Empowering rural Nicaraguans to achieve better health and well-being through integrated clean water projects.
Dear friends,

As a resident of Washington, DC, I have a front-row seat for much of what ails America. Serving on the board of El Porvenir reminds me of what good people can do together. Your support is vital to the work of El Porvenir.

I’d like to highlight some major accomplishments of 2017. Last year EP increased the amount of the Fall Matching Challenge from $75,000 to $100,000 and successfully met the goal. The funds supported over 20,000 Nicaraguans with the development of 24 water projects and more than 400 latrines. EP planted more than 100,000 trees as well, helping to ensure a year-round water supply.

2017 was a great year for our service program, bringing 177 volunteers to Nicaragua through 20 trips. Alongside EP staff and Nicaraguan community members, the volunteers helped to install water systems; build latrines, lavanderos and hand-washing stations; and to plant tree nurseries. New in 2017 were work trips focused on hygiene education, a critical element in personal health. The cultural exchange of work trips makes for a unique and touching experience: trip participants come home changed, with a more textured understanding of Nicaragua and its people.

We are pleased with the continued integration of the projects in Waslala and now boast a staff of seven in the Waslala office. It offers us the opportunity to expand to new territories and reach new communities. We have begun adding sanitation to the existing program there and are excited to begin our reforestation efforts in 2018, in line with our increasing focus on watershed management.

I’m grateful to everyone who has supported El Porvenir since it formed in 1990. Working side by side with community members, you have brought clean water and improved sanitation to hundreds of thousands of Nicaraguans. While the country has made great strides over that time, many rural communities still lack an adequate supply of clean water. I hope that you will join me in supporting El Porvenir again this year. Together, good people can make a difference.

With gratitude,

Mark W. Smith

Chair, Board of Directors
Our Accomplishments
Because of you, we partnered with 20,271 rural Nicaraguans to do all of the following:

- 6 school hand-washing facilities built
- 24 water projects installed
- 81 fuel-efficient stoves built
- 405 latrines built
- 946 community training sessions held
- 102,840 trees planted
Margarita Dinarte
La Corona, Camoapa

The community of La Corona had four confirmed deaths from drinking water contaminated with arsenic, an extremely toxic metal. Margarita reports that the community unknowingly drank the contaminated water for 9 years.

"Getting water for our household was complicated because the 2 wells we had were damaged and contaminated with arsenic," explains Margarita.

Once they discovered the source of much of the illness in the community, the families of La Corona had to walk up to a kilometer to access safe water.

With support from El Porvenir, the community built a water system that serves all 27 families with an electric pump water system and a 10,000 liter tank.

"We are happy because we no longer have to walk so far and carry buckets of water that get dirty on the way home. Now we are certain that we are drinking good, clean water," says Margarita.

She ensures that the community is working very well together to take care of the project: "We meet frequently, and the whole community pays for the electricity so we can have water in our homes."

Mary Lord Brown, EP Supporter: "I think El Porvenir is one of the most outstanding organizations because they help people to help themselves using local talents and local materials. They’re a model for other organizations."
Joshua Briemberg, Regional Director (Latin America and The Caribbean) of WaterAid: “The WaterAid/El Porvenir alliance driving the Water for Waslala Program made great strides in 2017. New water supply systems were successfully completed while existing systems were rehabilitated and expanded. Progress was also made towards providing improved sanitation, and we are working jointly to train sanitation entrepreneurs and to create accessible financing mechanisms. The WA-EP alliance is committed to reaching universal and sustainable coverage in Waslala by 2030, one step at a time.”
Timothy Dobbins, EP Supporter: "In my work trips to Nicaragua, the reactions of the people we work for always remain with me: the look of dignity on a man’s face who now has a latrine for his family, the look of joy on a woman’s face because she no longer has to trek to the river for questionable water, the look of peace from a mother who has a stove with a chimney so her children are not getting asthma, the look of pride on the children’s faces because they have latrines and a hand washing station at their school. Working with El Porvenir to make life better in Nicaragua makes life better for me."
Félix Rubén Parrillas Monje  

Las Cruces, El Sauce

Félix was one of the pioneers of the Las Cruces community who asked for El Porvenir support on a latrine project. In working with El Porvenir, the residents saw the need to better their land, as well.

“There’s no reason to have land if you don’t use it. Before, we had grass and paddocks, but then we listened to the proposal of how our land could be better by improving the paths and reforesting our watershed,” expressed Félix. “Since the beginning, we said that we were going to make this project happen. Everything that’s been done has been done because we love our community and we love our children.”

So far in the Las Cruces watershed, they have produced 34 kilos of organic compost, built concrete road crossings in the low points, and planted 2,250 fruit trees (orange, mango, mandarin, lime, cinnamon, pepper, nancite, guava, avocado, and soursop).

Community members are working to stop the degradation of their natural resources by changing how they use the land. They are working to conserve topsoil, implement silvopastoral systems, and fence off critical areas being restored.

