

2012 Year End Update

Well it is hard to believe we are at the end of another year. It has been a very busy year for Friends of Honduran Children. We would like to share some of the highlights with you in this annual report.

Our Mission is to improve the quality of life for impoverished Honduran children and their families. We help them meet their basic needs and empower them to break the cycle of deprivation and hardship that controls their lives.

At times this can feel like a herculean task, until we think of YOU, our network of loyal donors and volunteers. Thanks to you, we are making a difference in the lives of those Honduran Children we can reach.

Our theme for 2013 is TRANSITION. As the children in our orphanages mature, we are planning for their transition from their safe orphanage to adulthood and beyond. This process actually starts the first day a child enters one of our orphanages.

AGM 2012 Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=TuINMml0Mqc#t=6s



Meet Genesis – One of our newest baby at Pedro Atala Orphanage

Our Donors:

Our donors still strongly believe in what we are doing, and support our various initiatives in Honduras. We had 1,650 different donors, 5,757 donations and an average of \$164 per donation (Simply amazing). This is a 20% increase in donors, a 5% increase in total donations and a 5% increase in average donation.

Thank you to our individual donors, our foundation donors (The Naraine Global Fund, Pilkington-Henniger Charitable Trust, The Peterborough K.M. Hunter Foundation & The Woman's Inter-church Council, Bridge St. United Church Foundation), our faith based organizations (Grace United Church, Millbrook Cavan Pastoral Charge, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish & St. Alphonsus Parish), and the Peterborough Rotary Club.

Our Volunteers:

We are blessed with a very strong contingent of volunteers. We have many different types of volunteers, including 9 Board Members, 5 Pillar leaders, 18 Brigade Leaders, 170 Brigade members in 2012 & 25 Committee members. We also have many volunteers who help stamp and stuff (newsletters, appeals etc.).

Our Child Sponsorship Program:

This is one of the key programs we support in Honduras. There are about 240 children in the three villages we support (Nuevo Paraiso, Pedro Atala & Flor Azul). As you may be aware, this program is funded by donors who commit to a \$35 monthly donation. This covers the basic cost of living for the children, including education, healthcare, food, clothing, shelter and loving house aunties (Tia's).

We currently have 592 child sponsors and this number is about the same as last year. Having said this, we have added 52 new sponsors this year, but due to the North American economic downturn some long term donors had to suspend their sponsorship temporarily.

To help us increase these sponsorships, if you have a group of people you would like us to present this amazing program to, please contact Allison at allison@honduranchildren.com. We would love to come speak to your group.

Thank you Child Sponsors - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_-FtyTOHZY&feature=player_detailpage#t=11s

Reyes Irene School – Tegucigalpa Honduras:

Another key project that we sponsor in Honduras is Reyes Irene School for young women. One of the key ways to change a developing nation is to educate the young women. Reyes Irene does an amazing job of changing the lives of young women forever. They have over 400 young women in the day school. Most of the students work as domestics and come to school on their only day off. They often enter the school with little education and low self esteem. The transition these young women experience is simply amazing.

To learn more - https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=wuvdmh_HRuI#t=2s

Our 2012 Brigades (9 Brigades, 170 Brigaders, 1,800 days volunteering in Honduras):

In 2012, we had 3 Primary Health Care Brigades and our first Trent University Nursing Student Brigade. We are building relationships with remote villages and partnering with the key medical people in those villages to build sustainable health care initiatives. This year we taught CPR and First Aid to many of the staff at our orphanages.

In 2012 we had 5 building and awareness brigades. These brigades had two main focuses, including keeping our orphanages at Nuevo Paraiso in good shape as well as outreach programs. For example, these outreach programs allow us to help very poor villages improve their living conditions (floors, latrines, lighting), and build new schools.



Imagine your poor village getting a new school (built by several of our brigades)

Our Education Initiatives:

We had a very busy year, providing 25 full time and 25 part time high school scholarships. We had our very first Professional Development workshops (pedagogical methodologies) attended by 90 regional teachers (for some this is the only training they have had since leaving school).

Our various brigades did outreach programs to rural public schools. For example, they provided the rural schools with backpacks full of hands-on educational activities.

