

# HORIZONS OF FRIENDSHIP Horizons NEWSLETTER

Building Partnerships to End Poverty in  
Central America and Mexico

FALL/WINTER  
2014

## A Critical Priority The Right Not to Migrate



Tara Ward,  
Mesoamerican  
Program  
Coordinator

### Partners Tackle Root Causes

For a brief moment in early July, all eyes turned to Central America and Mexico; it was the alarming number of child migrants crossing into the United States that caught people's attention.

Migration within and from the region itself does not surprise us. Horizons and our partners have been working to address both the roots causes and the impacts of migration for many years. It was the sudden and dramatic increase in the numbers of child migrants that shocked us: an estimated 52,000 unaccompanied minors made the dangerous journey from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico between October 2013 and June 2014. This is almost double the number of children from the previous year.

What is happening in the region to cause such an incredible surge? Media and experts point to the high levels of violence in the region, in particular in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, and the growing levels of poverty and inequality in recent years. These are issues we understand well.

#### **Violence Skyrockets**

For much of the 80s and 90s, violence in the region was actually the result of ongoing civil wars. However, close to two decades have now passed since these armed conflicts ended, and levels of violence are skyrocketing.

In Mexico alone, close to 50,000 people have been killed as part of the drug war in recent years. Violence in Honduras has spiralled since the 2009 coup d'état, now garnering it the infamy of being the murder capital of the world for two years

running. There was a very brief reprieve from similar violence in El Salvador, when a truce negotiated between gangs led to a 40 percent reduction in homicides in 2012, but these numbers rose again the following year.

In our recent consultations with partners, it was openly discussed that while Central America has long been a transit point for drugs, almost every country is now host to both production and manufacturing as well. This brings with it a whole range of other illegal activities including extortion and human trafficking.

Our partners are slowly speaking out about how much this violence impacts people's daily lives. Some of them have had to abandon their work in certain communities because of threats, while others simply continue to work in high risk situations.

We hear about the violence and poverty from other sources as well. In Northumberland County, Horizons supports seasonal agricultural migrant workers from Mexico. They have told us that local gangs extort and threaten their families back home because of their "high paid" work in Canada. During our educational tour to El Salvador this past February, in between official presentations, we heard how family members had to leave their communities to escape gang related violence.

So when people speak with us of "la violencia" now, we know they are not necessarily referring to the civil wars anymore.

#### **Inequality On the Rise**

Central America continues to be one of the most unequal regions

in the world, with Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama respectively having the highest levels of inequality in the region.

At our consultation meeting last November, our partners said that despite indications of economic growth in the region, they are actually seeing increasing poverty, extreme poverty, and hunger in the communities where they work.

In Mexico, for example, poverty levels grew from 31 percent in 2006 to 37 percent in 2012; this is most extreme in Chiapas where 78 percent of people live in poverty. In Honduras, poverty levels have also risen signifi-



Horizons partners are working to eliminate poverty and violence so that kids like these grow up with the freedom to decide where they want to live.

cantly in the last five years. Today almost two thirds of Hondurans live below the poverty line, and close to half of the population is living in a state of constant hunger.

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Plus,

Horizons' Annual Report  
& Giving Circles

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## Partners in Action

# A New Stove, a Healthier Life

Using an outdoor wood fire to cook her family's meals was affecting both Rosalba's health and her family's prosperity.



**Rosalba using her new wood-saving eco-stove.**

A mom of 6 kids in El Salvador, Rosalba suffered from chronic eye irritation due to the smoke produced by the wood fire and was frequently sick with cough or flu. Every month, she spent \$30 on wood, the equivalent of 24 trees, just to feed her family.

Most women and families in Central America and Mexico continue to rely on open wood fire stoves for cooking, usually indoors. The consequences are severe. Millions die each year from household air pollution, and countless more suffer from chronic illnesses. Women spend hours each day gathering firewood from fast depleting forests, and many families use a large portion of their meagre income buying wood.

Horizons is helping to address these issues, one family and one stove at a time. In a joint project funded by S.H.A.R.E. Agriculture Foundation and coordinated by Horizon's partner ACUDESBAL, 18 brand new wood-saving eco-stoves have been distributed to families in the Lower Lempa region of El Salvador.

