



LIFE-LONG, LOCAL,
LIFE-SAVING

Doctors for Doctors & Nurses for Nurses 2018 Annual Report



Founder's Message by Andrew Wilson

None of what we accomplished in 2018 would have been possible without the real engine of DFD/NFN: the volunteers behind the scenes. Thank you Mike, Ahmad, Amanda, Gaby, Luz, Juan Carlos, Gabrielle, Pablo, Abdel, Nandini, Marce, Mikee, Lindy, Nawrah, Tricia, Louise and Lynn.



Since 2011, DFD/NFN has been successful in supporting young leaders in Nicaragua who want to stand up and make a difference in their communities. These leaders are becoming doctors and are dedicated to serving their communities as medical students. In their spare hours from school, they run programs to educate their communities about women's reproductive health in a campaign called Days for Girls. We support these young leaders now because as doctors in Nicaragua, they will help thousands of patients in their lifetime.

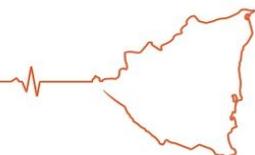
This past year has brought a number of challenges such as the political crisis in Nicaragua with our students having to leave their schools for part of the 2018 year. The political unrest started in March 2018 and medical schools were shut down until September 2018. Our local partners supported our students through this time. I am very, very happy to report that all of our students are safe and now back in school for 2019.

Throughout 2018, we worked to safely expand our reach in Nicaragua with the aim of extending operations on the ground. Given the political unrest in Nicaragua, 2019 will be a challenging year of expansion which our volunteers are eager to tackle.

Biggest lesson learned: Being a smaller organization allows us to pivot in times of crisis very quickly. During Nicaragua's political crisis we learned that our small size is one of our greatest strengths because we shifted our priorities to support our students outside of school for a short time to keep them safe.

Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will

-Suzy Kassem



Student Leaders in the Scholarship Program

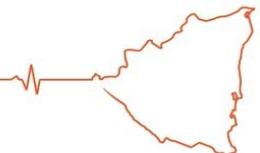
Dr. Bryan Graduated Medical School!

In spite of the earlier disruptions in Nicaragua, Dr. Bryan's important work in the hospital was not affected by the unrest. All of his work and studies are on track, without delays, and Bryan will be finishing his medical internship in March 2019 and he will be carrying out research until October 2019.



Victor

Victor's family is from an agricultural, rural area where the people are very humble and struggle economically. Victor is currently in the fourth year of a Dentistry program, and maintains an excellent academic standing. For us, Victor stands out for his dedication and commitment to learning and to his studies, making the most of this time for his professional training. From Monday to Friday he is in dentistry school and on Sunday he studies English. More recently, he has also been doing community service in the dental field. Victor says that as a professional he will continue to serve the community by becoming a maxillofacial surgeon and training the population about the benefits of oral hygiene.





Kimberly & Brandon

Due to the instability in Nicaragua earlier this year, Kimberly had to leave her studies when her school (UNAN) became the centre of a small para-military battle during a protest. Luckily, Kimberly wasn't in school at the time, and she continued working at a clinic in her hometown of San Juan del Sur. In the meantime, Kimberly started a project with her local community social service agency called Days for

Girls. This project aims to raise awareness of health issues among young, rural Nicaraguan women. D4D aims to support this initiative further after researching project outcomes.

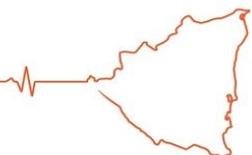
Brandon's studies were going very well and he was in practice prior to his pre-internship next year, but due to the civil unrest in Nicaragua including protests and school closures, his classes were cancelled until further notice. He has moved to Costa Rica to work in the meantime. He plans to return to Nicaragua when his school commences in the new year.

Canadian Operations

by Mike Carlson

2018 was a year of steady expansion at a controlled pace - all within the context of a volatile Nicaragua. While our fundraising efforts were minimal, we still managed to grow or secure every one of our minimum operating pillars. The systems for us to come together as a volunteer team have been ironed out and operate at what is often a surprising efficiency and consistency. Our yearly schedule is also worth noting, which has aligned all volunteers across the organization with similar tasks - especially in relation to fundraising and supporting our international development speaker series and podcast, Development Works.

Biggest lesson learned: Read the fine print of contracts AND Free Government money doesn't always come without cost.



