

Nicaragua

January 18, 2008

Global Links kicked off 2008 with a 40-foot sea container destined for the northern autonomous region of Nicaragua, along the Atlantic coast. This donation will benefit five health centers in the Waspam region, which was one of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Felix when it came ashore in early September 2007.

During Global Links' last visit to Nicaragua, which was less than a month after Hurricane Felix, local health authorities told us that 46 health posts in the RAAN region were damaged and in some cases completely destroyed. Many had to be rebuilt. The Ministry and the local PAHO office turned to Global Links for help in equipping some of the newly rebuilt health centers.

Local health authorities in the Waspam region provided us with very detailed lists of what they needed. Since many of these health centers were completely rebuilt, they needed just about everything. This shipment included ten gynecological exam tables, five rotating exam stools, five mayo stands, five utility carts, five scales, nine desks with wheeled office chairs, nine filing cabinets, eight large storage cabinets, and chairs, along with over 150 boxes containing blood pressure units, stethoscopes, gloves, syringes, nebulizers, ophthalmoscopes, obstetric instruments, minor surgery kits, soap, hand sanitizer and many other basic medical supplies.

We are optimistic that this shipment will help to restore much-needed health facilities in this remote region of Nicaragua, and we were honored to be asked to collaborate in this disaster relief effort.