



Roots of Change Foundation
Source de développement
 15 Years of bringing hope to people in need

May 2020

Newsletter

The Good Samaritan
Special Edition - COVID-19 Appeal



15th Annual Fundraiser Cancelled due to Covid-19

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancellation of the Roots of Change 2020 Annual Fundraiser, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will miss seeing you and bringing the latest news from Nicaragua, while we share a meal and have some fun!!

However, the needs in Nicaragua have certainly not changed. Our annual fundraiser is our single and most important event of the year in terms of funding, and we just can't support our Nicaraguan family without the wonderful generosity we have consistently witnessed at this annual event.

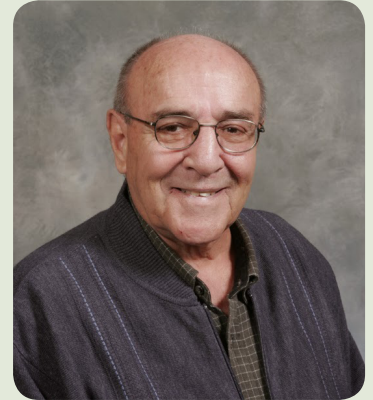
We don't know whether or when we might be able to organize this fundraiser in 2020, so we are making this appeal today to ask for your help in achieving what would have been our fundraiser goal of \$30,000.00. With a current exchange rate of 1.45+/- these funds are needed more than ever for the continuation of FUNDACCO's good work.

Please consider making your donation today....

- By mail (form and envelope enclosed)
- On our website www.rootsofchange.ca
- Online to PayPal Giving (no fees are charged to Roots of Change for donations made through this fund) Google **PayPal Giving Canada**
- Online to ATB Cares – ATB will add 15% to your donation, and no fees are charged to Roots of Change www.atbcares.com

Thank you for your continuing support!

*In Loving Memory
 of our founder
 Fr. Denis Hébert
 July 21, 1930 – Apr 14, 2015*



You may be gone from our sight but you are never gone from our hearts.

Covid-19 in Nicaragua

An email received from Nicaragua last week has brought with it some disturbing news.

FUNDACCO has been preparing for the virus by implementing steps to reduce coming into contact with, and the spread of, the virus at the San Rafael Clinic. On May 5th a person entered the clinic with Covid-19 symptoms. Immediately, staff followed a protocol, closed the clinic then disinfected the facility.

It is not known if it was a result of this visit or some other cause, but Vania Lopez, the clinic Pharmacist and Katty Lumbi, assistant to the doctor, are now both experiencing symptoms of the virus with Katty being admitted to a hospital in Managua. They are now both at home and recovering.

The clinic will remain closed until the risk of the virus has passed.

Due to this recent event, the FUNDACCO Board of Directors has made the decision to stop all activities until the end of May and will reassess at that time whether to reopen.

The Roots of Change has made the decision to continue to pay the wages of all FUNDACCO staff as their families need and rely on this income.

Please keep the people of Nicaragua in your prayers during this difficult time.

Can we provide a better life for this 8 year old?

From time to time we receive requests from FUNDACCO to assist them in supporting a very specific need in their community. The Roots of Change are looking for donations to help with the worthy cause detailed below, as presented to FUNDACCO by this child's mother. The cost of waterproof hearing aids for Klauss is \$1260 US (\$1827 CAN). If you would like to support this project, please be sure to mark your donation 'Klauss'. Thank you.



TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM CLAUDIA ROMERO CARRION

Managua 09 March 2020

FUNDACCO

Attorney Luis Cruz

Delivered by Hand

I wish you a day filled with blessings. My name is Claudia Patricia Romero Carrion, national I.D. #001-310187-0013H. I am the mother of Klauss Alexanders Torrentes Romero, who is 7 years and 11 months old.

A brief review of my little boy's medical history: when he was 1 year old, an ultrasound revealed that he had an ARACHNOID CYST in the suprasellar region of the left temporal lobe of his brain. As he grew older, we noticed that he was having problems speaking. The neurologist indicated that his verbal problems were caused by the cyst, being located in the language centre.

With God's help and by our daily efforts to see to our son's wellbeing, his pediatrician sent us for a hearing test which focused our attention on a new issue – our child also has hearing impairment in both ears, ranging from severe to profound. He therefore needs digital prosthetic hearing aids. I am writing to ask you, out of the kindness of your heart, to help us to buy this equipment which is beyond our means and yet is so necessary for our little one's wellbeing.

Klauss is an intelligent child, which is evident because – even with his problem with language and hearing, he is presently in Third Grade in elementary school and he reads and writes in spite of his difficulties. As a family, we believe that God works miracles and that God has a purpose for our son. These hearing aids, in addition to therapy, will help Klauss to overcome his problems and lead a normal life.

I am sending copies of the x-ray, hearing tests and an estimate for the cost of the hearing aids. Please help us in acquiring this equipment.

Thanking you for your interest and trusting in God for a positive answer,

Regards,

Claudia Romero Carrion

85417555/2268-2778

For more information www.rootsofchange.ca

Please help by supporting this ministry of hope

2019-20 Board of Directors

Officers:

President - Rick LeBlanc
Vice President - David Fréchette
Secretary - Lucille Damer
Treasurer - Mel Kammerer
Project Administrator - Ken Handford
Donations - Jocelyne Durocher

Directors:

John Schile
Michel Lapointe
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Do you have a talent to share?

The Foundation is looking for people with skills in the following disciplines. Volunteer hours range from a half hour to 3 hours per week.

- **WordPress Designer/Website Maintenance Skills**
- **Blog Writer**
- **Marketing**

If you are interested in learning more about these volunteer positions, please contact Rick LeBlanc at rick.leblanc@rootsofchange.ca

The goal for our 2020 campaign is \$100,000 (US) and the estimated cost of this publication is \$1,300 (printing and mailing costs combined).

PayPal Giving Fund

PayPal Giving Fund Canada provides a method to donate using a credit card that eliminates the fees the Foundation would normally be charged which is between 2– 3% of the donation - and every penny counts!

Search for "PayPal Giving Fund" in your browser, click on 'Donate Here' then search for Roots of Change Foundation.

PayPal Giving Fund Canada will provide a Charitable Donation Receipt for your donation and we will be notified once it is processed.

Registered Charity Number 81320 5077 RR0001 ~ Canada Revenue Agency: <http://www.canada.ca/charities-giving>