on Chapel Street; bottom, at the opening vigil on the New Haven Green, and below, intern Adrian Rodriguez at CT Department of Transportation talking about the need to move away from car-centered transportation.





**And Upcoming in 2016....** MLK Day of Environmental Justice outreach at the Peabody... Expanding Domestic Violence Prevention Program... Clean Air Run... Install more stoves in Goyena... Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride 2016 (riders needed!!)... Teachers and women's delegations... Internships in Leon... Theater workshops... Art making... Climate protests... etc,



**2016 NHLSCP Delegations**

Delegations are an excellent opportunity to learn about the world, about how the 2/3rds of the population live, and about how we are connected to their struggles. Please consider joining us to grow this important work.

**Educators Delegation:** Focus on education challenges in rural Nicaragua; strategies for improving quality; teacher training and curriculum support; cooperative project with community. July 2016. **Sign up by January 20th.** Contact Chris cschweitzer@newhavenleon.org.

**Women Rights Delegation:** The New Haven/León Sister City Project invites you to join our first Women's Rights Delegation in 2016. Focus on domestic violence; legal responses; community based advocacy; self help groups and building individual and collective power; sexual and reproductive rights; national realities, challenges and movements in Nicaragua; cooperative project with community. We will set the dates (7 to 9 days) based on your availability. Date TBD. Contact Megan at mfountain@newhavenleon.org

**Art and Education Delegation:** Focus: Help bring art to rural Nicaragua; learn about arts organizations; use of art in education; teacher training for arts; cooperative project with community. Date TBD. Contact Chris cschweitzer@newhavenleon.org.

On top of learning about specific areas of interest for each delegation, delegates will:

- Learn about challenges in rural Goyena and Troilo; meet community leadership.
- Work on community development project with local residents.
- Get to know daily life through home stays in Leon.
- Visit Leon's historical murals and sites to learn about the dictatorship, revolution, civil war, and current economic and political realities, with a focus on women's participation
- Experience the natural beauty and learn about environmental concerns via outdoor excursions.

[www.newhavenleon.org](http://www.newhavenleon.org)



[www.newhavenleon.org](http://www.newhavenleon.org)

