



TASH TIMES

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www.tashinc.org

GREETINGS

Dear Friends:

When I stepped down as President and Executive Director of TASH last summer, I still intended to be involved in TASH. I have prayed over your prayer intentions, answered calls that still come to my phone about TASH, and this coming fall, I will represent TASH at two fundraisers.

As the Board began to assume the responsibilities that I had, it became evident that there was a need for a full-time Executive Director. After some discussion, the Board decided that Pete Noll, a member of the Board and the editor of the newsletter, was the right person. Pete has agreed to take the position. You may remember my introduction of him in the last newsletter that I wrote.

Pete has great credentials for the job. He has been the Executive Director of two nonprofits in Oaxaca, both of whom we have supported. The first was CORAL, the school for deaf children, and the second, his most recent job, Puente a la Salud Comunitaria (Bridge to Community Health), the program that emphasizes the growth of amaranth in supporting the nutritional needs of the people, especially the poor. In each of these jobs, he has done an outstanding job.

Another reason for choosing Pete is that he lives in Oaxaca. He will be TASH's eyes and ears, as well as the official representative of TASH in dealing with the hospital and the other nonprofits. Pete assumes his position as Executive Director on August 1st.

As an employee of TASH, Pete will need to step down from the Board. I have decided, with the Board's consent, to fill Pete's position. I will not be taking on any of the duties that I had in the past. Pete will be working with our secretary to make sure that things run smoothly. I am happy to be part of the Board again. Charley Gates, the President of the Board, has warmly welcomed me back. Charley, Jeff, Keith, and I look forward to working with Pete to help the poor and the marginalized in Oaxaca.

Please pray for us.
Father Scott



Fr. Scott and Pete Noll visit La Clinica in 2016.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP by Pete Noll

First off, I would like to start with the opportunity to thank Fr. Scott for our decade-and-a-half-long friendship. It began with an unplanned encounter at La Clínica del Pueblo and an immediate connection from two Pittsburgh natives. However, the root of the relationship is based on trust, accountability, and a vision or call to serve those in need.

On that note, I would like to share briefly a reflection on how trust continues to be a value that we promote at TASH. In Oaxaca, they use the translation of trust, “confianza”, in many nuanced ways. But without “confianza”, it would be near impossible for TASH to work with local leadership. And “trust” us, it has not always been easy, working between Spanish and English, working in a state with 16 indigenous populations and, thus, many diverse cultures.

But at the end of the day, we want to thank you, the TASH community, for your trust in Father Scott and our Board of Directors. We continue to be committed to deepening our impact and sharing our success with you!

On a separate note, I would like to try a larger text size to make the newsletter more user-friendly. It will mean less overall content, but I hope a positive change.



Charley, Martha, and local Board member, June 2019.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT and TRANSPARENCY

At TASH, we believe one of the best ways to assure that we are delivering on our mission to serve those in need, is to visit the work first hand. Recently Dr. Charley Gates, the Board Chair, completed his seventh visit to Oaxaca. He and his wife, Martha, spent three full days and four nights in Oaxaca from June 15 – June 19. They met with the local Board of Directors and leadership of La Clínica del Pueblo Hospital. In addition, they met with the two patients who had life-changing surgeries provided for by La Clínica. Additionally, they visited with two other nonprofit organizations that TASH supports.

Charley shared two significant impressions: “One, the need in Oaxaca remains very great and two, TASH continues to make a difference.” He added that he is very grateful for your generous and continued support of TASH.

Since their visit, the hospital has identified over \$50,000 in urgent hospital equipment upgrades that we hope to raise via our individual and institutional contacts in the coming weeks and months.

WITNESS to OAXACA

Translated from original Spanish version.

The city garbage dump is located in the region of Villa de Zaachila in the state of Oaxaca. Due to economic poverty, many families have moved onto the dump to make a living by recycling and processing the tons of garbage that arrive daily from the city dwellers. The city dump is open air and the contaminants and smells persist, and are especially unbearable when the sun bakes down.

The parents want to provide a future for their children so they send them to a nearby school. By invitation from another nonprofit, SiKanda International, the Clínica del Pueblo Hospital social outreach team has begun offering free medical care to the children. They perform a nutritional status intervention as a first stage to later empower the parents to provide healthy food options in the community kitchen that is attached to the school. They also have a school garden to provide fresh vegetables.

There is still much to do to prevent chronic conditions in these children, but we are convinced that the Clínica del Pueblo can be part of the solution.

Blessings,
Dra. Teresita Flores
Head of the Clínica social outreach program since 2014



The smiles that say, thank you!



Child nutrition intervention

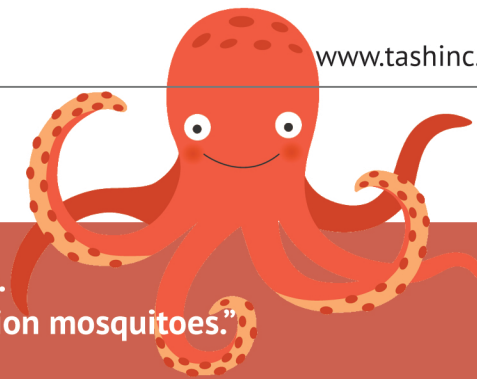
Children learn and play in nutrition workshops

Families sort garbage to sell



HUMOR

Recycling is a smart practice! Even more so, when they are jokes from “Laughter is the Best Medicine” from Father Scott’s past newsletters. As many people travel over the summer, these complaints received by a travel agency in 2014 seem appropriate. All jokes aside, if travel is in your summer plans, we wish you a restful and enjoyable vacation plan.



“I was bitten by a mosquito.
The brochure did not mention mosquitoes.”

“I was upset that you did not tell us the beach was so close
to the ocean.”

“When we were in Spain, there were too many Spanish people
there. The receptionist spoke Spanish, the food was Spanish.
No one told us that there would be so many foreigners.”

“The beach was too sandy.
We had to clean everything once we returned to the room.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

On September 22, the annual fashion show and luncheon will again be held at the South Hills Country Club. The cost of a ticket continues to be just \$35.00. To reserve a ticket or a table, please contact Cheryl Graziano at 412-885-6353, or you can write her at 4844 Old Boston Rd, Pittsburgh, Pa 15227.

Once again the Parish of St. Teresa of Avila will host a brunch after all the Masses on Sunday, Oct. 27. There is no charge for the brunch; however, free will donations will be thankfully accepted. Fr. Scott will preach at all the Masses that weekend.

Save the Date: The 12th Annual Ole 5K will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020, at Harmar Pavillion in North Park. Please email Charley Gates at charleybgates@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list. We look forward to another incredible event!

**If you would like to make a donation to support the mission in Oaxaca,
we would truly appreciate it.**

**Please make a check out to TASH, Inc. and use the donation envelope included
or you can make a secure donation online at www.tashinc.org.**