

Cooperative Maria Luis Ortiz, Clinica En Mulukuku
Nicaragua

Elena Tootell

Elena_tootell@yahoo.com

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This is a great cooperative clinic started by local women, in the middle of RAAN (region autonoma atlantico norte) Nicaragua. The clinic was started by a sandanista cooperative and helped by a gringa nurse, Dorothy Granada, who was a Peace Witness here during the war. They have started a literacy program, construction shop, carpentry shop, mobile clinics, a soy nutrition program, and anything else you can think of for public health. It is well organized and med student jobs are to do consultas and help with another project (I helped write some protocols, a grant for cervical cancer prevention, and did background work on a TB project they are doing). You should plan on working HARD. 20 – 40 consultas a day. You will work with the local nurses, who know plenty. Basic problems are flu, migraines, malaria, worms, malnutrition, cuts requiring stitches, etc. Be aware of Dengue also. Very interesting clinic with amazing local women, who have completely changed their community with little outside help. No running water, occasional electricity (they are planning on building a cooperative hydroelectric plant!) lots of rain and heat. Beautiful rivers, 2 hours from paved roads, and no telephone (one private, occasionally works), but a radio in case of emergency.