

**PROJECTS** JUNE 18, 2018

## Nicaragua - Healthy Homes



SUPPORT RAISED



NICARAGUA

### GOAL

IM seeks to raise \$30,000 for water sanitation and hygiene supplies for AMOS in Nicaragua

## **SUMMARY**

In Nicaragua, nearly 1 million people have no access to safe drinking water and nearly half the population does not have access to adequate sanitation. This project seeks to help families get access to clean water and tackles the problem of air pollution from wood-burning stoves.

## **DESCRIPTION**

The unhealthy combination of unsafe drinking water and air pollution are unfortunate realities in Nicaragua and negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and educational opportunities.

For the past 10 years, children in remote rural communities have benefitted from an ongoing de-worming program thanks to AMOS' (A Ministry of Sharing) WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene) program managed by IM missionary Dr. Laura Parajón. This project has been enthusiastically supported by American Baptist women and churches that helped raise funds to deworm over 1 million children. The Healthy Homes for Nicaragua project intends to build on that success by expanding the WASH program to also address another serious environmental problem in Nicaragua: air pollution caused by indoor cook stoves.

By improving the quality of the cook stoves to reduce or eliminate indoor smoke and increase indoor clean air, the rate of pneumonia for children under 5 years of age will decrease. In addition, lung-related diseases such as asthma will be reduced among all ages.

The Healthy Homes for Nicaragua and WASH together will provide the financial support needed for AMOS staff to work with mission teams to provide water filters and improved cook stoves for rural homes. It will also train Healthy Home Promoters to provide health education for rural families. Families' homes will be improved in many different ways, including reducing cases of diarrhea and parasites (including worms) caused by contaminated drinking water, as well as reducing cases of respiratory illnesses due to indoor air contamination.

Given the gravely unhealthy nature of unclean water, poor sanitation and household air pollution in rural communities in Nicaragua, AMOS recognizes that helping families have a "Healthy Home" is a health priority for remote communities where it serves. AMOS is committed to assisting local leaders to realize sustainable methods to improve public health.

## **SUGGESTED GIFTS**

\$50 provides materials for an improved cook stove for 1 family

\$100 sponsors 1 water filter for one household for ten years, including the transportation, installation and supervision support after installation

\$250 pays for 5 water health workers to attend an onsite community training on clean water, sanitation and hygiene to prevent parasites and diarrhea

\$500 purchases 8 sets of educational materials on water, sanitation and hygiene to be used by the water health promoters

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray with Drs. David and Laura Parajón and AMOS as they expand the WASH program to tackle the problem of indoor cook stoves and air pollution and for improved conditions in Nicaragua.