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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY TOM GITTINS

Congratulations to board members elected at Fondo Q's annual meeting in June: Larry Blaskopf, John Evans, Mary Ferrand, Anita Friedman, Joanna Mauer, and Mike McCabe. Congratulations also to newly elected officers: Rik Laird, Vice President; Bill Threlkeld, Treasurer; and Janet Kerley, Secretary. And special thanks to Anita Friedman, outgoing President, for her dedication and leadership.

Welcome to the new Peace Corps Director in the DR, Kristin Kaper. We were pleased to have Kristin join us for our annual meeting in June and look forward to working with her and her staff. Welcome also to Tess De Los Rios, Deputy Director of Programming and Training for PC/DR.

We are especially proud of our developing partnership with the Instituto Técnico Superior Comunitario (ITSC) in the DR. Fondo Q is currently providing support to cover transportation costs for 20 low-income students who are pursuing career development studies in academic areas such as medical imaging, tourism, logistics, dental hygiene, food and beverage service, nursing, and construction. We continue to develop our working partnership with the Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral (IDDI) in the DR, and we will be exploring other partnership possibilities in support of our mission.

To maintain the momentum and evaluate our progress we are looking at the possibility of a board trip to the DR in March 2017. As we move along in planning, if you want to know more about the details and dates of the trip, please send me a note at: Fondo Q, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040.

Finally, Thank You to all of you who continue to support Fondo Q financially. Your continued contributions are critical to our success and to the career development of low-income scholarship recipients in the DR. If you haven't contributed yet this year, please put Fondo Q on your 'to do' list. Your contributions are tax deductible.

FQ GRANTEE NOW EMPLOYED AS REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN

Ramón Antonio Cueto de la Cruz lives in Los Pinos, Santo Domingo Este and has two kids. He previously had no formal employment and supported his family by making *dulces*. Ramón was a student at the Instituto Técnico Superior Comunitario (ITSC) studying refrigeration, and he had to take four buses/public cars each day to get to school and return home. He received a small grant from Fondo Quisqueya to cover his transportation costs. Ramón recently graduated from ITSC and is working as a refrigeration technician. He says that he now has the knowledge and the tools to work independently and that his work is going well so far.





FQ ANNUAL MEETING

BY JANET KERLEY

On Sunday, June 26, Tom and Sue Gittins hosted the Fondo Quisqueya annual meeting and picnic. Our special guest was Kristin Kaper, who is the new Country Director for Peace Corps DR. Kristin was previously the Programming and Training Officer (PTO) in Panama and the Chief of Training for Latin America and the Pacific.

Anita Friedman announced that she was stepping down as President of Fondo Q. She also gave a report on FQ's activities during the previous year, noting that we have developed new relationships in the DR and have landed in a great place with organizations who share our core mission.

Bill Threlkeld, FQ's Treasurer, reported that in 2015 we met our goal of disbursing \$12,000 in scholarships.

Five board members, whose terms ended this year, were reelected: John Evans, Mary Ferrand, Anita Friedman, Joanna Mauer, and Mike McCabe. We also elected a new slate of FQ officers for 2016/17: Tom Gittins (President), Rik Laird (Vice President), Bill Threlkeld (Treasurer), and Janet Kerley (Secretary).

The meeting ended with a standing ovation for outgoing President, Anita Friedman, with many expressions of appreciation for her service.

“FQ received an offer from Charity Advantage, one of the largest providers of websites to nonprofits in the U.S., to participate in their Outreach 20/20 Program.”

FONDO Q ROLLS OUT A NEW WEBSITE

BY BILL THRELKELD

The Fondo Quisqueya website, www.fondoq.org, was developed in early 2000 and, until October of this year, had never received an upgrade. It was really showing its age! Fortunately, FQ received an offer from CharityAdvantage, one of the largest providers of websites to nonprofits in the U.S., to participate in their Outreach 20/20 Program. This program, open to nonprofit organizations with an annual budget of less than \$1.5M, provides the same services, free of charge, as those provided to CharityAdvantage's paying users. FQ's only cost is for the website hosting (which is paid for by one of FQ's supporters); there are no other fees and the costs will not rise over time.

