



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).



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

Students of the first ever sewing class for women in Barrio 41 graduated in 2017. New classes have commenced but funding is urgently needed to keep this program running. Women hope to use their new skills to create and sell unique products for the home. Instructor Doña Rosa wants to take the program even further and reach women living on the nearby sugarcane plantations, encouraging them to develop confidence and capacity, and break the cycle of poverty.



TOGETHER WE CAN WORK FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY FAMILY.

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

It will cost \$50 to provide sewing instruction for one woman. In 2018-2019, we need to raise a total of \$1,500 beyond the current budget to run 3 classes (6 weeks each).

PLEASE DONATE TODAY.

You can give online at 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/>

