

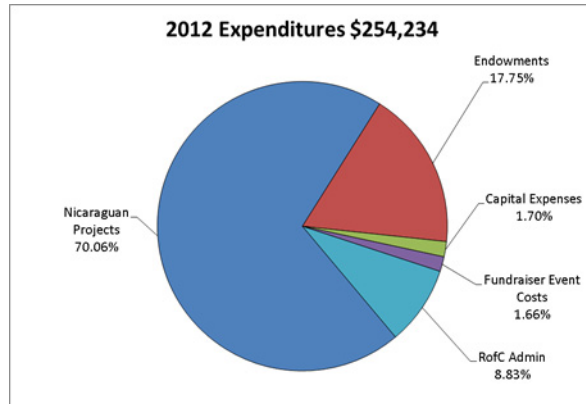
## From the Treasurer

I have been the Treasurer of the Roots of Change Foundation since its beginning. Roots of Change is solely administered by volunteers.

It has been an exceptional journey for Roots of Change, as the Foundation has increased its donor base and undertaken more and more good works in Nicaragua, all for the benefit of the Nicaraguan people. During the process of the growth of the Foundation, we have been able to keep administrative costs under 10%. This is an outstanding achievement when you consider that many similar charities and foundations are using almost 20% of their donations to maintain their administrative structures. Roots of Change will continue to strive for a broader donor base while at the same time ensuring that there is a strong awareness and communication about the exceptional works achieved in Nicaragua in partnership with FUNDACCO.

In the past two years, as the Foundations continues to promote awareness and understanding of its works, a newsletter has been developed which is distributed three times per year and adds to the administrative budget. However, as in past years, we will make every effort to maintain overall administrative costs at the lowest possible level. We are very committed to ensuring that the donations provided by so many of you make their way directly to the people and communities of Nicaragua, who so greatly need our help.

Else Annich  
Treasurer



## Donations Report

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we have once again surpassed our fundraising objective of \$200,000 with total revenue of just over \$320,000 in 2012.

The Foundation Board and our counterpart Fundacco are sincerely grateful for the generosity shown by our supporters. It is this kindness that motivates us to work even harder at helping the people of Nicaragua become the *"principal builders of a new and more human future for everyone"*.

As an organization whose primary source of revenue is by way of three mail campaigns each year, it is difficult to predict what our revenues will be for the coming year. It is for this reason we set conservative budgets to insure that funding is available for the projects we set out to do.

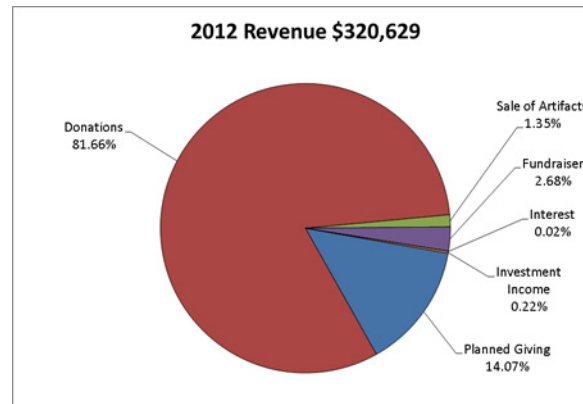
Revenues in excess of what have been budgeted have allowed us to expand our work by funding a number of one time projects of which there are never a shortage in Nicaragua.

The Foundation's future continues to be strengthened by those donors who have invested in our Planned Giving program. Last year, three new endowment funds were created bringing the total to five funds with a combined value of over \$70,000. These investments generate excellent returns (over 9% in 2012) and are administered entirely by the Edmonton Community Foundation. Revenue from the funds contributes to our annual operating budget each year while a portion is re-invested.

Accountability and transparency have and continue to be priorities for the Foundation. We welcome each donor as a member and are open to answering any questions they may have.

On behalf of Father Denis, the Foundation Board and the people of Nicaragua, I sincerely thank you for your generous support and for believing in what we do. We are blessed to live in a nation with abundance and it is our duty as Christians to help those who are less fortunate.

Rick LeBlanc  
Donations Administrator



# 2012

# ANNUAL REPORT



## Roots of Change Foundation

A Partnership for Hope in Nicaragua  
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## Message from the President

First, a heartfelt thank you to all who have generously participated in the Roots of Change Foundation's mission during this past year.

Whether you were a member of a delegation, initiated or participated in various fund raisers, served on the Board, have established a friendship by corresponding with a student, or have been loyal and constant in your financial support, you have become a member of a very special community: one that serves the needs of the poor in Nicaragua.

