

## Trudging Through the 'Burbs - or Should we say Barrios?

An eight member team from Manos Amigos went into the 21 Barrios (wards or districts) of La Entrada, going house-to-house to prepare an Enquery or Survey Report identifying the poorest families. The “poorest” of the poor, totaling 637 families, were given special cards to gain access to our medical clinic whenever a family member is sick and needs medical attention. In this way, familiarity is established – they are made aware of our clinic and Manos Amigos is introduced to potential patients having the greatest need. Consequently, we are assured of having reached out to the most needy of God’s children. These families are of the poorest class in the community. They will be provided with healthcare that otherwise is unavailable to them. They cannot afford a private clinic and they don’t have enough money to buy a bus ticket to the Public Hospital in Santa Rosa Copan.

Life in the ‘burbs is tough! The Enquery showed that in the dwellings visited, most have at least two family members sick with diarrhea. These homes have neither latrines nor potable water. Water is available at the river - a mile walk away and then it must be carried back to the home by those 11/2 physically able to handle the task Families are large in this part of town and opportunities for employment are limited. A fireworks factory resides in one of the barrios and children, who have reached the age of seven, begin to learn the skills valued by the fireworks trade.



