

# Mission Paraguay 2012 Report



Mission Paraguay works through the South American Mission Society UK and Ireland. Our aims and objectives are to support the Anglican Church in Paraguay by providing funds and a volunteer work force for:

- practical projects, usually buildings;
- activities with children and young people;
- community based work to relieve hardship and encourage self sufficiency.

Each year God calls people from churches in England and Northern Ireland to build cross cultural relationships and share the love of Jesus while using their skills and experience working for three weeks alongside Christians living in different areas of Paraguay. Through our many supporters God provides the funds and other resources to source a wide range of projects.

During July a group of eleven people was based at Roque Alonso on the northern outskirts of Asunción. As well as involvement in the ministry of the local church, they made daily visits to nearby communities at Remansito, Mirador, Zeballos Cue and San Lorenzo. Activities included a range of work with children and young people including assisting with the toy library operated by FEISA, the Anglican teacher training college which provides opportunities to learn through play for children with few toys of their own; assisting with sewing workshops; the distribution of spectacles and constructing a number of sectional toilet cabins to be transported to the Chaco for use by Indian families. Five days were spent in Concepción working with Northern Ireland missionary Claire Holmes and members of the San Pedro church undertaking work with children and evangelistic activities in different communities in the surrounding area.

In August a small group was based at the Diocesan Centre at Rio Verde in the Chaco. Working together with Indian builders and missionary Chris Hawksbee, they carried out essential repairs and constructed a new vestry at the church in Makxawáya which was originally built by missionaries in 1906. Transport was extremely difficult owing to the effects of serious flooding earlier in the year which also disrupted the delivery of building materials. However, the construction of several new one roomed brick homes and an underground water storage tank was begun at El Estribo. This work has since been completed by employing local builders.

## Projects funded by Mission Paraguay during 2012

### Asunción:

- supplying 50 new Bibles for St Andrew's Church;
- completing the construction of a toilet / shower block begun in 2011 at San Lorenzo where previously a large building for work with children and young people was funded by Mission Paraguay on the land purchased in 2008. Additional chairs were also supplied;
- providing a TV and DVDs for youth work at San Andrés Church;



- supplying materials for refurbishment and redecoration work at the multi-use building adjacent to the Diocesan Offices;



- supplying materials for the completion of a simple home made of timber for a family at San Lorenzo facing imminent eviction;
- the refurbishment of an existing building to form a new toilet block for use at Mirador church;
- providing materials to enable members of the congregation to redecorate the church at Roque Alonso;

- supplying materials to complete an additional room to be used for youth ministry at the church at Remansito. Church members will provide the labour to finish the work;
- funding the erection of the final section of security fencing to church land at Roque Alonso. The existing fencing which secures three sides of the plot was funded by Mission Paraguay a number of years ago;

- funding repairs and redecoration to the house owned by the church at Roque Alonso to enable it to be used by church personnel;

- supplying materials for church members to construct a roof over the external kitchen area and build a barbecue at Roque Alonso church for social / outreach events;



- providing consumable materials for work with children at Mirador;

- funding urgent structural and drainage repairs to the diocesan owned home of Pastor Agustin;

- funding repairs to a laptop used by a missionary;

- supplying toys and dressing up clothes for the mobile toy library operated by FEISA Teacher Training College.



## Chaco:



- construction of simple brick built homes to replace overcrowded housing built of palm logs, plastic sheets and other discarded materials. Families also receive a large plastic drum to collect rainwater from gutters. This is an ongoing project. It is planned to fund the construction of up to ten new homes each year in different areas of the Chaco;



- building five long drop toilet cabins for families without facilities;
- constructing a 21,000 litre underground storage tank at Karanda to collect rainwater for use during the prolonged drought periods;
- funding extensive repairs to the church at Makxawáya including replastering, repairs to doors and frames, external rendering, repairs to brickwork, work to the tower roof and floors; the construction of a vestry/ storeroom; redecoration;

### Concepción:

- supplying Bibles for church members and establishing a fund for future purchases;
- providing funds for work with children and young people.



### General items:



- supplying and distributing over a thousand pairs of spectacles to communities in Asunción and Concepción;
- supplying clothes, blankets, toys and other items for distribution to people in need. Some clothes are sold for a nominal sum to raise funds for work with children and to operate the Saturday comedor which provides a nutritious meal for children in a number of communities;
- providing materials for the sewing workshops which have operated for the last five years in locations in Asunción, Concepción and occasionally at Rio Verde in the Chaco to encourage self sufficiency;
- supplying medical items for Nurse Beryl Baker working in the Chaco;



*Thank you to everyone who has supported our work through your prayers and generosity.*

### Mission Paraguay 2013

For information about joining a Mission Paraguay group planned for Asunción, Concepción or the Chaco during the July / August 2013 period and how you can support our work, please see the SAMS UK and Ireland website: [www.samsireland.com/projects/mission-paraguay](http://www.samsireland.com/projects/mission-paraguay)

or contact David Orritt, Coordinator. Tel: 01704 892566, email: [davidinparaguay@hotmail.com](mailto:davidinparaguay@hotmail.com)