I invite you to continue sharing your enthusiasm for this charitable venture with family members, neighbors and colleagues in the workplace. We need your help in this regard to ensure the ongoing success of new and long term projects. Enhancing the educational status of students, making available and sustaining improved health care services for families, and providing the basic necessities that support a dignified lifestyle are goals that take both a lot of time and sustained resources to achieve.

For sharing fund raising ideas and for any questions related to the Foundation's work, please don't hesitate to contact me at: [Eugene.maloe@rootsofchange.ca](mailto:Eugene.maloe@rootsofchange.ca).

Eugene Malo  
President



## Year in Review

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the starting budget for 2012 projects was the highest to date in the history of the Roots of Change Foundation, set at \$200,000. While there is no shortage of worthwhile work to be done, it was sometimes a challenge for the limited staff in the Fundacco organization in Nicaragua to identify, plan and execute projects to put these funds to work. Over the course of the year, an additional \$39,414 was added to the budget from donations earmarked for specific expenses or projects. By the end of the year, 72.4% of the budget (just short of \$173,400) was used to fund 60 ongoing and/or new projects.

Project Objective	# of Projects Funded	New Projects in 2012
Provide Food/Clothing/Shelter	11	7
Assisting Persons/Economic Development	8	
Schools/Supplies/Equipment/Scholarships	30	13
Training Farming/Conservation	1	
Promote Physical Fitness for Children	2	
Operating Medical Clinics	2	
Incidentals & Ancillaries	6	

The top five projects by amounts funded were:

- San Raphael Archangel Clinic \$36,843
- Youth & Children's' Education & Development \$13,076
- San Benito Office/Community Centre \$11,126
- Casa Esperanza Clinics Program \$9,883
- Sugey Velasquez Home Construction \$8,408

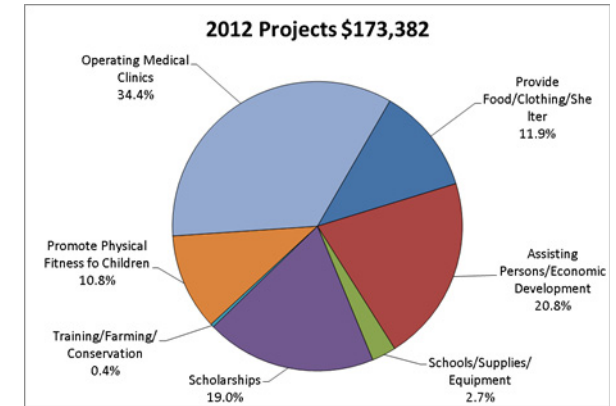
We are pleased to report that the number of new scholarships granted in 2012 was 13, bringing the total number of scholarships over the years to 43. The total expenditures for scholarship funding in 2012 was \$32,926. It is worthy to note that the first group of university students who benefited from this funding back in 2009 completed their classroom studies in 2012, and will graduate in their fields upon completion of their "thesis year" in 2013.

2012 saw one adult delegation travel to Managua in March, while planning and fundraising efforts for three groups set to travel in 2013 were put into motion.

We are saddened to report that the school project initiated by an Ontario

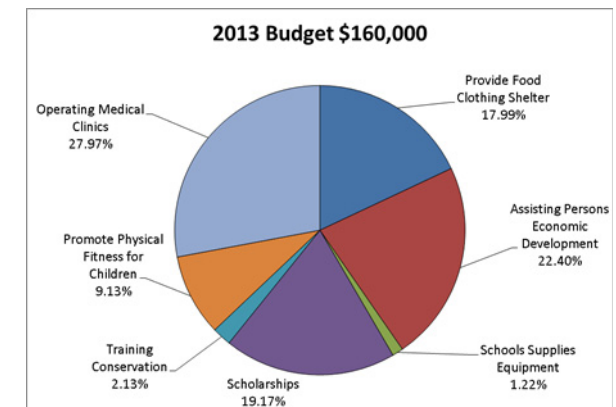
## Year in Review - cont'd

group of donors was, for various reasons, withdrawn from the pending projects list.



## Looking Ahead

The budget for 2013 was originally set at \$160,000 from funds donated and/or raised in 2012. However, with the addition of the surplus from the 2012 budget, the working budget for 2013 is starting at \$226,031. The Fundacco team has seen some modest growth, and their plans for 2013 include a number of new projects. The encouragement that they garner from the continued and growing support of our donors brings new energy and excitement to their endeavors. On their behalf, as well as ours, we thank you again for your generous support.



Jocelyne Durocher  
Project Administrator