In FQ's case, since we already had a website, CharityAdvantage converted it to one of many available through CharityAdvantage's pre-designed formats and then integrated it with new tools and advanced features. And the best parts of the program for FQ's volunteers are the easy-to-use content management system and the unlimited technical support!

FQ's website won't be using all of the features offered by CharityAdvantage, but many have already been incorporated into the new and improved site. We invite you to visit the site and give us your feedback. What would make your visit to the site more enjoyable or productive? We look forward to hearing from you.

INSTITUTO TÉCNICO SUPERIOR COMUNITARIO GRANTEES

Fondo Q is providing funding to the Instituto Técnico Superior Comunitario (ITSC), the only community college in the Dominican Republic, to cover the transportation costs of a select group of low-income students who have to travel long distances and take several buses/public cars to reach the college. Below is a list of the 20 ITSC students currently receiving transportation grants. These students are enrolled in various areas of study including medical imaging, dental hygiene, tourism lodging, automotive mechanics, nursing, and photography.



Name: Kisiger Estrella Batista
From: Sabana Perdida, Santo Domingo Norte
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Diana Carolina Zabala Cabrera
From: Manoguayabo, Santo Domingo Oeste
Area of study: Dental Hygiene

Name: Altagracia de los Santos Valdez
From: La Milagrosa, Sabana Grande de Boyá
Area of study: Gastronomy

Name: Deuri Antonio Polanco Pérez
From: Cancino Adentro, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Automotive Mechanics

Name: Yeimy Belén Rodríguez
From: Brisas del Este, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Nursing

Name: Neideline Alexandra Magallanes Adon
From: La Victoria, Santo Domingo Norte
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Sara Albanilis Familia Mosquea
From: San Antonio de Guerra, Santo Domingo
Area of study: Gastronomy

Name: Damaris Feliz Zorrilla
From: Sabana Perdida, Santo Domingo Norte
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Ineli Nicolle Santana Lockward
From: Ensanche Osama, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Tourism Lodging

Name: Ramona de Jesús Bautista
From: Sabana Grande de Boya, Monte Plata
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Angelica Maria Puello
From: Los Llanos, San Pedro de Macorís
Area of study: Tourism Lodging

Name: Eduverki Turbi Montero
From: El Almirante, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Photography



Yanna Jessenia Díaz Rodríguez

“Fondo Q is providing funding to the Instituto Técnico Superior Comunitario (ITSC), the only community college in the Dominican Republic...”

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

Name: Yanna Jessenia Díaz Rodríguez
From: Villa Mella, Santo Domingo Norte
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Rachel Banelis Hichez Samidi
From: San Antonio de Guerra, Santo Domingo
Area of study: Logistics

Name: Isaac Taveras Germán
From: Urb. Italia, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Construction

Name: Yorely Burgos Espinosa
From: San Isidro, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Tourism Lodging

Name: Gissell Virginia del Orbe Núñez
From: San Isidro, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Medical Imaging

Name: Dilia Yahaira Lozano Cruz
From: Los Minas, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Medical Imaging



Gissell Virginia del Orbe Núñez

Name: Marvin Antonio Garcia Garcia
From: Cancino Adentro, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Food and Beverage Service

Name: Meidy Arilexy Soriano de los Santos
From: Invivienda, Santo Domingo Este
Area of study: Medical Imaging

“She has to take four buses/public cars each day to get to school and return home, and it was hard for her to come up with enough money to cover her transportation costs.”

SPOTLIGHT ON THREE ITSC GRANTEES

BY JOANNA MAUER

Below we spotlight three students who are studying at the Instituto Técnico Superior Comunitario (ITSC) and are receiving small grants from Fondo Q to cover their transportation costs.



Ineli Nicolle Santana Lockward lives in Ensanche Ozama, Santo Domingo Este with her mother and her grandmother. She has to take four buses/public cars each day to get to school and return home, and it was hard for her to come up with enough money to cover her transportation costs. Ineli is studying tourism lodging.

