To Whom It May Concern:

Elon University, located in Elon, North Carolina, is a premier university that focuses not only on learning and engagement in an academic setting but in a democratic community setting as well. This means that Elon strives for student-community involvement. Two years ago, Project Pericles was established at Elon. This program gave students from each incoming class an opportunity to step outside the community and help others across the world. These students study problems around the globe and become “scholars” in the human services field, thereby combining academics and service. Through an entire semester of research, presentations and speakers, the class of 2007 has chosen a class project, a project that has become their lives.

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. Over seventy five percent of the population is malnourished, meaning lack of proper food, specifically vitamins and nutrients needed for survival. The group most affected by malnutrition, unfortunately, is children. Eighty five percent of children in Honduras suffer from malnutrition, ultimately leading to other problems which sometimes result in death. A major difficulty is that although Honduras is mainly agricultural, most produce is exported rather than going to the population.

The Periclean Scholars of Elon University, class of 2007, are working with the Mario Catarino Rivas Hospital in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, where most of the children in the pediatric ward suffer from malnutrition. The hospital does not have enough food or funds to stabilize the children, let alone help their families and, most importantly, help nourish the children so that they recover. The Periclean Scholars have taken on this unfortunate situation by helping provide necessary food, tools, and other resources to the pediatric ward to improve patients’ nutritional status. It is through them that you may be a part of this realistic and extraordinary turnaround.

The class of 2007 set a goal of generating $10,000 to help meet the budget needed to provide the necessary nourishment for these children. Through the kindness and generosity of many individual supporters, the class is moving closer to accomplishing their mission. With your generous monetary donation, they can take another step toward developing a successful and sustainable food program at the Mario Catarino Rivas Hospital.

In return, Periclean Scholars will provide recognition of your name and contribution at their major events as a way to show our gratitude and appreciation for your donation. Please check their website for more information about who they are and what they do, including a documentary from the hospital.

Sincerely,
The Periclean Scholars,
Class of 2007

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