Shoes to the World Organization

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Project Conclusion

Prepared for: Del Mar-Solana Beach Sunrise Rotary Club Medellin El Poblado Rotary U.S.A Rotary Club International

MISSION GOAL ATTAINED

We distributed 1389 new shoes to impoverished children near and in the city of Medellin Colombia. 310 were Crock-like style shoes and 1079 were tennis-like school shoes. The average cost of shoes distributed is \$5.96 per pair. Shoes to the World added an additional \$334.93 to be able to provide shoes to all the children of the final and much needed last distribution. These new shoes replaced worn out shoes that in most cases were ill-fitting and fungus/bacteria ridden. We were able to bring new shoes as a gift of love and care, boosting moral of the children and staff and helping prevent disease and injury.

OBJECTIVE

With our group funding of nearly \$7000, held and supervised by Medellin El Poblado Rotary, we serviced several distinctly different populations of poor in Colombia. We provided shoes via existing foundations

to not just extreme poor but also those specializing in orphanages, unwed teenage mothers, and refugees.

Clara had two volunteers join her from Southern California on her March 2017 trip to Medellin. These volunteers had to pay all their own expenses as Shoes to the World only spends its donations on shoes.

Colombia has a huge refuge population displaced by the long war with FARC (a left over militaristic guerilla regime beginning in 1964 with the communism days of Castro's sweep thru Venezuela and Colombia who specialize in ransom, drugs, and



Fundacion Pan y Paraiso (Bello Oriente) March 14, 2017



extortion to fund their power hold in areas).

As a result these shantytowns are created; they are actually squatters. The government doesn't have the resources to properly care for them so it is up to private foundations. We contacted the foundations that provide educations and distribute the shoes in these remote and sometimes dangerous areas to access.

With proper shoes, individuals are better equipped to live healthy and productive lives, improving their community and beyond.

RECORDS

There are attachment groups being provided by a link to drop box due to the size of the information. 1) Receipts for all shoe purchases. 2) Select photos of distributions in 2017 (2016 sent to you last year). 3) Excel Spreadsheet showing distributions dates and locations, expenditures, bank balance, and shoes distributed.

26-Oct-2016	Institue San Vicente	100
26-Oct-2016	Gente Unida	51
26-Oct-2016	Las Cuchillas	128
26-Oct-2016	Divina Providencia	36
14-Oct-2016	H. la Milagrosa	28
14-Oct-2016	H. Angeles Custodios	39
18-Oct-2016	Acarpin	73
13-Feb-2017	Jesus Amigo de la Infancia	36
13-Feb-2017	Evolucion del Pensamiento	110
13-Feb-2017	Fundacion San Vicente	200
10-Mar-2017	Fundacion Creser	60
7-Mar-2017	Fundacion Pan y Paraiso(San Jose del Pinar)	179
14-Mar-2017	Fundacion Pan y Paraiso(Bello Oriente)	349

DISTRIBUTIONS (2016-2017), complete details on attached Excel

SUMMARY

Shoes to the World is very grateful to have been given the opportunity to reach some of the poorest children in the world through new shoes purchased with your grant. We fitted 1,389 Children with new and proper fitting shoes. Colombia has a very large percentage of displaced people and these children come from the poverty that this tragedy has generated. Rotary and Shoes to the World worked with some local foundations that care for these children. Of our distributions: five are orphanages, three care for squatter families' children, two distributions went to a foundation that with volunteers run 3 kitchens feeding 600 meals a day 6 days a week to children in extreme poverty (that is 144,000 meals a year!!!). Two foundations care for teen pregnancy and drug rehab teenagers.

Rotary and Shoes to the World were able to reach children in areas were hope is placed on today only. Their weak faith on their future is strengthened by love shown through the gift of shoes from total strangers.

The children were elated to have their first pair of new shoes! Their self-confidence was built by the thought that total strangers would place such value on them to give them a brand new pair of shoes, and the ones that received school shoes realized the importance that total strangers placed in their education to make sure they had the shoes required to attend school. Every child received and gave a hug. They were made aware this was a gift of love!

The person in charge of one of the foundations commented how exciting it was when all the children showed up wearing their new shoes. This same person informed me that children whose parent had not wanted to deal with the responsibilities that come with being part of the foundation now are incurring how they too could get involved and have their child join the foundation and thus comply with attendance and other requirements! The impact is evident, immediate and far reaching outside of the foundation.