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Deuri Antonio Polanco Pérez lives in Cancico Adentro, Santo Domingo Este with his mother, and both he and his mother are unemployed. He has to take four buses/public cars each day to get to school and return home. Deuri is studying automotive mechanics.



Isaac Taveras Germán lives in Urb. Italia, Santo Domingo Este. Isaac lives with his parents and siblings. His father is employed but does not make enough money to cover the family's expenses. At one point Isaac was considering dropping out of school due to a lack of funds. He is studying construction.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY BILL THRELKELD

Many thanks to our traditional and some new donors this year, whose generosity has allowed FQ to keep pace with its grant-making at the three-quarters mark. Our direct support to beneficiaries at this juncture is at about US\$9,500, less than US\$100 short of FQ donations year-to-date. We will exceed our yearly direct support goal of US\$12,000 by year's end, and I feel certain that those who traditionally support us at the end of the year will give us that "income bump" that ensures we meet our revenue goals to cover a year's worth of program, communications, and administrative expenses.

We are always happy to share the news that a donation was made in memory of a loved one or to honor someone's birthday or to remember a PCDR group. So feel free to make such notes on your check or where indicated in an online donation. Those expressions are printed in the Honor Roll of Donors included in each newsletter.

Lastly, I was happy to recently receive an email communication from a donor who wanted to set up a monthly donation sent automatically from his account. This is an easy way to set up a target donation amount for the year but break it up in 12 monthly donations. Typically, this can be accomplished through the free bill pay

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"We will exceed our yearly direct support goal of US\$12,000 by year's end."



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service attached to checking accounts offered by most banks so that there are no administrative costs for the transactions.

As we head into the final quarter, wishing you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving and joyful year-end and new year holidays!

2016 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS (REFLECTING DONATIONS JANUARY 1— SEPTEMBER 30)

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FONDO Q

In addition to making tax deductible donations to Fondo Q by check, you can make them through **PayPal**, **justgive.org**, and by using the **Network for Good Giving System** (NGGS). To donate online, follow the links at the bottom of FQ's "Ways to Contribute" page at http://fondoq.org/donatesupport_our_work.aspx

MILA BROOKS FUND- WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

If you wish to focus your FQ giving on low-income women in the Dominican Republic, please send your tax deductible donations to: FQ for the Mila Brooks Fund, c/o Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040-6628.

FRIENDS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Our sister organization, FDR, like FQ, is a 501(c) (3) organization. FDR focuses on helping bring together the community of DR Returned PC Volunteers and staff in the US. It also raises money for two projects: a Program Development Fund, which supports Volunteers and PC programs with donations such as equipment and software, and a Community Challenge Fund, which provides grants for small-scale community infrastructure projects in poor communities. For more information, go to www.fotdr.org. Contributions are tax deductible and may be sent to John Evans, FDR Treasurer, 4512 Park Road, Alexandria, VA 22312.





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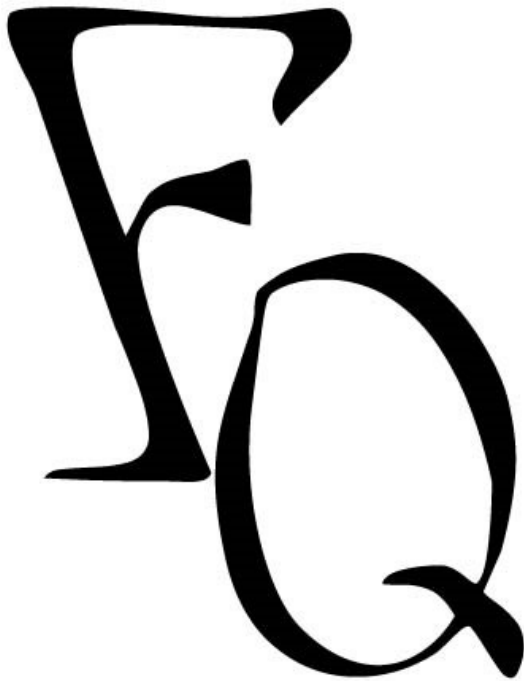
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**The Dominican Republic and
Peace Corps benefit from your
continued support.**

When making your estate plans, please remember Fondo Quisqueya.