

LIFE-LONG,
LOCAL,
LIFE-SAVING



Doctors for Doctors

2025 Annual Report

Dra. Sumpull López
Médico General

- Atención a niños y adultos.
- Consulta médica general.
- Enfermedades crónicas.
- Enfermedades agudas.
- Lectura de exámenes de laboratorio.
- Limpieza, cura y suturación de heridas.
- Canalización y suministro de medicamentos.

Lunes a Viernes
a partir de las 8:00am

(above) part of a poster advertising that Dr. Kimberly Lopez is now a medical doctor in San Juan del Sur,

“Hoy aprendes con humildad; mañana enseñas con responsabilidad.”
“Today you learn with humility; tomorrow you teach with responsibility.”

The Multiplier Effect: One Doctor Creates Lasting Change

by Dr. Andrew Klarer

Doctors for Doctors is a registered Canadian charity transforming rural healthcare in Nicaragua through strategic investment that pays dividends for generations. We don't send foreign doctors on short-term missions. We empower young Nicaraguans to become the healthcare leaders their communities desperately need.

The challenge is stark: Nicaragua has fewer than one physician per 1,000 inhabitants, with even less coverage in rural areas. More than one-third of the population lacks access to basic healthcare. But when you invest in one rural student's medical education, you don't just create one doctor—you create a catalyst for community-wide health transformation.

Our Four-Step Model

1. Scholarships & Support

We provide full scholarships for high-potential youth to attend Nicaragua's top medical schools. Throughout their seven-year journey, students stay connected to their home communities through regular transportation, monthly educational seminars, and mentorship from our program graduates.

2. Community Engagement

From year one, students complete medical outreach in their home communities—vaccination campaigns, health education workshops, preventive care initiatives. They build trust as they build skills, becoming known as their community's own doctors-in-training.

3. Career Launch

After graduation, we support their transition through research opportunities and our Project ECHO program—monthly virtual case-study sessions connecting Nicaraguan doctors with Canadian medical professionals in a north-south exchange that elevates care on both sides.

4. Alumni Leadership

Our graduates mentor newly sponsored students and take increasing ownership of the program. Doctors like Bryan and Kimberly now co-author published research, train incoming students, and operate rural clinics where none existed before.

The Multiplier Effect

This model creates true sustainability. Each sponsored student treats thousands of patients annually for decades. Each graduate mentors new students, multiplying impact without multiplying costs. Over a 40-year career, one doctor we sponsor today could serve more than 80,000 patients while training the next generation. As our network grows, so does our impact—creating a self-reinforcing cycle of community-led transformation.

Your Partnership Makes This Possible

We've directed over 90% of all revenue directly to programming since our founding. Our Board covers operational costs, ensuring every dollar you contribute empowers students, supports doctors, and builds healthier communities.

Whether you sponsor a student's complete medical education (\$30,000 over five years), support our educational infrastructure, or contribute to our Alumni Program, you invest in a proven model that's life-long, local, and life-saving.

Join us in building a healthier Nicaragua, one empowered doctor at a time. Strategic investment in education and healthcare breaks cycles of poverty forever.

Se hace el camino al andar—You make the path by walking on it.

Student Leaders in the Scholarship Program

Osmara Rodríguez

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Osmara completed her 6th year of medical school in 2025 and is the newest member of the DFD team. She has done rotations through surgery, pediatrics, and gynecology in the city and is now working at the much smaller local health center. She reports that the hours are grueling but the experience is very satisfying. She says that overall she is really enjoying the feeling of becoming a better doctor.



Nohelia Damaris Lopez

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Nohelia finished her 3rd year of studies in 2025. She went on many rural outreaches and has this to say “A central part of my learning involved giving educational talks in rural communities and health centers, covering crucial public health issues like dengue fever and diabetes. This direct community contact fundamentally shifted my perspective: I realized that a doctor’s role is not just treating physical problems behind a desk, but that it’s also about prevention, identifying risk factors, and connecting with the whole person—heart, mind, and spirit.”

Jimena Lugo Guillen

Like Osmara, Jimena has also just completed her 6th year of studies and is well into her residency as a medical doctor at the regional hospital in Rivas. Jimena says, “It’s been challenging but full of new learning” and she still continues to support the annual ophthalmologist outreach clinic in rural Nicaragua.



Brandon Vargas



Dr. Brandon Vargas finished his studies completely in 2024 and is still working on getting fully certified. As he graduated from a private medical school in Nicaragua, the process takes longer and is a bit more technical and arduous than for doctors we support who graduate from the public medical school. He has jobs picking coffee and in construction this year while he awaits full certification.

Dr. Bryan Carrillo and Dr. Kimberly Lopez

Bryan and Kimberly are both practicing medical doctors. Kimberly is working full time as a medical doctor in her clinic (see the photo on the front page this year). With support from DFD and its donors, she took a 6 month course and earned another diploma in ultrasonography! She is hoping that this coming year she will be able to include her new skills with patient exams at her clinic. Bryan has been volunteering his services for periodic local health fairs –required by the national health service. He has been dedicating his time this year to giving medical consults to people in his community and surrounding areas.

Bryan only charges what patients can pay so he offers some consults without charge. He is also waiting for the research project to be renewed from 2024 so he can advance the understanding of heart disease in rural Nicaraguans in the future.



