



THE DOMINICAN DEVELOPMENT GROUP

COMPANIONS IN MISSION



2018 Dominican Republic Mission Project Clearwater Deanery Colegio La Encarnación La Romana, Dominican Republic



The 2018 Clearwater Deanery Dominican Republic Mission project is to build the second level on the La Encarnación Episcopal School in the city of La Romana. Colegio (the name for a private school in the DR) La Encarnación, located in La Romana (pop ~ 200,000), was founded in 1993 as a mission of Todos los Santos, one of the older and stronger Episcopal congregations of the Dominican Episcopal Church. The priest in charge of both churches and schools is Fr. Bienvenido Lopez. La Encarnación Church has a regular Sunday attendance of 60-85 persons. La Encarnación School has grown to over 485 students, and offers classes from preschool through 8th grade. They need to expand the school to include 9th grade by August of 2018. The new classrooms for the school will provide for the eventual expansion through the 12th grade. The plan is to add one grade level per year until they reach 12th grade. The total budget for this project exceeds \$45,000 which is very ambitious and well beyond what the Clearwater Deanery has raised in the past. For this reason, the Clearwater Deanery is partnering with the Venice Deanery, joining resources and missionaries to complete this much needed project.



La Iglesia y Colegio Episcopal La Encarnación



Children at Colegio La Encarnación

The first Episcopal congregation in La Romana, Todos los Santos, began as a bible study and house-church in the late 1940's. It is now an "aided parish" and has one of the strongest Episcopal Schools in the country. It is the "mother church" of La Encarnación. La Romana, located between Santo Domingo and Punta Cana on the southern coast of this island country, has an industrial free zone, and is the home of Central La Romana, one of the most well managed sugar mills in the country. These two are the major providers of employment for the people of La Romana. Furthermore, La Romana has an international airport, is the home of Casa de Campo, an internationally famous resort, and the unique artist colony Altos de Chavón a little to the east of La Romana.

The goal for 2018 is to build the second story for La Encarnación School, providing 6 additional classrooms and allowing the school to expand to serve the children in the

area from Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. The funds raised will complete the blockwork, reinforced concrete, electrical, plumbing and other work which will be done by local workers, providing employment for the workers from the community, and getting the second floor ready for the Clearwater-Venice teams to finish.



The building awaiting the 2nd floor.



Office on the roof

The 2018 Clearwater Deanery Mission project marks the 17th consecutive year in which churches from the Clearwater Deanery have sent teams and provided much needed financial support to the Dominican Episcopal Church and its programs to help the poor in many different communities. As usual, the **Clearwater Deanery** will send its team to the Dominican Republic during the summer, from July 14-21, and will paint the interior of the new classrooms and the existing church and school, clean and seal the roof, and several other smaller projects including the painting and maintenance of the playground which was built in 2016. The estimated cost of the materials and Dominican labor for the 2018 Clearwater-Venice Deanery project is \$45,000 which covers the cost of the materials used by the teams, as well as the cost of completing the plumbing, electrical, windows, doors and protectors (burglar bars), getting the project ready for our teams. Missionaries are asked to raise approximately \$1,800 per person which covers the cost of round trip airfare, lodging, local transportation, as well as construction materials.

The DR Diocese really needs and appreciates this help from the Clearwater Deanery for completing this important project. The Diocese's limited resources makes the Clearwater-Venice support absolutely necessary to help this booming school. The good will of the deanery's missionaries, and those who will support them and the project, will have a major impact on the community and on the long-term growth of the Dominican Episcopal Church.



Team Dates: July 14-21, 2018

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