



STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION: IN THEIR
OWN WORDS
2014 REPORT: SANTA ANA REGION

TABLE

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IN THE END IT'S GOD'S WORK, BUT GOD WANTS US TO BE A RESOURCE TO OUR COMMUNITIES IN BOTH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL WAYS.
— PASTOR JUAN RAMÍREZ,
CASA DEL ALFARERO CHURCH

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REGIONAL

OVERVIEW



ENLACE HELPS THE CHURCH TO GO FROM CREATING PATHWAYS IN THE DUST TO PAVING A BROAD, SAFE ROAD THAT SERVES MANY PEOPLE.

— Pastor Mauricio Reyes, Cristo Vive Church
ENLACE Church Coach

In 2014 ENLACE trained and equipped over 218 church leaders and 151 community leaders on a monthly basis in 22 churches serving 59 communities in the region of Santa Ana. The total area impact for this region is 38,365 people.

Santa Ana is a region located in western El Salvador with a total population of nearly 700,000. Approximately 300,000 people live in or near urban centers and the remaining 400,000 live in semi-rural or rural communities. Recent reports state that 23% of the population, or 161,000 people, live in extreme poverty (making less than \$1 per day) and 46% of the population, or 332,000 people, live in severe poverty (making less than \$2 per day). The region is diverse and has complex challenges. Urban areas are densely populated and face security issues, household waste problems, and unemployment. Rural areas are also densely populated and face critical challenges such as dilapidated roads, inadequate housing, poor health and struggling economic development.

PROJECT REPORT 2014

23
PROJECTS

Projects implemented in the Santa Ana region in 2014.

19434
PEOPLE

In 2014, over 19000 lives were impacted by the projects implemented in the Santa Ana region.

PROJECT GOALS 2015

35
PROJECTS

In 2015, 35 projects are planned to be implemented.

21000
PEOPLE

In 2015, the church hopes to impact the lives of 21,000 people.



“ WE HAVE MUCH TO GIVE, WE JUST HAVE TO DISCOVER WHAT WE CAN OFFER. — PASTOR NEHEMÍAS JUÁREZ, NUEVA JERUSALEN CHURCH ”

NUEVA JERUSALÉN CHURCH COMECAYO

Nueva Jerusalén Church is a committed and flourishing congregation of 840 members, 60 of whom are committed leaders. Its previous pastor, Rafael González first learned about ENLACE while working with a medical clinic that was used by students from a Christian school sharing his church building. In 2008, Pastor Rafael asked ENLACE to develop a strategy that would help his church reach out to its community. In 2012, Pastor Rafael assumed a new role as the Santa Ana regional presbyter. He invited Nehemías Juárez, who had once served as an associate pastor at Nueva Jerusalén to become the new pastor.

Over the years, the church has strengthened existing relationships with school parents, teachers and students and also established a relationship with the mayor’s office and the community association. As a result, the church has implemented many projects, most recently a pedestrian bridge which allows residents to safely cross the Pan-American Highway. The church’s strong leadership and great capacity for outreach has extended its impact to neighboring communities like El Ranchador and Porvenir. The church has grown by 15% in recent years.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to create 25 home gardens. In reality, 8 home gardens were created in La Empalizada. Training was provided, as was technical assistance and supplies. 40 people benefit directly from the gardens. 10 more will be implemented in 2015.



The goal for 2014 was to install 50 eco-stoves. This project was completed and directly improved the lives of 250 people.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build a water system in Cruz Verde.



The goal for 2015 is to create 10 home gardens. (\$3,750)



The goal for 2015 is to build drainage gutters in El Jordán and El Sitio.



The goal for 2015 is to build drainage gutters in La Empalizada.



The goal for 2015 is to repair 1 mile of roads.



**IT'S A JOY TO HAVE CLEAN,
RUNNING WATER AT HOME.**
— ROSA MARÍA,
COMMUNITY MEMBER, SAN JACINTO



ZURISADAI CHURCH SAN JACINTO

Zurisadai Church is an energetic and active congregation of 180 members, 45 of whom are very strong leaders. In 2008 its pastor, Jaime Mauricio Alvarado, heard about ENLACE through conversations with Rafael González, the pastor of the Nueva Jerusalén Church. Pastor Mauricio, a dedicated leader who constantly seeks opportunities to grow, along with his wife, Yanira, who is also a talented leader, were encouraged by Pastor Rafael to lead their church into a new vision of ministry.

With incredible excitement and speed, this church joined with its local community association and helped to inspire a desire to serve. Since that time, a myriad of projects such as road repairs, new homes, an improved water system and home gardens have gone forward. Both the landscape of San Jacinto and the hearts of hundreds of its residents have been transformed. The church has grown by 10% and between 2013 - 2014 their area of impact also grew to include the communities of El Resbaladero and San Luis la Planta.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to design and fund culvert and bridge construction in Las Peñitas. This project has been postponed. This project is on a primary road will benefit 2,500 people.



The goal for 2014 was to install a playground. This project was completed. 300 children now enjoy a safe and fun place to play.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to construct a culvert and bridge in Las Peñitas benefiting 2,500 people.



The goal for 2015 is to repair roads that provide access to the medical clinic.



The goal for 2015 is to build a 328 foot perimeter wall which will provide increased security for school children and teachers.



ENLACE INSPIRES US AND GIVES US HOPE.
— PASTOR FRANCISCO MENDOZA,
ARCA DE DIOS CHURCH

ARCA DE DIOS CHURCH EL RANCHADOR

The Arca de Dios Church is a semi-rural congregation of 200 members, 60 of whom are leaders. In 2010 the its pastor, Francisco Javier Mendoza, heard about ENLACE through conversations with pastor Rafael González from the Nueva Jerusalén Church. One of the greatest challenges facing this community is the presence of gangs. Despite this, the church is committed to being a place of love and care for all the people of the El Ranchador community.

