



Agua Para La Vida

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December 2006



"We are very happy to have water - we are cleaner now and we don't get sick as much as we used to. I like to think that we have the purest water in whole country."
- Leocalo Orozco Perez, Wanawas, Nicaragua

APLV Project Profile: Wanawas, Nicaragua

In 1998, APLV helped the small village of Wanawas build a drinking water system and latrines. The community used to drink water that came from a polluted river, where dead animals were dumped, and the 42 families all suffered from parasites and diarrhea. In 10 years the community has transformed itself, and now has access roads, local businesses and is in the process of installing electricity. According to members of the water committee, "Water was the first vision of our community, and has been the principal source of development." The economic development of Wanawas has attracted new members, including 25 victims of a landslide in a nearby community. The community is now looking for funds to redesign and expand the system to accommodate their growing needs.

Six projects completed this year!

Six new projects were completed in 2006: Santa Rosa II, Los Placeros, Los Rodriguez, Peña Blanca, Okawas and Yaoya. The Yaoya project was one of our larger efforts ever, bringing water to 1,100 people and we received significant funding from the Japanese Embassy to make this project possible.

Welcome Carmen

In January, Carmen Gonzalez joined the APLV team as our Nicaragua National Coordinator. Carmen brings a wealth of experience working with non-profits in Nicaragua. She has taken



on the administration of our Rio Blanco Center as well as coordinating our fund raising efforts in Nicaragua. She is based in Managua, where she can more easily network with potential funding sources and phone and email are more reliable. Carmen has already made herself indispensable to our organization and we feel very fortunate to have her.

Seven new water projects in the pipeline – our funding needs are larger than ever

Our Nicaraguan technical staff has been busy responding to requests from communities in need of water, and have completed feasibility studies and preliminary designs for seven projects. Now its up to us to find the funding to carry these projects out. We also find ourselves in a financial hole at the end of this year, largely due to two factors:

- Costs of materials and transportation in Nicaragua have risen sharply recently (largely driven by world oil prices), resulting in project costs higher than planned.
- Many of our real costs (including education and training, administration, are not fully covered by the grants we receive for specific projects and we need to find ways to make up the difference.



"APLV trained me on the importance of hygiene in our houses and latrines, and how to manage our water use, which are things that I will never forget."
- Yelba Castro Miranda

APLV can now accept gifts of stock

Appreciated stock gifts create an immediate income tax deduction for you based on their current value. And because there is no capital gains tax when you make the gift, you save on taxes twice! Please contact us if you are interested in more information.

News from APLV-France

APLV-France has been busy over the past year. The Okawas project was funded by a partnership of French non-profits and we received a \$10,000 grant from the PMU foundation to help fund our technical training school. Merci!

www.aplv.org has a new look...

and we have lots more plans to improve our website - including making it available in English, Spanish and French. Thanks to


volunteers David Lehrer, Robert Marcial and Jonas Jarut for | their help. Have a look!

Thanks to the many of you who have already responded generously to our matching fund campaign. For those of you who have not had a chance to send in your contribution, members of the APLV board have pledged to match all contributions through the end of December 2006, doubling the impact of your gift!

Give a gift of water -Make a donation in the name of a friend or loved one and we'll send them a card announcing your contribution to APLV in their name.

Spread the word! Pass this newsletter along to somebody you think will want to help improve the lives of some of the poorest people in the Western Hemisphere.

We thank you for your support and wish you and the whole world a year of peace, good health and clean water.

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- I'm interested in learning more about the APLV Nicaragua Project Tour next spring
- Please add the following person to the APLV mailing list
- I would like to support APLV in bringing clean drinking water to the people of Nicaragua. Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of:
 - \$25 Material cost for drinking water for one person
 - \$50 Material cost of 500 seedlings for reforestation
 - \$100 Material cost of a latrine for a family
 - \$250 Sponsorship for one APLV technical student for one month
 - \$500 Material cost for drinking water for one family
 - \$1000 Drinking water, latrine and health education for one family

Name _____

Address _____

City, _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

(we won't share your e-mail address with anybody!)