



A year of hope

Health It's been another busy year for our medical team on the island of Ometepe who treated 4,244 people, most of whom were children. They also gave community lectures on topics such as hand washing, dental hygiene and healthy eating as well as diseases like chikungunya and the zika virus.

Earlier this year our team at El Corozal started a group for patients with chronic conditions, such as type two diabetes, arthritis and high blood pressure. The patients attend the group once a month to receive a check up, have their medication monitored and receive advice about how to manage their conditions.

The team at our clinic in Las Pilas continued to run a luncheon club for their elderly patients. Everyone is provided with a hot meal and medical advice. As well as giving the members of the club the opportunity to build friendships, our team also shares a word from the Bible. Next year the team is planning to hold the club in the village hall so that they have room for a greater variety of activities such as games and showing Christian films.

Thanks to a generous donation we were able to buy a portable ultrasound scanner which will enable Dr Sandra to diagnose certain conditions more accurately. It will also be useful for monitoring expectant mothers.

Medical Sponsorships

This year we have continued our nurse sponsorship scheme where individuals give a monthly amount towards our nurses' salaries and receive an annual report and photo of their particular nurse. We have also recently introduced a similar sponsorship scheme for Dr Sandra. Our suggested sponsorship level is £15 a month and there are still sponsorships available in both schemes. For more information please contact Ali (ali.wilson@seed-trust.com).



Education Our education sponsorship scheme enables children and young people in the town of Bluefields to attend fee paying schools which offer a higher standard of education than government schools. This year 70 children attended primary school, 55 were at secondary school and 10 young people studied at university. We also supported 29 children on the island of Ometepe.



Casa Rahab Casa Rahab is a Christian centre in the city of Granada which provides support for girls who have been, or are at risk of being, involved in the sex trade. Casa Rahab is run by a team of local Christians who seek to break the cycle of sexual exploitation and rebuild trust and self-esteem in the lives of the girls. Each girl, aged between 11 and 17, receives an individual programme of therapy. They are taught basic life skills and helped with their school work. They also learn vocational skills to help them find an alternative means of supporting themselves. This year we have continued to support the salary of Natalia, the centre's sewing teacher.



Orphanage Through our sponsorship scheme we support the Hogar de Fe Orphanage which provides a loving Christian home to up to 50 children. The orphanage is run by Pastor Ramiro Blandón and his family who are concerned for the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare of the children in their care. In January the team organised a health fair which was attended by 1,360 people. All of the children were given a bag of school supplies to help them prepare for the new school year as well as anti-parasite tablets. Nicaraguan medical professionals volunteered their time and gave consultations and dental examinations as required. Members of Ramiro's church were also on hand to talk with people and offer them counsel and prayer.



Cookers The majority of families on the island of Ometepe cook on open wood fires which fill their homes with smoke. We provide families with healthier cookers which remove harmful smoke from the home through a chimney. As the cookers are very efficient they also reduce the amount of wood which families need to buy or collect. Since October 2015 we have provided 23 cookers to families in the villages of San Jose and Las Pilas.



Feeding Programme

The feeding programme which we support provides high vitamin milk for children in Las Pilas and Urbaite twice a week and a hot meal once a week. The programme which is run by a team of local Christians attracts between 40 and 45 children. They sing choruses and hear a Bible story at each session and enjoy a party together twice a year.



Annual Report

Thank you to everyone who has supported SIFT over the past year. These charts give an overview of how your money has been used to help the poor of Nicaragua. If you would like a full copy of our Annual Report and Accounts when they are published, please contact us or download them from our website.

Income:

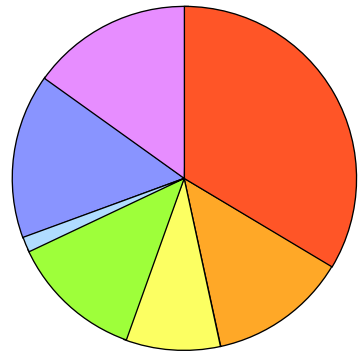
- Regular giving
- Grants from Trusts
- One-off gifts
- Fundraising events
- Gift Aid



Total: £128,244

Expenditure:

- Medical work
- Education sponsorship
- Orphanage support
- Casa Rahab
- Cookers project
- Other charitable work
- Fundraising



Total: £136,963

Please note that this section is based on the un-audited version of SIFT's accounts for 2015-16.

Thank you

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported us financially or in prayer this year. Our work wouldn't be possible without your help. In particular we'd like to thank the George Müller Charitable Trust which has provided support for the Hogar de Fe Orphanage as well as our luncheon club in Las Pilas. We're also grateful to the Souter Charitable Trust, the Oakdale Trust, the James Tudor Foundation, the Sembrador Charitable Trust and the Crossroads Shop, Meltham, which all awarded grants to enable our clinics to run through the year.



Contact us

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