



Mark your calendars

Monday, September 26, 2011

Austin Samaritans 4th Annual Golf Scramble

Forest Creek Golf Club - 1:30 pm shotgun start - \$150/player
Austin Samaritans' main fundraiser to support its Nicaraguan ministries. Play, get up a team, sponsor. We need you!

For more information, to register, or sponsor

www.helpaustinsam.org

October 1-8, 2011

Mission Trip to Nicaragua

Family trip; visit Austin Samaritans' mission alliances, meet your sponsored child at Colegio Cristiano Presbiteriano, deliver layettes to new moms in hospitals, work on a construction project, and more.

For more information www.austinsamaritans.org



----- Giving Women a Chance -----



Back row from left: Ann Holden, Peggy Gentry, clinic staff member, Dr. John Doty, and Elizabeth Erwin. Front row: Ortiz Gurdian staff display cancer gift packets

October, 2010 saw the grand opening of the Ortiz Gurdian Cancer Center, located in central Managua, Nicaragua. The Center screens and treats indigent women for breast and cervical cancer at no charge. The clinic serves women whose annual household income is less than \$2,000 per year. Austin Samaritans and its founder, Dr. John Doty, a

retired Oncologist, worked with Fundación Ortiz Gurdian (FOG) to expand services at the clinic to include cervical as well as breast cancer.

Dr. Doty was a special guest at the ceremony, along with Board Chair Elizabeth Erwin and Austin Samaritans Chief of



Cancer survivors and Promotoras in front of new Ortiz Gurdian Cancer Clinic, Managua, Nicaragua, October, 2010

Operations Peggy Gentry. Cancer gift packets for women in treatment were donated by Bosom Buddies, an Austin Breast Cancer survivors group. The packets, containing bandanas, toiletries, Bible scriptures, and personal notes of encouragement, were delivered by the team and gratefully received.

During 2010 over 6,000 women were screened, and 411 were found to need treatment. All patients are receiving ongoing follow-up. Women treated through the program are enrolled as *Promotoras*, Health Promoters, to share the importance of screening with other women.

Building a Way Out...

...of the sex trade, that is. Austin Samaritans sent a team of nine men to



First wall panel goes up, March 28, 2011

Nicaragua March 26 to April 2, 2011, to help construct our third duplex at Casa Esperanza (House of Hope) on the outskirts of Managua. Austin Samaritans has sent teams each year since 2009 to construct modest dwellings that enable women seeking to leave the sex trade to live securely with their children inside a protected compound.

The men applied themselves vigorously to the construction and raised the walls in only three and one-half days. Hopefully, by year-end, two more women and their families will have a safe home and the opportunity for a brighter future.

Continued on Page 2

Austin Samaritans Loses One of the Best!

Ron Gentry, former Board member and one of the most enthusiastic, energetic, competent volunteers one could ever hope for, died suddenly of a massive heart attack on May 16. Ron served as manager of Austin Samaritans' warehouse which housed its computer ministry and stored medical equipment and supplies to be shipped to Nicaragua. Ron was a can-do guy. There was absolutely nothing he could not figure out, organize, or get done. He went on numerous mission trips to Nicaragua, where he hugged babies and constructed buildings with equal zest. Our love and prayers are with his wife, Peggy, who is Austin Samaritans' Chief of Operations. We all miss this amazing man and friend of Austin Samaritans.



*Building a Way Out
Continued*

Casa Esperanza also provides a safe haven for girls, as young as seven years, who have been rescued from brothels and sexual slavery.



Mission team members with young girls at Casa Esperanza

It is truly a beacon of hope, love, and opportunity for a decent life for those fortunate enough to be brought there. The program has grown from just two women in June 2004 to 63 residents, nine adult women and 54 children, including young girls rescued from sexual slavery.

**Day Care Center
Opened for
Street Children in
Mercado Oriental**



Youngsters at new day care center

This past spring, Matthew Jun, director of Hope Nicaragua ministries, added day care for children to his list of programs that serve Mercado Oriental, one of the roughest neighborhoods in Managua, where drug and sex trafficking are rampant. Matthew had a deep concern for the children roaming unsupervised in the streets. The small day care which is adjacent to his homeless feeding program, Al Centro de Ayuda Esperanza (Center of Help and Hope), was refurbished to provide a

safe place for about 15 young children to play, learn, rest, and eat during the day when their parents are not available.

**Colegio Cristiano
Presbiteriano**

One of the highlights of Austin Samaritans' mission trip each year is a visit to Colegio Cristiano Presbiteriano (CCP) in the very poor Hialeah barrio just outside Managua. This year's trip participants will deliver a gift packet to each of the 182 children currently enrolled at the Pre-K through 10th grade school.



Young CCP students at Vacation Bible School

The packets contain school supplies and small age-appropriate gifts such as barrettes and stickers. The school is run by The Mission of the Presbyterian Church of South Korea in Nicaragua and its administrator, Pastor Roh Sang Young.

It is always a joy to meet the students and have an opportunity to interact with them. Currently there are approximately 70 sponsors in the Student Sponsorship Program which is run by Austin Samaritans. Many more are needed. You can learn about sponsoring a child on our website at www.austinsamaritans.org



CCP students taking a break

We invite you to join us on Austin Samaritans' October 1--8, 2011 mission trip. For more information: www.austinsamaritans.org

**Mission
Accomplished!**

**Austin Samaritans Closes
Computer and
Warehouse Ministries**

Why would we close down two very successful and productive ministries of Austin Samaritans? What started as a plan to send a small number of donated computers, as well as some medical equipment and supplies to Nicaragua, grew and took on a life of its own. During the past three years, Austin Samaritans collected hundreds of donated computers and accessories, refurbished them, and shipped them to schools it supports in Nicaragua, 33 non-profits in the Austin area, and beyond.

In addition, large quantities of donated medical supplies and equipment were received. Thanks to our Warehouse Manager, the late Ron Gentry, and scores of dedicated volunteers, donated items were sorted, inventoried, packed, and shipped in 20-foot containers to medical clinics in Nicaragua. Our cup overflowed, enabling us to share an abundance of left-over items with local non-profits and clinics in countries such as Haiti, Mexico, and Africa.

Having successfully completed its goal to supply schools and clinics in Nicaragua, the Board of Directors decided last December to close the warehouse and devote our resources to other needs of our alliances. We are very grateful to our many wonderful volunteers who helped with these ministries.



Kudos and many thanks to Wayne King and Bob Holden who gave countless hours refurbishing computers and managing the Computer Connections ministry!

Austin Samaritans is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit entity. Donations made to Austin Samaritans are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Address
Austin Samaritans
PO Box 161074
Austin Texas 78716

Phone
+1.512.465.2073

Website
austinsamaritans.org

Email
info@austinsamaritans.org

"Like" Austin Samaritans on Facebook!



This is a free, easy way to spread the word about Austin Samaritans. RSVP to any of our events and invite your friends (NOTE: this does NOT register you for the event.) www.facebook.com/austinsamaritans.

Not a Facebook user???
Type this URL in your browser to view our page: www.facebook.com/austinsamaritans