

Final Report Chicken Raising Project from Cabo de Orno, Nicaragua

First off, I would like to thank the Santa Barbara Peace Corps Association immensely for its support in this project. The project was a huge success, and thanks to your support, your donation continues to help the community of Cabo de Orno work to help itself out of the poverty that they face. In the following paragraphs I will document the results of the project and then present a letter of thanks written by the community of Cabo de Orno. Again, we all appreciate your support and hope that your organization continues such small-scale effective donations.

Project Summary

The project began with a workshop on chicken raising. Most of the information presented was information already known to most of the women. The information reinforced, however, the most important concepts of raising chickens in a successful manner. The material used was a book called Machete Verde, which illustrates the proper management of chicken raising in a basic manner using simple language and pictures. The workshop was presented by one of the women and included such topics as how to build a chicken pen, the selection of a good chicken and rooster, common sicknesses of chickens, nutrition, and how to care for the chicks. The women then constructed their own chicken pens to protect the chickens from predators at night time.

The project was executed on the first of November. On this day, 11 women borrowed \$30.00 from the fund that was provided by your organization. Their instructions were to buy 9 chickens and one rooster. Two weeks later I visited all of the women to see their chickens. I was pleased to find that they had all bought their chickens and were extremely excited about the project.

I followed the women's progress with their chickens through the next four months. Their goals were to have good egg production and raise baby chicks. I have to say that they did an exceptional job at this. Below I will list the number of baby chicks that were produced by each of the women in a three month period.

| Woman's Name | # of Chicks |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Petrona Martinez | 62 |
| 2. Anna Maria Velasquez | 14 |
| 3. Sylvia Rosa Velasquez | 9 |
| 4. Evelia Lucia | 21 |
| 5. Mercelina Mendez | 70 |
| 6. Juana Francisca Martinez | 18 |
| 7. Marcela Rodriguez | 15 |
| 8. Maricela Guerra | 7 |
| 9. Daisy Guerra | 10 |
| 10. Marina Alinez | 8 |
| 11. Paula Betran | 64 |
| | 298 |

As you can see, most of the women had a good production in the short period of time. When I left in April all of the women had returned their money and it had just been loaned out to a new group of 11 women from the same community, thus, affecting a total of 22 women in total. The money will stay in their community and be managed by the women themselves. They realize the opportunity of this and are determined to keep the money working for them. It was an excellent opportunity for them and much thanks goes out to your organization.