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FINAL REPORT

GRANT NO 524-G-SS-99-00018-00

**Minnesota International Health Volunteer Hurricane Mitch Emergency Relief for
Jinotega**

May 10, 1996

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ACRONYMS

AID	United States Agency for International Development
AVODEC	Asociación de Voluntarios para el Desarrollo Comunitario (Association of Volunteers for Community Development)
CoC	Church of Christ
MIHV	Minnesota International Health Volunteers
MINSA	Ministerio de Salud (Ministry of Health)
USAID Development	Same as AID, United States Agency for International

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Minnesota International Health Volunteer Hurricane Mitch Emergency Relief for Jinotega

I Background

Minnesota International Health Volunteers (MIHV) implemented a relief project with the Church of Christ (CoC) of Bono, Arkansas and the CoC of Jinotega to assist the population of Jinotega who suffered damage from Hurricane Mitch. The MIHV/CoC project contemplates long term relief for Jinotega. The MIHV/CoC project worked closely with the Association of Volunteers for Community Development (AVODEC) utilizing their network of over four hundred community volunteers. This USAID grant was requested for a short period of emergency assistance to identify beneficiaries and establish a distribution system. The project required an intense effort in man-hours at a cost of approximately \$4,000 a month for 2.5 months.

MIHV is a US based non-sectarian, private voluntary organization (PVO) established in 1979. MIHV is certified to accept funding from USAID and is in full compliance with USAID's self-Certification requirements.

The CoC of Bono, Arkansas has been sponsoring work in Jinotega with the Jinotega CoC through a project, 'Mision Para Cristo' which includes a medical clinic and a scholarship program, both opened to the general public.

AVODEC is a constituted association of community volunteers whose primary role is to serve Jinotega communities' maternal-child health needs. To date AVODEC has over 400 associates, mostly "Brigadistas" (community health volunteers) in over 60 rural communities of the Jinotega Department.

II Project Description

MIHV used their field workers, referred to as Health Promoters, to organize their network of community volunteers, made up of Brigadistas who are associated with AVODEC, and mothers' groups formed by the Brigadistas to identify and classify the victims of Hurricane Mitch and to distribute donated supplies. All activities were coordinated, where possible, by the official emergency relief committee, the Jinotega committee, and the Municipal governments.

The relief effort will probably take over a year, but MIHV only requested assistance at this time for a twelve-week period. In the actual implementation of the project, as needs were identified, distribution of the relief donations were made almost immediately, but to better conceptualize the effort, the following schedule was devised, four weeks in identifying the beneficiaries, eight weeks in distribution of the donations. Once the project began, we discovered that we needed another two weeks for the distribution. The project eventually took 14 weeks, the programmed four weeks for identification, but 10 weeks for distribution. This need for an additional two weeks was caused by the condition of the rural roads. Where we had calculated that our vehicles could

visit many communities in a day, we discovered that it took longer and the load our vehicles could carry had to be significantly reduced. We finally solved this problem by using large commercial trucks to distribute supplies to communities on roads usable for trucks, and our vehicles and pack animals took supplies from those communities to the more inaccessible ones. Originally we had planned to take much of the supplies directly from Managua to the communities, but this was not possible because of the way the supplies were packed in the US. The CoC brought the supplies to Jinotega where they were unloaded at their clinic's warehouse. While this added two days more in the distribution phase, some of that time was recuperated when the communities without roads in the Zona Seca area adjacent to Jinotega City came to the CoC warehouses with pack animals to transport supplies.

After trip into the interior and discussions with the different emergency coordinators, we determined that there was more than sufficient work to be done in the Jinotega Municipality. The reasons for making this determination were: a) the two hardest hit Municipalities were Wiwili and Jinotega, and one community in Bocay, b) Wiwili and the community in Bocay were receiving much aid, with little being reported to the Municipal coordinators, making coordination difficult, and c) in Jinotega Municipality the relief effort we detected amounted to very little, basically emergency shelters in schools and other public facilities and less than a day's supply of food given out one time.

Once the area of work had been established, the MIHV promoters with the assistance of the AVODEC associates and CoC volunteers identified the communities with the most needs. Forty-one communities were served as well as different refugee shelters and encampments. The project served 2,152 families, 1,277 in rural communities, 875 in refugee shelters. The rural communities averaged about 31 families per community.

