

SPRING SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2012

MORE NEWS & PHOTOS FROM AROUND NIÑOS DE CRISTO

TRAVELS THRU THE CAMPO

ABOUT CHARLES DECKER FOUNDATION

CHARLES DECKER FOUNDATION*

Helping Children in Need in the Dominican Republic

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About Us

CHARLES DECKER FOUNDATION (CDF) was founded by Charlie Decker in 2004 to help support *Niños de Cristo*, an orphanage with 190 children (160 girls and 30 boys), located in La Romana in the Dominican Republic.

CDF also provides modest aid to *Jackies' House*, an orphanage with 35 children, located in Santo Domingo, and to Dr Fausto and Ana Gomez's *Fundacion Caridad y Salud* in Las Matas de Farfan, on the Haitian border, where they oversee 200+ children living in poor conditions in nearby barrios.

CDF also makes modest contributions to *Orphanage Hope of A Child* in Montecristi, also near the Haitian border. We recently launched a volunteers' vacation program for *Hope of a Child* (<http://tinyurl.com/orphanage-volunteer-program>)

Our Mission

To provide food, medical care, clothing and needs related to education, to indigent (often orphaned) children in the Dominican Republic. We do that by working with orphanages and day care centers-all of who need help, especially financially.

Twenty percent of the donations we make to the orphanages are for food, 37% for education, and 33% for medical care, 10% miscellaneous (clothing, infrastructure, etc)

Not Available for Adoption

None of the children in the orphanages we are helping are available for adoption* so we are also helping with a longer term perspective, including college and vocational training.

(*adoption in the DR is permissible only by Dominican citizens, many of the indigent children do not have birth certificates. Or some cases the "parent" will not permit adoption even though they have virtually abandoned the child. Also, many of the children have been badly traumatized before coming to the orphanage that the possibility of a "bad adoption" is to be avoided if possible. (You may recall the story of the Russian boy whose (Russian) foster parents abandoned him in a drug deal in the DR. (He is now back in Russia)

How we work

The DECKER FOUNDATION has no responsibility in the operation of

these orphanages but we do offer advice and ideas and introduce other organizations and volunteers to help them.

Donations to the DECKER FOUNDATION come from individuals and organizations, private foundations, Charlie has met along the way in addition to his own personal contributions.

The DECKER FOUNDATION's Directors are Rev. Jacqueline Lewis, Ph.D., Middle Collegiate Church, New York City and Ned Wallace, MD, MPH, Bethlehem, PA and Charlie Decker, New York City and La Romana in the Dominican Republic.

The CDF website is www.charlesdeckerfoundation.org

Our Philosophy

Transparency

We are committed to transparency in our operation for our donors and we require transparency and accountability from those we support.

No Overhead/No Expenses/No Salaries

Charlie Decker personally pays all operating costs and overhead of the foundation. All work is done by volunteers, there are no salaried personnel. (however could change should we have to add staff to carry out programs in conjunction with larger grants we are seeking from NGO's, private foundations)

Sustainable Outcomes

Ideally, our assistance will help with programs that become sustainable by their very nature. The best example of that is providing university scholarships for young people who will return and help the younger ones as teachers, doctors, nurses, etc. However we encounter emergency situations (usually brought to our attention by one of our volunteers) outside of the orphanages, where the help we provide is a "short term fix."

The CHARLES DECKER FOUNDATION Hands-On

CDF is hands-on grassroots operation. Charlie Decker personally (or in conjunction with volunteers) cuts all checks we give to recipients and is in the field every month.

Each year the CHARLES DECKER FOUNDATION's aid touches 500+ children.

The Charles Decker Foundation is classified as a 501(c)(3) organizations by the IRS. Contributions are tax exempt to the extent permitted by law (Including NYS)

