

Dear Members of the SBPCA,

I greatly appreciate your efforts in helping us volunteers still on the “front lines” of our service. Your mini-grant program is a definite success at the community level, and in also helping boost the morale of us sometimes frustrated volunteers.

So here's the basic low down of the road project we accomplished here in Tamasha thanks to the help of the mini-grant project. Upon receiving the check we had a community meeting with the local directiva and talked about our possibilities. We decided to ask the mayor for the donation of the needed material, and use the funds to pay for the manual labor. On August 5 a truckload of 7 cubic meters of rock was hauled up to our community, and ironically the truck got stuck in the mud at a different location farther down the road than the original site we had chosen. So as simple as that, the road site was changed! Four workers were hired at the day labor rate of 45 colones , \$5.25 u.s. for a period of 6 days [45 colones (\$5.25) x 4 workers x 6 days = \$126], the daily tasks being digging, measuring and laying the rocks. With the donated material we layed down two lines in the road, each one meter thick and 23.5 meters long.

The remaining \$24 will be used for the purchase of paints for a school world map mural. Trust me on this one! The money will not be spent buying our local Pilsner beer.

I can't thank you guys enough for your efforts. The project came to me in the nick of time to save me from one of those ruts where you keep thinking, “What am I doing here?” I still haven't figured out the answer, but the smiles from my friends in my community show that it needs no answer.

Thanks again.

Josh Brough, El Salvador

P.S. O.K. just one pilsner on you guys. Thanks. Will send a picture of the world map when completed.