

Dear Friends:

February 6, 2011

I am appealing to you to send a tax-deductible donation for the educational scholarship program for the children of the Belize rural villages of Indian Church (Lamanai) and San Carlos, which since 2003 has helped send many of the village children to high school. For those of you who have visited the Maya site of Lamanai, you already know that the village is remote, rural, and fairly poor. With only partial government support, much of the cost of a high school education is borne by the student's families. Additionally, since the villages are several hours by bus to the nearest high schools, (the bus only serves these villages two days per week), the students must board during the school week. Each year the Canadian Organization, S.H.A.R.E. has continued to provide several tuition scholarships, but additional funds are needed.

The program has evolved over the years as we volunteer coordinators have learned more about the schools and the financial needs of the students from these villages. We have also expanded the program to include a scholarship and small loan program for students wishing to go on to junior college after graduating from high school, and we have been somewhat involved with primary education, conducting a summer reading program in 2009. This year we are happy to announce that a scholarship committee has been formed in the village. Because the people who serve on this committee live in the village they help identify needs and provide direction.

Our fundraising goals for 2011:

- **Textbooks** need to be purchased, as they are always changing—they are reused until discontinued
- **Room & Board Funds** to support several students need approximately \$50/month to help them with their monthly expenses
- **Library reading/education program funds**, which is now very important for the Primary School students as a result of a Peace Corps volunteer working on this program
- **Funds to help support Brenda Arevalo**, a young woman who is in the middle of her Junior College (6th Form) education. Her mother was murdered just before Christmas, her father is estranged, and now she has no family support to enable her to continue her education. Her school fees have been paid, but she needs additional funds for her monthly expenses for her last year of school.
- **A new laptop for Marvin Ruano**, who is in Taiwan on a scholarship studying international business and Chinese at National Chengchi University. We are proud that several students of the scholarship program have gone on to university. I think we all agree that a laptop is an important part of life these days, especially for a student.

Donations are tax deductible in both the USA and Canada. Please donate to the Indian Church Scholarship Fund! Education will open doors for these children and help to make the world a better place. Thank you for your support.

Cheers!

Karen Pierce

Photos of the children and the villages can be seen on my website www.karenpierce.com.

In the USA make your check out to: the non-profit organization, Climbing Horizons Inc., www.climbinghorizons.org

Mail your check to:

Karen Pierce

PO BOX 3241

Evergreen, CO 80437-3241 USA

Phone: 303 674-2104: Website: www.karenpierce.com

In Canada make your check out to: S.H.A.R.E. Scholarship Fund, and indicate it is for **Indian Church scholarships**.

Mail your check to:

S.H.A.R.E. Agricultural Foundation

c/o Les Frayne

R. R. # 3 Fergus, Ontario CANADA N1M 2W4

Website: www.shareagfoundation.org.