Rosalba is one of the happy recipients. Her new stove cooks faster, uses less wood, and pipes toxic smoke out of her home. ACUDESBAL helped her install her new stove, and taught her how to use and care for it so it lasts a long time.

For Rosalba, the gift of a new stove is life-changing. She is able to save money on firewood and minimize her family's exposure to smoke. The entire family is not only healthier and happier, it also has more money to spend on meeting other basic needs.

Her community also benefits. With a reduced demand for firewood, there is less felling of local mangrove forests, which provide a critical habitat for shellfish, crabs, and a variety of fish, and source of income and nutrition for people in Lower Lempa.

*...continued from page 1*

Approximately, six out of 10 Guatemalans live in poverty; this is only slightly lower in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

So while governments in the region, and donor countries such as Canada, point to growing economies as a sign of improvement, it's clear resources are not making it to the most vulnerable people.



**This family is part of a support group for families who have had fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers migrate north to the United States or elsewhere.**

### **Tireless Work**

What did not seem to enter into the media conversations about the plight of the child migrants is that there are organizations, communities, and families working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for people in Central America. At a very small scale, many are successfully addressing the poverty and violence driving the migration of both children and adults.

This includes Horizons' partners, such as the Simiente Foundation for Human and Community Development in Honduras. In many communities, most of the men have migrated. Simiente has created support groups for affected families and works with networks of women to create small scale economic and food production opportunities. This helps reduce dependency on remittances and prevent further migration.

In Panama, Ngobe Cultural Action (ACUN) is working to build local and sustainable food systems in Ngobe Bugle Indigenous communities, strategically incorporating youth so that they don't feel the need to leave their communities.

The Intercommunity Association of Communities Working Together for the Economic and Social Development of Bajo Lempa (ACUDESBAL) is encouraging children and youth to take part in cultural activities such as music and dance as a way to combat the encroaching gangs in the communities of Lower Lempa, El Salvador.

### **Migration a Priority**

Over the last year, Horizons has been analyzing trends in Mesoamerica in order to develop our new strategic plan. With our partners, we have been working



**A Ngobe Bugle family in Panama participating in a food security project led by ACUN.**

to define our priorities for the next five years and beyond.

The issue of migration has been and will continue to be a priority. The international focus on this issue, and its underlying causes, confirms that Horizons' steadfast commitment to the region is on the mark. And more critical than ever before.

We want to ensure that people are able to migrate safely, but also have the right to choose not to migrate. Despite our reduced funding, we will continue to support grassroots community-based projects and regional programs so that children, youth, and their families are not forced to leave their homes to escape violence or poverty.

# HORIZONS OF FRIENDSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2013

Working to end poverty in  
Central America and Mexico

## From our President

## An Invitation to Participate



**Cathy Wenuk**  
President of  
Board of  
Directors

*"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the actions steps."*

This quote, attributed to Confucius, seems a fitting place to begin this report, given we are in the last year of our cost-sharing program with CIDA, which has merged with the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Horizons' goal to eradicate poverty and injustice in Mesoamerica has a 40-year history. In that time, our action steps have been many and varied: providing humanitarian assistance in Honduras in the 70s, focusing on community development in the 80s, building partner relationships in the 90s, and launching learning networks in the 2000s. Horizons is established and recognized locally, nationally and internationally as a not-for-profit charitable organization, working in social justice and people-centred development in Central America and Mexico.

Now, as we move into a less certain future, we have another opportunity to adjust the action steps. This is today's challenge and Horizons of Friendship is ready - its success lies in its history and its organizational strengths. One of Horizons' main strengths is its capacity to engage Canadians in achieving its goals.

During this past fiscal year, Horizons has reached over 1,500 Canadians through community outreach:

- Almost 1,000 people gathered in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and Saskatchewan to hear partners from Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador speak about the work and challenges of communities in Mesoamerica;
- Over 300 individuals participated in workshops and events offered in conjunction

with the New Canadian Centre of Cobourg to welcome migrant workers, immigrants and other newcomers to Canada.