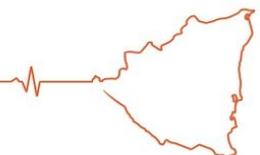
Our Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteers who have consistently worked to build a better organization throughout 2018 for our students in Nicaragua. This year our team grew and solidified and together we held a successful fundraising event, started laying the foundation for our Nurses for Nurses team, and continued to expand the reach of our University of Guelph and University of Toronto student clubs. We are lucky to have a team comprised of hardworking and dedicated people, and we thank you again. We would not be here without all of you.

Lesson: Integral to have a dedicated TEAM; Together Everyone Achieves More



Starting from top left: Nandini, Nawrah, Andrew, Mike, Mike, Ahmad, Luz, Abdel, Mikee, Lindy, Amanda.



Student Clubs

University of Toronto Student Club by Luz Paczka

In order to widen DFD's reach within Canada, the first university student club was formed in 2016 at the Scarborough campus of the University of Toronto. Now, the group has a downtown chapter that boasts over a dozen members. As the student club grows, we hope to use our constitution as a scaffold to support chapters in other universities.



The club runs and hosts the organization's monthly speaker series: *Development Works*, as well as several fundraising events hosted at UofT. In 2019, the student club will start collaborating with other university student clubs and departments to reach a wider audience. The successes of the club in 2019 will be followed by some of the club members going to Nicaragua next summer and meeting the students they are helping!

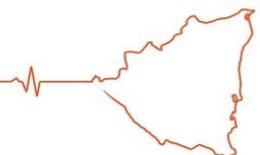
Guelph Student Club by Nandini Tewari

The University of Guelph student club has its first official operating year in 2018 and has grown to a total of fifteen committed members! The Guelph club hosts various fundraisers in order to raise awareness and funds to support the student programs. The club had many successful events including a balloon pop for charity and bake sales.

The club faced some challenges throughout their first year such, as setting up an executive team and running campus events efficiently. However, with our hard work and dedication we have overcome these obstacles and will continue to do so further down the road. In 2019 we hope to grow our core members to have a larger impact in the Guelph community, and have an upcoming event for next semester already unfolding!



Lessons learned: Start with small events and gain a strong dedicated network of members, and always remember; quality over quantity



Development Works - Speaker Series

by Ahmad Israwi



Development Works speakers series continues to be hosted at the University of Toronto every month, attendees have the chance to listen to an international development practitioner discuss their successes, and most importantly, their failures. Speakers share their stories, discuss the current state of the field, address biases, and is followed by an audience Q&A session.

Formally launched in 2018, our podcast continues to be a success across iTunes and Google Play. With content from our Development Works speaker series, these updates focus on lessons learned in the field of International Development, and features lessons and experiences from these practitioners.

Looking ahead, our goal remains to attract passionate, experienced speakers to address our equally passionate attendees, with the ultimate goal of attracting more people than there are available seats.

Biggest Lesson Learned: International development is interdisciplinary and as such is relevant to everyone, regardless of their field.

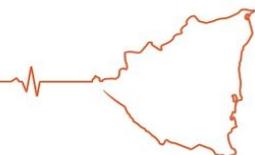


Dr. Christopher Dainton

Nurses for Nurses

by Mikee Villaflor

The Nurses for Nurses team has been in development over the years but in 2018 a dedicated core team was established. We continued our involvement with the organization supporting events, maintaining weekly goals and exploring NFN's direction and potential projects. We look forward to what NFN will accomplish in the coming year, especially after a visit to Nicaragua.



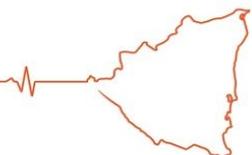


NFN collaborates with the U of T nursing students' global health interest group in increasing awareness about global health issues and having discussions about international development. In 2018 we had nurse Megan Blair, speak to the student nursing group about her experiences in volunteering abroad, what was meaningful and impactful, and what she found helpful in being an effective nurse volunteer.

We hope to continue our connection with nursing students to increase awareness about global health among aspiring health care

professionals.

Biggest Lesson Learned: 'Team work makes the dream work' - it is challenging for one person to take on a major project by themselves, so it has been a big priority to find good quality volunteers to join our nursing team to better work on NFN's project and direction.



Photos throughout 2018 at Doctors for Doctors & Nurses for Nurses!



DOCTORS FOR DOCTORS MISSION

Through education and financial support we stand in solidarity with Nicaraguan leaders who have a passion to increase local access to health care.

WHY NICARAGUA?

