

\$100,000 Challenge: If We Raise \$100,000 by September 30, Then 16 Generous Donors Will Match It. Will You Help Us Meet the Challenge?

In spite of the current unrest in Nicaragua (see next page), we are excited about this challenge and thank the donors who are pledging to match the \$100,000 if we meet the goal. We are grateful to all of you for your commitment to Nicaragua, Nicaraguans, and El Porvenir.

The 2018 challenge launched August 1 and runs through September 30. Your support makes our work with rural schools and families possible. On the tangible side, it brings safe, clean latrines; vented, fuel-efficient stoves; hygienic handwashing stations; and clean, potable water. But the intangibles are health, education, joy, dignity, and so much more.

\$100,000 Challenge Runs August 1–September 30. Will you help us meet the challenge?



Join the Clean Water Collective, Make an Impact, and Get a Free T-Shirt!

To join the club, set up a recurring donation to support rural Nicaraguans with clean 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 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, and no need to manage it again.
- A great way to give more. A monthly gift is an easier way to give more.
- One receipt at the end of the year, so fewer mailings.
- A new Clean Water Collective shirt.

Go to elporvenir.org/monthlygiving to sign up today!

Update on the Spring Campaign

Thanks to many of you, we raised \$12,000: enough to get going on latrines with the families of Agua Fria. They appreciate your support and are excited to build their own clean, dignified latrines. A third of Nicaragua's population lacks access to safe sanitation. With your help, we are changing that family by family.

We haven't raised the \$18,000 yet for the water system in San Agustin. Clean water is badly needed there, so we are exploring other options to move forward with these families.

Here are school latrines beautifully painted with messages on hygiene and the environment at the Agua Fria School.



Soon all the families who live in this community will have their own household latrine. **Thank you for making this project possible!**



How can you get involved?

- Mail your donation or give online now at elporvenir.org/donate
- Join the Clean Water Collective and become a monthly donor at elporvenir.org/monthlygiving (August and September gifts can be directed towards the challenge!)
- Host (at your home, faith community, or service club) a simple fundraising event.
- Create a Facebook campaign. Celebrate your birthday or anniversary in a meaningful way by raising money for EP through your own El Porvenir Facebook Campaign.
- Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter and share our posts on social media.

Instability in Nicaragua: Hope in a Difficult Time

If you've seen anything about Nicaragua in the news over the last four months, then you know that there is instability across the country. Due to the unrest, we have made adjustments to timelines and modified procedures in order to ensure staff safety. However, while the Peace Corps and other foreign volunteer groups have left Nicaragua, El Porvenir is not going anywhere. Here are a few of the many reasons we are staying:

- We are committed to our mission. Partnering with Nicaraguan communities on life-changing and life-saving water and sanitation projects is what we do.
- Our staff is primarily Nicaraguan, and this work is their livelihood. They live there and are known in the areas they work in. So far, they have been less impeded than others. They aren't going anywhere, and El Porvenir isn't either.
- Our work is more important than ever as government funds once earmarked for water and sanitation are being diverted into dealing with the crisis. Their needs persist, and so do our efforts.
- We are still getting project work done. Latrines, hand-washing stations, water systems, health education training, and watershed restoration projects are happening right now. This new school handwashing station and latrine project was completed in the midst of the instability.



Operating during this crisis has made us think back to when El Porvenir began in 1989. Then, the Contra War was still going on; some sources say it ended in 1988 and others will tell you it went on into the early 1990s. Regardless of the exact end date, the effects didn't end in 1988. In 1989, the Nicaraguan people had just been through two decades of war. The country was torn apart, people were worn down, and resources were few.

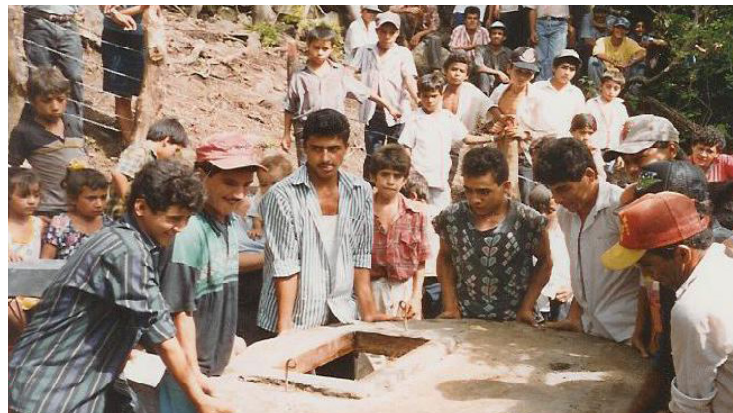
That year, we worked with communities to build four water projects. A bit of hope in a difficult time.

Nicaraguans are some of the most resourceful people you'll meet, as you can see in these photos from the early days. They can figure out how to get a rope pump to a distant community, and they work together on difficult tasks.

Now it's 2018, and there is instability in Nicaragua again. **But the need for clean water projects is still there.** We are experiencing a temporary slowdown in our work. But it is only a slowdown. **We are still working and getting projects done.** No matter what's going on politically, people need clean water and improved sanitation. They also need jobs. We have 32 staff members in Nicaragua, and they need to be able to feed their families.

As in the photos below, we think Nicaraguans will come together and figure out how to move forward. They've done it so many times: after an earthquake, after a hurricane, after a war.

No matter what comes next, we plan to be there, too, continuing to partner with Nicaraguans.



Recently Completed Projects and Ongoing Programs

If you're wondering if we can get projects done during this challenging time in Nicaragua, the answer is a resounding "Yes, we can!" All of the following photos are from the past four months, during the instability.

Community members are now drinking clean water in Quisaura from the hand-dug well they built themselves.



Hygiene education accompanies every El Porvenir project. Educators go door-to-door and give talks at schools and to communities to discuss how to transport and store water, the importance of handwashing, and other vital topics.



Children at the Monte Grande School and the Camilo Ortega School now have a safe, clean place to go to the bathroom, and the teachers and students can focus on what school is supposed to be about: learning, growing, prospering.



Community tree nurseries are part of our watershed restoration program. Community members plant seeds and when the trees are big enough, they are strategically transplanted to promote aquifer recharge.

