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La Fundación
Children of Guayaquil, Inc.

Presents a Project in
Pascuales, Guayas, Ecuador

Centro Comunitario
“Manos Solidarias
Internacional”



CHILDREN OF GUAYAQUIL, Inc.

*Community Center Project Details
Centro Comunitario Manos Solidarios
Pascuales, Ecuador*

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to create community development programs in the neediest regions of Ecuador, helping children grow and learn in a safe and supportive environment.

VISION

Children of Guayaquil Inc. seeks to have a strong presence in the Ecuadorian community, being synonymous with education and community development and becoming an influential non-profit foundation that facilitates positive change throughout the country.



BRIEF HISTORY of the FOUNDATION

Children of Guayaquil was founded by Massachusetts Institute of Technology student Nicki Lehrer as a non-profit organization in the State of Maryland on December 5th, 2005. Nicki is currently a senior at MIT and the president of the foundation.

Children of Guayaquil Inc. will begin the first project in the town of Pascuales which is located on the outskirts of Guayaquil. In Pascuales there are hundreds of street children with no shoes, no clothing, no food, and most disturbingly, no education. The project will be initiated in the neighborhood of Assab Bucaram but will also benefit the sectors of Vilcabamba and San Francisco.

Nicki Lehrer

Founder and President

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Vice President and Director of Ecuadorian Affairs

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A LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

Last year, I spent 5 powerful months living and working in the poorest regions of Ecuador. During my travels around the country, I was profoundly touched by the number of street children-- with no shoes, no clothing, no food, and no education. Because of these experiences, I started a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of the Ecuadorian street children I came in contact with while in their midst.

"Children of Guayaquil, Inc." was incorporated into the state of Maryland as a non-profit organization on December 5, 2005. Since then, we have gained support throughout the United States and Ecuador in our quest to provide basic human needs and educational opportunities for these children. Our first project in the town of Pascuales is already well on its way to becoming a reality and is scheduled for inauguration in August of 2007.

I believe that the most important gift that you can give to a child is education. Our goal is to provide opportunities for these children to learn, grow, and study in an encouraging, supportive, and safe environment. And in the future, to provide scholarships which will allow them to continue their studies at universities throughout Ecuador and internationally, becoming the future leaders of their region.

Our vision is large, but this challenge addresses one of the greatest needs in developing countries. I am confident that we will reach our goals and I am excited about the opportunities that we will be able to offer these kids.

Thank you for your support~



Nicki Lehrer
Founder and President
Children of Guayaquil, Inc.
www.EcuadorOrphans.org



COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT “MANOS SOLIDARIOS”

Description of the Project

Children of Guayaquil Inc. is in the process of constructing a community center in which to provide educational programs and facilities which will address the major challenges that are faced by the neighborhoods of Asaab Bucaram, Vilcabamba y San Francisco. The community center will be a safe place that provides education, training, and cultural events from around the world.

Objectives

- Education
To offer pre-school and elementary school level educational opportunities, as well as training programs for children, adolescents, and families. Access to a library and educational materials.
- Health
To offer basic medical care in the prevention of sickness and improve the quality of life.
- Safety
To create a community free of drugs, alcohol, delinquency.
- Community Development
To give the citizens the organizational and managerial skills to continue development and management of the community center without the aid of external organizations. To facilitate the ability to address their own needs and solve identified problems within the community.



The Land

The land on which we will be constructing our first project is in the neighborhood of Asaab Bucaram manzana No.344 solar No.11. *Children of Guayaquil Inc.* is purchasing the land to secure ownership and will subsequently donate the land to the community once the center is successfully functional.

The Construction

The community center building, designed by MIT Architecture Professor Jan Wampler, will include:

- Childcare center
- Library
- Primary School
- Medical Center
- Kitchen
- Community Room
- Office
- Rooms to house volunteers



Services in the Center

- Child Care Center

Special attention to pre-school age children, providing primary education in preparation for elementary education when they reach the age of 6; and above all providing good diet and tender love and care. This service also allows:

a) job opportunities for parents who could previously not work because of the need to stay home with their children

b) surrogate parental guidance for those children who are left alone in their homes or on the streets

- *Children of Guayaquil Inc.* will welcome existing INNFA/CNH day care programs to use our facilities and provide education and stimulation to children under the age of six.