One of the key transition strategies we believe in is teaching the children in our Orphanages English as a second language. We have provided ESL curriculum materials to the Nuevo Paraiso schools. We also re-started the Saturday ESL program at Nuevo Paraiso village.



Professional Development Day

Our Honduran Partner – Sociedad Amigos de los Ninos (SAN):

As you may be aware, we work with Sociedad Amigos de los Ninos in Honduras - <http://www.sociedadamigodelosninos.org.hn/site/>. They run the orphanages and other programs that we support. They have a new Board of Directors and are in the process of re-engineering many of their practices. We provide financial and moral support to this organization and we wish them all the best with this very important initiative.

Transition:

We are working very hard at helping SAN define the best way forward to help our older children transition from the orphanage into adulthood. Think of your transition when you left home, or if you are a student, think of how you are planning your transition.

On your behalf, we are working to help define the best way to provide the transition for the child you sponsor. We will be making some key decisions in 2013 in this area and will keep you posted on the ideas as they are finalized.

Marketing & Fundraising:

Like us – Share Us - Our marketing reach is expanding as we fully embrace social media as a means of engagement and communications. Our website, Facebook, twitter and blog are the foundation of these initiatives. We now have a more mobile friendly way of looking at our website.

In 2013 we plan on moving to a blog based website, and re-engineer our office procedures using state of the art cloud based technology (Salesforce.com is offered for free to Not for Profit organizations). With over 100 donations per week, productivity improvements in this area will help us keep our operating costs in control.

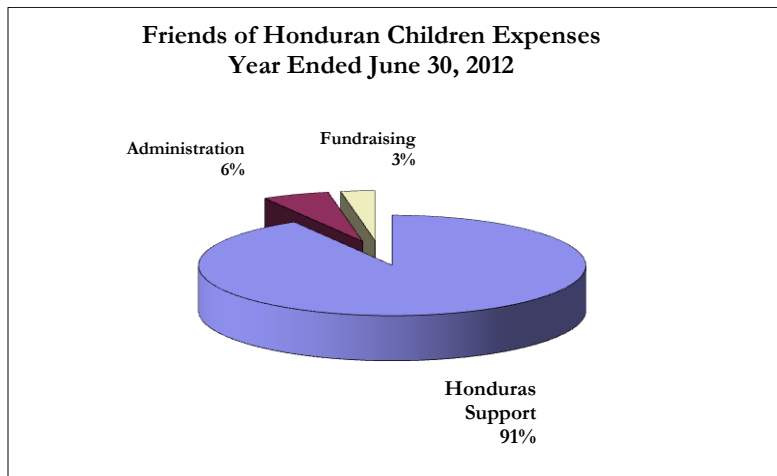
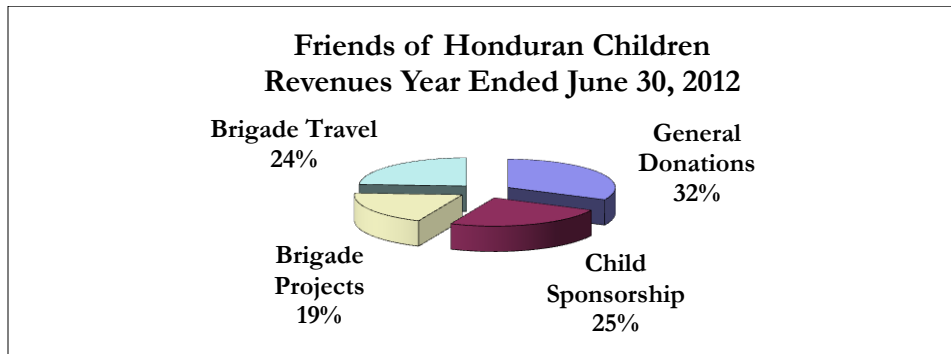
Finances:

General donations increased by 60% compared to the prior year as a result of the very successful Reyes Irene "Raise the Roof" campaign. Also, we had effective fundraising for scholarships, for improvements to the Nuevo Paraiso village and for general expenses.

