It is hard to watch the news these days and not be concerned. While in some ways problems of the world seem to be happening in isolation, the impact can be felt across the globe. The war in Ukraine has dramatically affected one of the organizations the Foundation has supported in Nicaragua, and this is reported below. After a 2 years absence because of the pandemic, the founder of an organization working in Nepal was finally able to visit some of the supported rural medical clinics and found surprising answers to what he thought was a straightforward line of questions about mental health. This too is reported below.

Sustainable Agricultural in Nicaragua
The purpose of this project was to transfer agricultural knowledge to small food producers in Boaco, Nicaragua, helping them to develop new methods of food production that contribute to the sustainable development of the region. Clinica Verde aimed to provide best practice knowledge, technical assistance, and training in soil protection and the construction of soil and water conservation works. Both interventions will also help to improve the nutrition of the communities because healthy soil produces healthy food. The live barriers constructed are elaborated with fruit trees that will protect the soil and water resources while producing food rich in vitamins and fiber. In all, 51 families participated in this effort. The pandemic was an added complication but by utilizing smart phones for video tutorials and printed materials, they were able to accomplish their goals. The 51 families were given seeds, and they harvested tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, celery, beets, cabbage and batata. 10 families were to be facilitators to pass along what they had learned. However, this Spring, after our funded project had been completed, Nicaragua’s communist government with close ties to Russia gave Clinica Verde 72 hours to close down their operations.

Post-Partum Expectations in Rural Nepal
For many years, Nepal has had one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in Asia. **Friends of Nepal Pariwar Foundation** (FofNPF), for the past 12 years, has provided assistance for the salaries of nurse-midwives in four rural clinics in Nepal, and for in-service training and transportation expenses for the nurse-midwives, through the Friends’ partner organization in Nepal, BBP-Pariwar. The **AllPeopleBeHappy** foundation has been providing grants to Friends each year from 2010 to 2021 to pay the salaries of 3 of the nurse-midwives. Because of the easing of pandemic restrictions, Tom Aren’s, the founder of FofNPF, was finally able to visit for the 1st time in over 2 years. There were opportunities to review strategies and to discuss future efforts. The topic of mental health and post-partum depression was raised. “The nurse midwives commented that they occasionally have to deal with post-partum depression but usually the problem is social, *i.e.*, the new mother is expected to go out and cut grass for the milking buffalo from Day Two, or look after the goats, or cook the meal, etc. For families living nearby the clinic, nurses try to meet the in-laws particularly the mother-in-law to educate her about the importance
importance of cultural sensitivity when working with communities in the Developing World.