

LAS TIAS



Location: Nicaragua

Partner: Global Glimpse

Issue Areas: Extreme Poverty, Universal Education

Points of Interest: Direct Communication with Project and Global Glimpse
Students who volunteered with Las Tias, opportunity to visit Global Project,
Gang Violence Prevention

The Organization

Las Tias (The Aunties) is a Nicaraguan women's non-governmental organization founded in 1989 by a group of motivated mothers wanting to improve the lives of at risk youth in the second largest city in Nicaragua--Leon. Las Tias focuses on helping students involved or at risk of being involved in child labor and substance abuse. Las Tias, over 20 years old is very experienced in working with youth and has shown amazing results with a 90% increase in school attendance and 60% of youth exiting child labor while overcoming drug problems and domestic violence.

Why the Need?

Growing up as a 15 year old and being forced to work in the fruit market instead of going to school or being a 8 year old addicted to glue sniffing leaves little opportunity to have a good life and no chance of ever going to college. This is not a small problem in Nicaragua and the current school system does not have the resources to help keep these kids in school or help them with their problems. Las Tias (the Aunties) was created to supplement the school system and families, who because of poverty do not have time to raise their own kids. Las Tias provides a safe and secure environment for kids. The Aunties teach the kids art, music, dance, give them help with homework and school and help them break substance abuse problems and deal with domestic violence at home. Without Las Tias, these kids would end up on the streets and likely would lead a life of poverty, crime and substance abuse.

How Team Efforts Translate to Impact

Las Tias works with 130 youth in Leon, Nicaragua. Las Tias programs include art, music, dance, counseling, education (tutoring), and vocational training (carpentry, bricklaying, leatherwork etc). 100% of funds raised by New Global Citizens will provide Las Tias programs with staff, material, school and art supplies (pens, pencils, paper, notebooks), sporting equipment (basketballs, jump ropes) and help them maintain the community center (paint, fixing holes in the roof and floors, etc). Being such a poor country, every dollar donated in Nicaragua goes a very long way in helping Las Tias achieve their goal of eliminating child labor, getting kids back and helping them stay in school and helping kids out of domestic violence and drug abuse.

Support can also be directly delivered by NGC students to Las Tias on a summer service and cultural immersion trip with Global Glimpse. This is a chance for you to get your hands dirty working with the Las Tias kids in transforming their lives with the funds your raised.

The Partner

Global Glimpse is a US nonprofit and international NGO focused on developing the next generation of youth leaders to be successful and savvy global citizens. Our signature Global Explorer program takes high school juniors on a 3 week summer program in a select developing nation consisting of community service, cultural immersion and leadership development. The cultural immersion consists of a speaker series and field trips with local leaders from all walks of life from business to art to politics. Our service program consists of a local service project in addition to a second project students design while traveling with us. Finally our leadership program helps students develop as leaders working with a leadership coach and performing leadership development activities. Working with NGC, Global Glimpse supports the Las Tias program in Nicaragua and gives NGC high school juniors an opportunity to visit Las Tias as a Global Explorer. In addition to delivering the funds students raise in person and students can select Las Tias as their service project a experience the excitement of designing and executing their own service project in Nicaragua to help Las Tias.

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 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 Las Tias. 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.

Las Tias works to solve the specific problem of their community, unemployed and at-risk youth. Funds will support Las Tias' by allowing them to purchase local material, which support their local economy and help them to run their programs.

Additional Resources

Partner Website: <http://explorer.globalglimpse.org> or to explorer@globalglimpse.org

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

Embassy of Nicaragua: <http://www.embassy.org/embassies/ni.html>

Human Rights Watch (Nicaragua): <http://www.hrw.org/americas/nicaragua>

Global Glimpse Student Stories: <http://community.globalglimpse.org>

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