

# KENOLI

Ken And Oli Johnstone Foundation



## Annual Report



# 2014-15

# KENOLI

Ken And Oli Johnstone Foundation

## VISION

Vulnerable people, including women and youth, become self-sufficient and empowered, which leads to greater social justice in the countries where we work.

## MISSION

Ken and Oli Johnstone Foundation is a private Canadian foundation that works to alleviate poverty and hunger by supporting organizations that build community self-sufficiency and advance human rights in Latin America.

The Foundation was established in 2007 and its assets come from the estates of Ken and Oli Johnstone of Vancouver, BC, Canada.

## Remarks from the Board

As the United Nations focuses on Sustainable Development Goals to guide international development in the coming years, we see that the bold vision of world leaders to uphold human dignity, equality and free the world from extreme poverty has paid off. The 2000-2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)<sup>1</sup> set out eight measurable goals, which have made a profound difference in people's lives. Global poverty has been halved, child mortality has dropped, 90% of children in developing countries enjoy primary education and the difference between boys and girls is narrowing.

However, much more needs to be done! Child malnutrition is still unacceptably high in all the countries where Kenoli works and reaches an astounding 50% in Guatemala and 70% in Indigenous areas. Many of our partners in Latin America strive to

achieve food security so that children and adults will have sufficient quantity and quality of food to lead healthy lives. This is not easy. Access to land, soil fertility, climate change, and culture are only a few of the issues that impact when, what and how food is grown, how it is prepared, and who eats.

Gender inequality is still too high in the countries where Kenoli works and all partners address this issue. The high rates of homicide in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala are unacceptable and human insecurity is an issue for everyone. The work of our partners to protect human rights defenders is more critical than ever.

As we travel through the countries, it is easy to be discouraged, as we see huge unmet needs. However, we are also inspired – inspired by the dedication of our partners and the differences that they make in the lives of the most vulnerable. We see families that now have more nutritious food to eat, improved

stoves that reduce smoke inhalation and respiratory diseases, improved drinking water and sanitation, children going to school, and communities that are organized and demanding more and getting it from their governments. Great successes!

The MDGs remind us that development takes time and that while government commitment is essential, governments alone cannot achieve all that is required. We all need to play our part and Kenoli will continue to do what we can to alleviate poverty and hunger and advance human rights in: El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras and Bolivia!

*Ken Phillips*  
Chair, Kenoli Foundation  
Trustee for Ken & Oli Johnstone Foundation

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, The Millennium Development Goals Report, 2014

## KENOLI TEAM

Vera RADYO • Magda LANUZA • Gabriela QUINTANILLA • Edwin ESCOTO • Andrea DEL PINAL • Tatiana CORTEZ

# Kenoli Partners' Forum II

September 2-4, 2014 in Siquatepeque, Honduras

Forty-five people from 33 organizations in Bolivia, Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua participated in Kenoli's second international partners forum. Presentations and workshops dealt with topics such as: human rights, political advocacy, appropriate technology, child nutrition, food sovereignty, evaluation, and fundraising. Participants valued the event, found it an extremely enriching experience and requested further opportunities to learn from one another.



Kenoli team: (back row) Edwin, Andrea, Gabriela, Ken, (front row) Magda, Vera & Tatiana



Aida of ADAM talks about their work



Filadelfo of ACIDES displays some of products made by the women



Workshop



Forum participants

# El Salvador

El Salvador experienced a military coup in 1972 and a civil war from 1980-92, which left a very violent society with high levels of poverty. Over 12% of the 6.3 million<sup>1</sup> inhabitants live in poverty and remittances account for 16% of the country's GDP.<sup>2</sup> The homicide rate has increased to a shocking 70 violent deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. We have six excellent partners in El Salvador working in challenging circumstances to advance food security, nutrition, health, human rights, and consumer rights.



ADES human rights workshop



ACIDES women selling their products

## ● ACIDES

Supporting the Economic Initiatives of Rural Women, \$8,500 US

ACIDES works to alleviate poverty and exclusion. In this project with Kenoli, they strengthened three micro-enterprises of rural women in Panchimalco. ACIDES provided business management training and technical assistance in product diversification, developing a visual corporate identity, and participation in commercial events.



Radio Victoria airs human rights & other programs

## ● ADES

Human Rights Defenders Network, \$32,000 US

ADES provides a wide range of programs in Cabañas to assist the most excluded people to achieve their basic rights. In this project, ADES established an emergency fund to assist human rights defenders. They trained 30 youth and nearly 200 community leaders in human rights and built a network of human rights defenders. ADES also aired radio programs on human rights, provided legal assistance where human rights have been violated, and supported communities to participate in democratic processes leading to greater access to justice.



