



El Porvenir

Clean Water, Healthy Nicaraguans

Fall 2019 Newsletter

THE \$100K CHALLENGE: If we raise \$100,000 between August 1 and September 30, then 16 generous donors will match it. Will you help us meet the challenge?

Despite last year's unrest in Nicaragua (which has yet to subside completely, see page 3), El Porvenir has continued empowering Nicaraguans with comprehensive water projects. Thanks to your generosity, we have continued collaborating with rural schools and families to develop sustainable water solutions that are improving the health and education outcomes of thousands of Nicaraguans.

One area of our work that was affected, however, were our volunteer work trips to Nica. Now that things have calmed down in some areas, we are excited to ramp up our work trips once again!

We are equally excited to announce this year's \$100K Challenge. The 2019 Challenge launches August 1. If we raise \$100,000 between August 1 and September 30, then 16 generous donors will match it, dollar for dollar.

Your support makes our work possible; it allows us to partner with rural Nicaraguans to develop potable water, clean latrines, vented stoves, and hygienic handwashing stations in rural communities. Will you help us meet the challenge?

Here's how you can get involved:

- Give a tax-deductible donation or become a recurring donor at www.elporvenir.org/donate.
- Follow us and share the challenge on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- Host a simple fundraising event during the Challenge.
- Create a Facebook campaign.
- If you are an August or September baby, celebrate your birthday in a meaningful way by raising money for EP through your own El Porvenir Facebook campaign.



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From the Field

“When we didn’t have latrines, we went to the bathroom outdoors. We knew that we were polluting the air and that the bad smell hurt our neighbors. It was uncomfortable because they even looked at us while we were doing our business,” says Señora Mayra Siles Arróliga, head of the Asunción Center, located in El Carbonal, San Lorenzo. The 85 students, along with their teachers, suffered from diseases caused by exposure to feces.

“Now we are safer and we no longer pollute the environment. We always use the latrines because nobody can see us in there, and they prevent children from being bitten by an animal. These are great benefits,” explained the teacher.

The project in the community school entailed the construction of 4 latrines made of concrete and pre-fabricated latrine shells. Each latrine has a door and a roof.

The teachers and students are in charge of cleaning and maintaining the latrines on a daily basis. They’ve had a lot of fun decorating them, too.

“The children are happy because they feel safe using the latrine; we take a little more care with the preschool children who are the youngest, although their latrine is also adapted to their size,” said Señora Mayra.



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Update on Nicaragua: Ongoing Instability

While our work continues with community members on water and sanitation projects, hygiene education, and watershed restoration, it hasn't been without its challenges.

Nicaragua's ongoing political crisis has affected the entire population and economy. Prices for food and household goods have gone up, and unemployment has increased.

Because of the economic impact of the crisis, communities are struggling to contribute financially to projects. It is taking them longer to donate project supplies, and some are not able to do so because they must prioritize the basic needs of their families. Another challenge we're facing is migration. Many youth and adults have left the country to look for work. Some of these people were part of the local Potable Water and Sanitation Committees (CAPS), and their departures put project sustainability at risk. In Waslala, our team says the roads have gotten more dangerous and residents are more nervous to go out than before. This makes getting to rural communities more difficult, which can slow project development.

In spite of this, El Porvenir continues to work with local government leaders, community leaders, and development organizations to guarantee project development. The safety of our staff and volunteers is always a top priority.

Nicaragua is going through a difficult time, but El Porvenir remains committed to partnering with community members as long as community members continue looking to the future to better their standard of living through water projects, latrines, fuel-efficient stoves, family gardens, and tree nurseries.





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Join the Clean Water Collective today!

When you join the Clean Water Collective, you focus your dollars even more toward our core mission. Not only that, you also help us lower overhead costs. To join the club, make a recurring donation in the amount of your choosing. Then we work with more rural Nicaraguans on clean, drinkable water and dignified sanitation projects.

If you give at a level of \$50 or more per month, we'll send you a new Clean Water Collective t-shirt to show our appreciation, and so you can show off your membership.

When you join the CWC, you get:

- A convenient way to give. Set it up once, you don't need to manage it again.
- A great, easy way to give more.
- A single tax-except receipt at the end of the year.
- A new Clean Water Collective shirt.



Photos by Forest Woodward