

SHARE USA

Issue 2

Fall 2011

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Share USA Vice Presidents Ron & Alice Pearce during their recent trip to Monte Plata



Baseball Clinic

Share USA, Inc. hosted its first ever Baseball and Softball Clinic for the children of Monte Plata in the Dominican Republic on October 28 and 29, 2011. The event was coordinated by Sean Kober of Pine Bush, NY and Share USA Vice Presidents, Alice and Ron Pearce. John Tumminia, long time Chicago White Sox scout, was the Director of the Baseball Clinic.

Approximately 200 boys and girls, grades 5 to 12, from the Eva M. Russell School and Casa Monte Plata Orphanage participated as well as over 100 students from the public school. The Dominican Republic Department of Education permitted the students to miss school on Friday so that they could participate in the clinic.

Every child received a baseball glove and many other items that were generously donated by various groups. For most of the children, this was their first baseball mitt. Each day the children received 2 hot dogs plus a bag of shelled peanuts for lunch so that they could experience an American day at a baseball field. A professional sport photographer, Bill Parmeter, generously gave his time and skill to take pictures and each child will be receiving a baseball card with his or her photo.

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SHARE USA

Continued from page 1... **Clinic Success**

We feel the entire trip was blessed because nothing was missing from our shipments of donated baseball equipment, and Ron and Alice were able to bring in 85 new baseball mitts without even a question from customs!

We also feel fortunate that the field had been cleaned up and reseeded only a month before because a Senator from the area wanted to bring his friends there for a different event. The field still looked pristine, saving us an enormous amount of time having to clean away garbage so the children would be safe while playing.

The community rallied around the event, with men helping to coach the children in various skills, and two former minor league baseball players from Monte Plata joining in to coach and advise the kids on the realities of making it to the Majors.

Upon returning to the USA we have been told that walking through various neighborhoods of Monte Plata there are children out playing catch and laughing. I would say we succeeded in our clinic.

We are hoping to turn this clinic into an annual one day event.

We would like to thank the Chicago White Sox, the Goldklang Group, Superintendent Joseph T. Smith of the Shawangunk Correctional Facility, also Vocational Print Shop Instructor Joe Nicotera, the Pine Bush Little League, Northridge Community Church, and all of the individual donors who so generously gave so that this event could be a success and bring so much happiness to the children of Monte Plata.



Casa Monte Plata Update:

Juana and Ramon Prenza have moved into the completed Directors' Home and office, allowing them to assist the house parents of the three other homes that currently make up the Casa Monte Plata Orphanage. A fourth home still has not been repaired from damage due to the Haitian earthquake. A group called Leader Trek began work on the Multipurpose building, but it still needs to be completed. Until it is done, the children congregate in the Directors' Home to do homework and play games.



New Director's Home & Office

Vision for the Future Update:

We are exploring the possibility of providing English as a second language classes in Monte Plata. Currently these are only available in Santo Domingo which is an expensive and time consuming trip by bus.

We continue to collect funds for a vocational school program in Monte Plata. We currently have \$6,100 USD towards the initial cost of \$20,000. The initial program will be for electricians.

SHARE USA is also researching existing vocational school opportunities in Santo Domingo with the idea that perhaps scholarships could assist interested students in attending. Some of the programs offered are for electricians, plumbers, certified nurse assistants, and phlebotomists. Programs are a few months to 2 years in length.

Family in Need:

Rosita, age 11 and in grade 3, attends the Eva M. Russell School. She is the youngest of seven children. Rosita's father has been on the kidney transplant list for 10 years and biweekly dialysis for the past 7 years. He has not been able to work due to the frequent need to be hospitalized.

The family has a limited income from small jobs that Rosita's mother is able to do. Recently, the father was told that he could self-administer his dialysis at home rather than making the two hour bus trip to Santo Domingo twice a week if he had a separate room dedicated for this purpose. The cost of building such a room is approximately \$2,000 USD. This room would also have a cement roof rather than a zinc roof so that the family would have a safe room to go to when there is a hurricane.

Slowly, the family has been trying to build this room. There would be tremendous benefit to the family if they were able to eliminate the cost and the time burdens of the biweekly trips to Santo Domingo. They are a loving and giving family in spite of their own tremendous need.

If you are interested in helping Rosita's family, please donate to Share USA, indicating Rosita's House on your donation.



