

▪ The Game Changer

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO NUTRITION, HEALTH AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

With Dr. Geoffrey Anguyo from Kigezi Healthcare Foundation (KIHEFO), Uganda

Dr. Geoffrey Anguyo is the passionate Director of KIHEFO, Change for Children's project partner in south-western Uganda. His leadership has inspired a unique, holistic community approach to challenges of malnutrition, extreme poverty, and HIV/AIDS that has garnered tremendous 'buy-in' by the local and global community. We are delighted to have Dr. Anguyo visit Alberta to discuss the solutions we are working together to achieve in Uganda.

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIVE AND INSPIRATIONAL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:



Dr. Geoffrey Anguyo

Calgary:

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

6:30pm Refreshments,
7:00pm Presentation

The Old Y Building, Wrubleski Hall
223 12 Avenue SW

Edmonton:

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

6:30pm Refreshments,
7:00pm Presentation

Change for Children Meeting Room
2nd Floor, 10808 - 124 St

▪ CHANGE FOR CHILDREN'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 29, 2011

6:30pm Refreshments,
7:00pm Meeting at the CFCA Meeting Room
(2nd Flr, 10808-124 St, Edmonton)
Presentations - Board Elections
Proposed Bylaw changes posted on
website by June 8.

▪ CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR CFCA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Information session:
6:30pm, Wednesday, May 18th
Deadline for applications:
Friday, June 17th
See website for details



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CHANGEFORCHILDREN.ORG

Change for Children Association (CFCA)

Change for Children partners with grassroots organizations in Latin America & Africa to support community-based solutions to poverty and social injustice while providing unique global education programs here in Canada.

Change for Children is a non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-profit organization operating from Edmonton, AB since 1976.

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Contribute to solutions.
www.changeforchildren.org

Change for Children's

field report

Human Dignity, Healthy Communities, Global Justice

Spring/Summer 2011



Tony Zelaya

▪ "Proud to be Miskito"

YOUTH OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

Tony Zelaya Lopez was only 12 years old when he made the long journey from the place where he was born, the Miskito village of Tuburus, located in the BOSAWAS rainforest reserve of Nicaragua, to the fast-moving capital city of Managua. He arrived in the city with the dream to complete his high school education – a dream that remains unlikely for most Miskito children, who grow up in a marginalized region where the majority of the population are without access to secondary education.

For Tony, or the 'Little Panther' as he is known affectionately by his Miskito friends, the challenges of moving to Managua were great. He faced culture shock, discrimination from his classmates, and had to study extra hard to keep up in Spanish – a language second to his native tongue of Miskito. But Tony's dream to succeed has always been greater than the odds against him. Over the last two years, Tony has not only gained the respect of his classmates, but he's achieved the 'Top Student' award at his high school in the municipality of El Crucero – two years in a row! Now 15 years old, Tony lives alone, supported by his parents, and works hard to achieve his goal of graduating from high school and becoming a civil engineer or businessman.

Despite his success in the city, Tony remains deeply nostalgic for the rainforest village where he grew up – dearly missing his Miskito friends and family. He longs to one day return to help his Miskito people.

"What I wish for most is to have a computer and camera," said Tony, "So I can finish the book I am writing about Miskito culture, traditions and religion."



BOSAWAS

▲ Change for Children is committed to supporting education in the isolated BOSAWAS Biosphere to ensure that children like Tony are not faced with the economic and cultural barriers of leaving their communities to receive an education. CFC is currently fundraising to build a high school in the village of Walakitang, where over 500 youth will benefit from the project. Education is crucial to reducing poverty, building indigenous capacity and preserving the sacred rainforest.



