Community Visit Report

Community Visited: Tierra Nueva II  
Staff Person Responsible: Carrie Stengel  
Date of Report: October 24, 2016  
Date of Visits: October 23, 2016  
Cost of Visits: $18.50

Next visit: October

I. Community Members Present  
   Miriam, Maria, Clementina, Evelio, Eluvia

II. Photos

Congratulations to Yohana, one of the scholarship students in TN2 who graduated as a pre-school teacher this year. Paty, who visited St. Joan of Arc in 2015, is Yohanna’s mother. She wanted to be sure I sent SJA a sincere thank-you on behalf of her family. She is very grateful for the scholarship for her daughter and for SJA support.
III. Meeting Notes

- **Prayer Partners** – SJA asked if there would be more interest in TN2. The committee thinks that there would be – they can ask around in the different groups. If there is a volunteer from the delegation willing to work on this, we can gather new people, take the pictures, and get prayer requests during the delegation. This would also be an opportunity for people in TN2 who already have a prayer partner to send a letter or updated prayer requests. TN2 also asked if the people who already have prayer partners at SJA could send an update and/or new picture with prayer requests with the delegation in January.

- **Skype Call** – The group in TN2 would like to do a future Skype call with the children participating in the pen pals project, if possible. It doesn’t necessarily have to be the next call, but whenever we think it would be possible. And we can just let the children know ahead of time that their specific pen pal may or may not be there, but it is an opportunity to meet some of the participants. We could also organize the agenda ahead of time, so the groups of kids could prepare something to share.

- **Scholarship Program** – The scholarship committee is still waiting for the students’ final grades to see how many will retroactively receive their scholarship money and to see how many will continue in the program next year.

- **Southern Encounter and Open Delegation in November** – As a member of the Sister Parish Guatemala advisory board, Clementina will represent TN2 at the Sister Parish Southern Encounter November 11-13, when representatives from El Salvador, Guatemala, and the U.S. will gather in Guatemala. We drafted an agenda for the Open Delegation’s visit to TN2 on November 14. Nancy, Rick and Luis will meet with some representatives in TN2 to pick up the craft order, while the rest of the group will go for a walk around the community. Afterward, we will all gather for a Solidarity Walk station, reflection and lunch. **The November visit is a great opportunity to send letters down to TN2 – please get in touch with the Sister Parish committee at St. Joan of Arc to send your letters.**

- **Delegations** –
  - **North to South** – We drafted an agenda for the delegation’s time in TN2. I will send that to delegation coordinators.
  - **South to North** – The committee has a list of 3 men and 1 woman to invite on the delegation next year – the 5th spot will be a representative from the SP committee to be decided at a future meeting when there are more people present. We hope to have the list of people who will apply for the visa by January.

IV. Necessary Follow-Up by SP Staff, Northern or Southern Community

- **TN2:** Continue planning for the Open Delegation in November and the two SJA delegations in 2017. Send 2017 proposals and 2016 reports for the scholarship program and the women’s group. Prepare financial report on craft project.
- **SJA:** Plan next Skype call. Let Carrie and TN2 know what you need for N-S delegate orientations and get delegate feedback on agenda.
- **Staff:** Follow-up on scholarship program and women’s group reports and proposals. Plan delegation prep meetings (N-S and S-N).

Sister Parish exists to foster mutual understanding and commitment to peace and justice among people in the United States and Central America. This objective is pursued through intentional linking between churches and Christian communities in the United States and Central America. Delegations travel to the North and South with home stays as an essential aspect in enhancing awareness and understanding, and in nurturing closer relationships.