APRODAE participant with his plant nursery

## ● APRODAE

Strengthening Local Development, \$21,700 US

APRODAE is a community development organization working with rural communities in San José Guayabal and San Vicente. In this project, APRODAE worked in four villages with nearly 300 vulnerable people. They provided training in nutrition and healthy cooking; and technical assistance for building 50 improved stoves, 50 small poultries, and eight demonstration plots of soybean.

1 All the statistics in this report come from United Nations agencies (particularly UNDP) and the World Bank.

2 Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

● **Asociación Centro para la Defensa del Consumidor (CDC)**

Toward a Healthy Future, \$27,300 US

CDC promotes consumer rights and sustainable consumption by supporting consumer movements, research, and advocacy. With Kenoli's support, CDC promoted healthy eating of the Salvadorian population through a public awareness campaign, school activities, political advocacy and an economic assessment of healthy food stores in schools.

● **FUSANMIDJ**

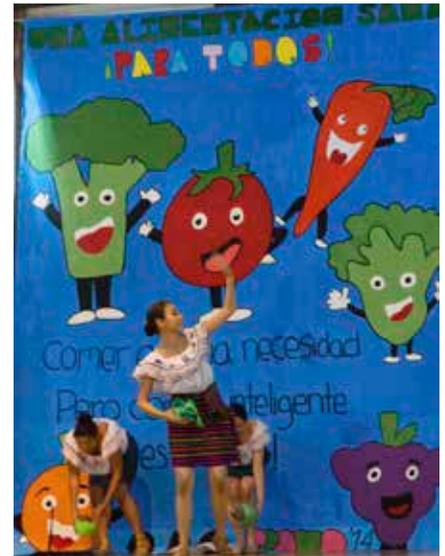
Improving Family Nutrition, \$60,000 US over two years

FUSANMIDJ strengthens vulnerable populations through provision of training, leadership development, and advocacy. In this project, they improved the health of 100 malnourished children by training their mothers on healthy nutrition. FUSANMIDJ also trained eight new community health promoters, worked with 10 families to plant soy and peanuts to improve local access to protein, and collaborated with four public schools on educational campaigns.

● **Asociación Mangle**

Diversified Production and Commercialization, \$70,690 over two years

Asociación Mangle supports the development of communities that live in the biosphere reserve of Jiquilisco Bay, bordering on the Lempa River. With Kenoli's support, Assn. Mangle improved the living conditions and food security of 70 impoverished families in five communities by providing technical training on sustainable agriculture, corn production and processing, small poultries and commercial production of chickens.



Healthy eating is the theme of this performance



Nurse weighs young child



Chickens in the cooperative are fed



Mangle participant demonstrates corn grinder

# Guatemala

Guatemala experienced a long civil war (1960-96), which continues to affect the country today. Approximately 60% of Guatemala's 15.5 million inhabitants are Indigenous. The country has the highest rate of chronic child malnutrition (50%) in Latin America and this reaches a shocking 70% in Indigenous communities. Gender inequality is very high at 0.52<sup>1</sup> and women only hold 13% of the seats in parliament. The educational level of the population is low at 5.6 years of schooling<sup>2</sup> and the government only invests 2.8% of GDP in education. Guatemala is particularly subject to natural disasters and experiences about 230 deaths/year as a result. We have nine terrific partners in Guatemala working on empowering girls and women, human rights, food sovereignty, holistic rural development, educational opportunities for children, and Indigenous land rights.



ADEMI woman waters her seedlings



Francisca shows Magda the group's accounting system

## ● ADAM

Economic Empowerment of Women in Xeabaj II, \$23,500 US

ADAM supports the economic development of rural farmers. In this project, ADAM worked with Mayan women living in extreme poverty in the community of Xeabaj II in Sololá to strengthen their economic initiatives and to provide literacy training. The women managed revolving funds for steers, grain silos, organic worm composts, and vegetable production. The women have become more empowered, strengthened their vulnerable economic situation, and attracted other funds into their community from government and international sources.



ADEMI food fair

## ● ADEMI

Strengthening Mayan Women's Autonomy, \$70,000 US over two years

ADEMI is a Mayan women's organization that supports local community development towards a fair and harmonious society. ADEMI works with 260 women, 300 youth and 200 children in 12 Indigenous communities in the rural areas of Chimaltenango. Their work strengthens organic food production, native seed banks, a network of community health promoters, nutritional practices of children and pregnant women, and local advocacy efforts.