Rosita's Family

Service in Action:

Sean Kober, John Tumminia and Bill Parmeter



Sean Kober:

When he isn't coordinating the first annual Monte Plata baseball clinic, Sean Kober is a Correction Counselor at the Shawangunk Correctional Facility in NY. His tasks include meeting with inmates, discussing personal issues and family matters, as well as making them aware of Programs that address needs established by the Department. The inmates, on average, are serving sentences that are approximately 75 years long.

John Tumminia:

Serving as the Director of the clinic, John has been a major league baseball scout for over 25 years and was recently enshrined into the Hudson Valley wing of the Professional Scouts Hall of Fame at Dutchess County Stadium in Fishkill, New York. Several of his trade recommendations are now key members of the 2011 Chicago White Sox team.

Bill Parmeter:






Bill is a photographer for soxprospects.com and has supplied pictures of Chinese players for MLB/TW. Bill is also involved with Goodwill Industries locally with their Festival of Trees for the past 3 years. He enjoys action photography, from baseball, surfing, wake boarding, kite boarding, and occasionally wildlife.

Grant Writer Needed:















Share USA is seeking the assistance of an individual with grant writing experience. The needs in Monte Plata are numerous, and our resources are limited. Please contact us if you can help.

Needed Items

Immediate Needs:

-  3 doors for classrooms
-  Stove for missionary's house
-  White boards to be used in classrooms
-  Desks for the younger grades
-  Mini Van for transportation of children (\$30,000 USD)

On-Going Needs:

-  Peanut Butter
-  Dried Fruit
-  Powdered Drink Mix
-  Insect Repellent
-  Toothpaste
-  Tooth Brushes
-  Shampoo
-  Body Soap
-  Towels
-  Feminine Sanitary Products
-  Children's Chewable Vitamins
-  Tylenol® (Children & Adults)
-  Lightweight Clothing
-  Children's Underwear

Drop Off Contacts:

Arizona: 732.530.1255
 Connecticut: 973.728.3124
 New Jersey: 908.415.7905

Please call as each location varies on items collected.

www.shareusa.org

Staff Spotlight: Anadelly



Anadelly Gedon is eighteen years old. She was born in the Dominican Republic, but her parents came from Haiti to work. Anadelly is the second oldest of five children. Her father died when she was seven years old and her mother died when she was thirteen. Anadelly says that although her parents did not know how to read, they instilled in her Christian values and often told stories of Jesus, His miracles and His love for her. Anadelly came to live with 2 missionaries at the Eva Russell School when she was thirteen. Since completing high school in June 2011 she has been working for the school, helping in the kitchen to prepare meals for the students and various groups that come to Monte Plata. Currently, she is taking an English course in the capital, Santo Domingo until she is able to get her documents to be a legal resident. Anadelly would like to study at the university to be a teacher at the public high school, or a translator for groups that come to Monte Plata.

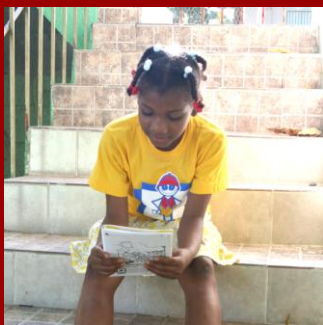
Success Story: Nathanael



Nathanael Valencia Hernandez graduated from the Eva Russell School in June 2011 and successfully passed the public entrance exams to become a freshman in high school. He enjoys any poetry. When he is not in school, he works as an apprentice in a wood-working shop in the afternoons, building furniture and cabinets. Nathanael lives with his father, mother and sisters. His father is a farm worker and his mother works as a nurse in Santo Domingo. She comes back to Monte Plata on weekends and when she has vacation. Nathanael became a Christian this past summer at camp, and has been actively participating in a local church since then.

Eva M. Russell School Update:

The 2nd grade student Share USA provided with enrichment help is doing well and is now in the 3rd grade, performing at grade level. She was very excited to show off her reading skills. As a result, Share USA is looking into other enrichment programs and opportunities in Monte Plata.



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Make a onetime or recurring donation
 Like us on Facebook * Host a fundraiser
 Donate needed items * Sponsor a child
 Volunteer with our team

Donations can be made at our website: www.shareusa.org
 (PayPal)

Sponsorship is through KidsAlive International.
www.kidsalive.org

Click: Around the world
 Click: Dominican Republic

Choose: Eva Russell School or Monte Plata Children's Home