

# "¡Noticias!"

August 2012

#### **Virtual Fiesta, Check Your Mailbox**



Get ready for the Fifth Annual Shoulder to Shoulder Virtual Fiesta this September. This fundraiser, which supports our work with the poor of rural Honduras, is unlike any gala you've ever attended. There's no need to mark your calendar, get a babysitter or rent a tuxedo. This event doesn't involve a fancy dinner, a band, raffle tickets or an auction.

Instead, the Virtual Fiesta is a straightforward, hassle-free request for your contribution to our medical and dental clinics as well as other projects described elsewhere on our web page.

www.ShouldertoShoulder.org

All of us at Shoulder to Shoulder are focused on getting the most out of the donations we receive. However, even with prudent cost cutting and streamlining, it has been increasingly difficult to stretch the available dollars to cover the many areas of need in rural Honduras. We count heavily on the support of our generous donors and hope you will include Shoulder to Shoulder in your giving plans this year with a response to your Virtual Fiesta invitation. Without the overhead of a traditional fundraising event, 98% of your contribution to the Virtual Fiesta goes straight to our work in Honduras where it does the most good.

Look for your invitation to arrive by mail in mid

September or access a virtual copy of the Virtual Fiesta invitation on the Shoulder toShoulder website:www.ShouldertoShoulder.org

. Thank you in advance for your contribution to the everyday operating budget of this organization which serves the poor of Honduras.

#### **Holistic Approach**



19 years ago, Shoulder to Shoulder started on its mission to help the people of rural Honduras by setting up medical clinics. With the support of our donors, we are now running nine medical and two dental clinics and have expanded our services beyond those clinic settings. Our goal is to offer a holistic focus on the entire person in order to improve the health and daily lives of these people.

Our outreach currently includes a wide range of projects. We provide weekly prenatal clinics where expectant mothers receive ultrasounds, get prenatal vitamins and participate in birth and parent education classes. Since many births occur outside a hospital setting, we are also researching how to train midwives in the resuscitation of newborns. With assistance from the Mathile institute, we are conducting research on childhood nutrition as well.

We distribute in-home water filters to reduce the occurrence of water-borne illnesses, and home cook stoves to prevent childhood asthma and respiratory disease by venting the smoke out of the house. Through our Yo Puedo program, pre-adolescent girls receive real-life education in areas like money management, self esteem, and alternatives to early motherhood. Our school-based dental prevention program is showing exemplary results among the children of the area. A bilingual school, which will serve pre-kindergarten through high school aged children, is under construction and the first 3 grades will start next school year. Shoulder to Shoulder is stiving to find other opportunities for this holistic outreach in the future and, with your help, we can bring these services to the Hondurans.

Photo compliments of Dr. Ed Zurweste M.D

### page for more frequent updates—and lots of photos.



## "If it was easy, someone would have already done it"

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