



The Mariposa DR Foundation - Spring 2011 Newsletter

# In Honor of All Mothers

"A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie." - Tenneva Jordan





Special donations were made to The Mariposa DR Foundation in honor of the following mothers:

Jana Amelingmeier Grandma Jeanne Blend Marjorie Brown Dale Dimos Dorothy Greenberg Joyce Harmon L'Agence in honor of all mothers Phyllis Lawson Pat Luzim Leslie Miller to all the moms who have inspired her over the years Joyce Rorhback Josephine Wenger and the mothers of her great grandchildren, Susan, Tricia and Patty Elizabeth Thorndike Louise Thorndike

#### The Mariposa DR Foundation Has a New Home!

The Mariposa DR Foundation is proud to announce the opening of our first resource center in the Callejon de La Loma neighborhood of Cabarete. A safe, secure, and inviting space where our girls can come to read, study, check out library books and relax in a quiet room away from all the distractions of their often overcrowded homes.

We are building up a small library and the girls and neighborhood kids have already checked in and out the books over 400 times since March!

We are looking for children's and young adult books in Spanish to build our collection.



### Lawrence Academy Gives Puerto Cabarete School a Makeover

The Largest donation made to Cabarete public school since 1995.



18 high school students and staff from Lawrence Academy in Groton Massachusetts worked together for two weeks with our girls, parents and community members to give Cabarete's oldest public school a makeover. This massive team effort included construction of a basketball court, play areas, cafeteria, storage room, new plumbing in the bathrooms and a security wall. Students also rennovated classrooms and helped landscape the property. Special thanks to Lawrence Academy, Carlos the Gardner, Ocean Sands Casino and The Dunn Family Foundation for providing the 900 boys and girls at Puerto Cabarete with a nicer place to learn.

#### 20% More Education for the Girls

Luna Pads are an eco-friendly, healthy solution that will provide poor girls with up to 20% more education by allowing them to attend school while menstruating.



Thanks to an international collaboration, Luna Pads arrived in Cabarete this March. The distribution and training process has begun and we hope that this time next year every girl in Cabarete will not be missing school just because she is a girl. To find out more about this eco-positive solution to combat extreme poverty visit The Power Project on our Web site at http://mariposadrfoundation.org/Luna\_Pads\_Power\_Project.html.

## Mariposa Girls Leadership Program



Sports, English, Health, Tutoring, Field Trips, Community Service



#### Mabreidy Wins a Medal

Just one year ago 15 year old Mabreidy Martinez was afraid of the water. Mabreidy began swimming classes with the Mariposas last summer and through the support of several dedicated volunteers, she is now a swimming champion. Since February Mabreidy has been training with coach Vojt at the activeCaribe swim program where she recently won first prize.



#### TWO Mariposa Girls Start University

Congratulations to Yamali Pascual Zayas and Yonairiz Zayas Garcia who began university at UTESA in Puerto Plata this May. They are our first Mariposa girls to enroll in university. Special thank you to volunteer Aymara Copplind for guiding them through the process. We are so proud of our girls.

## The Mariposa Team is Growing!



Special thanks to all of our volunteers especially Becky Maas, Lindsay Martin, Laura Selin, Lacey Schroder and Aymara Copplind. For more information on volunteer opportunities please contact us at info@mariposadrfoundation.org.



#### New Mariposa Staff Member Julia Swijters

Meet the newest member of the Mariposa team - Office and Logistics Manager, Julia Swijters. Julia has been a part of the Cabarete community for more than ten years. She has been here to see the community's little girls grow up to be women all too fast, and is excited to join the Mariposas to help educate, empower and employ girls.

## She is the World's Most Powerful Force for Change

If 10% more girls go to secondary school, the country's economy grows 3% (Unicef 2010)



#### Educate • Empower • Employ

July 11<sup>™</sup> - August 5<sup>™</sup>, 2011

We are gearing up for the 2nd year of our Girls Summer Leadership Program. This summer's program includes environmental education, sports, theatre, dance, intensive academic tutoring, English and field trips.

Working together with certified teachers, students, parents and international volunteers Mariposa creates a unique experiential education program just for girls.



#### Donate, Volunteer, Get Involved

Contact Us: info@mariposadrfoundation.org www.mariposadrfoundation.org