

She helped. You can, too!



Siana Velasquez, a Merced, CA 12-year old, wanted to make a difference with the \$100 she saved from her allowance. Her solution: she donated \$80 to Mano a Mano to help Bolivian kids enjoy better health and a better future.

You can help, too, by making a cash donation to Mano a Mano. We salvage medical equipment that would otherwise go to waste and put it to work in Bolivia. We form true, respectful partnerships with villages. We demand accountability and get things done. And because we've arranged

matching grants with an anonymous donor and the Bolivian government, every dollar you donate means \$4 for our Bolivian operations.

Here's what your donation (plus matching funds) buys:

- Your \$500 purchases all fixtures for a community bath house.
- Your \$250 pays a nurse's salary for five months in one of our community clinics.
- Your \$100 pays for three weeks of a doctor's salary.

Send your tax-deductible gift to:

Mano a Mano, 774 Sibley Memorial Highway, Mendota Heights, MN 55118
Or, call us at 651-457-3141 to learn about advanced giving opportunities.



Current Needs

If you can help with any of these pressing needs, please contact Mano a Mano at 651-457-3141.

Matching funds for clinic construction

Fetal monitors and ultrasounds

Wound care supplies (tape, gauze, bandages)

Gloves

Thank you!

Shop Mano!
Ask about Bolivian weavings in subtle colors and traditional patterns. Priced at \$60-\$100, they're a great bargain, a perfect gift, and an excellent way to support Bolivian artisans. For details, call (651) 457-3141 or stop by the Mall of St. Paul at Selby and Fairview.

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Boletín

SUMMER 2004

OUR NINTH YEAR!

Dream Fund Changed His Life

Education and job training give hard-luck kids hope

Abused by his stepfather and then abandoned at the age of eight, Edwin Chipana has had a tough life. But thanks to Mano a Mano's Dream Fund — Fondo Soñar in Spanish — Edwin and other kids like him are getting a shot at an education and a better future.



Dream Fund student Edwin Chipana.

Now 17, Edwin is using a Dream Fund scholarship to finish up his high school education. As a senior, he spends his time going to classes, studying and working 4.5 hours a day in a carpentry shop. The \$370 annual stipend he gets via the Dream Fund makes it possible for him to finish up high school and to set his sights on an accounting degree in the future. Without that monthly \$30.80, he'd have few options except to begin a life of work with little chance of further education or advancement.

Edwin is one of 11 kids whose education is subsidized by the Dream Fund. The project, initiated by Duluth Rotarians and Matt Thibodeau, is now managed by Mano a Mano. Dream Fund candidates include kids who have been abandoned by their parents, or who are orphans. Many have bounced through government and church-run orphanages, where

they are usually offered little hope of advanced education or training that will raise them out of poverty. For an average of about \$550 per year per child, we give these kids a chance to achieve something better. Recipients are studying to become nurses, secretaries and welders.

Mano a Mano's involvement with these children doesn't end when we write a check. Consider Edwin: last year he was failing seven of his 11 classes. He dropped out of school and left the Casa Ana Maria, the orphanage where he lived. His long-absent mother, now needy herself,

found Edwin in Cochabamba and pleaded with him to help her. Together they found what Mano a Mano's Bolivian social worker, Delia Paniagua, called "a precarious room" — bad housing in a bad part of town.

Delia wasn't willing to let Edwin slip away. Kids who are pulled into the Dream Fund become part of the Bolivian Mano a Mano extended family. Delia insisted that Edwin re-enroll in high school. Then she demanded that he come to the office daily to study, so she could apply regular doses of study help and motivation. The result: after a few months Edwin had a new Bolivian nickname. He was dubbed "Lazarus," because he had returned from the dead.

We think of the Dream Fund as another way to promote better health in Bolivia. Poverty and hardship lead to disease and a short life. Education increases a family's prospects for good health far into the future.

For not much more than you pay for cable TV monthly, you can alter a Bolivian child's future. Want to find out more? Call 651-457-3141.

About Our Work: Why and How

Mano a Mano Medical Resources is a non-sectarian 501©(3) non-profit organization with over nine years' experience bringing health care into impoverished Bolivian communities. Mano a Mano, Spanish for "Hand to Hand," operates on principles of volunteerism, frugality, competence, accountability, empowerment, flexibility, respect and partnership with communities.

Our Mission

To improve the medical and economic health of impoverished Bolivians by increasing the capacity of health care providers and communities to address their medical, community development and educational needs.

Our Core Strategies

- Obtain donations of needed medical supplies and equipment that are surplus in the US and ship them to Bolivia for distribution to non-profit health care programs that serve the poor.
- Partner with communities that have no access to health care to build, equip, operate and staff acute care/public health clinics.
- Empower community residents to manage their own clinics and related projects that meet local health, community development and educational needs.

