



June 22, 2020

Dear friends,

As COVID-19 case numbers continue to fall in New Jersey and we begin a limited return to activities, we look forward to seeing you in person soon. At the same time, we are reminded that the global pandemic continues to wreak havoc for so many, including our partners in Nicaragua. The last month has been devastating for many Nicaraguans, as poverty, hunger and domestic violence are on the rise in the midst of a growing national health crisis with no end in sight.

[Please help out by donating to our COVID-19 Emergency fund.](#)

Listen to the doctors

As the U.S. President continues to treat COVID-19 more as a political liability than a public health crisis, we rely on medical experts for the most accurate advice and reporting. The same can be said in Nicaragua, where doctors are sounding the alarm in contradiction to the government.

On June 1st, over 30 Nicaraguan medical associations wrote an open letter warning that the country “is in the phase of accelerated expansion and community spread, which will continue worsening with greater loss of life if the authorities do not urgently take measures on a grand scale to contain the pandemic’s advance.” The letter called for a national quarantine of at

LIVE ZOOM FROM MASAYA WITH AXAYCATL



The mayor is dead. Close friends and family are sick. Hospitals are overwhelmed. Cases of domestic violence on the rise. Yet the Axayacatl Women’s Collective has shown strength and resilience with women and families in Masaya, Nicaragua. Join us in conversation with Axa’s Maria Eugenia Delgadillo and Elia Palacios.

SATURDAY JUNE 27TH, 7:30PM
LIVE ZOOM MEETING
SIGN UP FOR AN INVITE AT
PEACEWORKS.ORG OR
WRITE.CINEMAUS@GMAIL.COM

PeaceWorks , 1125 Woolley Avenue. Union NJ 07083

peaceworks.org

Doctores denuncian que el Minsa obliga al personal médico cambiar el diagnóstico Covid-19 por otras causas

"En la actualidad se le está indicando que se ponga la comorbilidad del paciente, por ejemplo, si era diabético que murió por causas asociadas a la diabetes", dijo la doctora María Escoto López, especialista en anestesiología.

Lidia López B.

11/06/2020 05:58 PM



Parte de médicos denuncian sus despedidos arbitrario por parte del régimen orteguista ante la CPDH. LA PRENSA/CORTESIA

June 11, *La Prensa*: "Doctors Call Out the Health Ministry as Medical Personnel are forced to Change COVID-19 Diagnoses to Other Causes"

that the government reinstate these doctors. The letter claimed that more doctors had been sickened by COVID-19 in Nicaragua than in any other country. Those numbers are unofficial, but we do know that our friends at the Jubilee House "Nueva Vida" Clinic had to suspend operations when all of their doctors fell ill with COVID-19.

Community spread

While international and local health experts agree that Nicaraguan government reports of COVID-19 cases are too low to be accurate, several recent high profile cases indicate the range of community transmission. On June 8th, *The Guardian* reported that "at least 20 prominent Sandinistas – including ministers, members of the national assembly, senior advisers and a police commander – have died after displaying symptoms typical of Covid-19." One of these officials was Orlando Noguera, the mayor of Masaya.

The death of a prominent figure in Nicaraguan baseball is also bringing attention to the crisis. After a road trip playing to packed stands last month, the coach, the manager and

Sandinista leaders fall victim to coronavirus outbreak they downplayed

Nicaragua's government denies community spread in the country but an independent tally says deaths are 20 times the official figure



▲ A woman holds a picture of the Nicaraguan vice-president, Rosario Murillo, during a demonstration called 'Love in times of Covid-19', in Managua in March. Photograph: Inti Ocón/AFP via Getty Images

June 8th, *The Guardian*

star slugger of the San Fernando Beasts were hospitalized. The coach, Carlos Aranda, died before he could be tested, but the player and the Hall of Fame manager, Norman Cardoze Sr., tested positive for COVID-19. So many players refused to take the field after Coach Aranda's death that the league was forced to suspend the playoffs. Cordoze Sr. spoke publicly about his hospital experience: "It's not easy to see people suffocating and die right there. In just my room like 10 died. And from there we listened to the hammering ... whack, whack, whack ... the coffins they were nailing shut in the other room." Soon after speaking out, Cardoze Sr. was fired from the league.



Standing Strong: COVID-19 20K Emergency Fund

In these uncertain times, our partners are working hard to meet increased need in their communities-- delivering food and supplies to street kids and their families, providing resources for women escaping domestic violence and supporting sustainable farming when local food sources are more important than ever. But resources are

stretched thin and the need for food and medical supplies is growing along with the health crisis. So far, we have been able to send our partners 8K for COVID-related emergency needs. Please stand with our Nicaraguan partners by helping us reach our goal of 20K.

Will we have our Solidarity Roast??...Stay tuned!

We are hoping to have a fun, safe gathering of our friends and families at the end of July or in August. CDC safety guidelines will be followed— we will all watch our social distancing, only dropping our masks to bite into some deliciously fine BBQ and sides. Stay tuned for details.

And don't forget to join our **Zoom conversation this Saturday, June 27, 7:30pm ET with Maria Eugenia and Elia Palacios from Axyacatl**, to discuss domestic violence during the COVID-19 crisis, and how her team is supporting local women. Details at PeaceWorks.org.



Will they make the magic happen again? Hmmm. An announcement about the solidarity roast is coming soon, so stay tuned.

In Solidarity

Denis, Diane, John, Micha, Maggie, Susan, Marilyn and Guy
The PeaceWorks Board

I'd like to contribute to the emergency fund to keep our Nicaraguan partners safe and working during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- \$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$_____

I'd like to make a general support donation to PeaceWorks:

- \$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$_____