During this project we had 4 volunteers travel from the USA, they paid for all their expenses and here are some of their Testimonials....

TESTIMONALS

Visiting Colombia with "Shoes to the World Foundation" was one of the most powerful and fulfilling experiences of my life. My grandmother and I participated in delivering over 300 pairs of shoes to 2 orphanages in Medellin, who serve some of the poorest youth in the country. Seeing the smiles from the children was one of the most touching moments I have ever experienced. Although there was a language barrier between us and the children, the love and appreciation we felt was beyond what any words, in any language could describe. To be able to be present and see what \$5.00 can bring to a child's life is absolutely astonishing to me. We live such a



privileged life and often forget that children around the world don't have access to basic resources for basic human needs. We saw the impact first hand with "Shoes to the World Foundation" and couldn't be prouder to be a part of such an impactful project. I would be honored to be a part of future missions after seeing the direct impact the foundation has provided. Thank you Clara and "Shoes to the World Foundation" for shining your light and bringing joy to children who are often surrounded by darkness. Your compassion speaks volumes and truly makes a difference. May God continue to bless the work being done through "Shoes to the World Foundation" and all of the people who have supported its cause.

-Jessica Smith

San Vicente Testimony, distribution 3/23/2017 English Translation underlies Spanish

From: Rodrigo Acevedo <<u>rectoria@iesanvicenteferrer.edu.co</u>> PRINCIPAL Date: April 4, 2017 at 2:47:46 PM PDT To: <u>shoestotheworld@yahoo.com</u> Subject: AGRADECIMIENTOS

Buenas tardes estimada Señora Clara, Good afternoon esteemed Mrs. Clara La Instituciónn Educativa San Vicente Ferrer del municipio de San Vicente Ferrer-Antioquia se siente altamente agradecida The institute Educative of San Vicente Ferrer from the municipality of San Vicente de Ferrer-Antioquia (Colombia) feels highly grateful por el gesto de generosidad, Altruista y desinterasado que for the generous, altruistic and unselfish aesture han tenido con la poiblación estudiantil más necesitada de that you have had with the most needy student population

nuestro Plantel educativo. in our educational institution.

Sólo basta ver la sonrisa de estos pequeños pensando en sus

When you see the smile in these children as they think about their nuevos zapatos para poder disfrutar de las actividades de new shoes to be able to enjoy the activities educación deportiva y así dar un respiro de satisfacción por la of physical education and therefore give a respite of the satisfaction labor cumplida.. for the job you accomplished... Este gesto silencioso de ustedes no tiene forma de calcular el This silent gesture from all of you doesn't have a way to measure valor y la dimensión en el corazón de estos niños. the value and dimension in the hearts of these children. En nombre de toda la comunidad educativa de nuestra In the name of our educative community of our institución doy gracias a ustedes por su presencia notable y Institution I say thank you for your noteworthy and significativa. meaningful presence.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND

We have further distributions planned in 2017 in Colombia and Guatemala. We understand you have countless opportunities for charitable deeds; the special opportunity here is that the impact will be immediate, it will be significant and it will be long-lasting. Real people who have gone without SHOES will soon have their feet protected from injury and disease. Truly, we can change lives for the better.

These children are so impoverished yet also so grateful for an opportunity to make better of their lives. They are so very grateful for your generosity.

We truly want to give out the shoes with the same gesture of love as the donations came to us, and this does make the process a little bit slower. To us at Shoes to the World, these shoes have come to represent

a community of people helping others and letting them know that they are not alone, that people they do not know are thinking of them and want well for them.

Volunteers run our organization and there are no salaries or expenses paid by donations for shoes. Thus, we continue to offer that 100% of your donation will go to the shoes for the children and adults in great need.

Please consider further support of Shoes to the World. Thank you.

Shoes to the World is a non-profit IRS Section 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donors can deduct contributions they make under IRC Section 170.

With gratitude,

Clara Marsden

Shoes to the World c/o Clara Marsden 3450 James Dr. Carlsbad, CA 92008

www.shoestotheworld.org

NOTE: Photos will soon be posted to www site



Each child gets shoes that fit