



# CONNECTICUT QUEST *for* PEACE

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## Thanksgiving Reflection from Tom Quinn

Dear Dear Friends of the Nicaraguan People,

As a contributor to Quest's mission in Nicaragua, I decided to visit the country to see for myself what we are accomplishing. Our team leader Bill Evans assured me that the trip would be "transformative" and it very much was. During this thanksgiving season, I give thanks for the continuing difference you are making in the lives of the Nicaraguan people.

I would like to share some of the memories of my 10 day trip to Nicaragua last November. I was touched by many of the children I met, including some of the 4000 children to whom Quest provides daily meals and various high school and college students whose education would not have been possible without Quest support. When I visited a Quest-supported orphanage for girls from ages 7 to 18, I was surprised to feel the warmth and friendliness of the children and staff. Each of these children's lives has been changed for the better by you.

At one elementary school, I visited classrooms where all of the desks and chairs were provided by Quest. As we walked by the classrooms, several of the teachers, knowing who we were, stopped teaching and let the students run outside to meet with us.

These were happy children, some of whom hugged us.

A special stop was at a Quest-supported home for young girls who had been living on the street and now were cared for by a loving staff. Some of these girls met with us and gave us personalized "thank you" cards, a very moving experience.

One of my favorite memories was our trip into the mountains, which can be accessed only by donkey or truck. There we visited a Quest-supported school where students learn farming, giving these children a specialized skill that can provide them with a better life.

Prior to my trip, I did not have full appreciation of the extent of Quest's impact in this country. I hope these memories of my trip let you know that you, too, can "visit" Nicaragua every time you give to CT Quest for Peace.

**Tom Quinn**

**Thanksgiving 2015**



