



## Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund Annual Report 2010



### Dreams for a Better Future

**Every parent wants their children to get an education and do great things.**

The Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund helps to provide a child in Guatemala with access to quality education and a chance for a better, more sustainable future. For Guatemalan's like Carlos, getting an education is harder than most of us can imagine.



***Carlos is a student from Santo Domingo Xenacoj. He was chosen to receive a Ripple Effect Program Scholarship for the 2010 school year. Carlos is 13 years old and completed grade 7 in 2009. The average of his school grades is 82 points.***

***Carlos is the third child of a family of four. He doesn't have a father and his mother, makes big efforts, so Carlos Manuel can continue his studies. His mother works doing some household cleaning and sometimes weaves at home; her monthly income is around \$50.00 per month.***

### 2010 Scholarship Awards

In January 2010 the Rotary Club Vista Hermosa Guatemala presented Ripple Effect Scholarships to 23 students at the Santo Domingo Xenacoj School for the 2010 school year. The school year in Guatemala runs from January to October.



These students are able to continue their studies thanks to generous support from Rotarians and Rotary clubs.

- ❑ The RC Club of Winnipeg West (D5550) contributed \$2,625 US as the lead funding partner.
- ❑ The RC Vista Hemosa Guatemala (D4250) sponsored three students.
- ❑ The RC Crookson (D5580) sponsored scholarships for three students and is committed to 3 yrs.
- ❑ The RC Sioux Lookout (D5550) sponsored one student and are committed to 3 yrs.
- ❑ The LeMaistre family from Kenora, ON sponsored one student and are committed for three years.



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### Santo Domingo Xenacoj

The scholarship project for Santo Domingo Xenacoj in Guatemala was created in 2005 as an initiative of the Rotary Club of Vista Hermosa in partnership with the Rotary Club of Winnipeg West.

Santo Domingo Xenacoj, is a town of the province of Sacatepequez, located 25 miles NW of Guatemala City. The town has a population of 12,000. In that community only 60% of the students who finish elementary school continue to middle school. Only 50% of those who finish middle school continue to high school. This is mostly due to the lack of financial resources.

In 5 years the project has benefited:

- 2005                      9 students
- 2006                      15 students
- 2007                      17 students
- 2008                      17 students
- 2009                      24 students

From the total, 2 students have attended high school. This resulted in the first student graduating as a Secretary in 2008 and the second one as an Accountant in 2009.

**With so little effort we can help make dreams for students and their parents to come true - we can help someone to realize the dream of a better life.**

### Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund

The primary objective of the Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund is to increase the number of students who progress beyond grade 6 to middle school (grades 7-9) and high school (grades 10-12).

In 2010 the Canadian Ripple Effect Committee (CREC) recruited the Rotary Club of Regina South as the lead funding partner to continue to build the Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund in partnership with the Rotary Club of Vista Hermosa.

A donation of \$2,500 from the Rotary Club of Regina South, matched by \$2,500 from the District 5550 WCS Foundation has helped to set up a new scholarship fund.

The goal is to attract donations from other Rotary clubs, organizations and individuals to help sustain and further develop the Ripple Effect Scholarship Fund over the longer term.

The immediate goal is to create a \$12,000 fund that will award 20-25 scholarships each year over the next three years.

**Funds raised in 2010 will support award of scholarships in January 2011**

**Students who continue in school also reduce the risk dramatically of them joining gangs ("maras") or groups of felons.**