



## NEWS from Managua

As we put on our warm winter coats and start to look forward to spring, a new academic year is about to begin in Nicaragua. Edward and Barbara Dunsworth have reported that 86 students - up from 69 last January - will be in the **Pathway Program** when school resumes in February. There had been a budget for 75 children in the program but with the support of P2P donors, Ed was able to admit an additional 11 children whose families have requested entrance into the Pathway program. On a personal note, Ed and Barb enjoyed a wonderful Christmas in Managua with their daughter, Sally and her family who visited from Belize.

**Special English Classes** – “We’ve just enrolled 8 of our top high school students (including Mauro – see video link under Breakfast!) in Saturday English classes at the North America Nicaragua Cultural Center for the next 3 months as a pilot project. These classes are costly but the center has a good reputation and our hope is that the kids’ grades will reflect that once they’re back in school. They just started last Saturday and are so excited! Each one of them loves English and we want to recognize that and give them the opportunity to really move ahead.” - *Barbara & Ed*

### Program Report Card Dec 2012

69 students in the program

- 46% of the Pathway students received an average of 90% or better
- 70% of the Pathway students received an average of 80% or better
- 65 % of the Pathway students are in the top 10 in their class
- 8 of the Pathway students placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in their classes

### Slumber Party Fun

Just before Christmas, Kristell, a Pathway to Change university student who graduated from high school a year ago, and continues to volunteer as a tutor in the program, organized a slumber party for the high school girls. They had a lot of fun roasting marshmallows around a bonfire, playing games and watching a movie – typical teenage fun - but the evening also included time for some serious discussion as well about cliques and peer pressure and how each girl needs to be strong as an individual. “Already, at 18, Kristell is a confident and capable young woman with terrific leadership skills,” Barbara says, “She’s a terrific asset to our program.”

**Happy New Year** to all of our supporters! A great big **THANK YOU** is extended to all who continue to support Pathway to Progress Nicaragua (P2P); here is an update!

## Breakfast of Hope

Our Second Annual Breakfast Fundraiser, held on **November 15, 2012**, was a wonderful success. Over 80 folks joined emcee Costas Halavrezos, Ed Dunsworth and the P2P Board for an engaging hour of videos and testimonials to learn more about the Pathway students and the impact the program is having on them and their families. For anyone wishing to see the compelling video of Pathway student Mauro Lopez, here is the U-tube link: <http://youtu.be/EjV7AtpN3w>. Heartfelt thanks is extended to all who joined us and who gave so generously. Close to \$11,000 was raised for the education of children in Managua for this year and in addition, there was commitment of over \$60,000 pledged for the next 5 years.

### P2P Team in the Bluenose Marathon

P2P is very excited to be entering a team in the Halifax Bluenose Marathon in May. Our goal is to raise \$10,000. If any of you would like to lace up your sneakers and join our team, please contact Trudy at [trudycomeau@gmail.com](mailto:trudycomeau@gmail.com) or Brenda at [brenda.rowe@flyjazz.ca](mailto:brenda.rowe@flyjazz.ca).

**Our Mission:** *Pathway to Progress Nicaragua is dedicated to supporting an innovative program in Nicaragua that provides educational opportunities for Nicaragua's most vulnerable sector: children and youth living in poverty.*

We welcome all donations which can be made through our website [www.p2pnicaragua.org](http://www.p2pnicaragua.org) or cheques can be mailed directly to:

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