In the communities, the AVODEC associates identified needy families with the principal criteria being loss of crops. The AVODEC associates delivered lists of beneficiaries to the MIHV Promoters. Supplies were delivered based on these lists with each recipient signing a pre-prepared receipt of the supplies based on these same lists. In the refugee camps, all in the vicinity of Jinotega City, the CoC volunteers identified the needy camps, with the lack of assistance being received by the camps as the principal criteria. Camp populations were the determinate of number of beneficiaries in these cases. It was decided that the camps needed roughly twice as much food supplies as the rural area because there was no possibility of their supplementing their food with their own crops. The food reported distributed in this narrative is all food donated through the Bono, Arkansas CoC. MIHV and AVODEC participated in distributions of food for other institutions without distribution mechanisms, but these lay outside the scope of this report.

The work plan proposed for this project was altered as the work progressed but is still a useful outline for this report.

- 1 Identify and classify the needs of the Jinotega population. The classifications were determined on how much damage was done to crops and housing, and what % of the community's population had damages. The amount of food distributed per family was based on these classifications. This was done as previously mentioned in this report.

- 2 Distribute immediate relief such as a week's supply food, clothing, and through the Christian Clinic, medicine This portion of the program was actually accomplished prior to the approval of the grant and was done through funds from private donors This does not enter into this project's report
- 3 Begin a community water treatment project with Brigadistas using a combination of chlorine treatment, water filters and drainage of ground water This project was started in fifteen communities around Lake Apanas where it was determined Hurricane Mitch had caused problems above and beyond the normal environmental health problems of the area Brigadistas were taught the dangers of stagnant water and how to drain them Brigadistas were taught to make water filters and material for building them was acquired from MINSA The water filter project continues and eventually all communities will have domestic water filters
- 4 Reconstruct housing damaged in hurricane This was a popular project in Jinotega and many institutions were interested in doing this work MIHV instead worked with a group requesting assistance to reconstruct their own homes in Los Robles, on the southern shore of the Lake Nearly 100 families are building brick houses to replace houses lost or damaged by high water At the time of this report they are still in the process, with assistance of MIHV and AVODEC
- 5 Develop a long term nutritional program utilizing donated seeds to establish home gardens This project is in process but the development of it is completed Funding has been secured for a four-year project, which will be implemented by AVODEC
- 6 Continue the AVODEC community health's maternal/child health activities Funding has been secured for this activity and AVODEC has begun a four-year project independent of MIHV MIHV is seeking long term (3-4 years) funding to work with AVODEC to develop new Brigadistas and extend AVODEC's activities to new underserved communities

The main activity of this project has been the distribution of emergency supplies During the life of this project, 12 weeks planned, 14 weeks actual execution, MIHV distributed the following supplies

- 1 60,185 lbs of rice @ US\$0 40 a lb *=US\$24,072
- 2 70,971lbs of beans @ US\$0 60 a lb *=US\$36,111
- 3 1,540 lbs of salt @ US\$0 10 a lb *=US\$154
- 4 5,262 lts of oil @ US\$1 20 a lt *=US\$6,314 4
- 5 2,444 lbs of cereal (corn or oats) @ US\$0 70a lb =US\$1,710 8
- 6 1,408 units of clothes free
- 7 100 first aid kits @ US\$19 99/ kit=US\$1,999

In our identifying and classification phase we determined that some communities would need supplementary food for a longer period of time. The food donated for this grant was completely distributed but we will be receiving more food donated in June, which will be handed out to fewer families but at a greater amount. We consider that the families that lost all of their crops are around 500, and that they will need about three more months' food before they normalize their food situation. In addition, all of the families receiving donated food will be part of a longer term nutritional project to improve the nutritional value of their crops.

