

News from Nicaragua

While it hasn't made headlines in the US, there's been tremendous political unrest in Nicaragua since April 19, causing many deaths, severely impacting people's well being and the economy, including lost jobs, access to roads and basic goods. We are deeply saddened by the loss of life and grave impact on all Nicaraguan families. In the words of one staff member, "Let us strive for peace, dialogue, equality, the right to free expression and respect for human life."

As we make our way through these troubled times, now more than ever, we appreciate our monthly donors and the generous March 2018 contribution for staff salaries from our Swiss friends.



Four CIELO students included in public schools

Four children who got their educational start at CIELO de Amor are now participating in public school, thanks to the hard work and collaboration of CIELO staff, families, volunteers, the students themselves and the teachers at the schools they attend.

It's all about Teamwork:

To help Britany succeed in public school, our psychologist Yereld worked closely with her for over three years to develop necessary skills for paying attention, sitting, and following directions. Liseth follows up in school about twice per week, sharing ideas, problem solving and implementing ideas she gained from visiting teachers like Sandy.



CIELO de Amor goes to the Para Centro American Games!!

60 children, families and staff got the thrill of a lifetime as spectators at the 2nd Para Centro American Games held in Nicaragua. Both children and parents were inspired by athletes performing at their peak, including blind athletes competing in track and goal ball, and athletes with cerebral palsy playing bocce ball. Most thrilling of all (especially for Elizeo) was the intense, fast-paced victory of the Nicaraguan wheelchair basketball team. Afterwards, we celebrated and played our own games at a nearby park!





Team Effort Pays Off: Tayde makes progress with walking



It may look like just a few steps for Tayde, but they represent great effort on her part, and the tremendous collaboration and persistence of her entire team, both in Nicaragua and abroad. A generous long-time donor provided the funds for this specialized walker, and it passed from hand to hand to reach La Concha. Tayde, her mother Thania and our physical therapist Jahoska have since worked tirelessly, day in and day out. In addition to their own love, knowledge, patience, passion, commitment, strength, and vision, they exchanged videos with physical therapists in Eugene to explore strength building, assisted walking and motivational strategies. The effort and team work have paid off. We are so very proud. *Thanks to all involved!*



cielodeamor.org

info@cielodeamor.org

facebook.com/cielo.nicaragua



Vocational Youth Succeed with Greeting Card Business

The youth program has expanded their greeting card business, and raised the quality of their products. Using a die cut machine and many special handmade touches, they make special cards for birthdays, holidays, graduations, and much more. They are so proud of their work, and proceeds from the cards support the CIELO program.



Teamwork:

When making these beautiful cards, different steps are challenging for different people, so our youth divide up the tasks, each one doing the step they do best.

On a broader scale, we team up with local businesses – Todo Orgánico in Managua and Mosaic in Eugene – to sell the cards. We'd love to expand our retail outlets. Let us know if you have a business who'd like to team up with us! To purchase cards, contact info@cielodeamor.org or visit one of the shops mentioned above!

Your donations keep us going!

We are tremendously thankful to our ongoing foundation donors and our 43 **sustaining monthly donors** who help provide full-time salary and benefits for our fabulous local staff – truly the heart and soul of CIELO de Amor.

Make a one-time donation: bit.ly/supportcielo

Become a sustaining donor: bit.ly/sustain-cielo

Join our sustainability team:

Help us reach our goal of 60 monthly donors!

Thank YOU for being an essential part of our CIELO Team!
 – Ruth Weinberg and the CIELO de Amor Family