



# Cayuco Community, Dominican Republic

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In the small community of Cayuco in the Dominican Republic, Andrea Damilka Pérez serves as the Educational Director at the local elementary school. She knew all too well the challenges her students faced without a source of safe water at the school. “We didn’t have an adequate handwashing system, neither in the kitchen nor for the children,” Andrea recalls. Without proper facilities, maintaining hygiene was a daily struggle, and the lack of safe water severely impacted the health and well-being of the students.

The school, heavily reliant on limited resources from the Ministry of Education, struggled to address these basic needs. Children were often unable to wash their hands properly, a simple but crucial act in preventing illness. It was disheartening for Andrew to see how difficult it was for the children to stay healthy. The situation left students vulnerable to illnesses that could have been prevented with access to safe water and proper sanitation.

Then, Living Water Dominican Republic stepped in, bringing with them a wave of change that transformed the school’s situation. “It was like a miracle,” Andrea describes. Living Water didn’t just repair and improve the school’s facilities; they installed new handwashing stations and conducted comprehensive hygiene workshops for the students. “Seeing the children’s excitement over the new sinks was incredible. Handwashing became more than a routine; it’s now a fundamental lesson in their lives,” Andrea says proudly.

The new facilities and education brought more than just cleanliness. They restored the children’s health and gave them the tools to stay healthy. Before, the lack of safe water meant that maintaining hygiene was nearly impossible. Now, they have the means to wash their hands regularly and focus on their schoolwork.

Andrea declared, “This water is a gift from God! Thank God for this divine intervention.”



The new piped water source is powered by solar panels, ensuring that community members have access to water regardless of access to electricity.



Now, the school and wider community have plentiful safe water!