



# Nicaraguan Frontiers

*Peace & Hope Frontier Mission*

*Serving Nicaragua's Forgotten Peoples*

Fall, 2015

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

## Breaking new ground

**"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."**

-- Isaiah 43:19

*It doesn't look like much. Just another soggy field in a poor, muddy, inconsequential village in the middle of nowhere. Cattle saunter through switching their tails and gnawing on stubble, unaware that their grazing land will soon become a construction site. As we survey the field, however, we see fleeting images of what this place might become.*

It is a vision of potential, promise and hope for the remote, Nicaraguan communities that lie far upriver in the jungles of Nicaragua's wilderness. We imagine pastors gathering for training, farmers meeting to solve problems, a nurse caring for a sick child or an outreach team boarding a boat to serve in a village. May the facility we are

building be a key to community transformation and a part of God's blessing for these remote villages!

This project is sponsored by our new partner, *Rivers of the World* (ROW), and is a collaborative effort between our two organizations and our host community, Kansas City. The facility will include a dormitory, dining hall, clinic and storage building.

This month, however, our focus is on the construction of the dormitory. We hack through the tenacious turf to break ground on the first hole for the building's footings. Soaked with sweat, we finally reach a depth of three feet, straining to leverage the last few shovelfuls of mud out of the bottom of the hole. Only 39 post holes left! Young men from the community join us, digging holes with precision and machine-like efficiency, undaunted by the oppressive afternoon heat.

The enormous pressure-treated posts



## Construction underway

are heaved into the holes and our team of workers mix the concrete by hand in a flurry of dust, scraping shovels and grinding gravel. The mix is shoveled into buckets, carried to the holes and dumped around the posts. After two weeks, all 40 posts are set and the footings for the dormitory stand solid, a product of teamwork and community effort. **To see our video, *Breaking Ground*, visit our website and click on *Our News*.**



## Fruit of a farmer's labor

### Please pray for...

- the funds needed to continue bringing villages clean water and improved health.
- our upcoming efforts to drill 3 wells in the village of Anglo America.
- our work with *Rivers of the World* to construct the upriver base and initiate holistic programs in four villages.

## A Day in the life

You wake up at dawn in your little shanty along a jungle river. After you and your son milk the cows, your family sits on their rickety porch for a breakfast of rice and beans. You are a farmer in the remote village of Kansas City, Nicaragua.

With machete in hand, your commute to work means a half-hour trek along overgrown jungle trails, crossing a swamp on a submerged log, slogging through mud and fending off mosquitoes. You pass your plantings of rice, corn, beans, banana and cacao. You know that your best chance for success means raising a variety of crops with different agricultural cycles.

Besides tending to your crops, feeding your cattle, and repairing a fence, you need to clear some land today. As you

swing your machete, you already begin to feel the steamy heat of the day, but you know that hard work, determination, diligence and farming know-how are the only way your family will survive. **To take a walk in the jungle with a farmer, go to our website, click on *Our News* and watch the video, *Breaking Ground*.**



**A farmer and his cacao**

## Many hands...

They come in the rain, in the heat of the day, and even after a hard morning's work on their farms. They come to dig holes, mix concrete and carry materials, ready for the toughest job we can dish out. With community spirit and a desire to serve, the villagers of Kansas City come to work alongside us, making our construction of a dormitory facility a true collaboration and even a celebration.

On one morning, a group of about 25 villagers turn out in the pouring rain and their enthusiasm turns a backbreaking task into a raucous party. Despite the deluge, the lean, muscled men of Kansas city relish the opportunity to show off their strength and stamina by unloading a cargo boat full of construction material. Drenched and dripping, they hoot, holler, laugh, and grunt, making trip after trip up the 30 plus steps that climb the steep riverbank, with each man shouldering two 90-pound bags of cement.

When the second cargo boat full of lumber arrives a week later, community members line up from the deck of the boat to the top of the riverbank to help us pass up the wood, piece by piece. Some 40 woman and children turn out as well, eager to participate in the fun. Incredibly, after 4 hours of work, the team unloads and stacks 36 tons of lumber!

## Happenings

**In November we will drill three new wells** and implement a health and hygiene training program in the village of Anglo America, a river community of about 400 residents. Many thanks to ROW for their sponsorship!

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**With ROW's backing, we will continue construction** of the upriver facility in Kansas City by starting work on a community clinic, dining hall and storage facility.

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**We have written a prospectus** detailing our organization's vision, goals, strategic plan and financial needs. This document is available on our website by clicking on *Our Mission* and going to the bottom of the page. We hope you will peruse it and pass it on to others who might consider partnering in our work.

### Contact Us

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### Dormitory nearing completion



### What's the Buzz?

*News bites from our jungle villages and Peace and Hope Frontier Mission*

- **Almost finished!** Check out the photo above to see the progress our builder and community members made on the new dormitory facility since our team's departure.
- **Listening to the Word.** The village women who were given audio Miskito language New Testaments last year love them and play them in their homes all the time.
- **A handful of beans can change a village!** No, they don't grow magic beanstalks. But by having community members discuss where to place beans on a list of their concerns (more beans, higher priority), they can develop community goals and form a strategic plan for the area. This *10 Seed Survey* was administered in 4 villages, revealing that healthy water, agricultural support and access to a health center topped their list of needs.
- **Hummingbird lore.** The villagers tell us that if someone captures a hummingbird and consumes its beating heart, it will rejuvenate the aged and cure heart-related problems. Fortunately, we did not have to witness this rather bizarre practice. By the way, can you spot the hummingbird nest in one of our photos?

### Partner with US

**Please consider pledging a regular, recurring donation or making a one-time donation so that we can move forward with our *Frontier Water Project*. Giving options follow:**

- *direct credit and debit card donations (one-time or recurring) through the secure banking platform on our website at [www.peaceandhope.org](http://www.peaceandhope.org);*
- *PayPal donations through our website;*
- *checks made out and mailed to Peace and Hope Frontier Mission (see enclosed donation slip).*

If you would like to initiate a fund-raising event to sponsor a well, please contact Roger Drost.