



This is Batata a remote community in the District of Ñürüm, located to the northwest of Veraguas City, with an extension of 575 Km and a population of approximately 13,172 inhabitants.

There is no electricity, potable water or healthcare facility of any kind. There is a small clinic in Buenos Aires which is located 6 hours from Batata.

HEALTH is an issue for these people. The most vulnerable demographic groups, babies, young children, pregnant women and the elderly, are the most affected and often perish when no medical attention can be obtained.

Food is hard to find. A boiled plantain or a portion of rice once a day is all that some families get.

This lack of food and poor diet causes malnutrition and the consequences are sometimes fatal. How can a child sit for hours in a classroom and receive lessons if this child walked for two to four hours in order to arrive at school and did not have dinner the night before nor breakfast that same morning? They are hungry, weary and exhausted—not lazy, but undernourished.



The health problems continue in the Batata community and the most vulnerable population are the youngest members of it. Due to their unhealthy diet and poor living conditions they are dying and cannot fight off viruses and other illnesses. They are very weak.

In order to contribute to the welfare and general wellbeing of the indigenous people of Batata we feel that providing food and medicine periodically will drastically improve their quality of life.



The children have Faith that the conditions in their homes, schools and in their community as a whole will improve, so that they will to be able to help their families someday. They need better roads, better schools and some kind of healthcare facility, such as a clinic near their homes, in order to study and have professions which will allow them to give back to their community. These children love and take pride in their families and in their people.

Three of these children, aged 8 years old, spoke about their hopes for themselves and their community. Reina said that she wants to be a doctor in order to help sick people, while Gervacio said he wants to be a mechanic to fix cars in the village, and finally, Alberto, who wants to be a teacher, said that he wants to teach other children like him when he grows up.

These children hardly expressed interest in anything that we associate with “normal school-aged kids” such as their favorite sport, or school subject, or what they like to do in their free time. Almost all the kids expressed the same desires, using the same or similar words, namely, that they walked long roads barefoot for hours in order to sit and listen in their classrooms and that the school was often the only place that they received food. One such student said that he was thankful if he was able to eat one meal a day.

If they can do all this with such limited resources and sustenance imagine what they could achieve if we gave them a helping hand and made their lives a little bit better. Are you willing to walk side by side with them and to offer them that helping hand? Ok, Let's do it!! This is the time. They can continue bettering their lives and the life of their community with your help. Sponsorship makes a big difference.



Thank you for the love and care you are showing the beautiful children of Batata.

