FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

May 2017



Animal care and farm maintenance: Manja about the week with the american veterinarians

PEAS

Everyone who has already been to Samaná knows how many stray dogs and cats wander through the city. Most of them are in a terrible condition and being maltreated.

During the week from the 8th to the 12th of May, a group of veterinarians came to a village close to Samaná, to treat all those animals in need of treatment – especially dogs and cats –, regardless of whether they were strays or belonging to a home. The most common surgeries performed were vasectomies and spaying, to get reproduction rates of the animals under control.

Amongst others, volunteers from the multimedia project and from the hospital supported the team of veterinarians by interpreting, assisting in pre- and postoperative treatments, walking dogs, and finding homes for the stray animals.

We've had a tremendous amount of fun, learned a lot, and are already looking forward to our new animal care and farm maintenance project, where we are going to to continue our work with the veterinarians and animals.



Laurenz about his First Aid workshops in El Limón

Our last workshop with the tourist guides from El Limón has focused on teaching them how to improve their income and now we returned to give First Aid courses. The guides learnt how to help in many different situations reaching from insect bites and sun strokes to drowning and cardiac arrests. Our volunteer group and the teachers at school refreshed their knowledge, too and we also had a course for the students at our school. Now we are planning to extend the project to reach even more people.



Kristina about the last Computer class

It's already the third time that students have graduated our computer classes for beginners. Early in May, ten students aged 14 to 60 years received their certificates after participating the class for more than three months and passing the final exam. We have always had a lot of fun getting while learning how a computer works and learning to create text documents, presentations and doing research in the internet. It was the first time that volunteers organized and taught the class on their own – preparing the materials as well teaching the students.

At the end of May two new computer classes started – one advanced course for the students that already participated before in a previous class and a new one for beginners. We are already looking forward to meeting new challenges and seeing our students learn and improve during the next three months.

Introduction of the new coordinator: Sebastian

Saludos a todos,

My name is Sebastian, I am the new coordinator for our social and cultural operations.

I have been working for several years in the associative sector and I have developed a strong attachment to various NGO's, so I have chosen to put my experience at the service of a social & humanitarian organization. I firmly believe in the values of equity advocated by Aldeas de Paz, and I am strongly committed to promoting the vision of our organization.

Thanks to my multicultural upbringing, I'm convinced that cultural exchange and mutual learning between our volunteers and the Dominican population are key factors to the success of our numerous projects. Through our cooperative work, we analyze the needs of the Dominicans, and elaborate efficient strategies to assist them. The various projects we develop with the local community in Samaná help us make meaningful progress and improve the life of vulnerable people.

I was very happy to join this energetic team and help our organization support the ideal of a better life for the less fortunate. I'm very interested in expanding the positive change we encourage by working hand in hand with all our volunteers, our local staff and the Dominican population.

ALDEAS DE PAZ

Calle Adriano Horton Samaná 32000 Dominican Republic Homepage: http://www.peacevillages.org/ Facebook: Fundacion Aldeas de Paz E-Mail: <u>mail@peacevillages.org</u>

