



## BFI Dominican Republic

Our mission is to create a better future for orphaned and abandoned children through the provision of nutritious food, healthcare, education and supportive services in a family environment so that these children have the opportunity to not only survive, but thrive.

It is our belief that children without parents should reside with extended family members or other willing caregivers. Therefore, we try to ensure that these children are raised in loving home environments that are beneficial to their growth and development while giving them the opportunity for a better future.



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic reports that 29% of its population lives below the poverty line. orphan population is estimated at over 220,000.

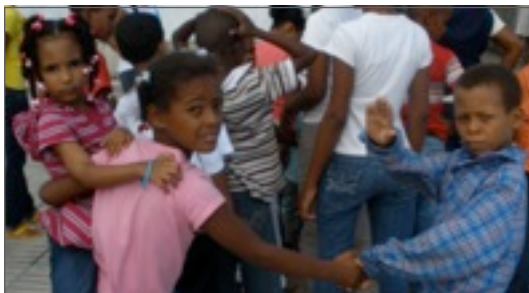


[www.betterfutureinternational.org](http://www.betterfutureinternational.org)

# Better Future International- Dominican Republic



The Casa Ana Center, Better Future International's (BF) family care program in Azua, Dominican Republic, opened up its doors in July 2009. During the summer it served the needs of 25 orphaned children ages 6-16 and their families. Eventually one hundred children will benefit from the after school program throughout the year. Casa Ana will serve as a family care center that will provide assistance and support to the children's caretakers. by maintaining family structures through our Family Care Model. The model applies the concept of kinship care while supporting extended family members's ability to provide care for orphaned children.



The Casa Ana Center will facilitate enrollment in the school system and also focus on cultural and social education. The program also supplements the resources of each enrolled family by distributing nutritious food and covering health care costs.

The Casa Ana Center facilitates the children's enrollment into public schools and provides them the materials needed for proper education. At the center, the program offers instruction in:

- ~ After school homework help
- ~ Courses in Reading and Writing, Math, History, and Science
- ~ Computer, Art, Dance, and Photography Classes



Caregivers benefit from support groups and educational workshops on topics such as health. Family Counseling is an important aspect of the program as it will address prevalent issues which affect the children's emotional health and well being.

The Casa Ana Foundation has three staff members that are always on duty including the program director and two academic instructors.

Casa Ana will be a safe haven where family values and individual empowerment will help to nurture responsible and productive citizens. The children will benefit from a quality education and gain a greater respect for social responsibility. As Casa Ana grows, we hope for it to become a resource center for all children in Azua.

Better Future International (registered in New York State under the name Orphans International America) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that has established a network of international homes and community centers for orphans in Haiti, Sri Lanka Dominican Republic, and Tanzania. Better Future has successfully taken a sustainable approach to addressing both the immediate needs of the orphaned children and the long term development goals of improving disadvantaged communities.



**Better Future International**

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