

September 20203 Newsletter

El Pital / Las Tablas Rotary Project Household water for two Communities in El Salvador

Dearest supporters of this project,

A major milestone has been achieved, and I just want to send you all a quick note to mark the progress!

The project has officially launched!

While this took some time, several important things have happened, and I want to recognize the people that made this progress possible.

First, the community Water Board, the legal entity that will be responsible for managing and maintaining the whole system once it is in place, has been officially created. That was managed by Óscar Peña, our project champion in El Salvador, with help from Leticia Escobar, the past president of the San Salvador Maquilishuat Rotary Club. They were able to get the legal documents drafted, approved by the community leaders, signed, notarized, and registered.

After the Water Board was created, the land for the well and the water tank were deeded to the water board, which again needed documents to be drafted, signed, and registered.

With those documents, Rotary International officially approved the project. And with that approval, and with lots of help from many, many people, all the clubs that had pledged support to the project sent in their contributions, the corresponding DDF was transferred, and now all the project funds - \$130,895 - has been consolidated into the project accounts (the Host club and the International club). A huge thanks to the champions that helped make that happen - Jaime Ruiz (with help from Josue Oliver) of RI, Andy Chaffin and Krishna Murthy, as well as Alvaro Corpeno and José (Pepe) Pérez, and a special contribution from Larry McLaughlin.

NOW THE REAL WORK BEGINS!!!

The project team has begun meetings with the drillers, and a work trip is planned for Thanksgiving Week in November. The CSU Rams Without Borders team - led by Elliot Ferrell-Carretey, along with Andrea Purdy and Bert Vermeulen, with guidance from Bob Sterrett are all gearing up to roll up their sleeves, and do some serious digging - along with the folks from Santeneca who will take care of drilling the well. It looks like the wet season this year is already ending, and the drilling can begin shortly.

A huge Rotary **Thank You** to **all** of you, for **all** you've done to get us to this point!!!

Yours in Rotary Service,

~ Joe McCarthy

(If you know of anyone who would like to be added to - or removed from - the distribution list for future project newsletters, please let me know - JoeGMcCarthy@yahoo.com)