



## **Nueva Esperanza, Nicaragua** **Village Plan Fiscal Year 2012 (July 2011 - June 2012):**

*This Annual Village Plan has been developed by the women, men and children of Nueva Esperanza through the Values-Based Planning process, a process in which the entire community chooses the upcoming year's activities based on their commonly-held values, vision and goals.*

### **Community Education and Training**

**Objective:** *Families have opportunities for adequate healthcare, education, adult literacy and spiritual growth.*

- **Education:** Children will have access to primary education and receive school supplies for classes and materials for the resource center. Adults will also be encouraged to be involved in continuing education and literacy programs.
- **Gender Equality:** Dialogue and discussion will be held on the importance of positive relationships and equal economic and social opportunities for men and women in the community.
- **Nutrition:** Mothers will participate in cooking classes to prepare nutritious meals using local ingredients and children under seven will be weighed and measured monthly to assess nutritional health.
- **First Aid Kits:** The community will purchase essential medicines to keep the communal first aid kits supplied and volunteers will receive training to properly administer medicine to the families.
- **Personal Hygiene:** Families will learn and implement improved personal hygiene habits, especially during housecleaning and in the latrine. Various trainings and community clean-up activities will be held.
- **Life Plans:** 100% of community members will collaborate with psychology students through a partnership with a Managua university to learn about the temperaments and create life plans.
- **Health Promoters:** Three health promoters will be trained in order to support the community's health needs.

## **Community Organization**

**Objective:** *Families define a vision for their village and develop the local leadership required to create a self-sustaining, thriving community.*

- **Values-Based Planning:** The families will participate in a workshop on values-based planning and creating bylaws. The mission, vision, and values will be reassessed and applied to the village plan.
- **Leadership Development:** Leadership will receive training on their roles and responsibilities and community members will learn about traits of everyday leaders. They will especially focus on transparency, participation, and democratic elections.
- **Evaluations:** All families will take part in annual evaluations to reflect on goals and progress of the community and leaders.

## **Housing and Infrastructure**

**Objective:** *Families implement individual and communal infrastructure to meet their basic needs of shelter, health and production.*

- **Efficient Cook Stoves:** Families will build stoves for their homes, improving household safety, decreasing use of firewood and protecting against respiratory illness.
- **Community Center:** Community members will build a community center to hold gatherings and act as a meeting place.

## **Sustainable Economic Growth**

**Objective:** *The community will ensure food security, obtain self-sufficiency, and be part of a viable economy through diverse enterprises. Families will receive training to achieve a higher level of productivity and fair trade of their goods and services.*

- **Coffee Project:** Thirty-three families will generate income by selling coffee, and improving production using different methods.
- **Basic Grains:** The families will plant corn and beans for consumption and purchase additional grains to resell for profit in the market.
- **Food Security:** Community members will plant 0.9 acres of malanga and 1.7 acres of chayote to ensure food security.
- **Small Businesses:** Women participating in the Community Bank will start a chicken project and others will take out loans in order to start their own small businesses and pool collective savings to provide loans to the community in the future.
- **Tilapia Project:** Families will begin raising tilapia in order to promote food production and improve family nutrition.