- Horizons held many education events on global justice topics for Canadian students, including presentations at Kingston Frontenac Secondary School, Roseneath Public School, University of Waterloo, Loyalist College in Belleville and Dawson College in Montreal;

*"One of Horizons' main strengths is its capacity to engage Canadians in achieving its goals."*

- A group of 18 Canadians learned firsthand about issues facing our Mesoamerican partners during our Educational Tour to El Salvador in February. Through social media, many other Canadians were able to "join" the tour.
- Horizons Film Nights at the Cobourg Public Library have been well attended, giving many local citizens an opportunity to learn about Horizons' goals.
- Horizons' active membership in both the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) and the Ontario Council for International Cooperation

(OCIC), and participation in the Americas Policy Group (APG), a working group of the CCIC, allows all parties to share knowledge and create a bigger impact.

- Newsletters and social media allow us to keep in touch with volunteers, supporters and donors and reach new people.

Through these activities, Canadians, especially youth, are better informed about Canada's role in international development and through this engagement, there is an increased awareness and interest in supporting social justice campaigns, events and community services. Notwithstanding or perhaps even because the matching government grants are ending, we believe that Canadians will step into this opportunity to engage more fully with Horizons.

Throughout Horizons' 40 years of existence we have always recognized the need to design diverse sources of funding and adapt to changing political climates. Elsewhere in this issue, you'll read about some of the new fundraising initiatives we are working on.

We are quite confident in our ability to adjust our action steps and fulfil our goals. We invite you all to participate in this future.



Potluck with migrant workers in Victoria Park, Cobourg.

## From our Executive Director

# 2013/2014: A Banner Year



**Patricia Rebolledo**  
Executive Director

As we move into a new fiscal year, I'd like to take the time to celebrate the accomplishments of 2013/2014. The past year was a great success: we invested almost \$1.5 million in 40 grassroots projects, allowing us to make a real impact in the lives of people in Central America and Mexico.

Of course when I say "us", I mean our partners, our staff, and our supporters and donors, whose generosity makes our work possible.

Here are some of the highlights that made this a banner year.

### Violence against Women

■ The Association of Indigenous Women of the Atlantic (**AMICA**) in Nicaragua provided training and support to 44 communal judges and other community leaders who are now actively engaged in the prevention of gender-based violence.

■ The Organization of Salvadoran Women for Peace (**ORMUSA**) in El Salvador hosted an online National Observatory on Gender-based Violence, including a national public awareness campaign, and an international conference with 210 participants.

### Food Security

■ The Garifuna Emergency Committee of Honduras (**CEGAH**) supported the creation and legalization of five micro enterprises benefiting 60 Garifuna women and their families.

■ 31 rural and Indigenous women received cleaner burning and more efficient wood stoves, thanks to the Intercommunity Association of Communities

Working Together for the Economic and Social Development of the Lower Lempa (**ACUDESBAL**) in El Salvador and the Association for Health, Promotion, Research and Education (**PIES de Occidente**) in Guatemala.

### Indigenous and Afro Descendant Peoples Rights

■ The National Lenca Indigenous Organization of Honduras (**ONILH**) trained 918 Indigenous Lenca people in La Paz, Honduras on their internationally recognized rights.

### Ancestral Medicine and Community Health

■ The Guatemalan Intercultural Highlands Association (**AMIGAS**) trained 160 Mayan Indigenous women on how to identify early warning signs during pregnancy and labour, and how to develop and put into practice family emergency plans when their labour begins.

### Children, Youth and Community Organizing

■ **ACUDESBAL** provided 150 children and youth with opportunities to engage in music, dance and culture as a way to address the realities of encroaching gang violence in Lower Lempa, El Salvador.

### Intercultural Bilingual Education

■ The Santa Maria Linguistic Project in Guatemala (**PLSM**) is expanding their work to advance education beyond the national scale. They are now coordinating with organizations around intercultural bilingual education in Honduras, Mexico, and Panama, as well as Guatemala.

### Knowledge Production & National Coalition Building

■ Horizons' partners produced and shared 58 knowledge-based materials, including research reports, educational media campaigns, methodological guides, and baseline studies.