For more information or to request a brochure, please contact Mano a Mano's office at (651) 457-3141, or visit www.manoamano.org. We look forward to hearing from you!



Segundo Velasquez scans our volunteer barcode wiz, Rick Cheney.

New Storage, Barcoding Streamline Our System

Mano a Mano took a giant step forward in May, when after a long search we found warehouse space that will allow us to store medical supplies in a dry, covered and convenient space.

The new warehouse at 3045 Highway 13 in Eagan (go to www.manoamano.org for a map) has several key features that our previous space lacked — such as a concrete floor, four walls, lights, heat, a watertight roof and a loading dock. We're so happy with the new, 3,000 square-foot space that we nearly filled it instantly with scavengings from a 100-bed Minneapolis nursing home that was about to be demolished.

Volunteer Rick Cheney was responsible for another immense improvement in our ability to handle and track inventory. He single-handedly devised a barcode system that will allow us to easily record

the weight, volume and contents of sorted and packed medical supplies. We'll be able to read the barcode with a wand as we pack containers, then print out a complete list of shipped materials for customs officials. Take it from us: this is going to eliminate hours of tedious labor and allow us to focus time and energy on more critical tasks. We're extremely grateful to Rick for the dozens of hours he put into this project.

On the Bolivian end, workers there are completing a new, 8,000 square-foot warehouse/office facility. The new space will allow us to consolidate offices and warehouses that are currently spread over three locations. We'll have room for storing, sorting and repairing medical supplies, plus — at last! — adequate office space. We'll also have a meeting room that will accommodate up to 70 people for training and other functions.

Rotarians, Unitarians Fund Pair of New Health Clinics in Bolivia

Bolivians will get two new health clinics soon, courtesy of Minnesota groups that made donations to Mano a Mano.

A consortium of four Rotary clubs in the Duluth-Superior area raised \$15,000 that it donated to build a new clinic in Chiru K'asa, a village north of Potosi. "We were attracted to this project because we felt we could do a lot of good for a modest amount of investment," said Mike Cochran, international services chair for Duluth's Harbortown Rotary Club. The clubs raised money through their annual Duluth dragon-boat festival, plus sales of flowers and fruit, a spaghetti dinner and raffle. Their effort was coordinated with the

Tunari Rotary Club in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Rotary members visited Bolivia in April to examine the clinic site.

Earlier this spring Unity Unitarian Church of St. Paul donated more than \$25,000 to fund a new clinic and a year's worth of staffing by a doctor and nurse. The money came through a special Easter collection organized by a group of church members, craft sales and a \$10,000 anonymous donation.

Give us a call at (651) 457-3141 to learn more about how your group can contribute to the health of Bolivians who would otherwise have no access to care.

Our First Full-Time Employee

Meet Becky Monnens, Mano a Mano USA's first full-time employee. The 26-year old graduate of South Dakota State University at Brookings grew up on a cattle ranch in the northwest corner of the state. Near the end of her college career, she moved to Carmen Pampa, Bolivia, where she joined the staff at the local university, fundraising, teaching English and working with US visitors and volunteers.



Becky moved to Saint Paul to enroll in the College of St. Catherine's organizational leadership master's degree program. With her

knowledge of Bolivia, fluency in Spanish, and experience managing volunteers, she's a perfect fit for Mano a Mano's US operation. She'll oversee daily office operations here, recruit volunteers, help with fundraising and lead one of our annual trips to Bolivia.

You can help Becky do her job by suggesting potential Mano a Mano volunteers from your friends and family. Becky will put them on our e-mail list so they can get regular updates on volunteer opportunities. Call her at 651-457-3141, or e-mail becky@manoamano.org



Four More Containers Shipped to Bolivia: The last hurrah at our Rebuild Resources warehouse space took place over two weekends in mid-June, when we packed and shipped four containers of medical supplies bound for Bolivia. That's more than 40 tons of crutches, beds, surgical supplies, linens, bandages, wheelchairs and more. Above are a few of the stalwart volunteers who helped out this time. From left, Bill Poynton, Mark Petzholt, Mary Monnens and Joe Reyes.

Another Way to Make a Mano a Mano Donation: We're always grateful for cash donations to help fund improved health in Bolivia. In addition to the old-school, write-a-check method, you can also make a secure, on-line donation via our website, at www.manoamano.org. Click on Donate.

We're also on the lookout for a digital camera to use in Bolivia. If you've got a spare that you can donate, please give us a call at 651-457-3141.

This Winter, Bolivia: It's not too early to start thinking about joining one of our winter tours of Mano a Mano's Bolivia projects. We'll announce dates soon. To whet your appetite, check out volunteer Mary Wick's moving account of last year's trip at www.manoamano.org.