As a result of working with Compassion International, the church had developed a close relationship with its community. ENLACE strengthened their community ties by helping them to become better organized and more integrated with other leaders and families in the community. ENLACE also helped to establish new relationships with other organizations. While most residents have access to clean water and electricity, they struggle with inadequate housing, infrastructure problems, malnutrition, and lack of development opportunities. By the end of 2011, the church, together with the community, implemented home gardens and home construction projects along with the construction of a new bridge and a clinic. All of these projects have combined to impact every resident in greatly needed and profound ways.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to repair the roof, floor and walls of 2 homes. This project was completed. 2 families, (10 people) directly benefited from this project.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build 10 new homes. (\$91,160)



The goal for 2015 is to install street lights for primary roads.



The goal for 2015 is to complete the health clinic, including drop ceiling, tiles, windows and stucco. (\$13,000)



The goal for 2015 is to repair roads.



PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH EL PROGRESO

Puerta del Cielo Church is a rural congregation of 45 members, 12 of whom are leaders. In 2008 its former pastor, Mario Ernesto Mejía, learned about ENLACE through conversations with Pastor Mauricio Alvarado from the Zurisadai Church in San Jacinto, who encouraged him to reach out and serve his community.

Pastor Mario, a man of great passion and faith, inspired his church to serve. He and his church established new relationships with several community organizations as well as the mayor's office. Additionally, the church created strong friendships with community members and churchgoers from different churches in the community. In June 2012 Orlando Majano became the church's new pastor. Pastor Orlando, a devoted leader with a strong personal testimony, and the church implemented their first housing project and led a joint effort with the community to repair the main road. The church has grown by 10% in recent years and has directly impacted more than 1,500 people.

**“WE’VE DISCOVERED, AS A CHURCH,
THAT IT IS A TOTAL BLESSING TO US
TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.
— PASTOR ORLANDO MAJANO,
PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH**

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to create 12 home gardens. In reality, 14 home gardens were created. Training was provided, as was technical assistance and supplies. 70 people benefit directly from the gardens.



The goal for 2014 was to repair 829 meters of road. This project was completed, benefiting 4,000 people who use this road on a weekly basis.



The goal for 2014 was to construct 28 meters of a perimeter wall at a local school. This project was completed, benefiting 315 students, in addition to teachers and parents.



The goal for 2014 was to repair and install new portions of a roof at a local school. This project was completed.



The goal for 2014 was to create 13 homes. In reality, 11 homes were created, benefiting 55 people. 2 homes are in progress and will be finished in early 2015.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to create 14 home gardens. (\$5,250)



The goal for 2015 is to complete the construction of 2 new homes. (funded)



The goal for 2015 is to build 2 classrooms.



The goal for 2015 is to create medical outreach through a local clinic.



The goal for 2015 is to create a recreation area.



The goal for 2015 is to repair roads.



CRISTO VIVE CHURCH LA BENDICIÓN

Cristo Vive Church, located on beautiful Lake Coatepeque, is a congregation of 72 members, 25 of whom are leaders. In 2010 its pastor, Mauricio Reyes, learned about ENLACE through conversations with Pastor Rafael González from the Nueva Jerusalén Church who invited him to attend an ENLACE seminar about how a church can work effectively with its community.

Pastor Mauricio and his young and dynamic leaders inspired and motivated their congregation to actively begin to connect to their community. They strengthened existing relationships with the local public school and the community association. They have implemented projects such as eco-stoves and home gardens. The name of their town, La Bendición, means “The Blessing” in English and Pastor Mauricio and the church have embodied that in their community. And community residents have noticed! The church has grown by 15% and is currently impacting communities as Casa Blanca and Santa Mónica.

“ WE ARE LEARNING NEW THINGS AS WE WORK WITH OUR COMMUNITY. — PASTOR MAURICIO REYES, CRISTO VIVE CHURCH ”

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to install 1,656 feet of pipe for water system support. This project was completed and now 45 families have access to water.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build a water distribution tank. (\$24,600)



The goal for 2015 is to repair 656 feet of road in Casa Blanca.



“ WHEN WE ALL EMBRACE THE VISION OF SERVICE WE ARE HAPPIER. — CARLOS LINARES, FORMER PASTOR, PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH ”

PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH SAN JUAN BUENAVISTA

Puerta del Cielo Church is a semi-urban congregation of 100 members, 30 of whom are leaders. Pastor Francisco Javier Portillo was the pastor of one of ENLACE’s first local partner churches in the hamlet of El Cambio, El Tinteral. Pastor Francisco moved to San Juan Buenavista and contacted ENLACE in 2011 to help him create a vision for his church and community with this new congregation. After Pastor Francisco relocated to a different church, and Pastor Carlos Linares helped out for a time and then the present pastor, Esau Bermudez, became the church’s full-time pastor in 2013. According to Gerson, the ENLACE Church Coach, Pastor Esau is continuing to work with the church’s motivated and diverse group of leaders in community transformation.

The church has built strong relationships with many community organizations and implemented health projects such as home gardens, eco-stoves and latrines. With each project the church has strengthened ties with the public school and the community’s water board while also increasing their own management capacity and organizational ability. The church has grown by 10% and is having a great impact on the lives of the most needy in their community.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to train, fundraise and manage the water support system. This project was completed and a team of 25 people is now managing the system.



The goal for 2014 was to install 25 eco-stoves. This project was completed and directly improved the lives of 125 people.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to install a water support system that will serve 5,000 people.



The goal for 2015 is to install 25 eco-stoves (125 people), including use and maintenance training. (\$6,250)



The goal for 2015 is to install 25 street lights.



The goal for 2015 is to repair roads.



“WE ARE NOW DOING MANY MORE THINGS FOR THE NEEDIEST IN OUR COMMUNITY.”
 — PASTOR ELMAN MELÉNDEZ,
 IGLESIA MONTE HOREB

MONTE HOREB CHURCH LA REFORMA

Monte Horeb Church is a motivated and well-connected congregation that has 150 members, 45 of whom are leaders. In 2010 its pastor, Elman Meléndez, learned of ENLACE through conversations with Pastor Rafael González from the Nueva Jerusalén Church.

