

Leonarda's Home of Hope, Inc.

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November 23, 2009

AHMEN Ministry Program

Dear Friends:

I am writing this letter to you because I know that many of you have volunteered at the Carolina Honduras Health clinic in the past. During that time, you probably visited the orphanage in Limón and came to know the director, Leonarda Martinez Lali.

As 2009 nears December, my wife Peggy and I reflect on one of the most exciting years of our lives. Early in the year I began to focus on all the people with whom I had come into contact as we volunteered at the Carolina Honduras Health Clinic and who were calling or sending emails saying that someone should do something for the orphans in Limón. The phone calls and emails were so numerous as to bring this issue to the forefront of my thinking every week if not every day. One morning I realized that God was calling to me. All the contacts about the orphanage were God's way of telling me that I was "the someone" who needed to do something for those orphans. Thus, in conjunction with ten others who have an interest in helping at the orphanage in Limón, Peggy and I established Leonarda's Home of Hope, Inc, (LHOH) as a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Each person on the Board of Directors of LHOH has committed himself to assisting the children we have come to love and to supporting their care givers whom we admire greatly.

Currently the orphans are living in an overcrowded, abandoned hotel with a bar/bistro attached. They use three bedrooms with three bathrooms for the more than sixty children and have one multi-purpose room and a small kitchen. www.Leonardashomeofhope.org

LHOH's objectives are to

- Build a new orphanage – We have the land, we have the design well underway, and we have a good engineer-contractor from Tocoa who will construct the building as funds become available. We hope to begin site work in the spring 2010.
- Help educate the children – The schools in Limón can only provide limited education; it is not possible for the children to obtain their High School diploma from this school system. To finish High School, they must attend a school in Tocoa (1 ½ hours away) or La Ceiba (3 hours away). LHOH is presently funding schooling for the first of the children to have completed the available school in Limón; she is attending the Instituto de Maria Regina in La Ceiba and is boarding with one of the administrators at the school. In July and October of 2010, two more students will complete the schooling in Limón and hope to continue their education somewhere. The BOD of

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LHOH believes that through education we can help break the cycle of poverty these children would otherwise face.

- Help provide needed medical care – Several of these children have medical needs which cannot be provided by the Carolina Honduras Health Clinic in Limón. In September, LHOH sent an eight year old girl for the first in a series of surgeries to correct a cleft pallet. The plastic surgeon from Alabama volunteered his services; LHOH paid for travel, hotel, and meals. When we were in Limón in October, the child told Peggy that she is happy because now she “has words” like the rest of the children. Upcoming needs that we know of are eye surgery for a four year old boy and special glasses for a twelve year old boy.
- Help with special needs of the orphanage – Through LHOH we have coordinated work teams which make repairs and undertake other projects needed in the current rental facility. LHOH has also assisted in obtaining school uniforms, school supplies, and even a teacher for English and computer use.

Much remains to be done. Funds are needed to build a new orphanage in a secure, residential area of Limón and to help educate the children who cannot attend school in Limón. We know that as the end of the year approaches, many of us make contributions to charitable organizations. Will you include LHOH this year so that you may help to change the lives of these children? Depending on your tax situation, your generous gifts may be tax deductible. But more than that, the joy and hope that you will help to create in the lives of these children will be most rewarding – not only for them, but also for you.

LHOH is also an approved Advance Project through the Board of Global Ministries with the United Methodist Church and we regularly receive support from many other denominations. You can find out more about us by visiting our website at www.LeonardasHomeOfHope.com and on-line donations can be made through clicking on The Advance button on the Donate Now page.

I cannot say enough about how our lives have been changed by the experience of working with these children and the founder of the orphanage, Leonarda Martinez Lali. God has surely blessed us through this opportunity. I hope He can bless you too through this experience and maybe one day you can join us or another group in a trip to Honduras to see the promise and the joy that you will have helped to create. If not, rest assured you will receive regular reports from us about the opportunities you will be providing these children. You will find attached a copy of our latest brochure about the orphanage.

God bless you.



N. K. (Ken) Hook, Jr
Chairman
Board of Directors

Attachment: Brochure

Financial Needs

\$500,000 is needed in order to build and furnish the new orphanage.

Your financial support is vitally important.

LHOH has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) Organization under the internal revenue code. Depending upon your tax situation your donations may be tax deductible. ***Since the Board of Directors pays all of the administrative costs of LHOH, 100% of your contribution will be used directly to support the orphanage.*** None of your donation will be used for any administrative expenses of LHOH, and all volunteers going to Honduras pay their own expenses for each trip.

Budget Needs:

Funds are needed for the following purposes:

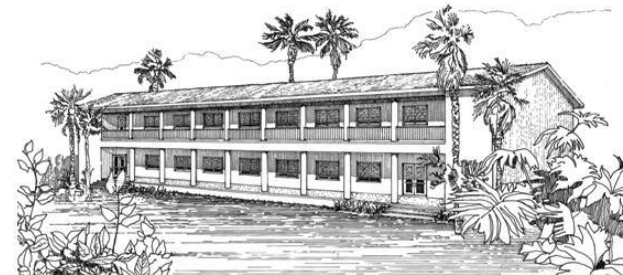
- Begin construction for the relocation of the orphanage to its new and improved facility.
- Provide regular and sustainable financial support for the daily operations of the orphanage.
- Provide funds for the continued education of children who will complete the public schools available in Limón.

For More Information:

www.LeonardasHomeofHope.com

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Leonarda's
Home
of
Hope, Inc.

A CARING
ENVIRONMENT
FOR
HONDURAN
CHILDREN



Future Orphanage

Leonarda's **H**ome
of
Hope, Inc

**Needs Your
Support**

Leonarda's Home of Hope



With love and compassion, Sor Leonarda Martinez Lali, director of Comunion H, nurtures the orphaned children of Limón, Honduras. Known as "Madre" to the youngsters, Sor Leonarda cultivates the children's desire to learn in school and to dream of a future involving higher education and a career. She works tirelessly to rear beautiful and responsible young adults.

The current orphanage is located in an abandoned hotel with an active bar attached. Using three bedrooms and barely functional bathrooms, the environment is unsuitable for the 58 children cared for by Sor Leonarda.



Current Orphanage

Planning is underway to begin the construction of a new orphanage in a nearby residential area. Land is ready for construction, design plans have been developed, and fund raising has begun. The new orphanage will accommodate up to 94 children plus four adult workers.



Site for Future Orphanage

GOALS:

The goals of LHOH include:

- The construction of a new orphanage to house the current children and more who continue to live on the street.
- The education of the children beyond the public schools available in Limón. Some of these children will necessarily receive their further education in a nearby city; some may later attend technical schools or universities.
- The provision of regular and sustainable financial support for the daily operation of the orphanage.

*I wish to help LHOH provide a home for orphaned children in Honduras.
This gift is being made by:*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

This gift is given in memory of or in honor of: _____

Please acknowledge this gift to: _____

Address: _____

LHOH is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your gift may be tax deductible.

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CONTACT PERSONS:

Ken Hook, Chairman of Board
Peggy Hook, Secretary