



Featured program for March 2016

Americas Association for the Care of Children

New Mothers Project



Dining for Women



Changing the world one dinner at a time

Introducing AACC



AACC strives to reduce the impact of poverty on marginalized populations through compassionate, holistic education to enable empowerment of primary caregivers, nutritional adequacy and preventative healthcare, special needs therapeutic support and sustainable community and economic development.

Where in the world?

AACC's New Mothers Project serves women and children in Jalapa, Nicaragua, where the average literacy rate is 50 percent and maternal and infant mortality rates are high. Healthcare needs are dire – 90 percent of Jalapa residents using public healthcare are underserved or have limited access to medical services.



Jalapa is located in the northern portion of the country, near Honduras.



What are we supporting?

The goal of the New Mothers Education Project is to provide a training program that certifies 10 women residing in or near Jalapa, Nicaragua as ongoing trainers providing education on prenatal care, labor and delivery, breastfeeding, the new mother's health, nutrition and infant development in the first year of life.



Trainees provide education to pregnant women through community workshops and home visits in isolated areas. Education includes infant and postnatal care, breastfeeding and the Kangaroo Care bonding model. A child development curriculum teaches infant care and child development. Nutrition education also includes safe cooking stoves and seeds and fruit trees for home gardens.

Life Challenges of Women in Jalapa

The most pressing issues in rural Nicaragua are high birth rates among adolescents, high maternal and infant mortality rates and a 40 percent rate of chronic infant malnutrition. The limited education of women reduces understanding of the complexities related to pregnancy and the need for family planning to prevent the cycle of poverty. Thirty-eight percent of women are sexually active by the age of 16 and 73 percent by the age of 19. Poor prenatal care, inadequate nutrition and lack of maternal education increase the health risks to newborns, which include respiratory disorders, hypoxia and birth asphyxia, and digestive disorders.



The public healthcare system is inefficient and often inaccessible. Many Nicaraguan women spend at least part of their lives as single mothers, partially due to the early initiation of sexual activity and abandonment by men who have left the village to seek employment.

Budget

How Dining for Women's grant of \$44,003 will be used over two years:

Summary of costs	DFW Grant
Personnel costs, including executive director, trainee stipends, Nicaraguan liaison, Jalapa cultural mediation and substitute stipends	\$26,449
Direct project costs, including training room rental, phone, printing, supplies and Nicaraguan trainee ground travel	\$14,974
AACC travel, including ground travel and lodging for trainers, and air travel	\$2,580
TOTAL	\$44,003

About the Organization



Founded in 2004, AACCC is currently a grassroots all-volunteer organization providing services in seven countries to reduce the impact of poverty. The efforts of AACCC utilize the CEPET program model, created by Founder Deborah Young, PhD, which allows each international community to self-determine its greatest needs. AACCC then collaborates to design participatory projects to help communities support themselves. Programs and projects focus on empowering women.

AACCC's projects empower primary caregivers and target community-specific problems which have included food sustainability, vitamin distribution, hospital and school construction, early childhood education, scholarships and ending sex trafficking. AACCC focuses on international services to those living below the poverty line with compromised access to healthcare, education, potable water, nutrition or sustainable food sources.

March 2016 Sustained Program: Nepal Youth Foundation – Vocational Training for Freed Kamlaris



The Vocational Training for Freed Kamlaris program provides vocational skills to 90 freed Kamlaris so that they can support themselves and their families. The project will increase the employability and help end the poverty of the girls freed from Kamlari system of indentured servitude in Western Nepal.

Dining for Women's sustained funding of \$20,000 per year in 2016 – 2018 supports orientation and candidate selection, vocational training, business development training and seed money, and management costs.

The primary goal of the project is to enhance the economic condition of the freed Kamlaris and empower these girls so that they are enabled to support themselves and their families. This will be done through teaching vocational skills to the girls and helping them become gainfully employed. This training allows the girls to make their own choices and shape their own destinies.

Share Your Thoughts



- How do you think the combination of field work and classroom training will help prepare trainees to educate women about their health and their children's health?
- How do you think direct education about infant care and child development will impact future generations in rural areas of Nicaragua?
- Why is it important that local women introduce education and healthcare in isolated communities?



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