The church already had close relationships with its community as a result of having collaborated with the Ministry of Health in previous projects. Through ENLACE’s training, the church improved its project management and strengthened relationships with other organizations. Together the church and community have implemented health initiatives, such as home gardens and latrines. After coordinating effective relief efforts in response to a devastating tropical storm in 2011, the church has maintained its role as a well-organized and responsive group within its community. The church has grown by 5% and is impacting 1,000 people.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to construct 2 homes. This project was completed. 2 homes were built, benefiting 10 people.



The goal for 2014 was to install 25 street lamps on the main road. This project was completed, benefiting over 1,500 people who use the road daily.



The goal for 2014 was to repair 8 homes. In reality 6 homes were repaired. 2 homes will be repaired in 2015.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to create a waste management system.



The goal for 2015 is to build a water system.



The goal for 2015 is to complete the construction of 6 new homes and home repair for 8 families.



The goal for 2015 is to bring drinking water access to San Pablo.



The goal for 2015 is to build a drainage system including curbs and rain gutters in Los Chorritos.



The goal for 2015 is to build speed bumps and install traffic signals.



“THE CHURCH HAS A HUGE CHALLENGE, BUT THE CHURCH IS EQUIPPED TO MEET IT.”
— PASTOR JUAN RAMÍREZ,
CASA DEL ALFARERO CHURCH

CASA DEL ALFARERO CHURCH CHANTUSNENE

Casa del Alfarero Church is a strong congregation of 80 members, 12 of whom are leaders. The church was founded in 1998 with the establishment of a new neighborhood in Chantusnene made up of 64 families. In 2011 its pastor, Juan Ramírez, attended a conference in which he learned of ENLACE from an inspiring presentation given by Pastor Rafael González from the Nueva Jerusalén Church. He spoke about what his church had been doing in the city of Comecayo. Up to that point, Pastor Juan had believed that the church should not get involved with outsiders even though he had been quite involved with his neighbors' needs for many years. Pastor Rafael invited him to meet the ENLACE team. After connecting with ENLACE, Pastor Juan became excited and a desire to serve his community was born. The church has seen an increase in attendance and is now impacting more than 6,000 people.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to build 10 homes. This project was completed and 10 families, (50 people) directly benefited from the project.



The goal for 2014 was to construct 25 composting latrines. In reality, 20 composting latrines were built. More funds were needed to complete the project, however, the lives of 100 people were directly improved.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to repair 36 feet of the primary access road to the community.



The goal for 2015 is to build 1,500 feet of curbs and gutters on Main Street.



The goal for 2015 is to repair 200 meters of Guadalupe Street (a main road).



The goal for 2015 is to build a water system to benefit 6,000 people.



The goal for 2015 is to repair 200 meters of Valle Gracia Street (a main road).



“ I BELIEVE IT IS A DREAM THAT WE ARE ABLE TO DO THIS IN THE COMMUNITY! — VICTOR HUGO ORTIZ, BETESDA CHURCH ”

BETESDA CHURCH POTRERILLOS DEL MANZANO

Betesda Church is a small congregation of 54 members, 29 of whom are leaders. In 2012 its pastor, Victor Hugo Ortiz, heard of an organization that could help to better focus their efforts to work with the community. The church was already reaching out with a food program and computer classes for children and when he met pastor Rafael González from the Nueva Jerusalén Church, he was excited to learn about how he could establish a partnership with ENLACE. This congregation desires to transform its own community and the neighboring communities of La Luz, San Carlos and Santa Elena.

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to install 50 eco-stoves. This project was completed and directly improved the lives of 250 people.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to create a water system for 260 families, (1,300 people).



The goal for 2015 is to build 10 new homes. (\$66,131)



The goal for 2015 is to install 11 street lights to increase safety in the community.



The goal for 2015 is to install 25 eco-stoves (125 people), including use and maintenance training. (\$6,250)



The goal for 2015 is to repair 1,500 meters of main road.



CANAAN CHURCH LOS PINOS

Canaan Church, located in the community called Los Pinos, Santa Ana, is a small congregation of 50 members, 12 of whom are leaders. In 2011 the church's new pastor, Mario Mejia, contacted ENLACE. He had previously been the pastor of Puerta del Cielo Church in El Progreso and had worked with ENLACE since 2010 and sought to work with ENLACE again. Because he had previous training, Pastor Mario inspired his congregation to address some pressing needs and without hesitation, they began to lead mitigation efforts in Los Pinos. The church desires not only to help its immediate community but also the nearby villages of El Porvenir and Montebello, impacting 1,500 people. The church has grown by 11% in the last year.

**“FOR ME IT’S A GIFT TO HELP DEVELOP SO MUCH
IN THE COMMUNITY AS THE CHURCH. THE
BIGGEST CHALLENGE WILL BE TO CONTINUE TO
PRACTICE ALL THE THINGS WE’VE LEARNED.
— PASTOR MARIO MEJIA, CANAAN CHURCH**

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build 30 latrines along with preventive health education and maintenance training. (\$9,000)



The goal for 2015 is to repair 10 homes.



