

First phase begins

The renovation of the first part of the hospital is starting.

The moment has arrived: the renovation has started! The financing for the renovation of the first part of the hospital is complete. A spacious outpatient clinic, a first aid and a room for radiology are created. Former classrooms are renovated for this purpose, partly rebuilt, and provided with a fresh layer of paint. All rooms will have both 110V and 220V grid and new lighting. This in order to use the medical equipment that was donated or purchased in the Netherlands. Most rooms will have ceiling fans, in two rooms (pharmacy and radiology) there will also be air conditioning. The



bathroom will get a complete makeover and next to three regular toilets, an additional accessible toilet will be build.

Building will start by attaching the hospital on Puerto el Carmen's sewage. Previously the boarding school dumped everything in the nearby river. Apart from the fact that new regulation prohibits this, Quina Care also aims to operate as environmentally friendly as possible. The building is equipped with a system where rainwater is collected in big tanks. The water

is filtered and used for showers, toilets and sinks. This system will be revised.

Three contractors who have extensive experience with similar projects in the Amazon area have been requested to provide a quotation. A contractor was chosen who had not only the best references but also the most reasonable and realistic price.

In the meantime, active fundraising continues. The next renovation will be replacing the roof. This is much needed.



Treasurer Quina Care visits Puerto el Carmen

On 14 February 2019 the moment had finally arrived. I was able to observe the San Miguel boarding school, the future Quina Care hospital, with my own eyes.

On the road to Puerto el Carmen village it became very clear that we were moving towards a forgotten area. Although there was a tarmac road, the quality pot worse and worse, with big potholes and around us you could see that the standard of living was very low.

After about a three-hour drive we

arrived at the boarding school. The location is beautiful, close to the Putumayo river which also designates the border with neighbouring Colombia. Warm weather, sun and a brightly coloured old building. You would almost forget that we are dealing with a very serious topic, the establishment of a hospital which is much needed by the population of this region. Once inside I became even more enthusiastic. Obviously, a lot still needs to be done, but the groundwork of the

building is very solid and it offers all the possibilities we as a foundation could wish for the hospital. Jacob and Carolien have shown how they want to renovate the boarding school into a hospital: what plans they have for each room, where the staff buildings will be, where food will be cooked for the patients, how the electric grid will be set up - they've thought of everything. A lot of work has been done in preparation for the renovation. Once they've decided on a contractor, the renovation can start by converting the downstairs rooms into, for example, a first aid, pharmacy and consulting rooms. The existing bathrooms can also use an update.

Walking around this - currently desolated - building I'm thinking about what it will look like the next time I'm visiting. I can see a waiting area full of people, families accompanying people in medical need. Doctors and nurses busy with attending patients, staff dealing with admin and housekeeping chores. In other words, next time I'll be here I expect to see a fully functioning, busy hospital.

Yvonne van der Ende



Radio Cuyabeno



Jacob and Carolien were invited in January by Radio Cuyabeno, one of the local radio stations in the area, to share their story behind Quina Care's project. Interesting questions have resulted in a through in-depth discussion and they were very able to indicate Quina Care's plans. Click [here](#) for the highlights.

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Information technology allows business to be conducted easier and cheaper. The same applies to online payments. Previously expensive contracts were necessary to enable online

payments. Nowadays however, there are companies that offer this possibility without a contract, and instead ask for a small fee per transaction. Ideal for foundations like Quina Care.