



# RAYJONSHARECARE

## SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Barrio 41 is a neighbourhood struggling with poor access to health care & education, high rates of unemployment & poverty. Many members of this community are of Haitian descent, and came to the DR hoping for a better life for their families. Heads of households often seek work in the nearby sugar cane plantations, known as bateys. Life here is hard, and racial discrimination is a harsh reality.

Since 2003 Rayjon has supported the Consuelo Community Development Project (CCDP), which provides preschool education and improved nutrition to children in Barrio 41.

In 2015 an outpouring of public support allowed us to expand the garden at the centre (now providing nourishing fruits & vegetables as part of the daily meal given to children at high risk of malnutrition). A pump irrigation system was installed and now not only fills the cistern at the preschool and waters the gardens, but also feeds a pilot aquaponics project (raising fish in the hopes of providing a sustainable protein source).

Barrio 41 was hit hard by Hurricane Matthew. Rayjon was able to assist several families in making repairs to severely damaged homes. The daily meal for children in the preschool has meant more than ever.

**This is a crucial moment for the community of Barrio 41: A lack of funding now could mean that progress is lost and families fall deeper into poverty.**



## TOGETHER WE CAN HELP THIS COMMUNITY WORK TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY.



### Keep the aquaponics/garden project going

To keep the aquaponics/garden running Rayjon needs to raise an additional **\$3,000** this year. **With your support, parents could also learn to grow and maintain their own backyard gardens.** There is a great need for programs that would provide women in the community with practical skills to help them provide for their families. Many mothers (and children) currently sift through the local garbage dump each day, scavenging for food scraps and any items that can be resold. This is no way to live.

### Empower local women

Sewing machines have been purchased and the first sewing class started for women in Barrio 41. Funding is urgently needed to keep this program running. Dominican government support of the feeding program has also dwindled, making it impossible to continue the aquaponics project without immediate help.



It will cost \$50 to provide sewing instruction for one woman. In 2017-2018, we need to raise a total of \$1,500 beyond the current budget to run 3 classes (6 weeks each).

## TOGETHER WE CAN WORK FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY FAMILY.

**\* 100% of your donation will go directly to support the CCDP, Dominican Republic.**

## PLEASE DONATE TODAY.

You can give online at [www.rayjon.org](http://www.rayjon.org) .Cheques can be mailed to:  
Rayjon Share Care, PO Box 2482, Sarnia ON, N7T 7T1

For more information about the CCDP and to watch an inspiring video about the project, please visit:

<https://rayjon.org/programs/consuelo-community-development-project/>