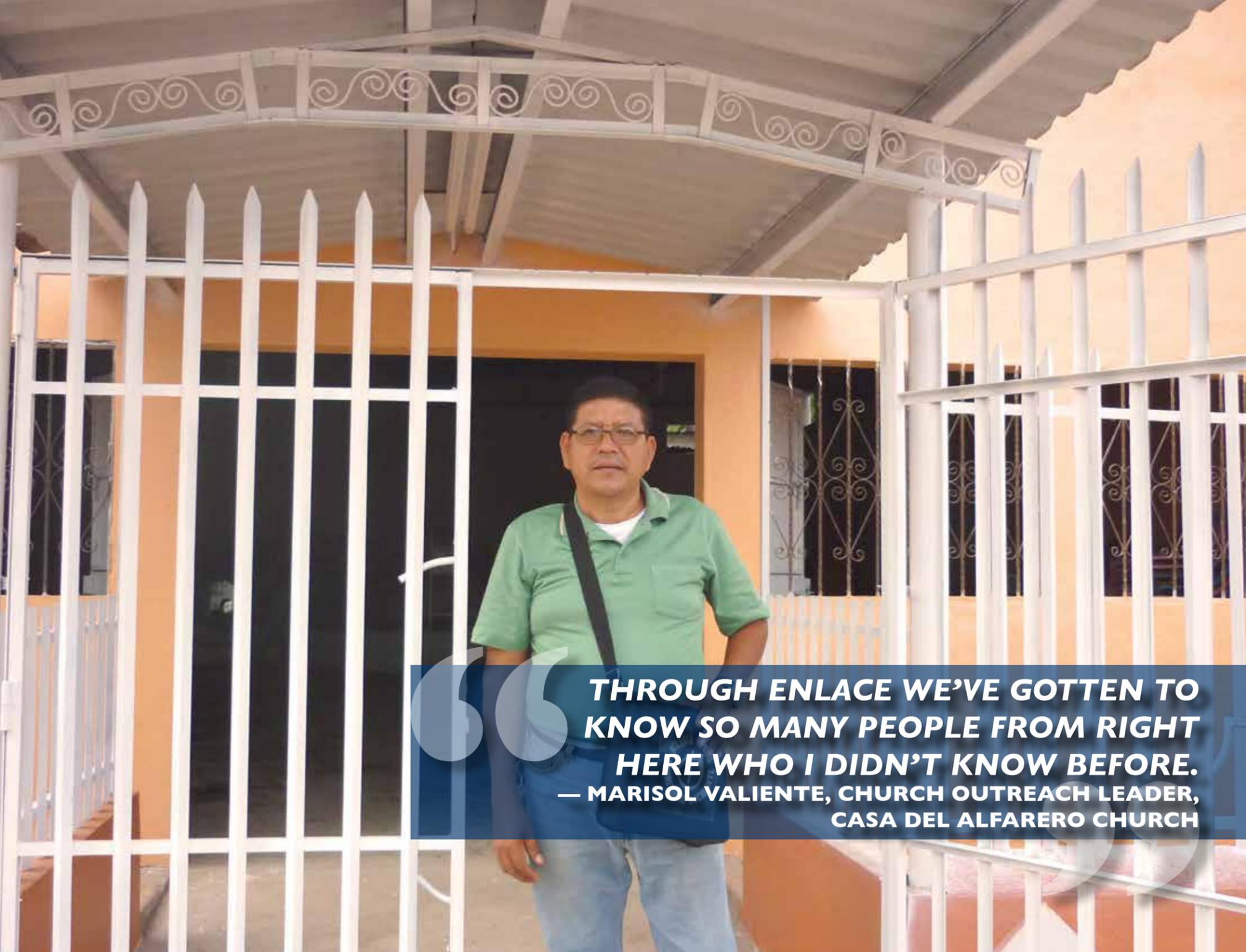
The goal for 2015 is to build 2 classrooms for the local public school.



The goal for 2015 is to create medical outreach program.



The goal for 2015 is to create a land reforestation program in El Porvenir y Los Pinos.



“ THROUGH ENLACE WE’VE GOTTEN TO KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE FROM RIGHT HERE WHO I DIDN’T KNOW BEFORE. — MARISOL VALIENTE, CHURCH OUTREACH LEADER, CASA DEL ALFARERO CHURCH

IGLESIA DE DIOS SANTA ANITA

Iglesia de Dios Church is a small congregation of 50 members, 8 of whom are strong leaders. Even though the church’s denomination discouraged community interaction, Pastor Manuel Landaverde along with many church members could not close their eyes to the problems that their neighbors were facing from extreme poverty and a lack of economic opportunities to the strong gang presence. The church began to work with ENLACE in 2013 and has created an ambitious plan for 2015 that will address issues of community safety and business development. Their area of impact includes approximately 2,000 people.



PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build a septic tank.



The goal for 2015 is to install gutters on a main road used by 800 families daily.



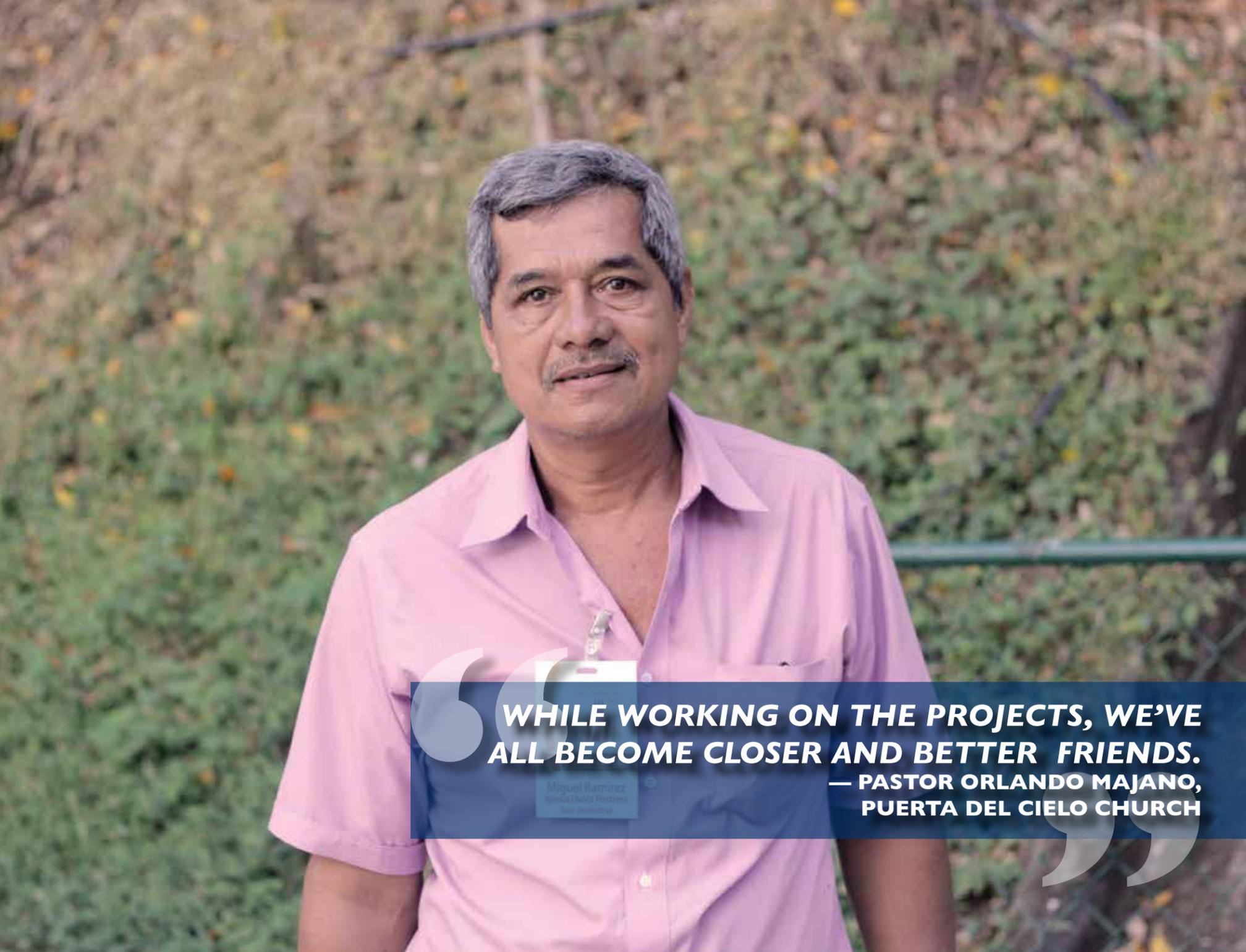
The goal for 2015 is to install 8 street lights to increase safety in the community.



