

HONDURAS MAY 2019

PROJECT SUMMARY



May 25, 2019

CLEAN DRINKING WATER TEAM COMPLETED THE MAY 2019 WATER PURIFICATION , MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING PROJECT IN SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS

The CLEAN DRINKING WATER TEAM (CDWT), sent (5) volunteers to San Pedro Sula, Honduras to perform maintenance on the water purification system installed at Our Little Roses (OLR) orphanage for girls. The system was previously installed by CDWT on July 2018 and was not being fully utilized due to turnover of OLR staff who had been trained on how to operate and maintain the system. On this visit, the team trained (7) staff members including the Administrator and the Founder of OLR. The team gave hands-on training, filmed a video to document how to perform maintenance and delivered a system manual in Spanish. The team also delivered replacement filter cartridges and a replacement UV bulb for the system.

Volunteers: Rick Miessau, Cordella Miessau, Carrie Miessau, Jerry Guthrie, Lillian Miessau

DAY 1 (Thursday, May 16)

The team departed from Miami Airport on AA flight 120 and arrived in San Pedro Sula, Honduras at 2PM. They rented a car from Hertz and traveled 30 minutes to the Hilton Princess hotel in the center of San Pedro Sula. The (5) volunteers shared (3) similar rooms on the 3rd floor. The group checked in, dropped their bags in their rooms and then drove 15 minutes to Our Little Roses (OLR) in the Florencia District of San Pedro Sula.

The team arrived at OLR at 5:15PM. Most of the staff had gone home for the night and the school was closed. They were introduced to the staff and several of the girls and they toured the girls home. The water system was plugged in and did not appear to be utilized in several hours – the UV chamber was hot to the touch. The team took several pictures and made plans to return the next

CLEAN DRINKING WATER TEAM is a West Palm Beach, Florida based 501(c)(3) charity founded in 2017 to provide clean drinking water solutions for the most marginalized and desperate communities around the world. CDWT projects also restore dignity and pride in the communities.

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morning to begin work. The team had dinner with the girls in the OLR dining hall. After dinner they spent time just relaxing and talking with the girls. As it got late, at 8:30PM the team said goodnight and returned to the Hilton for the night.

Back at the hotel, Rick and Cordella contacted a few of the girls who graduated from OLR and are now living on their own. Vivany and Maricruz stopped by the hotel to spend some special time socializing with the CWDT team. They both have one child and Maricruz brought her daughter with her. Vivany works at the frontdesk at the Hyatt. Maricruz works for a hotel call center, she works from home helping people make hotel reservations. Both girls spoke English perfectly and speak it daily in their work. We enjoyed hearing stories about their work and their lives making it on their own. It was so nice interacting with the girls as adults and as close friends.

DAY 2 (Friday, May 17)

The team had breakfast (included) in the Hilton and then drove to OLR arriving just after 9AM. They were introduced to the OLR office staff and had a tour of the home and the Holy Family Bilingual School operated on the same property. The team read a story to the kindergarten class and Rick spent time giving a math/science/origami lesson to the 5th grade class.

After the tour the team performed maintenance on the water purification system and gave training to (7) members of the staff. Diana Frade, founder of OLR, explained to the staff the value of the system and the importance of clean drinking water. Mariam and Lucy had hands-on training changing a filter cartridge while the rest of the staff watched. Rick demonstrated how to change the UV bulb and how the electrical power outage alert light works. The system was powered on, flushed and everyone toasted with a clean glass of drinking water.

FUTURE WORK NEEDED

The group made plans to return and install a refrigerated drinking fountain with a bottle filling station and water outlet for filling 5 gallon jugs. Estimated material costs are \$1,100.

The team said goodbye and went to dinner at La Cebollines, a restaurant in San Pedro Sula. After dinner the team returned to the hotel for the night.

Back at the hotel, Rick and Cordella contacted a few more of the girls who are living on their own and the girls from the night before called a few others from OLR. Vivany returned with her son and Maricruz returned with her daughter. Yorlenny also came and brought her daughter. They all stopped by the hotel to spend some special time socializing and the kids had lots of fun playing in the hotel pool. Yorlenny is starting an internship at the Hyatt in human resources. Joycelyn, Bianca and Marguri also stopped by. Joycelyn is working at a call center and is studying tourism, she

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wants to someday own her own business. Bianca is studying electrical engineering. Marguri is studying marketing, works as a teacher and she's been with her boyfriend for almost 2 years. We enjoyed sharing stories and hearing about everything they have been doing since they left OLR. After knowing the girls for almost 15 years, it really felt like a family reunion. We talked about life, WWII history, JFK, robotics, solar power, the world, thoughts, dreams and even debated a little about politics - just a little. The girls enjoyed food and drinks at the pool and then they had to head home. They all had to go to work and had to get the kids to bed. We all said goodnight and we sent them home in taxis.