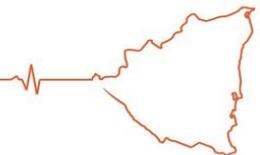
Nicaragua is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. It suffers from significantly higher rates of infant mortality, maternal mortality and child malnutrition – all of which can be improved by simply increasing access to doctors, especially in rural regions.



Bryan, our first medical school graduate, with our founder Dr. Andrew Wilson in Nicaragua.

www.doctorsfordoctors.ca | [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) Doctors for Doctors & Nurses for Nurses in Nicaragua | [YouTube](#) [LinkedIn](#) DFD/NFN

PHOTOS: 1 (Directors Mike and Andrew recording our monthly podcast at an event) 2 (UofT student group) 3 (NFN Presenting at UofT Nursing Program for a special Development Works Event) 4 (Volunteer meet up in the park) 5 (Volunteers Mikee, Abdel, and Heather at a fundraising event) 6 (Our new postcard)



Financials

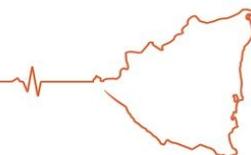
In 2018, we raised \$14,800 from public donations. All of these funds will go towards paying for the medical education of four amazing young people (Bryan, Kimberly, Brandon and Victor) who can't wait to start helping people in their home communities.

We spent \$24,500 of which \$16,100 went to empowering local heroes and \$1,800 for operations. In addition, our organization received money from the Canada Summer Jobs Program for the first time, so we were able to pay two students a total of \$6,600.

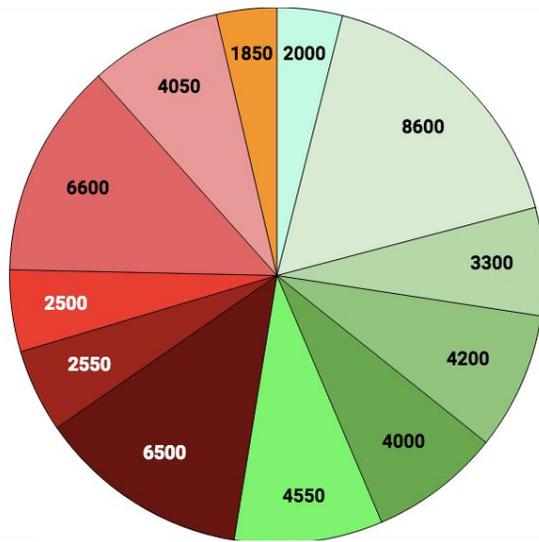
All of the money donated from the public and all grants received in 2018 went directly to supporting our student programs, namely Bryan, Kimberly, Brandon and Victor who are on their learning journey. Our operational costs are covered entirely by the private donations of our core donors and gifts in kind.

	REVENUE*	EXPENSES*
Grants	2000	
Canada Helps	8600	
General/Other Donations	4200	
Canada Summer Jobs Funding	3300	
In-Kind Donations	4000	
TOTAL REVENUE	22,100	
Brandon Payments		4550
Bryan Payments		6500
Kimberly Payments		2550
Victor Payments		2500
Canada Summer Jobs Employment		6550
Materials + Bank Fees + Event Costs		1850
Rent/Equipment		4000
TOTAL EXPENSES		28,500

*Numbers are rounded approximations and should not be used for legal or tax purposes.



Cash Flow Summary



- Grants
- Canada Helps
- Government Funding
- Other donations
- In-Kind Donations
- Brandon Payments
- Bryan Payments
- Kimberly Payments
- Victor Payments
- Summer Student Employment
- Rent/Equipment
- Event/Ops Costs

Looking Ahead by Andrew Wilson

Thanks to consistent monthly donations, we have sufficient funds to hire a (part-time) Nicaraguan Executive Director. This position is crucial to DFD/NFN for three reasons: 1) to aid the transition of our medical students into their communities upon graduation; 2) to support our research in Nicaragua through medical programs in Nicaragua; and 3) to build relationships with rural communities in need of ongoing medical support.

We will not be funding a new medical student in 2019. This will allow us to focus on research with our current medical students and the programs they are running in their communities. I have no doubt that 2019 will be a foundational year for us, and I am excited to report on what is ahead.

Disclaimer: This document serves to represent DFD/NFN and its programs, volunteers and financials. If any inconsistencies are found between the information here and that reported to the Canada Revenue Agency, the information reported officially to the CRA shall be taken as true as changes and amendments may be made after the creation of this document.

To donate or receive more information contact:

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