



## JustHope News - February 2018

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## Help Stop the Passing of the NICA Act

Although Nicaragua is still the second poorest country in Latin America, the economy is growing at a rate of 4.5% per annum. This stability and growth, however, is threatened by interference from the USA with the NICA Act.

In October, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the Nicaragua Investment Conditionality Act, known as the NICA Act. If approved by the Senate, the NICA Act could see the U.S. block major international lending institutions from lending to Nicaragua. Institutions such as the World Bank, IMF and the Inter-American Development Bank could be blocked from giving loans that fund improvements in roads, ports, electricity and other infrastructure.



The Alliance for Global Justice is calling on us to implore our Senators to vote against this potentially detrimental bill.

[Learn about the NICA Act and how to talk to your Senator about it.](#)

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## An Interview with First-Time Trip Participants

"The trip changed us more than we could have imagined. We hold the people of Chacraseca close in our hearts and remain forever grateful for all they did for us and to change us."

Dee Dee Jones & Julie Blake participated in their first JustHope trip in November and are already eager to return! We sat down with them to talk about their experiences.

[Read the interview with Dee Dee & Julie.](#)



Dee Dee Jones & Julie Blake pose with trip participants from UCC Seattle in November 2017.

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## 2017 Annual Report Coming Soon

Get ready! We are putting the finishing touches on the 2017 Annual Report and will have it in your Inboxes soon.

**SPOILER ALERT: It was a great year!**

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## JustHope Trips

This month we welcome two groups to our partner communities! Our friends from **All Souls Unitarian Church** in Tulsa, Oklahoma, just returned from Chacraseca. And a group from **Woodbridge Christian Church** in Wichita, Kansas, is currently in La Flor.

In January, a group from **University Congregational Church** in Wichita, Kansas, built two latrines for deserving families in Chacraseca thereby drastically improving their basic sanitation. Pictured here is the group proudly showing off one of the latrines.



**Thinking of planning a trip with JustHope?** Reach out to us at [office@justhope.org](mailto:office@justhope.org), and we'll guide you through the process seamlessly!

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## Our Social Media Feed

Here's something interesting we mentioned on social media:

Our partner All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, recently wrote a beautiful article about why they are committed to JustHope and Chacraseca.

[Read it here.](#)



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