

# BOCAS SCHOOL PROJECT



**Location:** Bocas del Toro, Panama

**Partner:** One World Children's Fund

**Issue Areas:** Extreme Poverty, Universal Education

**Points of Interest:** Quarterly Newsletter

## The Organization

Bocas School Project serves the indigenous Ngobe-Bugle tribes that live on the islands of the archipelago of Bocas del Toro of Panama. The Bocas School Project supports four indigenous schools in the Bocas area with a total of 429 students. Many schools in the Bocas area lack running water, electricity, and sanitation facilities. The children are often malnourished and may not attend schools beyond the fourth grade. The goal of the Bocas School Project is to provide quality education to these underserved children and to build the capacities of their schools. Their goal is to increase each school's ability to serve students.

## Why the Need?

Three quarters of Panama's economy comes from services such as operating the Panama Canal and tourism. However, nearly 30% of the population lives below the poverty line due to the cost of living and uneven distribution of the nation's wealth. Although tourism in the Bocas area has brought about some jobs it also caused a rise in the cost of living for locals. Foods that community members relied on, such as rice and beans, are now unaffordable and still there has been little improvement in basic sanitation, access to clean water, quality education and medical care in the Bocas area. The increase of new residents has created challenges to the Ngobe peoples' way of life.

## How Team Efforts Translate to Impact

100% of NGC funds will directly support the four schools that make up the Bocas School Project — through providing teacher salaries, healthy meals to the students, access to supply water, and electricity each of the schools.

**\$20** will buy a uniform for one child so he/she can go to school.

**\$50** will buy a healthy meal a day for one child for the whole year.

**\$100** will pay a teacher's salary for a week.

## The Partner

One World Children's Fund networks resources directly to grassroots organizations around the world that serve disadvantaged children and their caregivers. They recognize that local people are best suited to solve problems in their communities when they have access to resources to build a brighter future for children.

## NGC's Approach to Sustainable Global Change

NGC and our Global Partners believe that people in communities all over the world are the real experts and know their community and solutions to their own problems. We want to advocate and educate others on behalf of this model of sustainable global change. Additionally, we seek to empower our grassroots Global Projects with the financial resources to create change at the grassroots level. 100% of funds your team raises are sent to the Bocas School Project.

By sending your team's funds directly, your project organization has the power to decide the best way to use the money. Since money will be spent in the community, your funds will also support the local economy.

Bocas School Project works to provide a quality education and school environment for children in the Bocas area. Bocas also employs local teachers to teach in the schools.

## Additional Resources

Partner Website: [www.oneworldchildrensfund.org](http://www.oneworldchildrensfund.org)

CIA World Factbook (Panama): <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/pm.html>

Embassy of Panama: <http://www.embassyofpanama.org/cms/index3.php>

Related News: <http://www.thejunglelodge.com/community/index.html>

**See your team binder for more ways to educate your team about your project.**