

HELP COPA DO EVEN MORE

SPONSORING

COPA is funded through a sponsorship scheme. For less than £2 a week (£8 per calendar month) you can sponsor a child attending a COPA school. You will receive a photograph of your child(ren), plus letters, pictures or drawings and COPA newsletters throughout the year. If you pay tax you can Gift Aid your contributions. This enables COPA to receive 20% additional funds from the government, at no extra cost to you.

DONATIONS

We are grateful for any 'one off' donations that we receive. Such donations can help a particular aspect of COPA's work or can go to the general funds to run the schools and clinics.

VOLUNTEERING

All vacancies are advertised on our website www.copa.org.uk. We are always keen to hear from people who are interested in working in the Dominican Republic.

Alternatively, if you would be interested in joining the UK committee please e-mail copa.secretary@gmail.com

WORKGROUPS

Volunteer workgroups have visited La Hoya & Bombita since 1992 to undertake maintenance work and activities with the children. If you would like to participate in a future COPA workgroup, please e-mail copa.secretary@gmail.com

MORE INFORMATION

Please check the website or Facebook page for the latest news stories and photographs of COPA's work in the DR as well as activities taking place in the UK.



Bringing new hope to
needy communities in
the Dominican Republic



WHAT IS COPA?

During a visit to the Dominican Republic in 1991, Sebert and Doreen Lane, were horrified by the conditions they encountered. Community Partners Association (COPA) was founded with the aim of providing education and healthcare to very needy communities. As a Christian charity, COPA seeks to share God's love and care for the communities in the Barahona District not far from the Haitian border.



LA HOYA

In 1992 only 40 children went to a dilapidated one room school in the village of La Hoya where there were no books or educational materials of any kind. Only a few families could afford the required uniform. Living and working in partnership with the local community, Sebert & Doreen started work on building a modern school. Almost the entire village helped in some way.

Since the first foundations were laid, COPA have continually supported the development of the school both financially and with volunteer workgroups. Within a few years, the 40 children going to school become 400! The current COPA school offers classrooms for students from kindergarten up to year 8, a computer room, an art room and a fully stocked library.



BOMBITA

In the neighbouring village of Bombita, inhabited solely by very poor Haitian families, the conditions were even worse. The village water supply was from a ditch. There were no latrines, roads or a proper school. The houses were dilapidated shacks with dirt floors. In 1996, COPA set about constructing a modern new school together with a health clinic.

Since COPA began work in Bombita there have been two hurricanes to contend with and the huge earthquake in Haiti in 2010, which dramatically increased the number of children attending school in the village to over 500 as families sought refuge in the Dominican Republic.

The COPA school in Bombita offers similar facilities to those provided in La Hoya.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE!

The biggest change that can be seen in both villages is in the children themselves! After attending the COPA schools children graduate to High School in the City of Barahona or attend the COPA Training/Trade Rooms in Bombita. Some students progress to university and many who otherwise would still be illiterate have trained to be doctors, nurses, engineers, teachers and lawyers. Increasingly the COPA schools are staffed by former students with good qualifications.



HEALTH

COPA has built well equipped clinics which include pharmacies in both La Hoya and Bombita and a COPA Health advisor administers our health programme. At the same time she undertakes health education in the schools and within the communities themselves. Qualified doctors and nurses are all recruited locally.

TEAM APPROACH

Since COPA was established the project has grown through the dedication and partnership between all volunteers, supporters and committee members in the UK and USA.

The COPA team in the DR is led by the Project Director. This Director leads a team of education and health volunteers recruited in the UK or USA who undertake a 2 year contract and are paid a local wage. The education advisors work and support the teachers to raise the standards of education provided in COPA schools. Similarly the health advisor works closely with the medical team.

COPA in the UK and USA is operated by unpaid volunteer committees, which enables all the funds to go directly to the project.



SPONSORSHIP FORM



Please complete this form and send it to:
Mrs S Samways, 57 Pauls Croft, Cricklade, Swindon, Wilts SN6 6AJ

There are different ways to support COPA financially:

1. Student Sponsorship

I/We would like to sponsor ____ child(ren) to attend a COPA School. Please tick your preferred rate of payment:

£8 per month £24 per quarter £48 per half year £96 per year

2. Regular Donation

I/We would like to make a regular donation of £_____ per _____

Method of Payment

Standing Order* Cash/Cheque CAF Cheque

*Standing Orders reduce administration. Cheques payable to COMMUNITY PARTNERS ASSOCIATION

Title: Initial(s): Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Gift Aid Declaration

Please treat

All gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations.

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that COPA will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year.

Please notify COPA if you:

1. Want to cancel this declaration. 2. Change your name or home address. 3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Your details will be kept on the COPA database for administration purposes and to keep you updated with news and events. On no account will your details be passed on to any other individual or organisation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Instructions to your Bank/Building Society to pay by Standing Order

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager	Bank/Building Soc. _____
Address: _____	_____
_____	Postcode: _____

Name(s) of Account Holder(s) (Block capitals please)

Branch Sort Code

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Reference Number (to be completed by COPA)
C R N _____

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society.

Please pay COPA at Barclays Bank, Gloucester, Sort Code 20-33-83, for credit to account number 20250236, the sum of: £_____ each month / quarter / half year / year (delete the 3 inapplicable) starting (date)_____ until you receive further notice from me/us and debit my/our account accordingly.	
Signature(s) _____	Date _____