



# GUATEMALA

Trocha 13 Community



*Parkway Bible Church*

# WATER

## Community Details

Without a safe water source, the 100 families of Trocha 13 spent their days trying to find safe water to use for their cleaning, cooking, washing, and drinking. But it wasn't easy. Some purchased water with funds they couldn't afford to spend. Others used some of the shallow, hand-dug wells in the community. Neither option was ideal as they either took money from other areas of life (e.g., education, home improvement, or medical bills) or put them at risk of contracting water-related diseases. They needed a new water source, so the community reached out to the Living Water International field team in Guatemala and asked for a safe water well. Community member Ramiro Lopez took the initiative to communicate with the team, and upon surveying the area, Living Water Guatemala determined that they would return to Trocha 13 to drill for water. However, it was only through the generosity of the people at Parkway Bible Church that the team had the funds necessary to do so. Not only that, but members of Parkway Bible Church signed up to travel to Guatemala to help drill the well themselves.

When the field team and Living Water Trips team arrived in the community, they got to work right away setting up the drill rig. They reached an aquifer at 60 meters deep and then installed the PVC casing and flushed out the debris. The team then added the gravel pack, poured a concrete platform, and capped the well with an Afridev hand pump. Everyone involved in the project was overjoyed to see safe water pouring from the new well.

While some of the team worked to create the well, other team members spent time teaching hygiene and sanitation to the residents so the community would know how to best utilize their new water source. The team explained germs and the basics of disease transmission before demonstrating empowering habits, such as handwashing. Each session ended with a Bible story. This gave the team the opportunity to share the gospel and ensure that every man, woman, and child in Trocha 13 had access to the gospel.

Parkway Bible Church, thank you for giving and for going. Thank you for sharing safe water and the *living water* of the gospel with the thirsty of Guatemala. You modeled what it means to love like Christ, and through your generosity and sacrifice, you pointed to the One whose love knows no limits.

## Project Details

Product	New
Location of water point	Trocha 13, Calle Vieja, Nueva Concepción, Escuintla, Guatemala
Type of Institution Served	Community
GPS Coordinates	Latitude: 14 01.037 N    Longitude: 091 22.668 W

*Construction*

Altitude		4.24 m
Total depth drilled		60 m
Static level		2.70 m
Total depth of casing		30 m
External Diameter of casing		100 mm
Casing material		PVC
Screen	Start: 22.50 m	Stop: 28.50 m
Pump Type		Afridev
Depth of cylinder		10.50 m
Gravel Pack		Yes
Gravel Pack Depth		21 m
Well yield		453 Liters/minute
Sanitary seal depth from surface		21 m
Shock Chlorination		Yes

*Well Platform*

Platform is concrete with reinforcing steel	Yes
Dimension of Platform (H*W*L)	0.20*2.50*2.00 m
Drainage Channel or soak pit installed	Yes

*Water Quality Results*

Water Purity Test	LWI Test Kit
Total Dissolved Solids (as per T.D.S meter) :	115
pH:	7.5
Total Hardness:	0 Ppm
Nitrate/Nitrites:	0 Ppm
Bacteria Test	Coliform Bacteria NOT detected (Colorless or Light Yellow color)

## FOR LIFE

### *Hygiene Promotion*

While some of the team members drilled and constructed the well, others spent time with the local children and parents teaching 126 of them about the basics of hygiene and sanitation. They began by explaining what germs are by using clay models of waste and food. They used glitter to represent germs and a toy fly to show how easily insects can carry germs from trash and waste to food. Once the reality of disease transmission was demonstrated, the team emphasized the importance of regular handwashing. Through this simple but effective habit, the residents could stop the transmission of hygiene-related diseases. The team members also explained how the safe water could be used to create a rehydration solution when it was mixed with sugar and salt. This solution could save the lives of those suffering from diarrhea. Before ending their time in the community, the team taught the community how to keep the well area clean and how lidded containers could keep the safe water free of contaminants.

### *Community Member Interview*

“What do I think about the old versus the new water source?” asked 43-year-old Karen Quiñonez when being interviewed by the field team. “New life, money saved, more healthy people, and a developed community... That is what I think.”

## IN JESUS' NAME

### *Christian Witness*

Throughout the week, the field team and Living Water Trips team members shared the Word of God through Bible storytelling after the hygiene lessons, worshiping and presenting the gospel at the dedication ceremony, and giving Bibles to the residents. A total of 28 men, 57 women, and 35 children heard about the hope and love of Jesus. The team wove the gospel into the hygiene lessons by comparing dirty hands to a sinful heart. They showed that just as dirt can be washed away, the blood of Christ can cleanse any heart free of sin. After the hygiene sessions, the team told the stories “Woman at the Well,” “Jesus Walks on Water,” “Fish for Breakfast,” and “Parable of the Lost Sheep.” They also had the opportunity to share the gospel through the use of colors during a lesson called “The Wordless Book.” A local pastor, Ezequiel Díaz Roldan, will be able to lead his congregation in continuing the work of evangelism and discipleship that the team began in Trocha 13.



## **PHOTOS**



This is one of the wells the community members used before they were given a safe water well. This shallow well does not provide the potable water the community members need.



The Living Water Trips team and field team begin drilling on the first day of work.



The team packs gravel around the casing.



The team turns on the air compressor, and the first bit of water from the well flushes out. They continued flushing the well to ensure the borehole was free of debris.





The team finishes added PVC piping and then installs the hand pump.



Ramiro Lopez, a community member pictured above, holds the plaque that commemorates the generosity of Parkway Bible Church.



The completed well, platform, hand pump, and plaque are ready for use!



The children happily drink the safe water from their new well!





Collecting potable water is now safe and easy.



The Living Water Trips team from Parkway Bible Church and the field team gather around their labor of love, the new well.



Karen Quiñonez, pictured above, is a member of the community and was interviewed by the team. She worked very hard to serve the team, and the team described her love and smile as “contagious and genuine.”



Ramiro Lopez, pictured above, is the local contact who contacted the field team and requested the well for his community.



Pastor Ezequial, pictured above, serves at a the local church.



The children gather for the hygiene and sanitation lessons. They are creating food from play dough in preparation for the lesson on germs and disease transmission.





The children and team members enjoy time together by having fun with a parachute.



The students show off the crafts they made on the first day of the hygiene sessions. They made the crafts after they learned the parable of the lost sheep.



On the last day of the hygiene sessions, this girl happily holds up the “Super Tooth” she colored.



The team members distribute Bibles to the local community members so that they can continue to learn more about Christ.





The community gathers around to learn more about Christ during the well dedication ceremony.



The team and community members worship through song together.





A nearby school, Public Justo Rufino Barrios School, can now provide their students with safe water.



The local church stands in the community as a place where the residents can go to learn more about Jesus and what it means to be saved.