



green empowerment

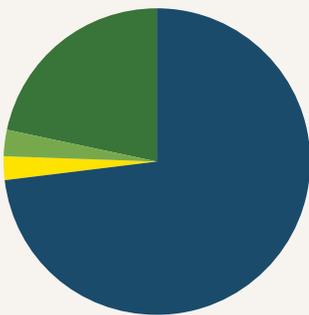
2022 IMPACT REPORT:

Drinking water in San Antonio, Nicaragua

“ We now have clean, arsenic-free water in our homes. I am so happy because I no longer have to carry water, now I have it at home. ”

María González Soza,
Community Member

PROJECT BUDGET:



- Materials & Equipment: \$56,641
- Project Management (community organizing, technical expertise, training, construction oversight, etc.): \$16,660
- Materials Transport: \$2,160
- Administrative Expenses: \$1,950

Total Cost: \$77,411

MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM MEAL-A-DAY OF THE AMERICAS, VATHEUER FAMILY FOUNDATION, PEACEWORKS AND SUPPORT FROM DONORS LIKE YOU

Until 2021 in the community of San Antonio, Nicaragua, families routinely hauled water from distant open-air wells over a football field away, a task that fell most often on women and children. At the local primary school, students spent part of their day hauling water for daily use. Because they had worked with FEDICAMP before and trusted the organization, local leaders in San Antonio reached out to our partner in the region to help them develop a drinking water project. Together, Green Empowerment, FEDICAMP, and the community members themselves built a community-owned micro-utility that delivers safe drinking water to all 142 families (500 people) and the local primary school.

In order to ensure that the system would be maintained over time, the community elected a local water committee to oversee participation from all 142 families as they dug trenches, laid 2 miles of pipework and built the water storage unit. The water committee then participated in in-depth training on water system management, so that by the time the system was up and running they were able to

do routine maintenance and repairs, monitor chlorine levels, troubleshoot technical issues and manage monthly payments from residents.

In the construction process, tests revealed unsafe levels of arsenic in several water sources routinely used by community members, including the source originally identified for the new system. The coalition was able to quickly pivot, conduct a series of tests and gain legal rights to a local well with safe drinking water.

24% of the \$77,500 budget was funded by community members and the municipal government, and – one year later – 100% of local families continue to invest in the system through monthly water payments, showing the community’s ongoing commitment to the system. The water committee tracks these payments via a digital accounting system and already has over \$2,000 in their bank account to cover future maintenance costs and system repairs. When local leaders have the resources and support to realize their vision, they can build solutions that are truly sustainable.