

## Mission Team Office Report

### Dominican Development Group meeting fall 2015

As we close the year of mission teams, I am happy to report that there were a total of 52 teams. They are broken down into 10 medical, 10 vacation Bible school, and 32 construction (repairs) teams. Also a number of unique activities were introduced into our communities. There was a sewing team, several water projects, aid to community homes with construction, and soon to start a solar energy program in the technical school in Consuelo. The shoe donations continue ("Happy Feet" from churches in South Carolina) are greatly appreciated. A unique collection of underwear ("Sunday undies") by the ECW of SWFL and books for schools from Libros para Niños. We were blessed with an eye clinic at Clinica Esperanza that saw almost 1000 people and provided them with the needed glasses. Donations were given to help in medical situations. One child in Mosovi received surgery and is now walking after 10 years. Another child from Dajabon received eye surgery and is doing well. Financial help for Haitians to obtain documentation was also received. In the plans for next year is a cooperative program with University of Nebraska to place students in homes and have them spend the semester teaching English in our schools. All these donations were given by individuals from teams that saw the needs and were called to help.

The two exploratory trips have been enthusiastically received, and produced much interest in new teams being formed for the coming year. Already I have been contacted to schedule 3 new teams with another 3 more planning their projects. I am urging all the priests to inform me of the items on their "wish" lists of projects, and along with the Bishop's priority list, we are placing the teams in appropriate locations.

Emily Gibson, volunteer from Charleston, S.C. has recently left after spending 8 months here. She helped with several teams as well as starting the project of writing a history of our churches and schools. This is a large project that will need further help from volunteers.

We now have volunteer, Hannah Jensen from Hastings, Nebraska with us for 3 months to aid in teaching music to the seminarians and starting a music program in Santisima Trinidad. This program, once it is started, will be continued with paid instructors funded by a Dominican Foundation.

Patricia Martin continues to be an invaluable resource in our office, along with her service in the mission team office she also has many responsibilities to the Bishop and several committees.

Charlie Nakash has been available to help teams in construction projects, participates with the exploration teams and has been helpful to the clergy with repairs and maintenance to our facilities. Charlie has been directly involved in the Solar Electric programs in Consuelo and Jalonga, and with the Water project in Carreton.

The scholarship program continues with more than almost 290 scholarships given to help in our Episcopal schools.

Respectively submitted,  
**Karen Carroll**  
**Mission Team Coordinator**