The goal for 2015 is to create medical outreach program.



The goal for 2015 is to design a water system for 125 families (625 people).



LLUVIA POSTRERA CHURCH SAN JERÓNIMO

Lluvia Postrera Church is small congregation that has grown rapidly and wants to serve its community. Its pastor, Miguel Ramírez, learned about ENLACE from his brother, Juan Ramirez of Chantunene, a partner with ENLACE.

The church began with just 7 people and has grown to 25. The vast majority of the congregation are also community leaders. The DNA of this church is made of service, commitment and dedication to the community. They've already begun to implement a community safety project that includes street lights and a water system in tandem with the local community association and the mayor's office, but they are excited to do much more in 2015. The church has the potential to impact approximately 500 people.

“WHILE WORKING ON THE PROJECTS, WE’VE ALL BECOME CLOSER AND BETTER FRIENDS.”
— MIGUEL RAMÍREZ
— PASTOR ORLANDO MAJANO,
PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to design a water system for 100 families (500 people).



The goal for 2015 is to create medical outreach program.



The goal for 2015 is to repair 7 critical sections of main road.



“THE MINISTRY OF ENLACE HAS MADE A HUGE IMPACT HERE.”
 — PASTOR MARIO MEJIA,
 CANAAN CHURCH

**LUZ DE LA VIDA CHURCH
 SAN JOSÉ**

Luz de la Vida Church, located in the community called San José, is a small congregation of 74 members, 25 of whom are leaders. This congregation has a great passion and desire to transform its own community and the immediate neighborhood of Hacienda Santa Adela. Pastor Oscar Ernesto Villalta first began to inspire his church to serve by leading by example. He and his church established good relationships with the Community Association has created strong friendships with community members and churchgoers from nearby churches already working with ENLACE, such as Cristo Vive in La Bendición.

Close to 500 residents in San José have access to electricity but they struggle with water (access and quality), school infrastructure problems, health care, and lack of development opportunities.



PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to build 30 latrines along with preventive health education and maintenance training. (\$9,000)



The goal for 2015 is to improve the infrastructure of the public school.



The goal for 2015 is to design a water system for 400 families (2,000 people).



The goal for 2015 is to build a footbridge where many students walk to and from school.



The goal for 2015 is to begin stage 1 of road paving project that will address 1.8 miles of main road.



IGLESIA DE DIOS CHURCH CAÑA BRAVA

Iglesia de Dios Church is a newer church partner. It is a very motivated and well-connected congregation that has 60 members, 12 of whom are leaders. Pastor Rigoberto Villacorta learned of ENLACE from Pastor Elman Meléndez from La Reforma and was excited to strengthen the work the church was already doing in its community.

The church had been working with an association of engineers to build a home for a family in need. The church also has a strong relationship with the local health unit and collaborated with them in fumigation campaigns and medical teams. The church has the potential to impact approximately 3,000 people.

**AS A CHURCH AND AS A PASTOR WE'VE
BEEN ABLE TO HAVE A HUGE IMPACT IN
OUR COMMUNITY.
— PASTOR ORLANDO MAJANO,
PUERTA DEL CIELO CHURCH**

PROJECT REPORT 2014



The goal for 2014 was to create 12 home gardens. In reality, 14 home gardens were created. Training was provided, as was technical assistance and supplies. 70 people benefit directly from the gardens.



The goal for 2014 was to repair 829 meters of road. This project was completed, benefiting 4,000 people who use this road on a weekly basis.



The goal for 2014 was to construct 28 meters of a perimeter wall at a local school. This project was completed, benefiting 315 students, in addition to teachers and parents.



The goal for 2014 was to repair and install new portions of a roof at a local school. This project was completed.



The goal for 2014 was to create 13 homes. In reality, 11 homes were created, benefiting 55 people. 2 homes are in progress and will be finished in early 2015.

PROJECT GOALS 2015



The goal for 2015 is to design a water system to serve 370 families, (1,850 people).



The goal for 2015 is to provide 6 families (30 people) with materials and labor to build new adobe homes.



The goal for 2015 is to build 2 classrooms at a local school.



The goal for 2015 is to create multi-task work space for general community use.



The goal for 2015 is to repair 500 meters of main road.

NEW CHURCH

PARTNER PROFILES



**ENLACE COMES ALONGSIDE THE CHURCH
AND ENHANCES ITS WORK IN THE COMMUNITY
BY PROVIDING EXPERTISE AND TRAINING.
— PASTOR MAURICIO REYES, CRISTO VIVE CHURCH
ENLACE CHURCH COACH**

Eight new churches began to partner with ENLACE between 2013 and 2014. Each partner had a strong passion to serve its communities and began ENLACE's coaching and training program. Through workshops, seminars and hands-on activities, church pastors and members are prepared to become effective servant-leaders in their communities.

