



“Hola”

September 2012

Virtual Fiesta, Check the mail on your desk.



By now you should have received an invitation to Shoulder to Shoulder’s Virtual Fiesta fundraiser. If your invitation has not arrived via snail mail, you can get one through our web site at [\\$\(StoSWeb\)_Full](#). Many thanks to those of you who have already responded with generous donations to this crucial fund drive which underwrites Shoulder to Shoulder’s everyday operating budget.

Donations to Shoulder to Shoulder go to help the poor people of rural Honduras in many different ways. Some projects channel aid directly to individuals. For example, \$20 covers the cost of a home medical visit to a sick or disabled person in these remote areas. A \$33 water filter gives a Honduran family access to clean, safe drinking water. A \$30 bundle of books gives a child the resources he or she needs for the current school year. A \$50 donation underwrites a year of in-school dental health services for one child. This program has already produced dramatic reductions in dental decay, saving much more money in the long run. The list of medical, dental, nutritional and community building services provided by Shoulder to Shoulder in Honduras could go on and on.

At the same time, services to individuals, families and communities would be impossible without the infrastructure, established and maintained by Shoulder to Shoulder. For example, a new generator with a \$13,000 price tag is needed in Santa Lucia where frequent power outages sometimes last for days. Without a reliable power source, the dental clinic is subject to shut-downs, medical procedures must be performed by flashlight and medical supplies, and fresh food cannot be preserved. A \$3000 roof for the pharmacy is necessary to provide a cool dry storage area for expensive drugs which can be spoiled by excessive heat and humidity. In addition, we have a 1998 truck that is still making the difficult trips over the rough

Honduran mountain roads. While the truck has been well maintained, right now it needs new, \$200 seat covers as well as replacement tires at \$85 each to continue working safely and reliably. Because Shoulder to Shoulder's work depends heavily on volunteers from the United States, it also needs the funds to ensure that those volunteer experiences are productive, rewarding and safe.

Again, thank you for your support of Shoulder to Shoulder and its many projects, past, present and future. Please know that your contributions are being used well and wisely to improve the health and daily lives of the rural poor of Honduras, and these people are most appreciative of your help. This remarkable organization could not exist without you.

Clean Water



Clean water is an essential component to ensuring the health of a community. Diarrhea, borne by unsafe water, kills more infants worldwide than any other cause.

The water filter project at Shoulder to Shoulder distributes Potters for Peace filters to families in outlying communities. The filters consist of a porous ceramic bowl that sits inside a large plastic container with a spigot. Shoulder to Shoulder partnered with AMFI, the local municipal council, to distribute these filters to outlying aldeas (small villages) that have contaminated water.

As part of a new venture, AMFI is working with students in the Social Promotion track at the local high school to spread important water and sanitation messages, including proper filter care, hand-washing, and the importance of rinsing dishes with clean water to reduce the risk of contamination.

Projects like this embody our goal of working "Shoulder to Shoulder" with members of the community to serve their needs. For \$33, you can provide clean drinking water to a family. To donate: [Shoulder to Shoulder web page](#).

Photo and text compliments of Diana Cahill, volunteer in Honduras

Amazon link. Help Shoulder to Shoulder with no cost to you.

Please use the Amazon link when ordering from Amazon this back to school season and into the holiday season. It is easy. Just go to the website www.Shouldertosoulder.org and click on the Amazon symbol at the top of the page. Start your search here. and Shoulder to Shoulder receives a 3% donation of all your purchase amounts at no cost to you. Pass this on to all your Facebook friends. Lets go viral with this easy way to donate to Shoulder to Shoulder.

Don't forget to check out our [Facebook](#) page for more frequent updates—and lots of photos.

"If it was easy, someone would have already done it"

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