Guatemala



Water Projects

Food and Water – Our Top Priorities

Change for Children’s partner organizations in Latin American and Africa are community based agencies that respond to the pressing needs of local populations. Securing sustainable food and water resources are the top priorities for many of these communities. Via Campesina.org estimates that **OVER 925 MILLION PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY HUNGRY IN THE WORLD**, and are suffering from hunger related illnesses, including severe malnutrition. Rising food prices are increasingly affecting our target populations, not only in terms of increasing malnutrition but also by leading to political instability and economic decline. Access to clean water continues to be among the issues of greatest concern for rural populations in developing countries, especially those affected by climate change (droughts and frequent disasters). Children without access to clean water suffer from many common and curable illnesses and are often malnourished due to frequent bouts of diarrhea.

In the face of these immense challenges, Change for Children’s partners are using **INNOVATIVE AND HOLISTIC COMMUNITY APPROACHES TO HELP COMMUNITIES GAIN ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND WATER SOURCES**, promote renewable energy systems, and build local capacity to manage their resources in harmony with the environment, while securing healthier and brighter futures for their children.

Water

2011 MARKS THE 8TH YEAR THAT CHANGE FOR CHILDREN HAS BEEN DRILLING WATER WELLS IN NORTHWESTERN NICARAGUA, BENEFITTING A POPULATION OF OVER 75,000 PEOPLE. This area is a dry zone that has left 48% of the population without access to clean and secure drinking water. The holistic approach of our project partner, Centro Humboldt, to providing water security has included sustainable energy and solar powered water pumps, and prevention of deforestation and soil degradation through the distribution of solar ovens and efficient eco-stoves. Additionally, community leaders are trained in the maintenance of the water infrastructure and understanding national water laws, which empowers communities to better control, manage, and protect their water resources as a human right.

Food

Currently, Change for Children supports innovative projects focused on Food Security in Nicaragua, Honduras, Bolivia, Guatemala and Uganda, which train local farmers and food producers, diversify diets, improve nutrition and stimulate local economies.

Our **“Food in the Forest”** project with the Miskito Indigenous Peoples in Nicaragua and Honduras was recently approved by CIDA . In a region known as the “Lungs of Central America,” Change for Children works with local indigenous associations to provide sustainable agricultural training, tools, seeds and adaptive capacity building programs designed to improve food security and nutrition in this protected area landscape which is particularly vulnerable to the challenges of climate change.

In Bolivia, working with the Mosenen indigenous peoples in the Alto Beni region, Change for Children’s **“Better Nutrition for Better Learning”** project supports the development of small food processing cooperatives which produce dried fruits, fruit juices and fruit breads using local produce that would otherwise be wasted. The processed foods are then sold to the municipality for use in school lunch programs in a region with the highest rates of malnutrition amongst primary school aged children in the country.

Similarly in the Comitancillo region of western Guatemala, where Change for Children has been building primary schools for nearly ten years, our **“Community Food Security”** project works with the Mayan Mam indigenous peoples to implement nutritional and environmental education programs in schools as well as provide tools, seeds, training and micro-credit loans for farmers in a region facing extreme poverty and malnutrition due to frequent disasters and an economic reliance on growing cash crops for export rather than for food.

Also focused on improved agriculture and nutrition, our **‘Healthy Mothers, Healthy Communities’** project in Kigezi, Uganda is designed to lower maternal and child mortality rates in south-western Uganda, which are among the highest in the world. Nearly 30,000 people will benefit from improved access to health services and better nutrition resulting from training in innovative agriculture and diet diversification and micro-credit programs.

Your support is an integral part of these solutions. Thank you for contributing.



Bolivia



Women Preparing a Garden for Potatoe Planting



Solar Ovens Nicaragua



Healthy Mothers, Healthy Communities - Uganda

Latest News

- *St Angela’s Elementary School champions water issues and funds a community well with spell-a-thon.*
- *New **Tools for Schools** available online to support student and teacher involvement in international development projects.*
- *Annual charity golf tournament focuses on water.*

Read full stories online - www.changeforchildren.org

More News

- *CIDA approval of Nicaragua/Honduras Food From the Forest project means all donations are matched 3:1*
- *September 30 - Save the Date CFA’s Development Dinner*