ANNEX 1

DISTRIBUTION LIST BY COMMUNITIES

HOJA DE DISTRIBUCION DE ALIMENTOS

NO	COMUNIDAD	ATENDIDAS			FRIJOL	ARROZ	ACEITE	AVENA	SAL	ROPA
		FAM	TVSC	TOTAL	LIBRAS	LIBRAS	LTS	O CEREAL	BOLSA	PIEZAS
1	LOS ROBLES	97	10	107	1250	1250	107	107	107	0
2	DATANLI	31	6	37	850	850	27	27	27	16
3	PUEBLO NUEVO	17	12	29	700	700	28	28	28	0
4	SN JOSE ASTURIAS	16	2	18	450	450	18	18	18	0
5	SANTA ELENA	14	3	17	450	450	17	17	17	0
6	ASTURIAS I	20	2	22	575	575	22	22	22	16
7	ASTURIAS II	25	7	32	750	750	30	30	30	0
8	MONTERREY	17	3	20	500	500	20	20	20	0
9	SN FCO DE CEDROS	16	7	23	575	575	23	23	23	
10	LOS ALPES	21	4	25	700	700	28	24	24	0
11	LA VIRGEN I	16	2	18	500	500	20	18	18	8
12	LA VIRGEN II	16	4	20	500	500	20	20	20	0
13	LA TEJERA	11	3	14	350	350	14	11	11	8
14	EL NARANJO	14	3	17	425	425	17	17	17	0
15	YAGUALICA	23	1	24	625	625	24	24	24	8
16	LOS CHAGUITES	20	4	24	600	600	24	24	24	0
17	PITA DEL HORNO	13	3	16	400	400	16	16	16	16
18	EL HATILLO	13	3	16	400	400	0	16	0	0
19	JOCOMICO	14	2	16	400	400	16	16	16	
20	LA CAL	21	4	25	625	625	29	25	25	32
21	LAS MESITAS	27	3	30	660	660	27	27	27	24
22	JINOTEGA	90	1	91	1800	1800	96	70	38	120
23	MANCOTAL	57	14	71	900	900	16	66	14	424
24	ANTIOQUIA	12	4	16	250	250	16	16	4	
25	YANKEE I	21	1	22	250	250	16	16	4	8
26	YANKEE II	10	3	13	175	175	13	13	3	
27	PASO REAL	12	9	21	375	375	20	20	9	
28	CORRAL DE PIEDRA	19	3	22	700	700	28	22	22	24
29	EL CACAO	26	3	29	550	550	22	19	19	0
30	ZAPOTE	20	2	22	450	450	18	17	17	
31	SANTA ANA	26	3	29	500	500	20	18	18	
32	SANTA BARBARA	21	3	24	550	550	22	19	19	
33	LAS LOMAS	28	3	31	850	850	34	25	25	
34	CHAGUITE GRANDE I	77	10	87	1150	1150	46	31	31	
35	CHAGUITE GRANDE II	54	6	60	750	750	30	23	23	
36	SISLE I	36	5	41	900	900	36	0	0	
37	MOJON	54	5	59	1050	1050	42	7	5	
38	SAN GREGORIO	26	3	29	650	650	26	5	3	
39	SISLE II	34	4	38	850	850	34	7	2	
40	LAS PILAS	10	0	10	100	100	0	0	0	
41	Bo 20 MAYO (ASTURIAS)	10	2	12	100	100	0	0	10	
42	CENTROS DE REFUGIADOS	875	0	0	35,000	35000	4200	1520	760	704
	TOTALES	1980	172	1277	60185	60185	5262	2444	1540	1408