- Library
The library will be available for use by the primary school, the elementary school, as well as people within the community who wish to learn or supplement their studies.
- Elementary School “Camilo Gallegos”
This school will continue functioning as it has for the past 8 years of its existence. The infrastructure will be modified to accommodate more students and the curriculum will be improved and supplemented with advanced educational materials.
- Medical Center
The medical center will be run by volunteers (medical students, visitors from around the world, and members of the community) and will offer basic health services in addition to addressing nutrition and health preservation guidelines. The medical center will take on the responsibility of planning campaigns to address the most critical health challenges of the community.
- Community Room
The community room will be a place to hold meetings for different committees and social groups, to have training classes, and to have educational seminars about such critical topics as nutrition, sexual education, and drug and alcohol abuse prevention. The room will also be available for social activities and entertainment, such as dances or fund-raises.
- Office
The office will hold the administrative affairs of the Community Center as well as be a place where community members can come to get information about programs or support services.



- Rooms

Private rooms will be available for the hospitality of the volunteers which come from outside of the city and international arrivals.

- Other

In an effort to address the needs of the community, the center will apply to qualified institution to provide a series of courses and programs in different fields.

- Nutritional Programs
- Sexual Education
- Drug Use and Alcohol Abuse Prevention
- Family Interactions
- Psychological Support
- Leadership Training
- Extracurricular Activities (dances, sports, etc.)
- Technical courses in areas such as: handicrafts, cooking, or computer classes



GOALS

Short Term Goals

- Finalize the purchase of the land
- Construction of the community center by the members of the community, thus creating jobs and increasing economic activity within the town.
- Start the Child Care services to allow the parents to enter the workforce with the peace of mind that their children are safe and in good hands.
- Improve the infrastructure and educational materials available in “Camino Gallegos” elementary school.
- Teach the citizens of the town to take advantage of the services and opportunities that the Center provides to them and that they are comfortable and supportive of our involvement in these projects.

Long Term Goals

- To facilitate organization within the community which will allow them to continue to grow and develop on their own.
- To improve basic services in the community (electricity, clean water, telephone lines, availability of medicines, and police presence)
- To provide opportunities for new and better work.
- To provide higher levels of education, as well as international exchange programs.



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PASCUALES

Pascuales is located approximately 10.5 km to the North of the city of Guayaquil. It was founded 113 years ago as one of the many residential sectors which surround the city. According to the Fifth Population Census taken in 2001, Pascuales has approximately 36,459 habitants. It is believed that the actual population in 2006 is closer to 40,000.

Economic Facts

Part of the population of Pascuales would be classified as middle to lower class. These families live close to the entrance to the town. The main road, Avenida Montecristi, is lined with businesses such as pharmacies, small grocery stores, internet services, family restaurants, and salons.

The rest of the neighborhoods are very low class, with high levels of extreme poverty, unemployment, and underdevelopment. In these sectors there are no large businesses, but rather small neighborhood stores.

The economic activities include:

- Construction work (bricklayers, painters, construction engineers)
- Brick Making (a trade which can be traced back to the native inhabitants of Pascuales)
- Commerce (both formal and informal)
- Agriculture (sowing of rice)
- Poultry
- Work in nearby factories
- Work in the city of Guayaquil (guards, cleaning ladies, nannies, etc.)

The closest factories are:

- Mabe
- Amcor



Basic Infrastructure

Education

- 6 Public Elementary Schools
- 18 Private Elementary Schools
- 3 Public High Schools
- 6 Private High Schools

Health

- 1 Health Center run by the Ministry of Public Health
- 6 Private Medical Centers
- Doctors that hold consultations in private houses (without legal permission)

Safety

- 1 Policía station

Religión

- 11 Churches (Evangelic and Catholic)

Transportation

- Interparroquial: Bus Company of Pascuales (45 min. Trip from Guayaquil)
- Within Pascuales: 4 Motorbike Companies (one 1 operates legally with approval of the ministry)



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SECTORS ASAAB BUCARAM, VILCABAMBA AND SAN FRANCISCO

Assab Bucaram, Vilcabamba and San Francisco are located 5 minutes from the center of Pascuales and they have a combined total population of approximately 5,000 inhabitants. (Facts collected from citizens of these areas).

Economic Data

The neighborhoods that are situated outside of the center of Pascuales are very low class societies. Asaab Bucaram, Vilcabamba y San Francisco, are three of the neediest areas suffering from severe poverty and lack of development. In these sectors, there are no businesses, only small neighborhood stores and bakeries. The majority of the people who live in this area have jobs outside of the neighborhood and a large percentage of the women do not work in order to care for their children.