“The project is working for us. This isn’t the end; it is only the beginning. There is quite a bit of work to do in the nurseries and we will continue to better our living conditions,” said Félix.

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Dianne Ladd, EP Supporter: “I was very excited to travel to see the work that El Porvenir is doing in rural communities in Nicaragua. Visiting homes and schools, meeting the residents and students, as well as El Porvenir staff, and seeing the wells, water tanks, latrines, and watersheds that support the projects was a dream come true! It was never clearer to me that this work is saving lives and creating better futures for the people of Nicaragua, particularly for the children.”
Michael Smith, EP Supporter: “I feel honored to be part of the El Porvenir family of supporters. My wife and I have participated in several work trips over the years and we remain financially committed to supporting their work. I have fond memories of digging holes for water sanitation, installing well pumps, building washroom and shower walls, and working side by side with community residents. The work was hard but the pleasure from being part of something that just makes the world a little better made it worth the effort.

El Porvenir works with the local community in ways that sustain and give hope. I have been especially impressed with the positive long term impact of El Porvenir’s work on the women of the rural villages who, thanks to El Porvenir, may no longer have to walk long distances to wash clothes or collect clean drinking water or cook in a smoke filled kitchen.

El Porvenir helps rural Nicaraguans help themselves; it gives pride, hope and a helping hand to those willing to invest in their own future.

Thanks El Porvenir for all that you do for Nicaragua and for allowing us to help!”
Bob Kemp, World Community Service Chair, Rotary Club of Denver Mile High: “My Rotary Club has partnered with El Porvenir on a number of water and sanitation projects in rural Nicaragua in recent years. EP has been great to work with. The EP commitment to developing sustainable projects is a go-by for others working in WASH. The buy-in from the local communities provides us with reassurance that these projects will fulfill local needs for many years to come!”

Steve Hall, Director of Global Partnerships and Schools, H2O for Life: “H2O for Life has partnered with El Porvenir on water and sanitation projects at schools in Nicaragua for about 10 years. El Porvenir has been fantastic at providing us with photos, stories, and--most importantly--results of the impact these projects are having for the people in these communities. This allows us to keep our participating youth and schools in the US inspired to continue learning about and supporting this important work.”
Lorrie L. King, MPH, WASH, Food Security, & Livelihoods Programs Manager Sustainable Development Unit United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR): "I cannot tell you how much fun I had with you during my visit to Nicaragua. El Porvenir continues to exceed our expectations as partners, and our office remains truly touched at the impact and relationships your work is having with the local communities."
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Gabriela Tinoco
Environmental Engineer, formerly with Montgomery Watson

Nora Reynolds
Editor of globalsl and Fellow for Ethical Global Learning in the Center for Peace and Global

Dave Arnold
Retired attorney for mining, oil and gas related matters, US Naval Flight Officer
## 2017 Financials

### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS
- Cash and cash equivalents: $423,835
- Investments: $114,937
- Accounts receivable, net: $43,562
- Promises to give (short-term): $91,974
- Inventory: $7,119
- Property and equipment: $176,279

**TOTAL ASSETS**: $859,706

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### CURRENT LIABILITIES
- Accounts payable: $24,161
- Accrued expenses: $78,402

**TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES**: $102,563

#### NET ASSETS
- Unrestricted: $507,298
- Temporarily restricted: $249,845

**TOTAL NET ASSETS**: $757,143

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**: $859,706

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*El Porvenir*

Clean Water, Healthy Nicaraguans
Mark Sullivan, EP Supporter: “El Porvenir has, year after year, proven highly efficient in its delivery of sustainable water and sanitation projects to rural Nicaraguan communities that are truly in need. A dollar rarely goes this far in the interest of improving the human condition and that is thanks to the commitment of the staff and board of El Porvenir.”
NGOs: 3
Schools: 4
Individuals: 692
Corporations: 16
Service Clubs: 5
Foundations: 20
Faith communities: 44

Thank you so much to all of our supporters!
It takes a village. We can’t tell you how much we appreciate each and every one of you!
Statement of Activities

INCOME

- Contributions: $453,329
- Work trips: $167,196
- Local contributions: $21,984
- Other: $103,573
- Donated services: $15,565
- Restricted contributions: $592,664
- WaterAid - Waslala Project: $94,216

TOTAL INCOME: $1,448,527

SOURCES OF INCOME: 2017

- Foundations/Corporations: 37%
- Faith Communities: 13%
- Individuals: 12%
- Work Trips: 28%
- Others: 8%
- Interest/Exchange Rate: 2%

EXPENSES

- Program services: $1,311,396
- General and administrative: $149,145
- Fundraising: $131,761

TOTAL EXPENSES: $1,592,302

NET ASSETS, beginning of the year: $863,129
NET ASSETS, end of the year: $757,143

EXPENSES: 2017

- Program services: 82%
- General and administrative: 8%
- Fundraising: 10%