■ Horizons partners built national coalitions to impact public policy. Through community development projects and the regional learning initiatives, they were able to undertake 117 meetings with public officials and decision makers to bring attention to key issues in the region.

■ **PIES de Occidente** reports that through its work, the National Health Information Management System of Guatemala is in the process of being modified to better track the care given to Indigenous peoples. This is a major achievement.

### Technical Support

At Horizons, we not only support our partners' projects, we also help them build their institutional capacity and effectiveness. Over the last year, this work has included carrying out institutional assessments and helping with partner exchanges, project design, strategic planning, and administration and accounting.

### The Next Chapter Begins

The success of the past year bolsters us as we face a new chapter in Horizons life: in 2015 we are losing 47% of our budget due to the end of our final agreement with CIDA (now the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada).

But we see the future with optimism. We are busy making plans, brainstorming, reaching out, and making connections. We move forward with strength. We have seen the impact on the ground. Simply put, lives are better because of our work. And because of your support.

Please join me on our next Educational Tour to Guatemala to see just what we are accomplishing with your help. You'll find out more about the tour on page 3.

**Thank you for your support and generosity.**



Youth group involved in educational and cultural activities led by **ACUDESBAL** in El Salvador.

# Saying "Gracias" to our Donors

## Horizons Giving Circles

For the past couple of years Horizons has been using a special recognition program to thank our donors for their annual and lifetime support.

Inspired by the Mayan Long Count and Tzol'k'in Sun calendars, Horizons' Giving Circles honour the ongoing, cumulative generosity that our donors continue to demonstrate while building partnerships to end poverty and social injustice in Central America and Mexico.

### Lifetime Giving Circles



**"Bak'tun"**  
**(Lifetime donations over \$144,000)**

Anonymous – one individual donor

Maureen Rutherford  
Linda & Alan Slavin  
Catherine & John Wenuk  
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**Monthly Donors The "Amigos" Circle (The Seeds)**  
Many thanks to the 237 donors who have made a monthly commitment to Horizons of Friendship



**"Katun"**  
**(Lifetime donations over \$7,600)**

**10 Katun (over \$76,000):**

Reverend Timothy Coughlan  
Agnes Faraci  
David Morrison & Alena Heitlinger  
Charles & Judith Van Duren

**4 Katun (over \$30,400):**  
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Glen Colborne Fund/Toronto Community Foundation  
The Hon. Justice James Clarke  
Ruth & Stephen Crafts  
Estate of Rita Celina Chapelle  
Corliss Finlayson & Vince Caccamo  
Peter & Frances Money  
Linda Seppanen  
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Peter Webb

**3 Katun (over \$22,800):**  
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Greg & Ann Hancock  
James & Barbara Hill  
Theresa Johnson  
John Leduc  
Allan McCracken  
Susan Murdock  
Sergio Quesada & Patricia Rebolledo

### Annual Giving Circles



**\$10,000+**  
**The "Ahaw" Circle (The Leaders)**

Audrey Kenny  
David Morrison & Alena Heitlinger  
Charles & Judith Van Duren



**\$2,500-\$4,999**  
**The "OC" Circle (The Community Champions)**

Vince Caccamo & Corliss Finlayson  
Joanne Callaghan  
The Hon. Justice James Clarke  
Eleanor Horrigan  
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Ilona Kaltenhauser  
Karen Longwell  
Madeline Lunney  
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Peter Platenius  
Henry Smit  
Vincent Ting  
Maurice Walsh  
Bruce Weber



**\$1,000-\$2,499**  
**The "Chiccan" Circle (Rainmakers)**

Oben & Aldona Arsenault  
William Barnett  
Ann Cameron  
Reverend Timothy Coughlan  
Ruth Crafts  
John De Hoog  
John Duffy  
Agnes Faraci  
Kathleen Fraser  
Derek Blackadder and Geri Sheedy  
Donald Haworth  
James & Barbara Hill  
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Theresa Johnson  
John Jolie  
Audrey Kenny  
Doug Latham  
W. Paul Loofs



**\$5,000-\$9,999**  
**The "Eagle" Circle (The Wise Ones)**

Ann & Peter Burbidge  
Glen Colborne Fund/Toronto Community Foundation

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Former member of the Immigration and Refugee Board, non-practicing lawyer, Ottawa.

