



**No detengas el bien de sus dueños, cuando tuvieres poder para hacerlo.**

Proverbios 3:27

## Who are the Carpenteros and Friends?

The Carpenteros and Friends are a group of Christians in Southern Ontario who have fallen in love with the nation and people of Honduras. By working alongside their Honduran brothers and sisters, the Carpenteros seek to restore hope by improving current conditions and building a better future for the next generation of Hondurans.

The Carpenteros are not just long-distance financial supporters. Each year, one or more service teams travel to Honduras to work alongside the Hondurans, building or repairing much-needed housing, community centres, latrines, water projects and more. Team members pay all their own travel and in-country expenses. While some form of construction is normally part of the trip, the most important thing teams build are friendships with our brothers and sisters in Honduras, encouraging them and praying for them just as they pray for us. Participation in a service team is truly a life-altering experience, and the Carpenteros would love for you to join one of the teams serving in Honduras!

## How You Can Help

### Financially:

- make a tax-deductible donation (please make cheques payable to *Carpenteros and Friends*)
- sponsor specific projects (latrines, pilas, concrete floors, community medical kits, communal wells - please speak to us about projects of any scale)
- purchase tickets to our main fundraising events: the annual *Building Hope for Honduras* dinner and the *Valentine's Bistro*
- donate a live or silent auction item to the *Building Hope for Honduras* dinner
- become a *Building Hope for Honduras* corporate sponsor

### Prayerfully:

- remember the people of Honduras in your prayers
- pray for World Renew and partner agencies' staff, who are working directly with the micro-finance cooperatives and community development projects
- ask to join the Carpenteros' email list to be notified of urgent prayer needs

### Personally:

- join a Carpenteros' work/service team to Honduras
- volunteer to assist at the *Valentine's Bistro* or *Building Hope for Honduras* dinner
- share the message of how individual lives and entire communities are being transformed

*To learn more about the Carpenteros and Friends and opportunities to assist the people of Honduras, please visit our website: [www.carpenteros.ca](http://www.carpenteros.ca) or email us at: [info@carpenteros.ca](mailto:info@carpenteros.ca)*



**Carpenteros and Friends**  
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# BUILDING HOPE FOR HONDURAS



*Carpenteros and Friends*



***Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.***

Proverbs 3:27



## What is being done in Honduras?

To date, nearly \$1 million has been raised for

- 60 community-based micro-finance cooperatives
- latrines, pilas (water basins), concrete floors and roofs for improved health, sanitation and hygiene
- financial assistance so gifted youth can continue with a high school education
- infant, maternal and nutritional health education
- justice advocacy and legal assistance for the poor through the Association for a More Just Society
- communal wells and water projects
- emergency relief following floods and natural disasters.

Each of these initiatives provide our Honduran brothers and sisters with a means to improve their lives and provide for their families.



**“Dear supporters of the Carpenteros. Thank you for your commitment, love and compassion to the most vulnerable. You are the hands of God to Honduras. I praise God for the support you have given to our people. Please rejoice with us as we continue to work together to make our people’s dreams come true.”**

Irene Zepeda – Country Director, World Renew (Honduras)

## Why Honduras?

Honduras is a Central America nation bounded by Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala. More than 8-million people live in an area roughly the size of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and it is estimated that 50% of Hondurans live below the poverty line.

World Renew (CRWRC) and its Honduran partner agencies have considerable experience working with Honduran communities on initiatives that address immediate needs and bring long-term benefits while avoiding the pitfalls of charity and dependency.

## Micro-finance

Micro-finance cooperatives provide small, short-term loans to individuals and small businesses for things like seed, fertilizer and farming tools, fabric for making clothing to sell, or goods and produce to be sold in stores or at the market. All the cooperatives are run by locally-elected directors, while partner agency staff visit regularly to offer oversight and to instruct loan recipients on basic money management and small business practices.

A number of micro-finance cooperatives are now mature and no longer in need of financial support. And the names given to these groups indicate just how they have brought hope to their communities... *Un mañana mejor* (A better tomorrow); *Juntos todo es posible* (Together everything is possible); *Vida Nueva* (New Life); *Dios es Amor* (God is Love).



## Education Fund

While micro-finance cooperatives have a profound immediate benefit, providing education for youth is vital to breaking the cycle of poverty. Students in Honduras receive government-funded education in Grades 1-6. Government-funded high schools are available; however, students must provide books, uniforms and transportation. For many families, the

cost (about \$600/year) represents one-third or more of their annual income. Through the Carpenteros’ Education Fund, families contribute 40% of the cost to send their child to high school, with the remaining 60% coming from donors like you. Students who are supported through this program have excelled in their grades, taken on youth leadership roles in their community and churches, and are

servicing as tutors to local elementary school students.

## Coffee project

Since 2010, the Carpenteros have partnered with coffee growers in Olancho to export their *direct trade* coffee to Canada.

Canadians can enjoy this great tasting coffee while the producers earn a 30% premium and receive regular training in forest conservation, organic fertilizers and chemical-free pest control through the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE).

