



### Nicaragua Update

Since April 18th in Nicaragua, 448 have been killed and more than 2,800 have been injured. The majority of those killed have been youth. Looting, arson, and increased crime have affected all major cities in Nicaragua. The current crisis has had strong economic implications and many community members have seen their income reduced due to job layoffs and the inability to report to work as a result of travel difficulties. Continued access to health care is crucial for residents during this crisis who otherwise would have no viable options to seek care.

Thanks to Manna Project, residents of Nicaragua can still access critical health services. Our two clinics in Cedro Galán and Villa Guadalupe have remained open throughout the recent protests and will continue to provide high-quality, affordable health care to our community members. Our dedicated local staff works every day to provide essential health care. We also continue to collaborate with local partner organizations to provide family planning services, lab exams, and health education.

For less than a dollar, our patients receive a high-quality medical consultation and any prescribed medications.

**Thank you to those who have donated! Your financial support is vital to ensuring ongoing patient consults and treatment, along with the salaries of on-site staff. The need in Nicaragua is still great, so please consider aiding our clinics and donating below! We are forever grateful for you!**

**AID OUR CLINICS!**

## ECUADOR UPDATES

### Welcome New Ecuador Program Directors!



Three new program directors, Tori, Brenna, and Gaby, arrived to join our Ecuador site last week. After completing their Spanish classes in Quito, going through orientation, and getting to know their homestay families, they are feeling ready to jump in and start serving their community. We are sure this new group of ladies will be a great addition to our staff here in Ecuador! If you are interested in serving as a Program Director with Manna Project, [visit here](#).

### Thank you to our Community Volunteers!



We would like to thank our community volunteers for all they do to assist with our programs in Ecuador! Andres runs our chess club, which is a huge help since many of our PDs do not know how to play chess! We are so grateful for his dedication and patience with the kids. We would also like to thank Liz and Alexandra for all the time they spend helping out at our community center, especially stepping up to help with our Children's Cooking Program. This week they made cupcakes topped with fresh strawberries and cream! As you can see in the picture above, it was a huge hit! Lastly, we would like to thank Diana for helping with our Reading Hours. The kids had a lot of fun this week reading a book about dinosaurs!

### Thank you to 2018 Summer Interns!



Thank you to our 2018 Summer Interns for all the hard work they put into helping the Ecuador site. They created our health education library, which provides our community members with books and additional resources about healthy living, diabetes, and mental health. The health of our community members is very important to us and we hope that having health education resources in its own section of the library will help the community to easily access important information! They also created a beautiful mural that all our community members have been enjoying! Summer interns, you will certainly be missed! Thank you so much for all your hard work.

## NICARAGUA UPDATES

### Ensuring Medical Care



This month, staff members at Clinica Medica MPI in Villa Guadalupe began conducting home visits throughout the community in order to help raise awareness about the services offered at the clinic and to provide care for people who are unable to come to the clinic in person. 58 home visits were conducted in July. As civil unrest continues in Nicaragua, many people are choosing to stay in their homes and immediate communities for safety, which often means that medical issues go untreated. By visiting people in their homes, we are able to help make sure that everyone continues to receive the medical care they need!

### Cedro Community Venta



This month, our Nicaragua site held our annual Community Venta in Cedro Galán! The venta is a chance for community members to purchase clothing and household items donated to MPI throughout the year at heavily discounted prices. Despite having fewer hands on site this year to help organize the event, it was a huge success and had a turnout of almost 100 community members!

### Staff Spotlight: Dr. Wendy Sanchez



This month we would like to highlight another member of our amazing local staff: Dr. Wendy Sanchez. Dr. Sanchez has been providing care for patients at MPI's Cedro Galán Clinic for the past five years. With over 18 years of experience as a general practitioner, she is a tremendous asset to the clinic and is widely trusted by the community. Dr. Sanchez originally became a doctor because she loved the idea of helping others to improve their health, and feels that working in the Cedro Galán clinic has allowed her to do just that. "Before this clinic was here," she says, "people in the community did not have easy access to basic health care. They had to travel quite far to get any sort of medical attention, which often meant that problems went untreated." Now, however, they have access to care right in their own community at almost no cost.



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