

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NICARAGUA



Food for
the Hungry

Meeting physical and spiritual needs worldwide

Community Partnership Growth Plans and Goals

NICARAGUA

Community Name: Bayardo Arce
Community ID: 558-002
Start Date: 2009
Proposed Exit Date: 2021

Vision of Country Director:

Food for the Hungry-Nicaragua has worked for over 5 years developing positive relationships with the churches, leaders and families in the Chinandega region. Bayardo Arce is a new focus of direct intervention for a greater impact as the second of 3 child development centers in Chinandega. FH wants to extend to Bayardo Arce programs already instituted in the nearby CDP community of El Limonal, including family gardens, health promotion, leadership development and micro-enterprise development. Bayardo Arce needs a strong church partner who would like to support their development through child sponsorship, project funds, teams and prayer.

Community Description:

Bayardo Arce is a peri-urban area on the southwestern outskirts of the city of Chinandega. Most of the 365 families live in homes made of scrap wood, cardboard and plastic. Working in family-run stores selling tortillas, fruit, water or other small items in the streets of Chinandega, they are able to earn \$2-\$3 per day, with food costing at least \$6 per day for a family. Regardless of whether it is the dry or rainy season, the general health of the community is poor, due to dust or dampness, standing water and poor hygiene. Although there is a public health post nearby, there is inadequate coverage for primary care or health promotion. Common illnesses include malaria, dengue, anemia, malnutrition, respiratory infections and parasites. Families primarily eat rice, beans, corn tortillas and very limited amounts of fruits and vegetables. The world food crisis has further reduced supplies of foods required for an adequate diet by driving up prices by 50-200%. The community is connected to the municipal water system of Chinandega but its distribution system is limited and there is no sewer system. Approximately 70% of the community are self-identified Catholic and 30% are Evangelical. As potential future leaders of Nicaragua, it is important to provide a consistent and focused program that will target the specific physical, spiritual and emotional needs of the children.

Ability for Teams:

Located about 15 minutes from FH's regional office in Corinto. Opportunities for teams involvement are varied and appreciated. Chinandega is approximately 40 km or 3/4 hour from the FH Hunger Corps home bases in Leon. Teams are appreciated.

Critical Needs:

Assessment needed to determine the specific critical needs

