

SEEDS OF LEARNING 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



83
Scholarships Given to Nicaraguan Students

Thanks to this scholarship, I have been able to become a professional here, and also be supported and helped in my personal development. The satisfaction that I feel to be able to help the children to improve each day, is without a doubt, one of the best opportunities that I have had. SOL University Scholarship student Juana Elizabeth Loaisiga Mendoza, 19 years old, Ciudad Dario, Nicaragua.

484
Total students participating in classes (Music, Art, Dance, Crafts, etc.)

My favorite place in my community is the library, because I love to read and in this way learn more. Also, because, by reading, I can improve my vocabulary, self-esteem and my dreams. I have been coming to this library since it was inaugurated. Thanks to the library, I have read many books. Community Member, Larry Noé López González, Villa Japon, Nicaragua.

142
International Volunteers who traveled to Mexico or Nicaragua

I love Nicaragua. The people, the landscape, the culture and the food shall forever live in my heart and memory. It was such a gift to immediately connect with the people of the community, the children did not hesitate to play with us and constantly run alongside us. 2018 Work Group Volunteer, Tesla Carlsson, Sonoma, CA.

378
Active Participants in the Reading Campaigns

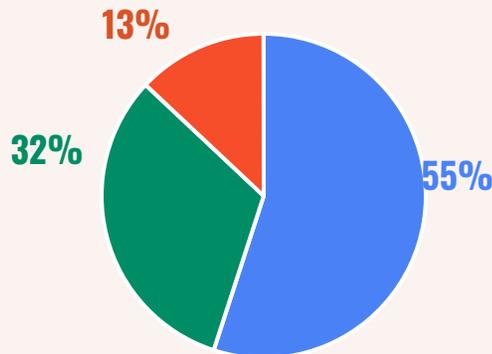
My daughter who comes to participate in the Reading Campaign and she has already begun to build her habit of reading. Now, when she comes into the center, she goes directly to the reading corner, without even waiting to see if anyone is attending, or checking. She says that it has helped her in her verbal communication, and with her own recounting of stories as well. Mother of a student in the Reading Campaign, Ciudad Dario, Nicaragua.

27
People trained in Basic Welding in Nicaragua

63,797
Total User Visits to SOL Learning Resource Centers

28
Travel Scholarships Awarded to Volunteers

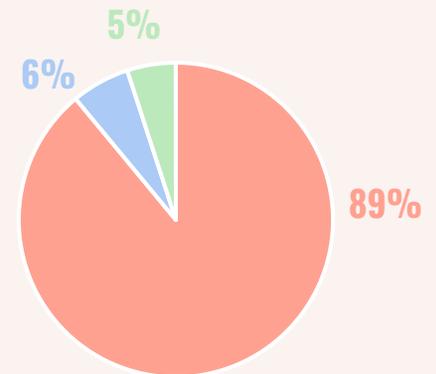
7
Construction/Repair Projects Completed



2018 Overall Income

- Individuals and organizations - \$322,327
- Fee income from work group volunteers - \$191,354
- Fundraising events and other - \$75,961

I became involved in SOL programs when we first built the school in my community. Before, classes were taught under a shaky canopy improvised in the ruins of an old building. Sometimes, when it was too windy, we feared the roof would collapse and the children had to move under a tree. Classes used to stop during rainstorms. Later, other programs arrived with SOL, like the community center where we have had lots of opportunities to learn from talks, seminars and workshops. We have learned new agricultural techniques, like micro-drip irrigation systems, compost making, preparation of organic pesticides and much more. However, something that helped me personally a lot was the training workshop on welding. I was hesitant because welding is a trade traditionally for men. However, we were encouraged by community leaders and SOL to participate. It was an exciting experience because we learned a lot, despite it being just basic training. After the workshop, we organized our own team of welders, with other people trained in the community under the leadership of a community leader who had good experience as a welder. We have worked in many construction projects, including schools, learning resource centers and private homes. We are five, of which two of us are women. At the beginning, in the communities where we had projects, people believed that we were with the welders to cook for them or just to hang out because they supposed they were our husbands or boyfriends. But, when they saw us welding on the top of a roof their eyes were wide open! They had never seen female welders! Our income opportunities have increased



2018 Overall Expenses

- Program - \$607,586
- Fundraising - \$44,512
- Administration - \$34,101