During this initial stage in ENLACE's coaching and training program, the ENLACE coach focuses on the first three (of six) iterative stages in the yearlong church-coaching process:

DISCOVER — ORGANIZE — LISTEN — PARTNER — EMBODY — REPLICATE

Each area is designed to help prepare a church, new to community development, to understand itself as a redemptive agent of change, explore its community, and reach out to its neighbors effectively. Such preparation maximizes the effectiveness of future projects and is extremely important to help the partner reach its fullest potential.



“IT HAS BEEN A GREAT CHALLENGE TO LEARN HOW TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY EFFECTIVELY. BUT FOR ME PERSONALLY, THE TRAINING HAS HELPED ME A LOT. AND EVEN THOUGH IT HAS BEEN HARD, I’VE HAD WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES GETTING TO KNOW MY NEIGHBORS. I HAD SEEN THEM OFTEN BUT I REALLY DIDN’T KNOW THEM.”

**— MARISOL VALIENTE,
CHURCH OUTREACH
LEADER**

El Verbo Church, La Presa
 Founded in 1973
 Pastor: Process of finding a new pastor
 Pastoring church since: N/A
 ENLACE partner since: 2013
 Membership: 58
 Leadership: 16
 Community partners:
 Community association, Save the Children
 Community projects implemented:
 home repair, food delivery, cleanup campaign,
 road repair,
 Potential number of people impacted: 3,000

Iglesia de Dios Church, Ranchador
 Founded in 2002
 Pastor: Juan Vicente Hernández
 Pastoring church since: 2010
 ENLACE partner since: 2014
 Membership: 102
 Leadership: 15
 Community partners:
 Community association, Health Unit
 Community projects implemented:
 food delivery, mosquito fumigation
 Potential number of people impacted: 3,000

La Bendición Church, Argentina
 Founded in 1994
 Pastor: José Alvaro Franco
 Pastoring church since: 1995
 ENLACE partner since: 2013
 Membership: 64
 Leadership: 5
 Community partners:
 Community association, Kimberly Clark factory,
 Mayor’s office
 Community projects implemented:
 food delivery
 Potential number of people impacted: 1,500

Rios de Agua Viva Church, La Joyita
 Founded in 1985
 Pastor: Alfonso Nuñez
 Pastoring church since: 2013
 ENLACE partner since: 2013
 Membership: 45
 Leadership: 5
 Community partners:
 Community association, Mayor’s office
 Community projects implemented:
 None
 Potential number of people impacted: 5,000

“ENLACE HELPS THE CHURCH TO GO FROM CREATING PATHWAYS IN THE DUST TO PAVING A BROAD, SAFE ROAD THAT SERVES MANY PEOPLE”

**— PASTOR MAURICIO REYES,
ENLACE CHURCH COACH**

“THEY ARE ALL VERY GRATEFUL.”

**— PASTOR ORLANDO
MAJANO, PUERTA
DEL CIELO CHURCH**





“ENLACE REALLY WOKE (OUR CHURCH) UP BECAUSE BEFORE WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE THE CHURCH. EVEN THOUGH WE LIVED SIDE BY SIDE, WE NEVER KNEW ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOR'S NEEDS... IT'S SOMETHING VERY BEAUTIFUL TO LEARN SO MUCH AND OVER TIME BECOME A MORE UNITED COMMUNITY.”

**— SARA ROXANA,
CHURCH OUTREACH
LEADER**

Simiente de Abraham Church, Las Victorias
 Founded in: 2004
 Pastor: Arturo Orellana Carrillo
 Pastoring church since: 2008
 ENLACE partner since: 2014
 Membership: 90
 Leadership: 13
 Community partners:
 Mayor's office
 Community projects implemented:
 food delivery, home construction
 Potential number of people impacted: 2,000

Palabra de fe Church, La Granja
 Church founded: 2007
 Pastor: Edwin Israel Del Valle
 Pastoring church since: 2007
 ENLACE partner since: 2014
 Membership: 65
 Leadership: 8
 Community partners:
 Community association, Mayor's office
 Community projects implemented:
 food delivery, road repair, medical team
 Potential number of people impacted: 700

Jehová Jireh Church, Las Cruces
 Church founded: 2003
 Pastor: Jennifer Itsmenia Zuniga de Bautista
 Pastoring church since: 2003
 ENLACE partner since: 2014
 Membership: 61
 Leadership: 25
 Community partners:
 Community association
 Community projects implemented:
 food for needy children, street cleaning, "Helping Hands" project
 Potential number of people impacted: 2,500

Arca de Noé Church, San Luis la Planta
 Church founded: 1960
 Pastor: Tito Consuegra Morán
 Pastoring church since: 2008
 ENLACE partner since: 2014
 Membership: 60
 Leadership: 18
 Community partners:
 Community association
 Community projects implemented:
 food delivery, road repair
 Potential number of people impacted: 700

“I BELIEVE THAT ENLACE IS KEY IN THE WORK WE ARE DOING IN OUR COMMUNITY. THEY EQUIP AND TRAIN US AND HELP US FIND FUNDING FOR OUR PROJECTS.”

**— VICTOR HUGO ORTIZ,
BETESDA CHURCH**

“MY PRIORITY IS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GOD-GIVEN OPPORTUNITY.”

**— PASTOR MARIO MEJIA,
CANAAN CHURCH**



PROGRAM

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



**GOD HAS LED ME TO MISSIONS AND
REFINED ME THROUGH THIS WORK.**
— GERSON DE LEÓN,
CHURCH COACH SUPERVISOR

GERSON DE LEÓN CHURCH COACH SUPERVISOR

Gerson DeLeon was only 19 years old when his pastor noted his hard work ethic and asked him to lead a small congregation. During that time, he found that his heart was most burdened for young children and youth. That burden led him to an opportunity to work for one year with a project with The Samaritan's Purse. After that work concluded, he joined the staff of Compassion International where he worked for the next seven years. According to Gerson, both experiences were very rewarding and allowed him to learn much about working in rural communities.