**Linda Seppanen (Vice-President)**  
Retired Clinical psychologist, registered with Ontario Board of Examiners in Psychology, Roseneath.

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MBA, Certified Financial Planner, Cobourg.

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Former Executive Director and founder of Horizons of Friendship with lengthy experience in Central America, Peterborough.

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Adult educator, experienced in promoting participatory education, organizational change and development practices in Canada and internationally, Roseneath.

**Dr. Paul Caldwell**  
Physician, author with extensive volunteer experience in Central America, Cobourg.

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Retired dentist, past president of Cobourg Rotary Club, with medical volunteer experience to Latin America, Cobourg.

**Dr. David Morrison**  
Retired Professor Emeritus, Politics and International Development Studies, Trent University, Peterborough.

**Paul Burnham**  
Owner/operator of Burnham Family Farm Market, extensive agricultural experience, Cobourg (since Jan. 2014)

## Staff 2013/2014

Patricia Rebolledo – *Executive Director*

Tara Ward – *Mesoamerican Program Coordinator*

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Clint Leeson – *Finance/Admin. Coordinator*

Linda Robertson – *Admin. /Fundraising Assistant*

Allison Dejong – *Resource Development Coordinator* (From Sep. 2013)

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# Acknowledgements

Horizons of Friendship gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors and sponsors:

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## Individual Donors \$1 - \$999

To our many donors under \$1,000 a heartfelt "Gracias!" to all. Big and small donations make a huge impact on our partners' work!

## Legacy Donors

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Father Timothy Coughlan  
Rick Arnold and Beverley Burke  
Alexander Daughtry  
Father F. J. Leslie  
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Charles & Judith Van Duren  
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Linda Spalding  
Priscila Uppal  
Daniel Wiersma



A special thank you to Paul Loofs, seen here with Horizon's Executive Director, Patricia Rebollo, for 35 years of support!

## BALANCE SHEET

Statement of financial position as at March 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	128,698	220,978
Cash - DFATD funds (Note 3)	38,997	1,488
Investments (Note 7)	490,708	578,899
Accounts Receivable (Note 4)	12,739	73,651
Partner Advances (Note 5)	222,401	192,607
Prepaid expenses & crafts inventories	34,595	16,800
Sub-total	928,138	1,084,423
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS (Note 7)	997,830	918,696
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 6)	103,184	75,108
	1,101,014	993,804
	2,029,152	2,078,227
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts Payable (Note 8)	23,157	19,918
Deferred Revenue (Note 9)	535,896	507,135
	559,053	527,053
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
UNRESTRICTED	73,756	116,301
RESTRICTED (Note 11)	1,293,159	1,359,765
INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 6)	103,184	75,108
	1,470,099	1,551,174
Total	2,029,152	2,078,227

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

for the year ended March 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<b>REVENUE</b>		
<b>DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING</b>		
NGO Collaborations	\$156,118	\$167,104
Monthly Donations	94,181	95,944
General Donations	132,969	123,752
Foundations	138,156	106,143
Nevada	4,767	3,967
Thrift Shop	106,862	98,568
Delegations	48,450	37,016
Fundraising Events	65,016	68,711
Major Gifts	2,148	26,103
Rose and Zal Fund	-	4,997
Overseas Project Consulting	3,399	-
Oneness fund (Note 10)	242,823	13,270
Endowment Capital Funds (Note 11)	38,000	50,000
	1,032,889	795,575
<b>GOVERNMENT GRANTS (Note 3)</b>		
DFATD - Projects	627,683	683,244
DFATD - Monitoring and evaluations	53,524	42,615
DFATD - Administration	71,947	87,103
DFATD - Interest earned on funds	220	239
	753,374	813,201
<b>OTHER REVENUE</b>		
Oneness Administration Allowance (Note 10)	5,450	9,173
Investment Income	53,221	52,574
Miscellaneous	4,492	4,193
	63,163	65,940
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	1,849,426	1,674,716
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Administration - schedule 1	167,638	159,686
Operating - schedule 1	168,628	171,481
Program expenses - schedule 2	1,406,561	1,192,925
Delegations	27,866	31,217
Thrift shop	66,834	64,527
Total	1,837,527	1,619,836
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	11,899	54,880

