



## Board of Directors Announcement of Executive Director Resignation

It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that the Board of Directors announces Erika Shell Castro's departure as Executive Director of Montaña de Luz, effective January 27, 2017. Over the last six years, Erika has been instrumental in many new initiatives to improve the lives of the children and young adults that we know and love. Her inspiring leadership and friendship have not only left a lasting impression on me personally, but a permanent legacy at Montaña de Luz. While we will miss her and her vision and passion for the children, we wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors! We want to thank her for the years of dedicated service to growing our mission which involved many significant accomplishments, including:

- Development of an onsite classroom with a qualified teacher to help our students that were falling behind in the public school system
- Re-organization of the residences and staff in Honduras to create efficiencies and make Montaña de Luz a more sustainable organization
- Fund raising and construction of a new long term volunteer house
- Creation of a transition program to assist our older youth in their transition to independent adult living – MdL is one of only 5 such houses in Honduras and the only one for youth affected by HIV/AIDS.

Over the past month, we conducted a search to find the new Montaña de Luz Executive Director. We were fortunate during this transition period to have Erika remain with us until we found the best individual to lead our organization. We will share the job announcement with you in the next few days, as we have been blessed to find a candidate who will help us ensure the continued development and success of the organization.

Again, we cannot thank Erika enough for the dedication, passion, enthusiasm and motivation she has given our organization over the past six years. She will be greatly missed by the staff, Board, volunteers and supporters alike. We look forward to following the success of her career and are excited for the next chapter of Montaña de Luz as we continue the important work to bring hope to the youth in Honduras. If you have any questions or concerns during this transition process, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at [board@montanadeluz.org](mailto:board@montanadeluz.org).

Sincerely,

Laura DiFilippo  
President of the Board