

Construction Schedule Stages and Updates

Scheduling is difficult in a part of the world where time does not take on the same significance as here at home. The electric company, controlled by the government, has already been to the site to assess our early construction needs and as soon as the electrical drawings arrived from the Engineering Department at Villanova University, they had to be submitted for review so the utility company can install appropriately sized transformers on the site.



Tapping into high voltage lines



Installing transformer onto elevated platform from which all wires will then run underground to clinic



Footers and plumbing were set in place earlier this summer, along with the construction of the waste water collection and treatment areas tied into the building area. At that time, the clinic site was re-leveled with a layer of sand and capped off with a vapor barrier and cement building pad.

Cargo shipments of containers filled with steel and construction supplies started arriving in late September. We are never certain how long it will take to clear customs as this phase can become complicated quickly with administrative red tape if documents are not found to be in proper order. Afterwards, the containers must be trucked nearly three hours along winding and hilly roads to the site and off-loaded.



Once steel and trusses are in place, the roof is installed, the remainder of the pad is poured, and outside walls go up. This phase should go quickly in a matter of a few weeks. Before the interior walls are erected, the floor will be tiled.

In late Fall, interior work will begin with the installation of electrical and plumbing fixtures and cabinetry. Medical and dental equipment, already in storage on location, could be installed and calibrated. If this schedule is adhered to, Manos Amigas will be able to operate out of its new clinic before the end of the year.

There are many unknowns in this schedule as the availability of project engineers and skilled technicians from Tech Serve, finishing up clinic and hospital projects in “headline grabbing” hot spots of the world, must next travel to La Entrada. Their arrival, coupled with volunteer mission work groups and local community laborers, will influence the pace at which our clinic will get built.