Excerpted from Horizons of Friendship Notes to Financial Statements - March 31, 2014

To view the Horizons of Friendship 2013/2014 Financial Statements in full, please go to [www.horizons.ca/Who-We-Are/Financial-Reports](http://www.horizons.ca/Who-We-Are/Financial-Reports)

## Strategies for a New Reality

# Fundraising Ramps Up



Allison Dejong,  
Resource Development  
Coordinator

Since 1973, Horizons has channeled close to \$30 million to Central America and Mexico to support critical community development projects. These are projects that have provided new economic opportunities, helped ensure the basic right to health and education, and made a measurable difference in ending violence against women.

Despite changes in priorities around international development and in the funding available from the Canadian government, Horizons is committed to ensuring this vital work continues.

We understand, as you do, that real development and change takes time. With the increasing needs in Central America and Mexico and the withdrawal of other international cooperation from the region, it has never been more important for Horizons to maintain our support.

While we know we cannot replace the over \$800,000 a year provided by the Canadian government's cost-shared program, we are committed to building strategic fundraising programs to maintain the sustainability of our partners work.

Here are a few of the ways we are ramping up our fundraising:

**Spreading the word.** With help from some of our most loyal donors and friends, Horizons is making new contacts. Through small events like a garden party hosted by a donor in Kingston and a neighborhood gathering being organized with a donor in Toronto, we are meeting new people, raising awareness about Horizons and our partners, and engaging potential supporters in our cause.

**Connecting with funding bodies.** Horizons is linking up with new foundations and institutions

whose interests align with our partners work. Just this past May, we secured a substantial grant from a new foundation to help launch a seed project that is providing economic opportunities for women in rural El Salvador.

**Reaching out to like-minded groups.** Recognizing we are not alone in facing the end of government funding, Horizons has also made a strong effort to connect with other Canadian organizations supporting work in Central America and Mexico. In June, we hosted a roundtable meeting with five other internationally focused Canadian non-profits and charities to discuss challenges, explore common interests, and exchange ideas around collaboration.

**Building up our planned giving program.** Horizons continues to spread the word to caring Canadians, like you, about planned giving opportunities that allow them to make sustaining gifts in this lifetime and beyond. In the last two years alone, 18 donors have confirmed bequests totaling more than \$65,000. These future gifts, when realized, will enable Horizons to establish funds that will support projects led by our partners for years to come and build the most important infrastructure of all: people.



Members of Horizons, Jamaica-Self Help, Canadian Jesuits International, Kairos Canada, Mining Watch Canada, and Inter Pares at the Roundtable Meeting in June.

We'd love to hear your fundraising ideas.

To share your feedback with Horizons, contact Allison Dejong today at 1.888.729.9928 x 13.

## Guatemala, February 9-21, 2015

# See Your Donation at Work

Horizons' 2015 Educational Tour is to beautiful Guatemala and we'd like you to join us. Come explore the culture, diversity, history, and challenges of this amazing country with us and other adventurous and caring Canadians!

This unique tour lets you see Horizons' partners in action as they work on community projects to:

- ✓ reduce maternal and infant mortality
- ✓ promote access to inclusive and culturally appropriate health care services
- ✓ support local teachers and ensure Indigenous children have access to the type of intercultural school programming they need to succeed
- ✓ promote Indigenous rights and support truly sustainable development and change.

### Your itinerary includes:

- ✓ meetings with Horizons' partners and community members
- ✓ cross country travel to project locations and sites

- ✓ opportunities to connect with local people and learn Spanish
- ✓ guided tours of historic and cultural sites, including Tikal – one of the largest Mayan archeological sites
- ✓ free time to explore on your own or with other members of the tour group
- ✓ and much more!

This is your chance to go beyond the tourist attractions, and learn more about community-based development, social justice and human rights. You'll be able to see firsthand the impact of your support and the difference you are making, while having fun and building friendships.

