



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

*This Annual Village Plan has been developed by the women, men and children of San José 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 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.
- **Community Development:** Community members will be trained on organization, participation and motivation within their village, while also sharing and exchanging experiences and learning with the Agros village of Norwich.
- **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.*

- **Home Improvements:** 100% of families will lay cement floors in their houses to improve cleanliness, sanitation and health.

## **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:** Thirty families will receive credit and training to maintain fifty-one acres of coffee, as well as learn how to apply fertilizer and insecticide.
- **Crop Diversification:** All families will plant experimental parcels of celery, carrots, chard, watermelon, tomatoes, cabbage and peppers to increase income and improve diets.
- **Worm Composting:** Families will build compost bins to produce organic compost for their crops.
- **Irrigation:** The supplies for setting up an extended irrigation system will be purchased and installed to produce diverse crops year round.
- **Women's Small Businesses:** The women will be trained on small enterprise operation to generate family income. Ten women participating in the Community Bank will use credit to invest in their small businesses, such as chicken projects, and to save as a group.

## **Community Education and Training**

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

- **Medicine Supply:** The community's medicine and first aid supplies will be replenished and volunteers will receive training to attend to families' minor medical needs.
- **Education:** Families will ensure all school-aged children receive a formal primary education. Children will also be supplied with the necessary learning materials. Adults will also be encouraged to pursue 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.
- **Values:** Men and women will practice unity by sharing work and incorporating community values into daily life. Personal growth groups of about 15 people will also be formed and meet together to work on values such as tolerance, respect for diversity, and community living.
- **Nutrition:** Families will cultivate communal plots of vegetables to improve diets and children under seven years will be weighed and measured to assess nutrition level.
- **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.