

Enabling communities to improve spiritual and physical health through Life-Giving Water

## **NEWSLETTER**

### December 2021

'If you are thirsty, come to me and drink! ... and you will have life-giving water flowing from deep inside you."

Jesus—Gospel of John 7:37-38 (CEV)



#### MACA GRANDE RECEIVES CLEAN WATER

Maca Grande, a small Quichua community in the rugged mountains of Cotopaxi Province, had the long-term vision of rebuilding their failing water system so that all 30 homes receive clean water 24/7. Several years ago, the *New Jersey Institute of Technology—Engineers Without Borders* chapter offered to help them; but they have been unable to travel to Ecuador due to the COVID pandemic.

One of the *NJIT* faculty advisors for Engineers Without Borders, Dr. Pennock, a former intern with us, contacted *Life Giving Water International* asking for help with the work on the springs. The *NJIT* students raised funds for the expenses. *CODEINSE*, our long-time ministry partner in Ecuador, orchestrated the work on the springs. Bruce Rydbeck and Chris Visscher provided virtual classes for the *NJIT* students on the design and building of rural water systems.

Spring protection is only the first step in this project, but a crucial step in eliminating pathogens from the water supply. Our prayer is that, in addition to receiving clean accessible water, they come to know God, who is their Provider.



Efrain (yellow boots), director of **CODEINSE—Kawsaypak Yaku**, provides technical direction for the community of Maca
Grande in protecting the two springs which supply water.





(left) Milacruz & Tambillo are building a 14 kilometer feed line and anticipate completing the distribution system, providing clean water to 80 homes, early next year. (center) The 45 families in the community of Tanquis protected their spring. (right) They carried tons of sand and gravel on their backs.



#### FIVE YEAR MILESTONE! -

Chris & Samantha Visscher complete five years of ministry in Ecuador this year. God has given the Visschers a desire to see entire communities transformed physically and spiritually. Chris uses his 20 years experience as a civil engineer to serve with the *LGWI* team in Riobamba, helping rural communities successfully design, build, and maintain their water systems to make clean water available at each home 24/7.

Samantha home schools their four children and teaches health & hygiene in communities. Providing clean drinking water for needy rural communities builds trust with communities; powerfully expresses the love of Jesus; and opens the door for VBS events, and sharing the gospel message.

The Visschers are supported through *Commission To Every Nation* <a href="https://cten.org/chrisvisscher">https://cten.org/chrisvisscher</a>. We deeply appreciate them and their faithful ministry.



Chris taught topographical survey skills to the LGWI interns this past summer.



Samantha teaches hygiene in a community.

• Engineer volunteers needed to design community water systems and manage projects.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

 Communications Director needed for written and visual media communications.

For further information write to mail@lifegivingwaterinternational.org

• \$400 per home needed for the *San Antonio de Quito* community water system to serve 250 families.

#### **Send Donations to:**

Life Giving Water International 154 Temple Road • Waltham, MA 02452-7809

Online Donations: www.lgwi.org/donate

Donations are tax deductible • EIN: 47-2793644



The Visscher family, Chris, Ethan, Emilia, Jacob & Benjamin (twins), and Samantha enjoy life in rural Ecuador.

# ONGOING PROJECTS AND MINISTRY

 Mark DeHaan, a civil engineer deeply involved in the *LGWI* ministry since his senior design project with *LGWI* as a *Calvin University* student in 2015, will serve as a volunteer for two years with the *LGWI* team in Ecuador



beginning January 2022. Mark also serves as clerk on the LGWI board. Details to support Mark can be found at <a href="https://cten.org/missionary/markdehaan/">https://cten.org/missionary/markdehaan/</a> We are grateful for his addition to the team.

- The Clean Water Institute of Calvin University will present their studies on the *CODEINSE* method of spring protection and rural water system chlorination at one or more technical conferences. The studies, done in cooperation with *LGWI*, document improved techniques developed in this ministry.
- Design work is complete for the Azama water system serving 310 families in four communities. Building begins early 2022.
- The spring protection for San Isidro de Chipo did not provide the water quality anticipated and requires additional corrective work. We ask for prayer and wisdom for this remedial work.
- Finally, after numerous revisions, the *Ecuadorian* Secretaria del Agua approved the San Antonio de Quito water system design, allowing the communities to receive donated pipe from the municipal government to build the water system.