



# El Salvador Report 2020



## El Rosario Community

PLUMMER ASSOCIATES

## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY**

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For 102 residents living in El Rosario, water access was difficult and dangerous. The community relied on a piped water system that was falling apart. Often the residents only received water from the pipes every few days or twice a week. The water from the pipes filled outdoor basins outside many of the homes where women washed dishes and drew water for other household uses. The scarcity of water hindered them from caring for their families, but there were other problems as well.

The water in the pipes was of poor quality, and even more contagions were introduced because the water was exposed to the open air. The community members often suffered from water-related illnesses as a result. The only way to avoid this risk was to abstain from using water, and this left them thirsty and compromised their cleanliness. No one should be faced with this kind of a dilemma. Community leaders knew that something had to be done.



PIPED WATER FILLS HOUSEHOLD BASINS ONLY ONCE A WEEK.



THIS IS ONE OF THE HOMES IN THE COMMUNITY.

## CONSTRUCTION

The community president, Francisca Cruz Gonzales, decided to advocate for her family and neighbors. When she heard about Living Water International's work in the region, she had faith that they could benefit her community. She made contact with the Living Water El Salvador staff and requested their help. The staff was glad to respond to her appeal by scheduling a visit to the community. When they arrived, the staff could see immediately that the water access situation was a crisis. They decided to drill a well for the community, and you made this plan a reality, Plummer Associates!

The Living Water staff soon returned to begin work along with your team. They drilled until they reached a safe water aquifer 70 meter deep. They flushed the borehole to remove rock debris. Next, the team cased the borehole with PVC piping and a stabilizing gravel pack. Once they installed the well base and platform, the project was complete!

### COMMUNITY DETAILS

TOTAL WATER USERS:	102
MAIN WATER COLLECTORS:	women
LOCATION:	rural

### CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

ALTITUDE:	256 m
PUMP TYPE:	hand pump
PROJECT TYPE:	simple water system
DEPTH DRILLED:	70 m

### WATER QUALITY TESTS

PH:	7
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS:	166 ppm
HARDNESS:	126 ppm
COLIFORM BACTERIA:	absent



THE TEAM WORKS ON DRILLING A BOREHOLE.



THE WELL IS COMPLETE!



## SUSTAINABILITY

The Living Water El Salvador staff helped the community members to establish patterns to manage their safe water system in order keep the water reliable and safe long-term. With the staff's guidance, the community members formed a water committee that will oversee the use and upkeep of the system. The committee will collect a small fee per household for use of the water in order to save a fund to cover the cost of future repairs to the well. They will also remain in contact with Living Water about the functionality of the well, communicating any need for assistance with repairs. In this way, the community members will forge their own path into sustainable water access through community-driven solutions.



THIS IS THE COMMUNITY WATER COMMITTEE.



FRANCISCA (RIGHT) SHAKES THE HAND OF A LIVING WATER STAFF MEMBER.

**"We have been using water from an old system that was was collapsing. We had faucet connections in our homes, but they only gave us water every now and then, sometimes once a week. Also, we knew that water was contaminated. It gave us many stomach problems. We often walked three kilometers to the river to wash our clothes when the faucets were dry. We are expecting that things will be better for everyone now that there is plenty of safe water. It will help our community develop and help us all stay healthier."**

*-Francisca Cruz Gonzales, 40-year-old farmer and community president*

## SANITATION & HYGIENE

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The Living Water Trips team and staff also led a sanitation and hygiene promotional activity for 62 community members. The staff used visual aids and interactive elements to make the concepts relevant and memorable for all ages. One of the lessons explained how germs are spread and how diseases are transmitted. The team taught the participants proper handwashing technique as a preventative measure against germ spread. They also led a fun, interactive lesson on brushing teeth. Another more prescriptive lesson focused on mixing an oral rehydration solution out of safe water, salt, and sugar to treat the vicious cycle of dehydration and diarrhea. The participants learned that their need for this remedy should subside as they can now drink plenty of safe water.



THE LIVING WATER TRIPS TEAM LEADS A LESSON ABOUT TEETH BRUSHING WHERE THE CHILDREN PLAY THE ROLE OF THE TEETH!

## IN JESUS' NAME

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The Living Water staff dedicated time to fellowship with the community and to sharing the gospel—the *living water* of Christ. They held an evangelism session along with the local Catholic church. Through this activity, 75 people were presented with the message of the gospel.

At the end of their time with the community, the Living Water staff and community members gathered for a well dedication ceremony. They gave thanks to God and prayed that this safe water well would not only sustain and strengthen those who use it, but also draw in others who are spiritually thirsty. The community will never forget your fellowship, generosity, and demonstration of the love of Christ.



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR AN EVANGELISM SESSION.

## YOUR IMPACT

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Plummer Associates, thank you for ending the water crisis in El Rosario. Where scarcity and sickness once dominated the residents' lifestyle, peace and plenty now refresh their bodies and spirits. The safe water access instantly quenched their thirst but also has long-term benefits. Having water available in the community will not only support household financial stability but will also strengthen the socio-economic status of the community. Furthermore, this water well serves as a constant reminder to the community members that they are loved and cared for by their sisters and brothers in Christ. As the safe water sustains their bodies and lifestyles, the *living water* of Christ will refresh their spirits.

Thank you for giving water, for life, in Jesus's name.



YOU'VE MADE A LASTING CHANGE IN THIS COMMUNITY. THANK YOU!