



# HONDURAS

Flores Del Oeste



*Decimus Wines*

# WATER

## Community Details

For the 50 families living in the community Flores Del Oeste, Honduras, life was never easy. With only a church and primary school within the community, most households sustained a meager living from raising livestock, vegetables, or working in the timber industry. The citizens of Flores Del Oeste had no safe water sources and were forced to obtain their water supply from various surface water sources that could contain disease-causing bacteria. Often, this bacteria led to respiratory and other waterborne infections, which resulted in a loss of work productivity and lower school attendance for students. The community wanted their lives to be different but weren't sure how to go about making these necessary changes a reality. Some of the citizens of Flores Del Oeste had visited another community Living Water International had worked with to build a safe water well, and they felt a ray of hope that maybe Living Water could do the same thing for them.

After the initial visit to the neighboring community, the citizens of Flores Del Oeste followed up with Living Water through a phone call and letter. A Living Water field team came and assessed their current situation, and quickly agreed to build a new water well. This new well was made possible because of your generosity and your desire to see the water crisis ended, Decimus Wines. You have helped transform the lives of everyone living in Flores Del Oeste.

Soon a plan was put into place, and the Living Water team returned with a drilling rig and got straight to work. At first, the drilling team encountered some stones, and there was some concern from the community that the drilling would not be successful. But these setbacks only worked to strengthen the faith of the community and drilling team. With ceaseless prayer and supplication, everyone banded together, praying that they would soon reach a safe water aquifer. Finally, after drilling to a depth of 24 meters, water began spewing out of the borehole. The community was overjoyed to see their prayers answered. To complete the new well, the drilling team installed PVC casing and a gravel pack and then topped the borehole with an Afridev hand pump.

Living Water strives to empower communities to create their own sustainability plans for their new safe water source. When citizens take ownership of the well, they become more invested in its long-term success. As part of this plan, the community formed a five-person water committee. They would be responsible for collecting donations from each household to be kept in a fund to help maintain and repair the well, should the need ever arise. The blessing of this new well is not taken lightly, and the community was eager to learn other ways to be good stewards of this precious gift.

An important process in guiding the stewardship process was teaching community members lessons on various hygiene and sanitation practices. Before the safe water well, hygiene and sanitation were not viewed as a priority compared to the need of simply trying to locate water on a daily basis. Now that safe water was easily accessible community members were ready to embrace a new way of life. All the lessons were interactive and participatory, with a focus on visual elements as a way to engage a range of ages and educational backgrounds. The goal of these sessions was to help community members begin to take ownership of their well-being and develop healthy habits that will help to enhance the lives of everyone living in Flores Del Oeste.

The stones the drilling team encountered during the well-building process served as a powerful metaphor for some of the community members. At first, many were reluctant to have anything to do with Christ and had hardened themselves toward him and his holy Word. But after seeing the persistent prayers and faith of the Living Water field team, and fellow believers throughout the week, many of the community members decided to follow Christ and give their lives over to him. One of the Living Water staff members had this to say about the experience, "God visited us, and we were able to bless a community with water, not only with natural water but with *living water*."

## Project Details

Product	New
Location of water point	Flores Del Oeste, Yoro, Olanchito, Honduras
Type of Institution Served	Community
GPS Coordinates	Latitude: 15 31.504 N    Longitude: 86 40.681 W

## Construction

Altitude	310 m
Total depth drilled	24 m
Static level	15 m
Total depth of casing	24 m
External Diameter of casing	100 mm
Casing material	PVC
Screen	Start: 21 m      Stop: 24 m
Pump Type	Afridev
Depth of cylinder	21 m
Gravel Pack	Yes
Gravel Pack Depth	6 m
Well yield	56 Liters/minute
Sanitary seal depth from surface	18 m
Shock Chlorination	Yes

## Well Platform

Platform is concrete with reinforcing steel	Yes
Dimension of Platform (H*W*L)	0.254*1.8*2.5 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) :	289
pH:	7

Bacteria Test

Coliform Bacteria NOT detected (Colorless or Light Yellow color)

## FOR LIFE

### *Hygiene Promotion*

Living Water had the opportunity to present sanitation and hygiene lessons to 48 community members during the week of the drilling. Topics such as germs, disease transmission, safe water storage, and the proper care and maintenance of the pump were all covered during these lessons. Participants enjoyed hands-on activities such as crafts, games, and call-and-response to help these important objectives be memorable and applicable to their daily lives. Equipped with this new knowledge, the community was ready to move forward with healthier hygiene and sanitation choices that will benefit everyone.

### *Community Member Interview*

Jerlin, a 34-year-old primary education teacher, had these thoughts to share about the new safe water well: “This project benefits 50 families very well. We are going to get quality water and our neighbors are going to suffer less from diseases because we were consuming poor quality water. This project will bring more development to our community. Thank you, and God bless you.”

## IN JESUS’ NAME

### *Christian Witness*

When Living Water partners with a community to build a well or other safe water source, the goal is bigger than helping to provide a vital necessity for a community in need. The ultimate goal is to provide the *living water* Christ offers for every man, woman, and child they encounter. One way that Living Water accomplishes this is through Bible storying. During their time in Flores Del Oeste, the Living Water team presented this workshop to seven men, two women, and 50 children. Bible stories such “Woman at the Well,” “Fish for Breakfast,” and “The Prodigal Son” came alive for the participants using a variety of songs, chants, poetry, and dramas. Community members were encouraged to ask questions and engage in discussions to help guide them to interpret Scripture in their context. The community and Living Water team closed the week with a special well dedication ceremony, where staff and citizens dedicated the well to God and spent time thanking him for this blessing.



## *PHOTOS*



Before building the new well, citizens were at the mercy of surface water sources, such as this stream shown, to meet their daily water needs.



The drilling team works together to create a new safe water well for the community.



One of the local primary school washes her hands using water from the new well.



Jerlin, one of the local primary school teachers, speaks with a Living Water staff member about how the new well will impact their life for the better.





This photo shows the five men who make up the newly established water committee. They will help to ensure the well stays properly maintained.



Both students and adults in the community enjoyed the fun hygiene and sanitation lessons given during the week.



Participants in the hygiene and sanitation lessons learn a fun, interactive song.



Some community members come together to look at the new well. This safe water source is a life-changing gift for the citizens of Flores Del Oeste.





At the end of the week, everyone gathered together to dedicate the new well to God, and give thanks for all he has done.



During the well dedication ceremony, a Living Water evangelist shared the gospel with the citizens of Flores Del Oeste.



The team placed a dedication plaque at the base of the new well to serve as a constant reminder of God's love, and the precious gift you provided Decimus Wines.



An overview photo of the new well and dedication plaque. Every time someone comes to pump safe water, it serves as a reminder of your generosity.





This is a typical example of what a typical building looks like in Flores Del Oeste.



A photo of the main road leading into Flores Del Oeste. With no hospitals, churches, or stores community members often have to travel far distances to obtain healthcare or other necessities.