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## Boy's faith feeds starving villagers with fish.

In a 21<sup>st</sup> century parallel to the traditional Bible story of loaves and fishes, a 12-year old boy's faith and determination is leading to an entire community being fed a new nutritional fish diet that will change their lives forever.

Sean Carr, his friends and his mum won a competition to create a music-video and donated the £10,000 prize money to Cusuna Missions - a Christian charity working to alleviate poverty in a remote village in Honduras (Central America).



During the summer UK-based *Friends and Heroes*, makers of the award-winning animated DVD adventure series with Bible stories, set a competition challenge to create a new version of their song/video *What about Love?* - also known as *Portia's Song*. From the many entries posted on YouTube, an entry from Sean and his friends Kathryn and Sarah filmed by mum, Tami Carr, was chosen this week as the ultimate winner in what proved to be a very close-run competition.

On hearing the original *Portia's Song*, Tami thought that the song's powerful message of love and hope could actually have been written for the people of Cusuna, a forgotten village of about 6,000 in Honduras, that her church had been supporting, and felt she wanted to do something more to highlight their plight. She considered making a film to enter into the competition to raise awareness of the needs of Cusuna, but, due to a shortage of funds the church had no plans to visit the village, so making a film seemed out of the question.

That was until her son, Sean, felt challenged by God to respond to a message he'd heard about the low standards society expects from young people. He promptly told his mum that he was convinced they *must* go to Cusuna and they *must* make the video and use it to raise awareness and funds and to demonstrate that youngsters *can* make a difference in the world.



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Sean said, *"I felt God was asking me to 'do a hard thing' for him and I decided to be obedient!"* This persuaded Tami to go for it and find a way to get to Cusuna with Sean to make the video. For the song itself, Sean played piano and his friends Kathryn (13) and Sarah (9) added the vocals.

He and his friends also organised a *Shoe Drive* to collect about 800lbs (360kgs) of shoes to give to the people in Cusuna!

As well as a shortage of footwear, insufficient protein and unclean water are significant problems in Cusuna, resulting in malnutrition, illness, and even death. As well as helping establish clean drinking water the Cusuna Mission, run by Tami's church - Bridgeway in Tampa, Florida - is planning to establish a fish farm, providing the protein needed for a healthy diet.

*"The £10,000 prize money is exactly what we need to complete the setting up of the fish farm,"* said Tami. *"And the people of Cusuna will also be trained to maintain, develop and expand the fish farm, giving employment to many and providing a lasting legacy."*

*What about Love?* is about the power of a love which changes the world, and is from the album of the same name, available from [www.friendsandheroes.com/songs](http://www.friendsandheroes.com/songs)

*"Our song is about a journey of discovery; where Portia realises that there is a higher love, far greater than she could have imagined. We wanted fans of Friends and Heroes to have the chance to do something creative, capturing the wonderful message in the song, and making something special that relates to them,"* said Alison Dorricott, Executive Producer.

She went on to say, *"We felt that Sean and Tami's video really succeeded in making the message of Portia's Song real, and we're delighted that the prize will be making a real difference to the people of Cusuna."*

You can see the winning video at [www.friendsandheroes.com/portiacomp](http://www.friendsandheroes.com/portiacomp) along with the other entries, including the runner-up entries from Andrew Musselman in Canada, Community Albums in the UK and an entry from CRANE in Uganda, which was awarded an extra discretionary prize.

For more information see our online Press Pack at [www.friendsandheroes.com/uk/portia-comp-press-pack](http://www.friendsandheroes.com/uk/portia-comp-press-pack)

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