FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE Breaking the Poverty Cycle in the Dominican Republic: Documentary Proposal

> Research Week 2024 Kayla Strzalka









Palo Blanco Dominican Republic

THEN

- Characterized as a violent, brutal neighborhood
- Drugs, alcohol and domestic abuse
- Cock-Fighting Ring
- Average education level of adults was 3rd grade

Research Methods

One of the greatest research methods is our experience.

My eyes and my heart have been my main avenue to knowledge.

- Culture Smart Reading Guide
- Cultural Immersion
- Close Observation
- Conversations
- Testimonies

EPHESIANS 1:18

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you"

FOLLOWING GOD'S CALL

Colegio Fuente de Agua Viva



- Attended a church in Palo Blanco
- Knocked on doors to ask to pray for people
- Tutored children and some adults in the church
- Rented a house



• Able to purchase land, build, and move into a new building!

SIZE AND IMPACT

TODAY

2023 CONSTRUCTION

- Kitchen modernization
- Created a covered outdoor sports court



305 students

58 Staff

WHAT THEY DO

HOLISTIC CARE





Palo Blanco Dominican Republic

NOW

- New apartment complex across the street
- 90% high school graduation rate
- Transformation!



DOCUMENTARY Treatment

- Developed from research
- Inspired by Jan's story

Tu fidelidad es grande Tu fidelidad incomparable es Nadie como tú, bendito Dios Grande es tu fidelidad Your faithfulness is great Your faithfulness is incomparable Nobody is like you, blessed God Great is your faithfulness

Jan Burkey

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There are many stories of triumphant and not so triumphant unfortunately. It has been such a great walk here in the Dominican Republic and to see God's hand at work in different areas through the years – provision, faithfulness, workers just when we need it and of course most of all changed lives. rero '03

li Casa/ My House Ni Barris/My Commund u, Pueblo/My Town Ui Pais/ My Country Ui Mundo/My World



Sarpentera



NEXT STEPS...

- Continue Research
- Create a Documentary









THANK YOU