When the contract with Compassion International ended, Gerson began looking for a job that would support both his wife of three years, Ada, and their year-old son, Esteban. Even though he had a degree in International Relations, Gerson found work as a school teacher. Soon, however, the opportunity to join the ENLACE staff as a Church Coach appeared. Gerson believed it was God's leading and said, "God has led me on this path for years."

Over ten years have gone by since Gerson pastored a small group of believers. Now he serves as a Church Coach to five churches in the Santa Ana Region. Explaining his experience he says, "I believe the role of a Church Coach is vital because he spends more time in the community and can see not only the community's needs but also the opportunities that exist for the church to collaborate with its community to bring about solutions...And I like to be where there is need."



“ I FEEL LIKE I CAME TO THE PLACE I AM MEANT TO BE. — FABIOLA RAMÍREZ, CHURCH COACH ”

**FABIOLA RAMÍREZ
CHURCH COACH**

When Fabiola Ramírez was just a girl, God planted a seed in heart to be a missionary. But she had no idea how God was going to bring this about. As a young adult, she began to study international relations, thinking she could have a career and serve God abroad. Upon graduating from her studies, Fabiola began to look for a job, expecting God to take her on a grand global adventure. However, as the job hunt continued with no doors opening to her, she began to doubt God’s calling in her life.

Fabiola felt extreme doubt and wondered if perhaps this desire to serve God in this way had really been her own idea after all. But because of the financial needs of her family, she knew she didn’t have the luxury of waiting for her ideal employment. The pressure grew and Fabiola was compelled to consider going to the United States to look for a job. She was already fluent in English and even though she did not want to make this kind of move, it seemed the only promising option. It was then that a job opportunity came open at an English-speaking call center in San Salvador. While it was not her dream job, she accepted a position there. At the same time, she also found that her heart was re-awakened to the hope of doing missions someday and

enrolled in a theology program with a concentration in missions.

Fabiola worked hard at the call center but at first could not fathom why God would want her there. Eventually, however, she began to see that due to this experience, God was shaping her life in ways she never expected.

After three years of moving up in the ranks while also continuing her missions studies, she heard about ENLACE seeking to hire church coaches. The desire in her heart led her to apply. And just like with the call center job, God began to teach her and mold her way of thinking in a new way.

“My way of seeing missions was to go and help people,” said Fabiola when asked about working as a church coach. “However, these were vague ideas. Coming here [to ENLACE] and learning the methodology and working with churches is what the Lord had been talking to me about. [Before] I did not see it clearly but it had always been in my heart.”

Fabiola is now graduating with a degree in Theology. ENLACE is proud of her hard work and perseverance!



WE TAKE THE BIBLE AND TEACH, BUT WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN OFF OUR TIES AND GRABBED A SHOVEL...WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE.

**— MAURICIO REYES,
CHURCH COACH**

MAURICIO REYES CHURCH COACH

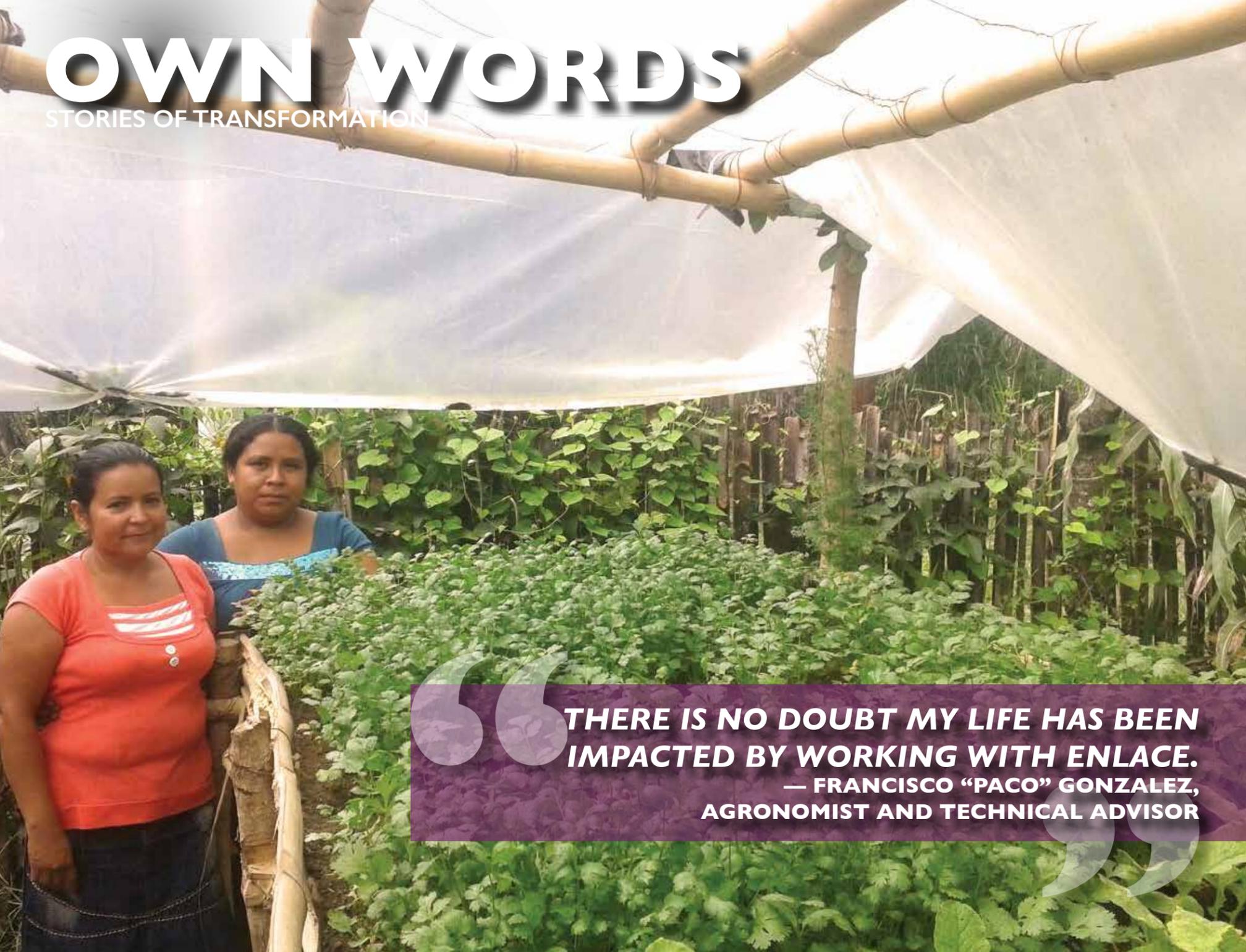
Mauricio Reyes lives just off the shore of Lake Coatepeque in the community of La Bendición, Santa Ana with his wife, Zuleyma Márquez, and three-year-old son, Josué and Genesis Sophia who born in 2014. He pastors the Cristo Vive Church, which has partnered with ENLACE since 2010. In 2012, he began as a part-time ENLACE Church Coach for the Santa Ana region and became full-time with Santa Ana in 2014.

