

## Building New Hope's Partnership

In response to a drastic drop in the price of coffee on the world market, Building New Hope (BNH) began a partnership with El Porvenir, a farming cooperative of 48 families in the mountains near León, Nicaragua seven years ago. This relationship evolved into their current coffee program, a partnership based on fair trade and mutual equity, where BNH pays above fair trade prices, helping the farmers invest in their future and creating a more direct link between producers and consumers.

BNH also prepays El Porvenir's crop harvest as a key part of their economic relationship to allow the cooperative to pay the farmers as they work and help to keep their community out of debt. BNH believes strongly in their relationship with El Porvenir, not only because the coffee is delicious, but also because it is a relationship firmly rooted in principles of sustainability and social justice.

El Porvenir's organic coffee is shade grown, without the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides, thus preserving the ecosystem for all of us. The community has chosen to invest a significant portion of their earnings from coffee into their future -- planting new coffee trees to take the place of older trees that are no longer productive, diversifying their crops with the planting of cacao and avocado and improving their infrastructure to combat soil erosion.

Contact Barb Wein at 412-421-1625, or visit their website at [www.buildingnewhope.org](http://www.buildingnewhope.org) for more information about opportunities to help work with the people of Central America for a better future.