

Meet the People Who Are Reaching Out to Others

Manos Amigas means more than friendly hands. The organization represents a new way to deliver medical services for the poor in Honduras. SATC believes the strength of the program we are sponsoring resides in the proposition that Hondurans will manage the clinic well, if we support their growing capacity to do so. We would like you to meet some of the people in Manos Amigas and to learn of their connections to people of La Entrada and the region of Copan.



Dr. Sonia Bustamonte

Sonia Bustamonte was elected President by the twenty five member board. Sonia is a local dentist and she is driven to care for the people who line up every day at the clinic. Living just across the street from the clinic with her husband Jesus, a physician, he too frequently volunteers time when more than thirty people show up for care. In Honduras, the idea of volunteering is new and Jesus is very excited to “do what I always wanted to do - treat sick people.”

Sonia is aided by Findo Villanueva. Findo is an agricultural engineer, who works for the Mayor in a position that combines the roles of zoning commissioner and town engineer. Findo manages the finances of the clinic and coordinates the project with the Mayor and his council. Findo’s wife Patti, is the director of the Hearts for Honduras School for 140 poor children sponsored by the Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church from New Jersey.

Danielo and Mirna work hard for Manos Amigas. Danielo previously worked for World Vision and now helps his wife run a successful shoe store in town. They are also leaders of one of the many small evangelical churches in the area. For SATC to succeed in serving others, connections to small and large congregations are vital.

Norma runs one of the larger pharmacies in town and she is helping us set up an inventory control program for the medications donated to the clinic. Accurate records help us maintain a steady supply line. Norma’s husband is a lawyer who serves on the country’s Supreme Court. Connections to the top levels of the government will assist us in establishing credibility with the National Health Service and other ministries.

Dr. Bogar Castro also serves on the board of Manos Amigas. Dr. Castro is responsible for the three government clinics in the region. Dr. Castro serves on the board as a liaison to the network of clinics and hospitals in the region to insure coordination of care. The best doctors and dentists in town fill out the ranks of



Marcio Vega Pinto, Mayor of La Entrada

Manos Amigas.

Miracles happen when people of faith begin to trust each other and learn to act together as a unit. Much still remains to be done by Manos Amigas as they learn how to operate in a culture where cooperation and volunteerism withers in the face of poverty and politics. SATC has been on the ground frequently to help Manos Amigas build an effective organization. We are committed to the continued development of the local leadership skills needed to manage the future clinic operations and to demonstrate the power of Hondurans helping themselves and their neighbors when given the appropriate resources and support.