Growing up as an only child of hardworking parents and facing needs not only at home, but also of the people around him, created in Mauricio a sharp sensitivity to poverty. While he didn't grow up in a Christian home, at 17, God's love changed his life and he began to feel a strong call to serve God in any way possible.

Mauricio became a pastor and began his studies in Theology. His experience in these areas along with working for ENLACE has given him a deeper understanding of the needs of impoverished communities and how God's love through action can transform them. Mauricio feels grateful and excited about serving other pastors that are just beginning in their process to serve their communities. "Serving the community is something I always had in my heart," says Mauricio, "because one of the most rewarding things in life is to serve others. Now, we take the Bible and teach, but we have also taken off our ties and grabbed a shovel to help. We are called to serve."

OWN WORDS

STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION



“THERE IS NO DOUBT MY LIFE HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY WORKING WITH ENLACE.”

**— FRANCISCO “PACO” GONZALEZ,
AGRONOMIST AND TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

In the small community of La Loma word gets around quickly. And the word on the street in 2007 was that the local church and its pastor wanted to change the world. But Pastor Felix and the leaders of Asamblea de Iglesias Cristianas Church didn't fit the typical Christian bill. As often as they were found in the church they were found outside of it, helping their neighbors with spades and seedlings along with words of encouragement and technical know-how.

Like many villages in El Salvador, La Loma residents struggle with generations of poverty and a strong gang presence. It is a small hamlet of Panchimalco, which is one of El Salvador's few remaining cultural and historical beauties but La Loma is among the poorest areas in the country. As often is the case, churches in this region had historically tended to close their eyes to the problems, focusing instead on their own needs. But as Asamblea de Iglesias Cristianas Church began to cross barriers, listening to their neighbors and trying to help address their physical needs “the mistrust of the people,” said Pastor Felix, “and the doubts they had” began to dissipate. “Little by little they began to trust us.”

Last year, ENLACE caught up with two women from La Loma and asked them to talk about their experiences of working with Pastor Felix and the projects his church was spearheading.



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**WE ARE SO GRATEFUL.
— FLOR HERNÁNDEZ**

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“God’s Love Can Come in Many Ways”: The Story of the Hernández Family.

In many ways, Flor and José Hernández are a typical family in rural El Salvador. They have two young children and live in a simple home on a small plot of land. They work very hard but are very poor. Like most families in their village, they lack indoor plumbing. They haul water from a community well and use it for all their cooking and cleaning needs. And instead of indoor bathrooms they dig pits near their home.

In this community, the water table is not very deep. And unbeknownst to the Hernandez family, the pits used for human waste were leaking into the water supply making them and their entire village sick.

After learning about the problem, Pastor Ramírez and his church wanted to help. With ENLACE’s support, they teamed up with local health workers and other village leaders to create and implement a plan that replaced pits with eco-friendly “clean” latrines. The Hernandez family was among the first participants. “We got our latrine three weeks ago and we have seen the difference,” said Flor. “We are so grateful.”

“God’s love can come in many ways,” said Pastor Ramírez. “Here we are building latrines that turn waste into fertilizer and don’t leak into the water table...From the very beginning we have been educating people about the importance of sanitation...The impact is very great! We just need to build more.”



**“THIS HOUSE HAS BEEN PROVIDED FROM HEAVEN.
— SIXTO BLANCO**

A Testament to God's Faithfulness: The Story of the Blanco Family.

Sixto and Evelyn Blanco and their daughter, Nayely, live on \$6 a day. Together, they work as farmers on a rented acre of land. Depending on the time of year, they can be found cleaning, fertilizing and preparing the soil, sowing seed, managing crops or harvesting their crops of corn and beans. They returned home each day to a small room that belonged to Evelyn's relatives until the couple managed to save \$200 and buy a lot that the city was selling.

Sixto and Evelyn were overjoyed because on this lot was a cement structure that they hoped to turn into a home. It had no roof, windows, electricity or plumbing, but to the Blancos, it had great potential. As they slowly worked to convert the structure into a home, Sixto built a temporary lean-to made of a tin roof and plastic sheets for walls.

But building had been very slow going. Their cost of living didn't allow for any extras. The daily cost of buying clean water alone usurped almost half of their income. And so the Blancos worked the land all day and came home to their tin and plastic shelter at night, with no relief in sight.

When members from the local church, Arca de Dios, got acquainted with the Blanco family, they saw how desperately they needed help. And when ENLACE's international partner, Willow Creek Community Church from Crystal Lake offered support, the community of Planes del Ranchador led by church leaders, volunteered to build the Blancos a home. Alongside Sixto and Evelyn, 20 more people plastered walls, paved a floor and installed a roof and windows along with wiring for electricity.

“This house has been provided from heaven, and we are filled with joy,” said Sixto on the day their home was completed. “This blessing confirms to me the true faithfulness of God. He heard our prayers.”