But space is limited. Reserve your spot before October 15, 2014.

**Cost:** \$3,500. This includes all air fare (and cancellation insurance), meals, ground transportation, accommodation and entry fees).

**Don't miss out!** Contact Linda Robertson, lrobertson@horizons.ca, 1-888-729-9928 x 10.



## Founders Award 2014

# Recognizing Outstanding Contributors



**Allison Dejong,**  
Resource Development Coordinator

For over 40 years Horizons of Friendship has been helping people to help themselves through development projects in Central America and Mexico. This work would not be possible without our partners in the field and our supporters here at home.

Our partners are grassroots organizations led by people who live out the needs and challenges in their communities on a daily basis and dedicate themselves to creating change.

We are able to support these organizations because of the generosity of caring Canadians like you. People who understand the critical role they play in addressing global challenges. People who give of themselves to ensure our neighbours in the South have access to the basic rights and freedoms everyone deserves.

In recognition of this, it is important for us at Horizons to acknowledge the contributions of Canadians and Mesoamericans alike in building a future of which we can all be proud. The Horizons' Annual Founders Award allows us to celebrate a key individual and organization that have demonstrated strength, passion and commitment as volunteers and leaders in their

communities and around the world.

The 2014 recipients of the Founders Award are Northumberland area resident Barb Henderson and our southern partner, the Economic and Social Development of Indigenous Mexicans (DESMI).

After a long career as a teacher and lifetime of volunteering, Barb wanted a meaningful project to take on during her retirement. She has found that in a local music education program for underprivileged children and through the Ten Thousand Villages store in Cobourg. The latter works to ensure a fair and living wage for more than 60,000 artisans from developing countries.

Upon receiving her award at Horizons Annual General Meeting in June, Barb said, "I am flattered and humbled to receive such a prestigious award that is held in such high regard in the community, especially when you consider the many amazing volunteers and causes that I have the privilege to be involved with. I truly do consider this recognition to be one of the most appreciative moments of my life."



**Barb Henderson says a few words at Horizons' Annual General Meeting.**

It is only fitting that Barb is honoured alongside Horizons' partner DESMI, which just two years ago supported 600 Indigenous farmers to certify a fair-trade coffee cooperative and export 55 tons of fair trade coffee to Europe. These efforts have helped farming families to earn a living wage and communities to escape poverty.

Submit your Founders Award nomination in writing by early May 2015.

You can also share your stories with us on Facebook about amazing volunteers and leaders you know who are helping to make a difference in our communities and around the world.

## Our Partners in Central America & Mexico



**In 2013/2014 Horizons of Friendship supported the work of 19 partners in seven countries.**

Our projects are community-based and address social and economic inequalities through efforts that help improve livelihoods, promote health education, increase food security, protect the environment, and preserve culture.

Building on these local initiatives, Horizons also promotes regional programs that facilitate partner collaboration when it comes to priority issues, including: gender inequality and violence against women, food security, intercultural bilingual education, ancestral medicine and community health, migration, and HIV/AIDS.



**Join HORIZONS OF FRIENDSHIP and help bring about social justice in Mesoamerica. Together we can build strong communities. Please join us today!**

I want to support Community Development by joining Horizons' Sustaining Donor Plan. I authorize Horizons to receive monthly tax-creditable donations from my specified account in the amount of:

\$15 (50 cents a day)     \$25     \$40     \$75     \$100     \$\_\_\_\_\_ (other)

Beginning in the month of \_\_\_\_\_ (Please enclose a cheque for your first donation)

Visa# [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]    Master Card# [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] - [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]    Expiry Date: [ ] [ ] / [ ] [ ]

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like more information about Horizons  
 I cannot become a sustaining donor at this time, but enclosed is my donation  
 Please send me more information about *Planned Giving*



Photos: Horizons & partner staff  
 Design: Bill Jones • Editor: Susan Stanton  
 We welcome your comments, please write!  
 50 Covert St., Box 402  
 Cobourg, Ontario K9A 4L1  
 or e-mail: info@horizons.ca

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Please return this coupon with your donation/request to: Horizons of Friendship, 50 Covert St. Box 402, Cobourg, ON K9A 4L1