DAY 3 (Saturday, May 18)

The team had breakfast (included) in the Hilton and then drove to OLR arriving just after 9AM. The girls were ready to board the chartered bus for a field trip at the beach. The volunteers covered the costs for the field trip. 40 girls from OLR spent the day at the beach with the CDWT team and they played volleyball, went swimming in the ocean, swimming in the pool and they had lunch. We call this our ministry of presence where we form special friendships with the communities we help. It is a much welcomed break from the routine at the home where the girls live and a chance to spend the day having fun. After a full day at the beach the group returned to OLR by 5PM. The team said goodbye and went to dinner at La Cebollines, a restaurant in San Pedro Sula. After dinner the team returned to the hotel for the night.

Back at the hotel, Rick and Cordella contacted a few of the girls and some of the OLR staff one more time to see who could come visit one last time at the hotel. Cindy and her husband stopped by. We hadn't seen Cindy in over 6 years since she left OLR. She's married, she's pregnant and she looked so happy. She was working in an office of a mining company but she quit and now she is happy being a housewife. Her English was perfect. We enjoyed hearing stories about their wedding, their work and their lives making it on their own. Maricruz and Yorleny stopped by again and brought their children. The hotel had two weddings but a huge rainstorm delayed the events. We sat inside the hotel for a while and when the rain stopped Cindy and her husband had to leave. They came on a motorcycle and had a 1 hour ride home to Cortez. We walked them down to the parking garage, said goodbye and watched them drive off. Then the rest of us ordered pizza and took it up to our room. The kids had fun jumping around and watching TV while the adults talked. We had great time looking out the window as the wedding and reception got underway down by the hotel pool. As it got late we gave some gift bags to the girls and said goodnight. We walked them downstairs, said goodbye until next time and sent them home in taxis.

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DAY 4– (Sunday, May 19)

Genesis arrived at the hotel at 8:45AM. Genesis left the OLR on her own about 6 months ago. She graduated from culinary school and is looking for a job. She lives with her mother. She joined us for breakfast in the hotel. We had a breakfast buffet. Jerry called the chef to our table to compliment him on the delicious muffins and as we spoke with him we introduced Genesis. Rick and Genesis took a tour of the kitchen, examined the water filter system and told the chef about OLR. He was very interested to hear more about how OLR uses the Hilton to hold special events for graduation and a few quinceneras (15th birthday celebrations). It was a very good conversation and we enjoyed a good breakfast on our last day. Genesis came to our room where we gave her a birthday gift of a chef knife and knife sharpener. We encouraged her to come back to the hotel and ask about a job. We spent some time talking and then had to say goodbye. The group went to OLR where we attended Sunday church service at 10:30AM. Father Gustavo gave a very enthusiastic service, the girls all participate and we got to see some of the girls who we had not seen yet and couldn't go to the beach with us because they were in school. Bishop Frade and Diana also attended the service so we had a chance to talk with them afterwards. After the service we took our last photos, said goodbyes, had hugs from everyone and then headed to the airport. We returned the rental car, checked in our one bag, and Rick was called down to security to drink one beer from the cans he had packed in his suitcase. This happens every trip to Honduras. The flight home was 2 hours and uneventful. In Miami we split up a bit but we all met back up at the luggage claim. We found our car in the garage and we had a typical Miami to West Palm drive home – not too much traffic.

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The cost for this project was \$1,861 and utilized \$1,061 in CDWT funding consisting of travel costs for the (2) CDWT team members and supplies we had on-hand. The volunteers donated \$800 towards the total project costs, covered their own travel expenses and they covered all costs for the extra activities with the girls from OLR.

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|----------------------|---|
| SUPPLIES USED | (4) 5 micron cartridges, (4) 1 micron cartridges, 1 UV bulb, water test kit |
|----------------------|---|

| REVENUE | REV | EXP | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|
| Lillian Miessau | \$100 | | |
| Carrie Miessau | \$100 | | |
| Jerry Guthrie | \$100 | | |
| Rick and Cordella | \$500 | | |
| CDWT | \$1,061 | | |
| TOTAL REVENUE | | | \$1,861 |
| PROJECT EXPENSES | | | |
| AA airfare | | \$334 | |
| AA baggage | | \$90 | |
| Hotel | | \$421 | |
| Car Rental | | \$374 | |
| Meals | | \$240 | |
| MIA parking | | \$68 | |
| TOTAL PROJECT COSTS | | | \$1,861 |

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Costs for taking 40 girls from OLR to the beach for the day:

| DESCRIPTION | COST | REVENUE SOURCE |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| 40 passenger charter bus | \$325 | Lillian Miessau |
| Hotel Playa entrance fee and (40) meals | \$570 | Rick & Cordella |
| Birthday gifts | \$193 | Rick & Cordella |
| Pool toys | \$46 | Rick & Cordella |
| Online donation to OLR for 2019 graduation class | \$500 | Rick & Cordella |
| TOTAL COST FOR EXTRA ACTIVITIES | \$1,634 | |

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