- 1 Gender in equality reflects women's disadvantage. 0 indicates that women and men fare equally and 1 indicates that women fare as poorly as possible.
- 2 Education is measured by mean years of schooling, which indicates the point where half the population has more years of schooling and half has less.

● **ADIMTU**

Leadership Institute, \$10,000 US

ADMITU is new to Kenoli and is an association of women working to improve opportunities for women and girls in San Pedro Sacatepeque. Kenoli is supporting the first year of the Leadership Institute for girls in enrolled in public schools. 260 vulnerable rural girls are receiving training to build their self-esteem and develop leadership skills.



Girls in ADIMTU training program

● **CasaSito**

Scholarship Program and Educational Fund, \$59,000 US over two years

CasaSito increases educational opportunities in rural areas so that Indigenous children living in poverty can attend school. Kenoli sponsors scholarships, workshops, and counseling for 20 high school and university students. Kenoli also supports the Theatre of the Oppressed program and provides nutritional support for 100 vulnerable children at Semilla de Esperanza y Amor (SEA) in San Mateo Milpas Altas.



Pre-school classroom at SEA



Scholarship students sponsored by Kenoli



Student at SEA



Lunch program at SEA

● **CONIC**

Sustainable Farming in Mayan Communities, \$65,000 US over two years

CONIC is a national organization of Mayan farmers. In this project, they work to improve the lives of 170 Mayan families living in poverty in seven communities in Chimaltenango. They strengthen skills in community organizing, sustainable farming, food security, nutrition, gender equity, and advocacy. CONIC has been very successful in obtaining Indigenous land rights!



▲ Drippings from the worm compost are used to fertilize vegetables

CONIC families celebrate their harvest



Ceremony to celebrate indigenous land titles

### ● **COMUNDICH**

Strengthening Indigenous Ch'orti' Authorities, \$22,000 US

COMUNDICH is an Indigenous organization that works in Chiquimula to eliminate discrimination and uphold human rights. Kenoli supports COMUNDICH to train six Indigenous mayors, establish two land and natural resources management councils, and strengthen educational efforts to recognize Indigenous people's rights. COMUNDICH has succeeded in obtaining Indigenous land rights and recognition of Indigenous mayors!



Lorenza shows her family's corn storage

### ● **FUNDENOR AQ'AB'AL**

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture in Las Verapaces, \$34,750 US

FUNDENOR facilitates holistic and sustainable development with local solutions that are in harmony with nature. They work with 350 families in 10 Indigenous communities to empower the families in sustainable farming practices, improve their nutritional status, implement healthy home improvements and strengthen community capacity.



Two women view the healthy eating posters

### ● **REDSAG**

Campaign for Healthy and Responsible Food Consumption, \$18,000 US

REDSAG is new to Kenoli and is a network of Guatemalan organizations that work on food sovereignty. In this project, they are raising awareness in northern Guatemala about the impacts of processed and genetically modified foods on people's health, local economies and the environment.



UDEFEFUA human rights workshop

### ● **UDEFEFUA**

Emergency Support for Human Rights Defenders, \$52,000 US over two years

UDEFEFUA supports human rights defenders in Guatemala by monitoring, investigating, and reporting attacks against defenders, as well as providing them with protection. Kenoli supports UDEFEFUA to provide emergency assistance, a safe house, and psychological support for threatened human rights defenders and their families. In addition, four other human rights organizations receive support to address small infrastructure vulnerabilities.

# Honduras

Honduras is one of the most violent places on earth with a homicide rate of 92 violent deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. The country experienced military rule from 1963-83, and in June 2009 had a coup d'état, leading to political instability and human rights abuses. Nearly 30% of the population lives in poverty with 18% living in extreme poverty.<sup>1</sup> We have eight amazing partners who are working under very challenging conditions. They are working on women's empowerment, human rights, the support of vulnerable preschool children, technical training for youth, food security, economic development, and holistic community development.

## ● ADROH

Strengthening Lenca Women's Capacities, \$20,000 US

ADROH works with rural indigenous Lenca communities to achieve holistic sustainable development. In this project, ADROH strengthens the capacities of 120 rural families in organic farming, healthy eating and good hygiene in the remote mountainous villages of San Francisco Opalaca, Intibucá.

## ● ANDAR

Children & Family Development Centre, \$44,000 US over two years

ANDAR works to strengthen families and communities. In this project, they foster children's rights to an education by providing a preschool for 50 vulnerable and malnourished children in Marcovia, Choluteca. They also train 20 mothers in Siempre Vivas<sup>2</sup> methodology, train 20 fathers in gender issues, and foster community coordination.