Some of the economic activities which are carried out by the residents of these neighborhoods are:

- Construction work (bricklayers, painters, construction engineers)
- Brick Making (a trade which can be traced back to the native inhabitants of Pascuales)
- Agriculture (sowing of rice)
- Work in nearby factories
- Work in the city of Guayaquil (guards, cleaning ladies, nannies, etc.)
- Teachers in the local schools (there is a large percentage of volunteers working in the neighborhood schools)
- Internal transportation



Basic Infrastructure

Education

- Public Elementary Schools
 - “ Escuela Cabo Segundo Vicente Rosero”
- Private Elementary Schools
 - “ Caminito de Jesús”
 - “El gran yo soy”
 - “ Escuela 3 de Abril”
 - “Escuela Monseñor Checa”
 - “Mi Patria Escuela Primaria”
 - “Escuela John Herbert”
 - “Centro Escuela Camilo Gallegos”
- Public High Schools
- Private High Schools

Religion

- 7 Evangelic Churches
- 1 Catholic Church

Transportation

- Motorbikes
- Bicycles



Figure by MIT OCW.

■ Pascuales

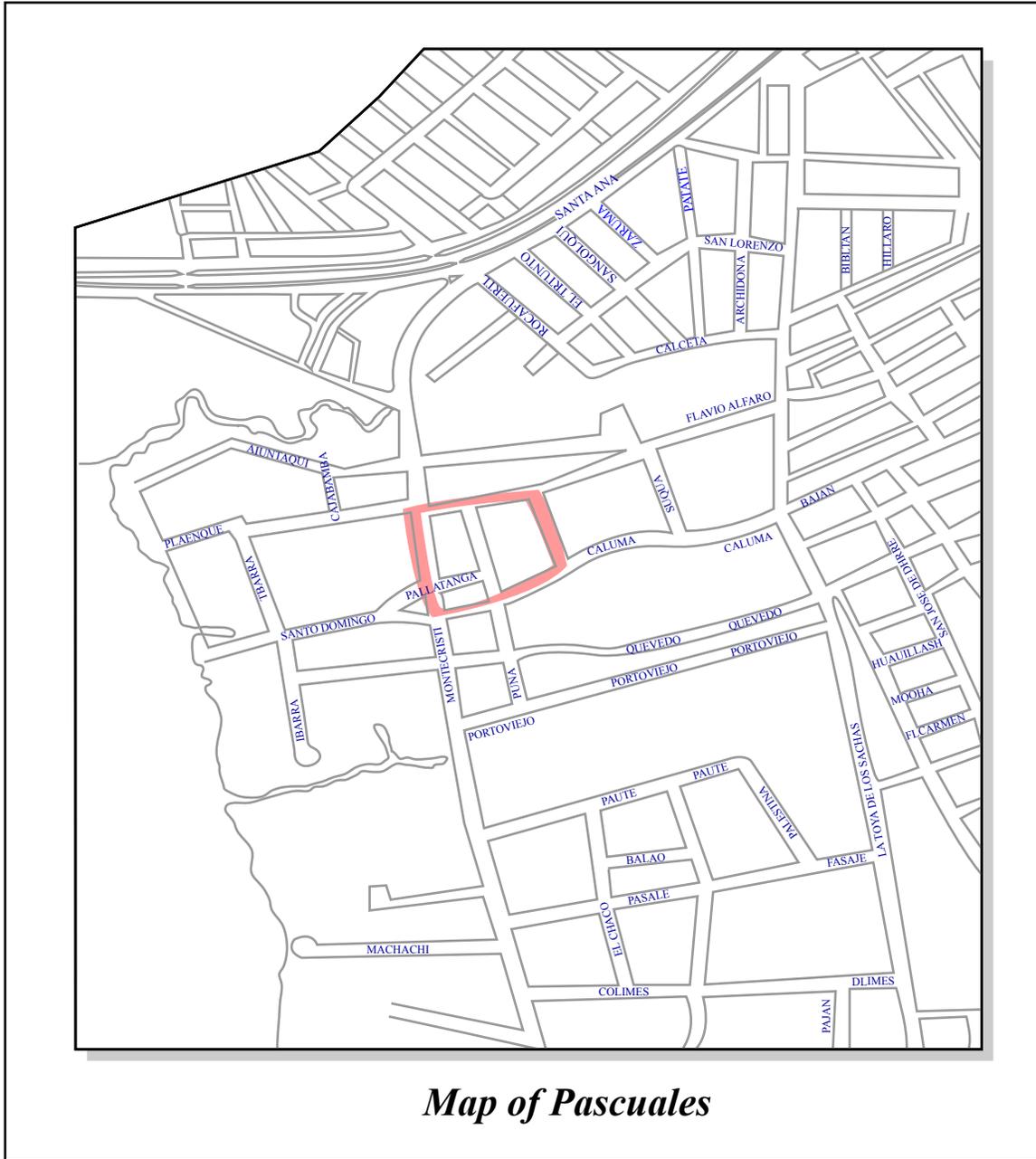


Figure by MIT OCW.



Benefiting Sectors

APPENDIX C

Pictures of the land





FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE CHILDREN
OF GUAYAQUIL, PLEASE VISIT www.EcuadorOrphans.org or EMAIL
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