

Your Church Can Get Involved and Partner with the Village of **Altagracia, Dominican Republic**



Altagracia is inhabited by the descendants of Haitian immigrants who were originally brought by the Dominican government to work in the sugarcane fields. Most of these people are undocumented, and there is no way for them to obtain legal citizenship. Sugarcane workers have since been replaced by machines, and there are few opportunities for these families to support themselves. More than 200 families live in Altagracia, one of the poorest communities in the region. In many cases, up to three families reside in just one house in Altagracia, where everyone usually sleeps in the same room.

We currently have around 70 children enrolled in our Village Partnership Program. Alongside caring partners like you, COTN has helped to build a school facility for preschool to grade two, a medical clinic, and clean water systems, as well as helping to implement daily nutrition at school, skills training, a special needs children's program, Bible studies, and summer camps.





STRATEGIC PROJECTS

As you continue to develop your relationship with Altagracia, you can stay involved throughout the year by partnering with us on village-specific projects:

Click here to see all available projects in the Dominican Republic.

VENTURE

As you become more invested in Altagracia, your church may decide to take a Venture trip and see firsthand how you can partner with this community. For more information, check out our Dominican Republic Venture <u>calendar for this year!</u>

In addition, we keep a standby list of emergency response medical and construction teams. Please contact our Venture department for more information.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship is still an important need in Altagracia, as we seek to provide holistic care for the children. As we continue to help families become more stable and independent, we also provide school fees, food, and medical care to around 70 children. Your church can host a Sponsorship Sunday event, or individuals can sponsor at any time.

Click here to see all the children who need sponsors in Altagracia.

DONATE RESOURCES

Wherever possible, COTN believes in purchasing needed supplies from local businesses in each country. However, we still have a need to ship supplies and equipment to supplement nutrition, clothing, and other materials for our children. Specifically, in Altagracia, we are in need of

- COTN Item of the Month

 Each month your church will be able to collect needed items for Altagracia.
- Feeding Children Initiative
 You can help provide <u>food from local sources</u> to our children in Altagracia, supporting the community around Altagracia.





• SmilePacks*

<u>SmilePacks</u> help us provide for the physical, spiritual, and educational needs of our children in Altagracia. We collect Bible, School, Hygiene, and Let's Eat SmilePacks.

• Pack a Container

Together with other local churches you can pack an entire shipping container of supplies for the children in Altagracia.

For more information, contact Fraser Ratzlaff at <u>fraserratzlaff@cotni.org</u> or 206-745-7932.