Participant in ADROH program talks about their work



Family garden in San Francisco Opalaca



Celebrating Children's Day at ANDAR's preschool

- 1 Poverty is defined by the UN as living on less than \$2.00/day and extreme poverty as living on less than \$1.25/day.
- 2 Siempre Vivas is a training program for rural women with little education to help them understand gender roles and build their self-esteem and self-confidence. It was developed by ANDAR and is used by many organizations in Central America.



AMDV woman cooks on an improved stove

### ● **Asociación de Mujeres Defensoras de la Vida**

Women Working for a Better Life, \$29,530 US

Asociación de Mujeres Defensoras de la Vida (AMDV) works with women to integrate them into the political, economic, social, and cultural life of their communities. They educate 120 mothers and their children on nutrition and healthy eating, build 60 improved stoves, support family gardens, and provide training on women's rights and security planning.

### ● **CODIMCA**

Empowering Rural Women, \$20,000 US

CODIMCA is a national rural women's organization that improves the conditions of women's lives. For this project, they trained 20 rural women in Siempre Vivas II methodology and trained women to improve their living conditions by claiming their rights to health, education, housing and land access.



CODIMCA president, Leoncia Solórzano and administrator, Antonia Gutiérrez

### ● **COFADEH**

Supporting Human Rights Defenders, \$12,000 US

COFADEH is new to Kenoli and works to promote human rights and access to justice in Honduras. In this project, COFADEH is strengthening support to human rights defenders through training and an emergency fund, researching violations of human rights, and bringing attention to human rights abuses in Honduras.

Berta Oliva and Magda Lanuza talk in the COFADEH home against forgetting atrocities ▾



The Kenoli team meets with Berta Oliva of COFADEH

## ● Grupo Juvenil Dion

Mobile Technical Training Workshops, \$26,500 US

Dion provides technical training and holistic education for vulnerable young people. They provide mobile workshops in hair dressing and electricity for 80 young people in two rural villages. Along with over 400 hours of technical training and practice, the youth receive training in values and how to start up their own small businesses.



ASOFAIL farmers show their produce (L-R above)



Student of Dion electrical program

## ● VECO

Mesoamérica (VECO MA) and ASOFAIL, Higher Living Standards for Small Farmers, \$20,000 US

VECO MA works with ASOFAIL in Honduras to contribute to better living standards for 285 Lenca small farmers in Intibucá. Activities include strengthening the productive capacity of small farmers, developing a sustainable business model and strengthening organizational capacities in relation to selling to formal markets.

## ● Vecinos Honduras

Holistic Community Development, \$35,000 US

Vecinos Honduras empowers vulnerable people in rural and remote communities to holistically manage their development. In the Michael Newman<sup>1</sup> program, Vecinos Honduras works with over 600 families in the Azabache and El Guano areas to promote holistic development through food sovereignty, community health, advocacy, and empowerment of women and youth.



◀ Vecinos Honduras staff: Balbina, Manuel, Reynaldo & Gilma

Students in a gender training workshop ▾



<sup>1</sup> Michael Newman of World Neighbours Canada supported the Vecinos Honduras programs for over 20 years and passed away in 2013. The program was named in his honour.

# Nicaragua

Nicaragua suffered two civil wars between 1967-90. It has a population of six million inhabitants of which 27% live in poverty. The average annual income is \$4,266 per person. Educational levels are low (mean of 5.8 years of school) and 52% of children drop out of primary school. While gender inequality is high (.46), women hold 40% of the seats in parliament. We have seven wonderful partners in Nicaragua working on holistic community development, food security, economic development, empowering women and youth, and clean water and sanitation.



Women have their own micro-businesses in growing vegetables and embroidery



Uriel of CEPROSI talks about their work



CEPROSI member cooks tortillas on her improved stove



CEPROSI family with their drip irrigation

## ● Chabelita Castro

Promoting Economic Rights of Rural Women, \$7,754 US

Chabelita Castro is new to Kenoli and works to empower rural women in the department of Matagalpa, Nicaragua. In this project, the organization is working to improve the economic conditions of the poorest rural women through training and a community revolving fund. Twenty-three women have begun micro-businesses in areas such as: growing and selling vegetables, sewing and embroidery, and selling clothes or homemade food.

