



La Danta Community, Nicaragua

MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SAFE WATER

The 600 residents of the La Danta community in Nicaragua are dispersed throughout eight sectors, the last of which is particularly hard to reach due to its rocky terrain. This sector, home to Don Zúniga, didn't have a single water source other than the Tecomapa River. Don recalls many of his neighbors suffering from frequent diarrhea, vomiting, and fever because they drank contaminated water. The residents attempted to build hand-dug wells, but unfortunately, they were unsealed and risked the same amount of contamination as the river.

As a leader in his church, Don knew his congregation had the capacity to change their lives but lacked the resources to build a safe water source. After initially reaching out to Living Water for help, Don fervently prayed that his community was eligible for a new water well. When the Living Water staff confirmed the ability to drill in their area, Don and his neighbors were overwhelmed with gratitude.

He said, "Our vulnerable families in sector eight felt important when we were invited to work as a church partner with Living Water. As a community, we were encouraged to seek further developments for our community."

After the construction of the well, the community members not only had access to safe and abundant water, but they also realized their agency in transforming their community. Powered by the success of their new water system, Don led his community with new resolve. Over the course of the next several months, the united La Danta residents instituted both a tree-planting campaign to combat deforestation and constructed a "Community House" for vulnerable families in emergencies.

Access to safe water has liberated La Danta from the burden of poor health, enabling them to engage in happier, healthier, more productive lives!



The community house is constructed next to the local church.



Several men work to cut saplings for planting.