

Mission Project for Clean Water In Honduras—Pt. 3-3



This is the third in a series of articles describing a clean water project. The previous articles discussed the need for clean water in many parts of La Mosquitia, Honduras and described the plan to educate people about clean water needs, drill wells, and teach recipients how to keep the well functioning. This article discusses a

The intent of this project is for the Mission Society to team with Ray Griggs to provide clean water in Honduras. However, the recent destruction in many villages in the area of Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua has created a need to widen the project's focus. Felix swept into northeast Nicaragua, destroying homes and contaminating over 5000 wells. Most of the contaminated wells are dug, open pit wells such as the ones shown here. These wells, which collect surface water and can easily become contaminated, need to be replaced by a sealed well such as the one in the third picture.

At the present time the Miskito people living in the area devastated by Hurricane Felix have the greatest need for uncontaminated wells and clean water. In addition,



Brother Griggs spends a good part of his time in Nicaragua these days, working to get saw mills operating so that lumber can be made available for rebuilding homes. He is also available to assist in drilling wells.



The sooner we can get the rig to him, the sooner he can begin drilling wells. To date we have raised half of the \$11,000 needed for the equipment and supplies. We will order and ship all materials as funds become available to cover costs. At the time the project was planned, Brother Griggs identified workers that he would hire and teach to drill the wells. Getting the clean water project going in Honduras is still a major goal of this project. However, because of so many contaminated wells in Nicaragua, we anticipate that the project will begin in Nicaragua rather than Honduras. One drilled well may serve an entire village,

reducing the need for many of the dug wells. We would like Brother Griggs to begin drilling wells where the greatest need exists.

Your support will still be needed after the equipment and materials are shipped. Since the people in many Nicaraguan villages where wells are needed have lost their homes and most everything else, we anticipate that the full cost of drilling wells in these villages will need to be borne by this

project. The average cost of a well is about \$1100. This includes the supplies used in drilling, a hand-pump (purchased locally) installed on a cement pad, as well as labor costs for drilling the well and educating the recipient. Although, adaptations will be made as



needed, education about clean water, and teaching those who receive a well how to maintain it, remain important parts of this project. When the project is able to move into Honduras

and areas not devastated by the hurricane, the need for subsidy money will remain. Although the villagers will be expected to pay partial cost of a drilled well, many villages will still need help in the form of a subsidy.

Contributions, identified as 'Clean Water Project', should be sent to the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, PO Drawer Y Salem Station, Winston-Salem, 27108. Please note that 100% of all funds given for the Clean Water Project go to this mission effort. For further information contact Charles Nienow and Esther Tesh, Project Coordinators, at 336-764-0151 or email NienowTesh@aol.com