

Los Amigos Episcopales a 501(c)3 peace & justice ministry in the Diocese of Ohio since 1992

Parish Representatives:

Church of Our Saviour Akron Jennifer Boswell Maggie & Ray Boswell

St. Matthew Brecksville
Debi Lindemeyer
Nick Lindemeyer, Youth Rep.
Suzette & Bruce Reynolds
Gretchen & Ford Tucker

St. Paul Cleveland Heights Anne Anderson Connie Hanson Beau Stauffer

St. Paul Medina The Rev. Roger Tiffany

St. Thomas Berea Ruth Ihde Robert James Linda Kinsey Charlotte Rodriguez

Cleveland Salvadoran Community Representative: Victor Jimenez

El Salvador is currently experiencing more violence than any time since the Civil War ended in 1992.

Providing a safe environment for the children attending the Episcopal schools is of prime importance.

## Los Amigos Episcopales

c/o St. Thomas Episcopal Church 50 E. Bagley Road, Berea, OH 44017 www.losamigosepiscopales.org

July 19, 2015

Notice of Effectiveness Report

To the Diocese of Ohio Commission for Global and Domestic Mission c/o Eva Cole at ecole@dohio.org

On behalf of Los Amigos Episcopales, a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable Ohio organization and a peace and justice ministry in the Diocese of Ohio, and the children of San Andrés Apóstol School in Amatepec de Soyapango in urban El Salvador, please accept this sincere thank you for the \$4,250 grant in support of the re-opening of San Andrés Apóstol School.

We are delighted to report that three of our members visited the school on February 1, 2015 and witnessed first-hand the progress of the students and the importance of the funds you provided.

In partnership with the Diocese of El Salvador and TELA Women (<a href="www.telawomen.org">www.telawomen.org</a>), the proposed Montessori school program is underway. We cannot stress enough the importance of this program, designed to empower local women to participate inside and outside the classroom and contribute to preventing violence, strengthening the community and advancing peace-building efforts in El Salvador.

The grant request has provided safety and security building upgrades, Montessori classroom materials, and funding for a Montessori consultant to be on-site for the month of January for hands-on training of teachers and parents. Los Amigos' members Jennifer Boswell, Anne Anderson, and Debi Lindemeyer attended Bishop David Alvarado's blessing of the school, met with the students and teachers, participated in a presentation of the Montessori program, and toured the facility.

This project also created a community space for development and participation aimed at keeping children and their families safe and engaged in building the future of their community. It is hoped this Montessori program will be a model for development of similar programs at other schools in the Diocese of El Salvador.

Grant funding from the Diocese of Ohio Commission for Global and Domestic Mission addressed two poverty challenges: MDG #2 (primary education) and #3 (gender equality & empower women). The funding you provided supported the following specific items:

1 month stipend & expenses of certified Montessori consultant during start-up: \$2,250
Bathroom remodel/repair (new toilets, relocate faucets, install sinks): \$600
Electrical upgrades: \$500
Montessori classroom materials: \$900

Photo documentation has been provided by our partner for this project, Angela Smith, Executive Director and founder of TELA Women, to verify the appropriate use of funds for this project.

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Gretchen D. Tuekes

Gretchen D. Tucker, President Los Amigos Episcopales



San Andrés Apóstol School





The class of 2015



Angela Smith, Executive Director and founder of TELA Women, with newly consecrated Bishop David Alvarado and his wife, Revda. Irma Alvarado.



Revda. Irma Alvarado (wife of the Bishop), Debi Lindemeyer, Bishop David Alvarado, Jennifer Boswell & Anne Anderson. January 31, 1915 Consecration of the new Bishop.



Students of San Andrés Apóstol School present a program during the blessing of the re-opening of the school. February 1, 2015





The Montessori program not only provides educational materials but also teaches responsibility for the care and clean up of the materials.



The children were eager to demonstrate their activities to the Los Amigos' visitors.



TELA Women volunteers from the US worked alongside parents to prepare the building for re-opening.



Montessori materials



Teachers and parents attending Montessori theory training.