Nguna mothers promoting computer literacy in the rural

By Anita Roberts

AFTER UNDERTAKING A one-week basic computer and typing lessons early 2013, seven women from Nguna returned with five laptops and five printers and are supporting computer literacy in their various rural villages by running computer classes.

Nguna Mama's Computer Project was made possible through funding support from a Peace Corps Partnership.

Last year's trainings were given by the Edwards Computer Foundation. Nguna Mamas' Computer Project Group was the first women's group that has requested computer training from ECF

In the project annual review, a Peace Corps Volunteer, Willow Denker, assisting the group said these women have been working with their sponsor organizations using the laptops to carry out development projects with schools, churches, women associations and village councils.

"All these women holds leadership positions and have make themselves available to their communities by developing programs that promote training for other women," said Denker.

"Youth are starting to attend the classes and I am pleased to see them (young people) learning together with the women."

Dennis Whitely, as the secretary of the Mere Sauwia Administration and Development Project was confident of learning typing and computer skills that save hours of writing notes by hand.

Felina Cyrus has introduced the computer to her sponsor organisation, Nekapa Community Council. They have been using the laptop for development project purposes including the expansion of the community center.

Still at the Nekapa Village, the Shefa Provincial Office Area Secretary has also been using the equipment for provincial businesses. Mrs. Felina also makes the laptop available for practice at the Namagi Mamas Club meetings.

Although the mamas' have come a long way, they need some help, they are looking for financial support to build a safe and reliable power system for two classrooms on Nguna to accomodatet their Saturday computer classes.

Their two options are setting up a power system with a generator and regulator or building a solar system.

Individuals or community donations will help these hardworking women continue their goal of promoting computer literacy to others; men, women and the young and at the same any assistance would be a contribution to help the country achieve its Information Communication Technology (ICT) vision "ICT for all".