

La Felicidad, Honduras

PRJ-062961

Residents of La Felicidad struggled for years with unreliable and unsafe water access. Rosa María Molina, 53, recalled, "When our community was first established, we had no water. The nearby military base allowed us an hour at noon to collect some, but otherwise, we relied on the river for bathing and washing. Before this project, a local well fed our taps, but the supply was inconsistent and unsafe. When water ran out, some bought it, while others who could not afford such a luxury returned to the river." Contaminated water led to widespread illness, forcing children to miss school, workers to lose wages, and families to bear heavy medical costs.

Two years ago, in search of a lasting solution, local leaders heard about Living Water International's work in the area and reached out for assistance. Living Water Honduras assessed the community's needs and initially drilled a borehole and installed a hand pump to provide immediate relief. Residents then formed a water committee to partner with Living Water staff in planning a sustainable expansion—bringing safe water directly into the taps in their homes.

As the committee collected small, voluntary fees to help fund the project, Living Water secured a generous supporter to make the vision a reality. Today, thanks to the piped extension and a 1.5-horsepower electric submersible pump, these 499 residents can enjoy a steady flow of safe water at home. "Now, no one has to fetch water from the river or buy unsafe water," Rosa María said. "With this new pump, our supply is secure, and our community development can continue."



Rosa María Molina [right] shares her community's experience with the water crisis with a Living Water team member.



These residents, elected by their peers, form the water committee. They have been tasked with ensuring the sustainability of their piped system.