



September 29, 2016

Dear Friends,

Whenever I visit Nicaragua I am overwhelmed by the poverty that is simply a part of everyday life. On my most recent trip, I talked to a mother of three who told me she worried that her family's rickety shack would collapse on them while they slept. She is not alone. Most of the poor cannot afford a decent place to live. So they cobble together whatever they can find — mud, sticks, a few scraps of plastic and tin — and they call it home.

Of all the things you can do to help, the greatest impact you can have is to build the poor a safe and secure new house. It provides more than just shelter. It means a child can go to school and come back to a home with a table where he or she can do homework. It means a mother has a place to fix her family a proper meal. And when it rains at night, it means a family can sleep peacefully instead of waking up drenched in water and mud.

Cross International is partnering with Rainbow Network — a local ministry founded to help transform lives — to bring **New Hearts & New Homes** to families living in the rural Nicaragua. Together you will be a part of a plan to build sturdy, cement homes that will protect villagers from the elements and provide a place for their children to flourish. You will also be serving as an important catalyst in the formation of two new Christ-centered communities.

As you read the proposal, would you prayerfully consider partnering with us to help bring hope to these families? Whatever you give, your support will be received with sincere gratitude.

Shana McCracken, International Development Associate Director, is available to answer questions or assist you if you would like to make a donation. You may contact her at 800-391-8545 ext. 115 or SMcCracken@CrossInternational.org.

Thank you for your prayers and compassion for the poor!

James J. Cavnar
President