



The Nicaragua Street Kids Project – Managua & Ometepe Island – Nicaragua

Sí a la Vida is a program for homeless and at-risk Nicaraguan youth that relies entirely on private donations to support its two centers and professional staff. Please help us reach our goal of raising \$60,000 by the end of the year.

Saludos Supporters of *Sí a la Vida*,

December 2013

Recently, I was lucky enough to visit Nicaragua and spend time with everyone in the *Sí a la Vida* community. Both the Managua and Ometepe Island centers are thriving! I saw firsthand the triumphs and struggles they have experienced during 2013. I was able to get to know the individual residents, connect with the devoted staff, and to see the many new accomplishments.

This year your support of *Sí a la Vida* helped over 30 adolescent boys navigate primary school, avoid the negative influences of the street, and learn to create a viable future for themselves. The students are succeeding! At the end of the school year all of the residents of the project on Ometepe Island passed their grades or graduated. Former student residents are graduating from high school and technical training programs.



SALV boys relaxing before lunch



German volunteer Clara, our cook Dalila, and Alexi

The project is fully staffed. Adding to an amazing core of long term professional employees, this year *Sí a la Vida* welcomed a new educator, Julio Gutiérrez to the Managua project. He has already become a favorite among the boys. Professor Juan Gabriel Potoy and Licenciada María Auxiliadora Rivera have joined the Ometepe staff.

We have new volunteers. Much to my surprise, I got to practice my German while visiting *Sí a la Vida* this year. When I arrived at the center in Managua, I could distinctly hear a Spanish-accented, *eins, zwei, drei*, being recited by a chorus of young boys. The lesson was led by Clara, the newest volunteer from Germany, and the boys were rapt by the white board covered in strange words. Every mistake they made was greeted by a sympathetic correction, as the boys tried again to formulate the unfamiliar sounds. Clara's words were among the many positive encouragements I heard that day. Overall, I saw an unmistakable vitality and energy at the project and felt a contagious sense of joy as well as an outpouring of ideas from the staff and residents.

Please help us give the gift of a successful future to Nicaraguan street kids. All of us connected with *Sí a la Vida* have been deeply moved and encouraged by your generous financial assistance. To continue supporting the project, please use the yellow donation card or go to our website to make a tax deductible donation over the internet. Increase your donation by checking with your employer to see if they offer matching funds.

It is **only because of your on-going support** that the project celebrates its 20th year.



SALV boys with social worker Doña Rosario Poveda

Help us reach our goal of \$60,000!

Your tax deductible donation makes *Sí a la Vida* possible. Send in your yellow card today or

Make your donation at our website:

www.asalv.org

Thank you for opening your hearts to support *Sí a la Vida*.

Alexi

Alexis Bonoff

Vice-President, *Amigos de Sí a la Vida*, Seattle, Washington