2015: Year At A Glance

Team El Porvenir
Volunteers summited Mt. Bierstadt and raised thousands of dollars for El Porvenir projects.

Liz Specht
EP honored Liz with the Lifetime Achievement award.

Carol Atwell
Carol returned to Nicaragua for her 5th volunteer trip since 2008.

Thank you for making 2015 one of our most productive years yet! Your generosity makes our work possible. With your help, our partner communities accomplished:

**WATER & SANITATION**
- 21 Wells & Water Projects
- 451 Double-pit latrines
- 4,671 People with Clean Water
- 3,441 People with Improved Sanitation

**HEALTH EDUCATION**
- 4,094 Chats & Home Visits
- 165 Trained Community Educators
- 12,791 Participants in Health Education Training

**WATERSHEDS**
- 161 Fuel-Efficient Stoves
- 711 People with Improved Stoves
- 83,708 Trees Planted

Pass it on! Share this newsletter with a friend, fellow rotarian, or family member.
On March 4, 2016, the 6th graders at Hingham Middle School participated in the Read Across America program that encourages reading for pleasure as an important leisure activity. In addition to the reading program, the school organized a fundraiser to support the work of El Porvenir in which over 300 students participated. Students read books of their choice for 4 hours. Many of them received pledges based on the number of pages they read. This year, the students read 62,561 pages. English Language and Arts teacher, Lauren Ciocca shares the inspiration behind this fundraiser: “After a group in our school read A Long Walk to Water, by Linda Sue Park, we were inspired by Salva’s story and wanted to help other people around the world to be independent and healthy, so all young girls and boys can learn to read. When we learned about El Porvenir, we wanted to do our share to help bring clean drinking water and proper sanitation to the rural communities in Nicaragua. We were especially excited to be a part of the effort to help buy a new truck to bring communities and volunteers the supplies they need.” And that new truck couldn’t come at a better time as we expand into Waslala, a difficult five hour drive from Managua.

“It’s so important for people to have access to clean water and sanitation. I’m glad we had this opportunity to support clean water in Nicaragua so that people don’t have to worry about getting sick.”

6th Grader - Amelia Jiang-Yu

“Supporting clean water and sanitation in Nicaragua means that people will have clean water to drink and not get sick.”

6th Grader - Anna Quinlivan

“Making a donation to clean water definitely means a lot to me. Clean water means that children and adults can live a healthy life.”

6th Grader - Natalie Ullrich

6th graders from Hingham Middle School read 62,561 pages to raise $2,000 for rural communities in Nicaragua
COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

In late 2015, the community of Apatú rejoiced after completing a major water system benefiting 90 homes. For years, residents reached out to organizations and the local government for help. Women and children had been bathing and collecting drinking water from a contaminated river, and many carried water more than a kilometer 4-5 times a day.

Thanks to donors like you, El Porvenir was able to answer the community’s request for help and provide the resources necessary for residents to complete their water project as well as 37 new double-pit latrines.

Maria Orozco, age 74, and her husband Simon, age 90, live at the top of a small hill in Apatú where the new storage tank is located. Maria told us “I have lived in this community my entire life and always dreamed that clean water would be a reality, not just for me but my kids and grandchildren. Today, my dreams are coming true and the clean water and new latrine are incredible blessings. I never thought I’d see this in my lifetime.”

EXPLORE BEAUTIFUL NICARAGUA AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Our work trip volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of rural Nicaraguans. Working side by side with the community members, volunteers help improve the health of families -- and the environment too -- by building fuel-efficient stoves. Laundry day is made easier and more hygienic with a new wash station under a shady shelter with clean water.

OPEN TRIPS AVAILABLE NOW

July 16-23 $1075
August 6-14 $1075

Get in touch with us for more details! Info@elporvenir.org or 720-237-9486
Persistent drought continues, water across Nicaragua drying up

Our work has never been more critical as our partner communities stare at the face of a three year drought that has dried up much of Nicaragua’s water sources and led to a severe water supply crisis. According to Jaime Incer, president of the Nicaraguan Foundation for Sustainable Development (Fundenic-SOS), by late March, Nicaragua faced a 60 percent loss of its surface water sources and up to a 50 percent loss of its underground sources which have dried up or been damaged by pollution. Further, livestock and crops have suffered, causing food shortages for those already living in impoverished conditions.

Climate change and the El Niño weather pattern are not the only causes of Nicaragua’s water supply crisis. Decades of deforestation has left Nicaragua with only 50% forest coverage and damaged watersheds throughout the region. El Porvenir is continuing our watershed protection projects to safeguard remaining water sources and working closely with our partner communities to mitigate this growing natural disaster.

*Help us combat the drought by making a contribution today with the envelope provided.*
It’s official, 6th region open: Waslala!

As of April 1, 2016, Water for Waslala, WaterAid, and El Porvenir have formed an alliance Agua Para Waslala aimed at achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene in the municipality of Waslala, Nicaragua by 2030.

Where are we now? Water for Waslala has implemented 18 community water projects serving 3,400 residents while reaching an additional 3,800+ residents through a household filter micro-loan program since their founding in 2004. Despite their track record of success, it would be impossible to reach the goal of universal access in Waslala by 2030 under WfW’s current operating structure and the organization will dissolve later this year.

The municipal government reports that 35% of the 65,000 Waslalan residents currently have improved access to water supplies, only 10-15% have access to safe drinking water, and 8% have access to adequately improved sanitation. The need in Waslala is great and this expansion falls in line with EP’s strategic plan to move into a sixth region.

Where are we headed? Building on the experience to date, the Agua Para Waslala Program will now bring together WaterAid’s global expertise, experience, and resources and El Porvenir’s experience implementing rural WASH projects across its municipal field offices in Nicaragua. WaterAid is a globally credible WASH-focused international NGO founded in 1981 and currently working in 32 countries in Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Latin America and Caribbean region, with operations in Nicaragua since 2011. WaterAid has acquired Water for Waslala’s U.S. based operations.

As of April 1, EP assumed all daily administrative and operational responsibilities and activities in Waslala with the support of the current WfW team - we now have three new Nicaraguan staff! The alliance will go about the task of taking the Agua Para Waslala Program to scale with the goal of contributing to the sustainable achievement of universal access in the municipality of Waslala by 2030. Our ongoing work in the five other regions in Nicaragua where EP operates will remain unchanged with the same goal of universal coverage by 2030.

Everyone here at El Porvenir is deeply humbled to work with Water for Waslala, WaterAid, and the communities in Waslala. We have an exciting journey ahead of us with many challenges and opportunities. The road to Waslala isn’t an easy one - 5 hours from Managua with rivers to cross - but with your support, we’ll get there.
Global Goal #6: **Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.**

January 1, 2016 marked the official roll out of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from the United Nations. These 17 Global Goals seek to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and fix climate change. Here at El Porvenir we are ready to be part of the solution, aligning our work to meet the goal of universal, equitable access to safe, affordable drinking water and sanitation for all by 2030.

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