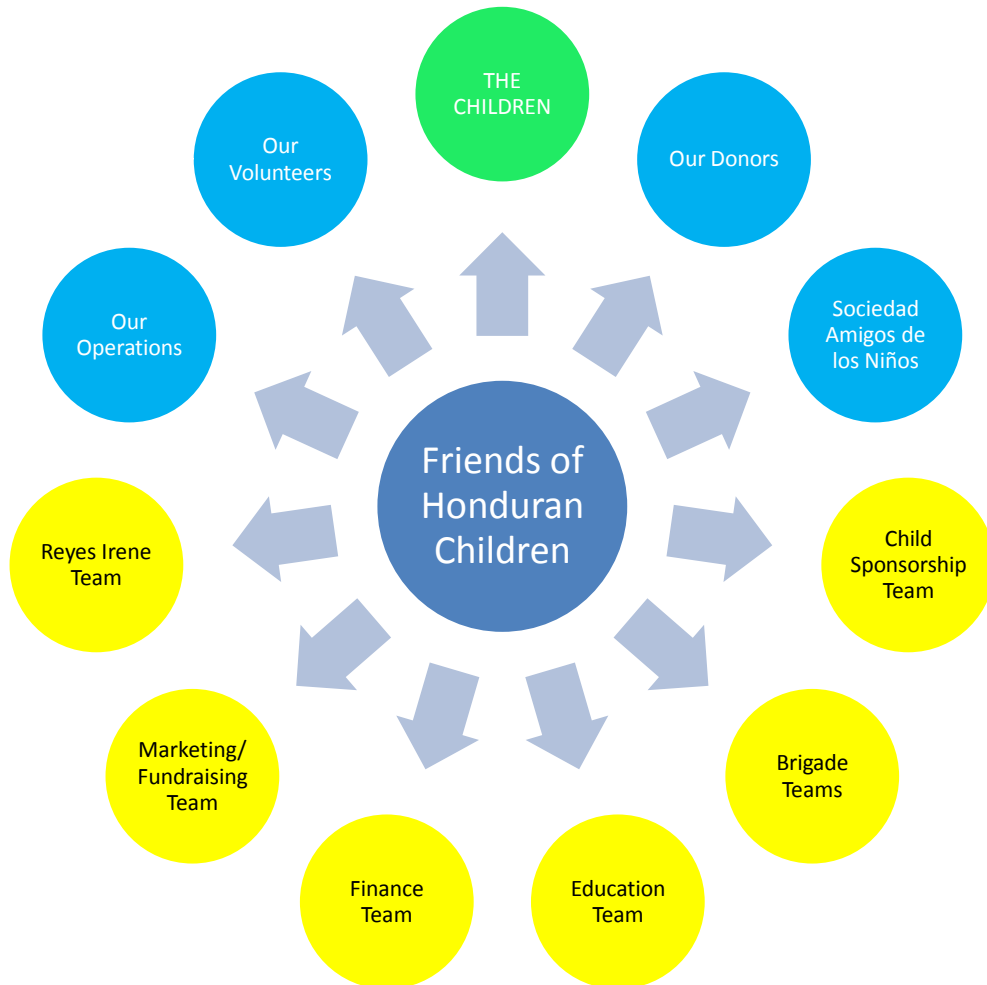
Brigade project donations more than doubled from prior year. The number of brigades did not increase but the number of individuals participating in brigades increased by 29%. Their fundraising efforts were much more extensive and effective this year. Building and education brigades focused on communities surrounding Nuevo Paraiso.

Our administrative expenses were 6% and Fundraising expenses were 3% of total expenses, benchmarking our organization well below most charities. We cherish your donations and work very hard at spending those funds wisely. Last year we were about 9% combined administration/fundraising expenses.

We have audited financial statements available upon request (allison@honduranchildren.com).



Our Structure



Summary

On behalf of the Children of Honduras, we (the Board of Directors) would like to thank you (our Donors and Volunteers) for supporting our Orphanages and other initiatives in Honduras. We would appreciate any feedback you have on anything related to our shared work in Honduras (feedback@honduranchildren.com)