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International Center Collects Supplies for Nicaragua

ROCK HILL, S.C. – The Winthrop University International Center is collecting medicine and school supplies for the people of Tierra Blanca and Rocha, Nicaragua, an area that has been the destination of several university service-learning trips since 2007.

Donations of the following will be accepted through March 1, 2014: ibuprofen/acetaminophen; children and adult vitamins; pencils and pens; and spiral-bound notebooks. Students in the Departments of History and Human Nutrition will travel to Nicaragua in the spring to deliver the supplies.

Items may be dropped off in the International Center office in 218 Dinkins Hall.

In 2007, Winthrop Associate Professor of History Ginger Williams and several students traveled to Rocha, Nicaragua, on an international service-learning trip. While they dug for artifacts and planted gardens, they decided they wanted to give back to the community.

The Rocha Nicaragua Project was born. Over the years, students and faculty have returned to Nicaragua and planted community gardens, provided a dental clinic, reconstructed roads and taught English. In addition, the groups raised money to construct a one-room school for the community. Community members named the one-room school the Winthrop School in honor of the volunteers’ efforts.

For more information about the Rocha, Nicaragua Project contact Ginger Williams at williamsv@winthrop.edu or call her at 803/323-4680.