

MANOS JUNTAS MEXICO, A.C.
(HANDS TOGETHER MEXICO, CIVIL ASSOCIATION)
SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

MANOS JUNTAS MEXICO has been growing in different ways to serve better our community; we have understood that working together with them towards a better community relationship, health, and of course, making education available to kids, plus working together with them to empower them by providing job skills and work opportunities can bring better and long lasting impact in their lives. Below you have a brief description of some of our progress. Our theme to start a new ministry has been the lesson we can find when God asked Moses, -what is that in your hand? God wants us to give His message by using the tools that are in our hands. (Exodus 4:2-5)

RIO BRAVO

VAMOS TAMAULIPAS COMMUNITY CENTER. Yearly budget \$14,400.00 US.



This summer we graduated 12 from the Preschool program and eight from the Elementary School program. Currently we have 80 kids, 23 kids in Preschool and 57 in Elementary School. They also received free school supplies, some uniforms that were donated by a church in Houston. A documentary about

this community center and the work of Manos Juntas is being edited after more than 30 hours of filming. You can learn more at the Tierra de Sueños Vamos Tamaulipas in YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pm2y_JtOmD8



We continue to support the feeding program with \$220 dollars per month. This program is sponsored by the Federal government but requires each kid to pay US\$0.16 per meal, so we are paying for those that cannot pay this amount. Our kids receive breakfast and

lunch. Some of the challenges we face are that some of our kids have never been at a school before...like Juan Manuel and Jose Eduardo at their age of 11 and 12 years old, they are just learning to read and write. Some of our kids are being raised by grandma because

mom is working all day long or they are orphans, then homework becomes an issue, because nobody can assist them.

This summer we were blessed with some in-kind and monetary donations for our school supplies program.



We were able to empower kids and teachers to have basic tools for their learning. Our special Thanks to the Texas Annual Conference monetary gift and the Louisiana Churches and the Belle Chasse Rotary Club for all of their efforts to make this happen.

In our efforts to generate some income for our programs, we have our welding shop project, it is next to our clinic and now it has a roof, thanks to the

donation of the Sunrise Rotary Club from Michigan, we estimate being ready by the end of November.



The Desterhan, LA, UMC donated money to our ministry to get sound equipment to start a partnership with Paul from Reynosa, a sound technician; he will be

renting the equipment to generate another source of income for Manos Juntas.



A good working truck was donated to our ministry by our friend David Hall (shown center) from Lakeview UMC in Shreveport, LA.

My special thanks to the South Louisiana VIM Coordinator Mr. Dale Smith (left) for making a lot of



these things easier to happen. (I'm on the right in the picture...just in case...)

Also a cargo van was donated to us by Larry Crawley from Christ UMC in Mobil, Alabama.

We have been blessed by the ministry of Charlie West, Missions in Motion, with his 18 wheeler they have been bringing us donations that we can use or sale, Fonda, his daughter keeps him in line! They are in Stockwell, Indiana.



The **MANOS JUNTAS CLINIC** has continued to serve the community with our family doctors, our dentists, our lab and now with a traumatology doctor and a physical therapist. The support from churches has allowed us to donate 15% of our services to those that cannot pay the equivalent of \$3.00 US dollars fee we ask, the volume of services at low prices have let us continue to

be self-sustained. We just started taking a series of conferences to some schools teaching about diabetes and eating healthier.

The medical mission teams have been a big blessing for many people in our area... we are serving about 4,000 people per year with this program. Praise God!

NUEVO PROGRESO



We have started remodeling our old school building for the Casa de la Esperanza Children's Home in Nuevo Progreso half block away from El Buen Pastor Methodist Church.

We are partnering with Church of the Messiah UMC from Westerville, Ohio and some Churches in the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church.



We estimate start this ministry in the first quarter of 2017 with about 20 kids.



The **Manos Juntas Nuevo Progreso Community Center** has three classrooms and the auditorium building has a roof now, we estimate that we are 60% done in the

construction process. The Arcola, VA team and the Texas Annual Conference have been our main partners in this project.



Left to right: Veronica Berman, Vamos Tamaulipas, Community Center
Yadira Lopez, Project 92 Community Center
Julian Otero, Operations
Elvira Ramirez, Accounting and Clinic
Nena Vazquez, Manitas Juntas and La Luz shelter

OUR STAFF

NEEDS AND PROJECTS

We need:

- 80 sponsors of \$15 dollars per month for the Pre-school and Elementary school programs at the Vamos Tamaulipas Community center. This will cover all the operational cost for the school year.
- 300 chairs for the Manos Juntas Auditorium in Nuevo Progreso.
- 10 computers to set up a new computer lab.

Our three 15-passenger vans are getting ready to be replaced... please let us know if you can find a van that can be donated or purchased for our ministry. Any model or type of car can be used.

If you would like to contact us, please use:

wberman@prodigy.net.mx

Willie Berman, Manos Juntas Director

The Light Shelter needs toiletries, bedding items, microwave instant dinners, and also items to donate to the people in the hospital, like, adult diapers, ensure cans, etc.

UMC giving Tuesday is Nov. 29, mark your calendar.

Support yours and our ministry with your prayers, monetary gifts and in-kind donations. GBGM Advance # 3020527. If you would rather send your donation directly use: **Hands Together Ministry | 4200 N. McColl Rd. | McAllen, Tx. 78504.**