ANNEX 2

SAMPLES, COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION RECEIPTS



PROYECTO DISTRIBUCION DE ALIMENTOS

HOJA DE ENTREGA

COMUNIDAD Central de Piedra, PROMOTOR M^a Juana Hernandez

COMITE O BRIGADISTA Alfredo Rizo Leoncia Torres Damiana Gomez

NO	NOMBRES Y APELLIDOS	ALIMENTOS ENTREGADOS						FIRMA
		FRIJOL LBS	ARROZ LBS	ACEIT E LBS	AVENA LBS	SAL LBS	OTROS	
1	Leoncia TORREZ	50	50	2	7	2		Leoncia Torres
2	Damiana TORREZ	50	50	2	7	2		Damiana Gomez
3	ALFREDO RIZO	50	50	2	7	2		Alfredo Rizo
4	ESTEBAN TORREZ	50	50	2	7	2		Esteban Torres
5	MODESTO TORREZ	50	50	2	7	2		Modesto Torres
6	CARLOS GUTIERREZ	50	50	2	7	2		Carlos Gutierrez
7	ANA LIDIA LOPEZ	25	25	1	7	1		Ana Lidia Lopez
8	ISMELDA TALAVERA	25	25	1	7	1		Ismelda Talavera
9	JUSTINA GOMEZ	25	25	1	7	1		Justina Gomez
10	LETICIA RIZO	25	25	1	7	1		Leticia Rizo
11	ETANISLAO GUTIERREZ	25	25	1	7	1		Estanislao Gutierrez
12	ARMANDO GUTIERREZ	25	25	1	7	1		Armando Gutierrez
13	RAQUEL ALTAMIRANO	25	25	1	7	1		Raquel Altamirano
14	LUISA GUTIERREZ	25	25	1	7	1		Luisa Gutierrez
15	LEONEL GUTIERREZ	25	25	1	7	1		Leonel Gutierrez
16	FELICIANO ALTAMIRANO	25	25	1	7	1		Feliciano Altamirano
17	CONSTANTINO ALTAMIRANO	25	25	1	7	1		Constantino Altamirano
18	MONTE TORREZ	25	25	1	7	1		Monte Torres
19	CRISTOBAL RIZO	25	25	1	7	1		Cristobal Rizo
20	CELESTINO ALTAMIRANO	25	25	1	7	1		Celestino Altamirano
21	RAFAEL ALTAMIRANO	25	25	1	7	1		Rafael Altamirano
22	DESSI RIZO	25	25	1	7	1		Dessi Rizo

Esta donacion es hecho por "Mision para Cristo de Bono" Arkansas y distribuido por Minnesota International Health Volunteers y Asociacion de Voluntarios para el Desarrollo Comunitario (AVODEC)



PROYECTO DISTRIBUCION DE ALIMENTOS
HOJA DE ENTREGA

COMUNIDAD LA CAL

PROMOTOR ATILIANA CHAVARRIA

COMITE O BRIGADISTA

Francisco Gutierrez
Orlando Sobalvarro

NO	NOMBRES Y APELLIDOS	ALIMENTOS ENTREGADOS						FIRMA
		FRIJOL	ARROZ	ACEITE	CEREAL	SAL	OTROS	
1	JAVIER RIZO	25	25	1	1	1	Javier Rizo	
2	ELECTERIO RIZO	25	25	1	1	1	* Electerio Rizo	
3	VICTORIA CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Victoria Centeno	
4	ARCADIO CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Arcadio Centeno	
5	DOMINGO CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Domingo Centeno	
6	EDUARDO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Eduardo Sobalvarro	
7	PEDRO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Pedro Sobalvarro	
8	DENIS SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Denis Sobalvarro	
9	EVELIO GUTIERREZ	25	25	1	1	1	* Evelio Gutierrez	
10	SALVADORA CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Salvadora Centeno	
11	JAIMESOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Jaime Sobalvarro	
12	REYNALDO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Reynaldo Sobalvarro	
13	BENJAMIN SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Benjamin Sobalvarro	
14	MARCELINO CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Marcelino Centeno	
15	JULIO RIZO	25	25	1	1	1	* Julio Rizo	
16	PABLO RIZO	25	25	1	1	1	* Pablo Rizo	
17	MATEO RIZO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Mateo Rizo	
18	SEBASTIAN RIZO	25	25	1	1	1	* Sebastian Rizo	
19	PETRONILO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Petronilo Sobalvarro	
20	ANTONIO SOBALVARRO	25	25	1	1	1	* Antonio Sobalvarro	
21	MARIO CENTENO	25	25	1	1	1	* Mario Centeno	
22	ORLANDO SOBALVARRO	25	25	2	1	1	* Orlando Sobalvarro	
23	DOMITILA CENTENO	25	25	2	1	1	* Domitila Centeno	
24	ALEJANDRA SOBALVARRO	25	25	2	1	1	* Alejandra Sobalvarro	
25	FRANCISCO GUTIERREZ	25	25	2	1	1	* Francisco Gutierrez	
TOTALES		625	625	2925	25	25		

Esta donacion es hecho por Mision para Cristo de Bono Arkansas y distribuido por Minnesota International Health Volunteers y Asociacion de Voluntarios para el Desarrollo Comunitario (AvODEC)

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