



San Marcos de Belén, 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 Marcos 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.*

- **Health Promoters:** Three community health promoters will receive training and continue to serve the families' basic health needs.
- **Life Plans:** The community members will create and revise their life plans, reflecting community values and incorporating their family's socioeconomic activities.
- **Education:** All of the community youth will attend school and have access to educational materials in the resource center. The families and parents will also encourage them in their studies, emphasizing the importance of education.
- **Gender Equity:** Twenty men and women will participate in trainings to learn about the value and contribution of women in the community.
- **Nutrition:** All the children under seven years old will be weighed and measured to assess nutrition levels and parents will participate in cooking workshops to learn how to prepare nutritious meals.
- **Reproductive Health:** Twenty-five families will be involved in workshops to receive education on making healthy choices regarding sexual and reproductive health.

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:** The community will define functional organizational structures and new leaders will receive training in management, ethical business practices, community organization and negotiation skills.
- **Emergency Committee:** The Emergency Committee will create an evacuation plan to follow in the event of an emergency or natural disaster and coordinate with local organizations to identify risk areas.

Land Ownership

Objective: *Families possess a sense of dignity and responsibility through conserving and developing their land sustainability.*

- **Fruit Orchards:** Families will receive supplies to care for twenty-five acres of fruit trees, improving production and income generation.
- **Reforestation:** The families will plant forest trees and additional fruit trees of diverse varieties in fields and communal areas to prevent soil erosion and protect water sources.

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.*

- **Vegetable Gardens:** Twenty-five families will establish over ten acres of vegetable gardens with a variety of crops to increase income.
- **Brick Business:** Fourteen families will buy supplies and strengthen the implementation of a business plan for the commercial manufacturing of mud bricks.
- **Honey Project:** Families will purchase containers and labels and receive training to produce and sell honey.
- **Animal Husbandry:** Families will plant improved pastures, purchase feed, build feeding troughs and purchase veterinary supplies to ensure food security and health of their animals.
- **Women's Enterprises:** Ten women will organize into groups, receive business and loan training and start small businesses to increase family income.