2025 Photos from Students



(top left) Osmara is proud after delivering her first baby!

(top right) Our local partners (FAJB) celebrate their 25 anniversary. Our Nicaraguan Executive Director and DFD doctors get together to join in the celebrations.

(bottom left) Jimena and her colleagues after a Days for Girls session in a rural community

(bottom right) Jimena and a few other doctors teaching the basics of a self screening breast exam for a chronic diseases outreach day in a rural community.

Financials

In 2025, we raised \$5,870 from public donations. All of these funds go towards paying for the medical education of amazing young people in medical school (Noellia, Jimena and Brandon for this year) who can't wait to become doctors in their communities.

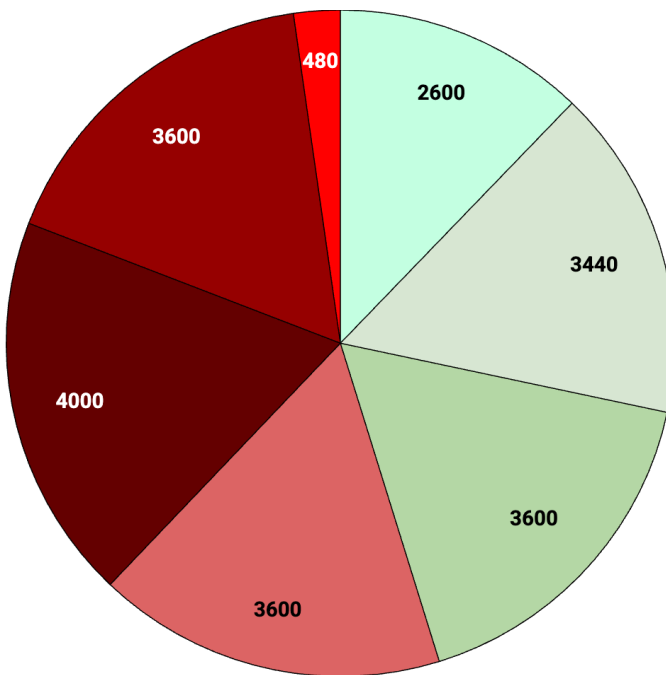
We spent \$8,140 in 2025: \$7,660 went to empowering local heroes (this includes our Executive Director in Nicaragua) and \$480 for operations.

All of the money donated from the public in 2025 went directly to supporting our students, Nohelia, Jimena and Brandon, and our Alumni Network, who are at various stages of their medical journey. Our operational costs are covered by the private donations from our Board of Directors, core donors, and gifts in kind.

	REVENUE*	EXPENSES*
Canada Helps	2600	
Student Donations	3600	
Other Donations / Income	140	
In-Kind Donations	3600	
TOTAL REVENUE	9,940	
Student Payments		3600
ED in Nicaragua		4000
Materials + Bank Fees + Event Costs		480
Rent/Equipment (In-Kind)		3600
TOTAL EXPENSES		11,680

*Numbers are rounded approximations and should not be used for legal or tax purposes.

Cash Flow Summary



- Canada Helps
- Other Donations/Income
- In-Kind Donations
- Student Payments
- ED in Nica
- Rent/Equipment
- Event/Ops Costs

Looking Ahead

by Andrew Wilson

In 2026, we plan to focus on the following five areas in our work:

1. Continue supporting our graduated doctors, Dr. Bryan, Dr. Kimberly and Dr. Brandon in their careers.
2. Support our medical students; Nohelia in her 4th year, Jimena and Osmara in their 7th (and final) year of schooling.
3. Formalize the framework for mentorship connections between the graduated doctors and the students.
4. With interviews already under way for 2026, we hope to sponsor two new medical students for the coming year.
5. Facilitate more medical outreach campaigns, such as *Days for Girls*, with our doctors and students to provide consistent health care in rural areas.
6. Coordinate and expand ongoing monthly project ECHO calls with doctors in Nicaragua and Canada for shared learning about patient care.

On behalf of our students, alumni, and all of us at Doctors for Doctors, we would like to thank you, our loyal donors, for your continued support throughout another year. Without your generosity, all of these incredible achievements would not have been possible.

DFD Leadership Team



Dr. Andrew Klarer

Founder

Dr. Klarer is a Chiropractor with plenty of experience in international development. He has worked in Tanzania through Global Peace Network with Dr. Brian Budgell as well as Botswana working with World Spine Care.



Dr. Elsa Dinsdale

Director of Medical Outreach

Dr. Dinsdale is a Medical Doctor who focuses her clinical work in Northern Canadian remote Indigenous communities and urban health in Toronto. She has previously worked for Critical Care Services Ontario, the Canadian International Development Agency in Malawi, and the Centre for International Health in Cambodia.



Mike Carlson

Director of Operations

Michael is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) who helps people develop healthier relationships with money. He holds a Masters of Teaching (MT) from the U of T and a BSc in Env. Sci. from UBC. He is a generalist by nature, having worked in policy, politics, science, tourism and education.

Disclaimer: This document serves to represent DFD/NFN and its programs, volunteers and financials. If any inconsistencies are found between the information here and that reported to the Canada Revenue Agency, the information reported officially to the CRA shall be taken as true as changes and amendments may be made after the creation of this document.

To donate or receive more information contact:
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