

**Amextra, A.C.**  
**Summarized Annual Report 2003**

2003 was a year of challenges, strategy building, re-designing and much more, which embarks us on a road for increasing work, results and the glory to God through this transformation service. Our transformation processes involved 5,570 families, from 58 communities in 5 regions, with the support of 79 local promoters.

| <b>Programs</b> | <b>Families</b> | <b>Communities</b> | <b>Promoters</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Ajusco          | 1100            | 8                  | 24               |
| Chalco          | 2,000           | 15                 | 30               |
| Chiapas         | 2,100           | 20                 | 11               |
| Villa Victoria  | 250             | 12                 | 8                |
| Xonacatlán      | 120             | 3                  | 6                |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>5,570</b>    | <b>58</b>          | <b>79</b>        |



**1.) Ajusco**

- The daycare attended to an average of 60 children.
- The early childhood stimulation workshops encouraged 45 parents to create didactic material and to be more interested in their child's education.
- The nutrition area continues to weigh children to measure progress.
- 8 teachers took music and human rights courses.
- The computer and English project is being carried out with good results.
- Motivational prayer times have been held for staff four times a week, as well as two retreats and monthly reflections.
- PARED, The Active Program for Reconciliation, Hope and Dignity, surpassed its goals through high impact activities such as the Peace Education workshops in the daycare center and public schools and individual therapies which attended to a total of 800 people.

**2.) Chalco**

- Dr. Rose continues to offer dental services to 150 families.
- The daycare decided to improve the training for new people so that they better understand Amextra's mission and vision.
- Elementary, junior high and high school educational programs continue to be offered for 50 adults.
- Volunteers have offered English classes to the community.
- The library offers materials and books to the community.
- The recycled paper project has made a few sales from visiting groups.
- The holistic transformation project has offered: weekly meetings to the savings and loans groups, weekly reflections for the daycare, accompaniment for 5 families in Lomas de San Isidro, 2 Bible courses and 2 retreats.





### 3.) Chiapas

- Nutrition workshops benefited 60 families, mothers and young women with very positive results.
- The women have committed to improve their child's nutrition. 296 children under 5 years old were weighed finding: 22.29% with light malnutrition, 12.5% with moderate malnutrition, and 2.3% with severe malnutrition.
- 29 irrigation systems were given to program participants.
- A formational program was implemented for pastors and deacons of local churches on topics such as Bible theology, gender, project development and youth's problems.
- The relationship with the churches is having a bigger impact on holistic transformation in the area.
- The Carbon Capture project has facilitated the participation of 50 farmers.
- The gender workshops have contributed to the beginning of an open dialogue between women and men as they seek changes and improved gender equality.

### 4.) Villa Victoria

- The production component generated a bean crop which went towards assuring an important nutritional element for 250 families and a seed surplus to be used for future harvests.
- Families were also assisted by the delivery and reception of 4 gas operated pumps and a chopping machine.
- 3 church groups benefited from the production of sheep.
- Consulting and training courses were provided.
- Each participant interacted with the technicians in order to apply their new veterinary knowledge at home.
- The holistic transformation processes have involved and motivated participants and leaders from 3 local churches, enabling people who don't actually attend to see a positive side of the church.



### 5.) Xonacatlán

- The school year finished with 45 children.
- The first infantile festival "Transforming Children for a better Xonacatlán" was held for the community to become familiar with the Casa de Plastilina activities and to provide 300 children with an opportunity to support the elderly.
- A summer camp for 40 children, 5 parents, 4 teachers and 3 collaborators was held and the participation of the children and parents helped improve their commitment towards the Casa de

Plastilina.

- The amount of children failing classes has decreased tremendously.
- A new time has been opened up on Fridays, offering devotionals for teachers and children and workshops on crafts, music and reading.
- A new morning schedule from 10:00 to 12:00 for 2-4 year-old children has been opened at the request of parents.
- A hand-delivered monthly newsletter, an informative breakfast, and scheduled interviews and meetings have improved communication and started a more formal holistic transformation training process with local churches.

### 6.) Puebla

- The administrative office has provided important support which has enabled us to depend more on the different staff teams, donors and institutions.
- The team is made up of three people who are very effective and efficient in their work.



### 7.) Savings and Loan Program

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Accumulated Savings Amount  | \$303,526 |
| Number of Savers            | 3,140     |
| Average Savings             | \$27,959  |
| Solidarity Groups           | 221       |
| Generated Interest          | \$30,557  |
| Accumulated Loan Amount     | \$495,864 |
| Active Portfolio            | \$469,986 |
| Number of Accumulated Loans | 8,221     |
| Number of Active Loans      | 1,821     |
| Average Loan Amount         | \$321     |



### 8.) Training Program

- Steps have been taken to create a formal training area in order to promote the formation of holistic transformation projects for people and groups inside and outside of Amextra.
- The specific objectives are: form staff based on Amextra's mission, vision and methodology; offer beneficiaries formal and informal projects that are useful for daily living; organize and focus our experience in topics such as, violence, savings and loans, agricultural projects and consulting.

### 10.) Visitors

- Eugenio Araiza, Veronica Vero, their children, Erik and Citlali, along with Jennifer Allen traveled to Chicago, Minnesota and Iowa in November to visit partners and friends in those areas.



- It was a valuable time to reaffirm relationships and to understand needs and values of our associates.
- Support for new projects was defined and donated computers and equipment for our regions was brought back.

### 9.) Communication and Fundraising

- Amextra received 484,096 dollars in 2003 which is an increase of 100,000 thousand from last year.
- We have also received our first donations through the web page. They are smaller amounts, but we hope that they will increase and strengthen the option for individual contributions due to the easiness and security of the system.
- We are working to continually improve communication both within Amextra staff teams and externally by improving our directory, creating newsletters and maintaining consistent contact with all.



### 11.) Priorities for 2004:

- Continue with the Deacon's projects for local churches.
- Systematize training for groups and improve Biblical training and new staff formation
- Focus on fund-raising and the training of local teams, as well as look for more support from churches and individuals.
- Training of Amextra personnel to provide consulting services.
- Improve internal communication systems.
- Ensure more systematic hiring of new personnel.
- Multiply the Prevention of Violence project.
- Create projects which respond to the needs of youth.
- Open a new project in the region of Guerrero.
- Organize scheduled events for strategic planning, attending retreats, writing reports . . .
- Re-establish monitoring and evaluation systems.
- Introduce a mechanism for pastoral team accompaniment.