## ● CEPROSI

Strengthening and Improving the Quality of Women's Lives, \$37,330 US over two years

CEPROSI improves the lives of impoverished women in three rural communities in Nindirí, Masaya. In this project, they provide training in healthy homes, including building improved stoves, pilas for water collection, and simple irrigation systems. They also train women in health and nutrition, strengthen 45 family gardens, develop worm composts, and work with youth on gender equality issues.



Colectivo youth with their seedlings

● **Colectivo de Mujeres Rurales ATC**

Empowering Rural Women and Youth, \$20,000 US

Colectivo works in rural areas of Matagalpa to improve the living conditions of women working in the coffee fields and mills. Colectivo trains 20 young adults on labour rights, trains 20 women and 20 men in issues of domestic violence, and supports 35 youth in income generation activities, organic farming, and handling revolving funds.

● **El Porvenir**

Community Educators Network, \$54,000 US over two years

El Porvenir improves rural living conditions through water and sanitation projects. Kenoli supports the training of 60 new community educators and 120 teachers, airing radio programs on hygiene and sanitation, testing water quality, and conducting school and public education campaigns.

● **FEDICAMP**

Improving Rural Food Security and Advocacy, \$71,000 US over two years

FEDICAMP supports rural economic development in northern Nicaragua. In this project, FEDICAMP works with 285 families in 18 rural communities to strengthen food security and improve the diets of these rural families. They provide technical training in agro-ecology and nutrition, strengthen native seed banks, and train local COMUSSANS—municipal food sovereignty, security, and nutrition committees.



Colectivo youth make organic fertilizer



Woman shows Cezar of El Porvenir the artwork on her latrine



FEDICAMP workshop on cooking nutritious food



Children in Los Quinchos after-school program

Young girl shows the crafts created by the children ▶

● **Asociación Quincho Barrilete**

Restoring Children’s Rights, \$37,932 US

Los Quinchos works to prevent all forms of violence against children and youth. In this project, they worked with 90 children vulnerable to abuse or the sex trade in Managua. They promoted school enrollment and retention, and provided technical training in baking, hammock making, and arts and crafts. Los Quinchos also provided training to strengthen family relationships, and provided educational sessions and materials on the new family violence law.



ODESAR participant shows Ken of Kenoli her garden ▼



Pila for storing water



● **ODESAR**

Production and Consumption of Healthy Food, \$80,000 US over two years

ODESAR empowers impoverished people through sustainable local development. In this project, ODESAR works with 300 families in eight rural villages in Esquipulas, Matagalpa, to reduce poverty and empower local people through programs on community organizing, food security, gender and reproductive health, hygiene and sanitation (installing 80 water filters, 50 latrines, 50 waste water treatment, and four chlorination systems), and rural youth leadership.



Ligia of ODESAR show the broad beans grown in this family garden

# Bolivia

Bolivia is a landlocked country with a population of 10.7 million inhabitants. It is the poorest and least developed country in South America. 23.4% of the population lives in poverty, and 15.6% lives in extreme poverty. Much of the population is Indigenous. The life expectancy is only 67 years, and gender inequality is relatively high at 0.47. However, the educational attainment is the highest of the countries that we work in, with a mean of 9.2 years of schooling for the adult population. In Bolivia, we are working with USC Canada partner, PRODII, in the areas of empowering women, increasing food security and building sustainable livelihoods.



Women and children of Uma Uma eat the potatoes they have grown

## ● USC Canada / PRODII

Sustainable Livelihoods in Uma Uma, \$25,000 CDN

USC Canada works in a global context to address mounting hunger and environmental challenges. USC works with their Bolivian partner, PRODII, to secure sources of food and livelihoods for small-scale farmers in the very remote and isolated Uma Uma region of Northern Potosí. PRODII has been successful in promoting agro-ecological practices and saving native seeds. They have also commercialized some food products, including “Api de Oca,” which is now used in school feeding programs. The participating farmers no longer need to travel long distances to buy vegetables as they have a greater diversity of food sources, increased incomes, and generally feel that the nutrition and education of their children has improved.



Uma Uma farmer sets out his produce on the roadside

## ● USC Canada / PRODII

Third Ecological Producers Forum in Northern Potosí, \$3,800 CDN

Kenoli contributed to the Third Ecological Producers Forum held May 2014 in Northern Potosí that involved nearly 180 farmers, government officials, field technicians, non-governmental organizations, and academics, who discussed agricultural production, commercialization of products and financing. Participants approved a declaration that called for: innovation in organic farming, greater access to markets and funding to increase their impact. The forum was a great success!



PRODII community leader explains the irrigation system



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