



District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Yorba Linda Sunrise

Project Title: Septic tanks and sanitation for families, Tecate, Mexico in cooperation with Corazon (DDF 3448)

Progress Report Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?

Corazon Septic Tanks for Families Project 2019-2020 Rotary Year

As previously reported, the procedure developed by the Yorba Linda Sunrise Rotary Club (YLSRC) in conjunction with Corazon over the past few years on the retrofitting and the fitting of new homes with septic tanks is as follows:

1. Corazon utilizes its procedures to identify the families and the homes for retrofitting as per protocol used for the past several years;
2. Rotary pays the funds into Corazon in Santa Ana California office;
3. By law as demanded by the Mexican government the materials for the work are purchased in Mexico; Except septic tanks and certain plumbing parts that are unattainable in Baja Norte. These parts are purchased in the USA.
4. The YLSRC members *have been able* to cross the border to supervise the projects for the *first time in over 2 years* where the excavation is overseen by Corazon and the primary tank placed.
5. YLSRC members included an engineer to check the critical aspects of the installation to insure long term serviceability of the system and future potential maintenance. This report highlights that Corazon personnel have done the bulk of the work, *but for the first time in over 2 years, YLSRC members have been able to collaborate in person.*
6. Corazon finished the clean up around the project installations.
7. YLSRC receives copies of receipts for materials purchased and photos of the completed projects.

The Covid 19 pandemic led to lockdowns and the inability to gather in groups. Until recently, we were also forbidden to cross the border into Mexico. We have finally been able to assemble a team to visit sites and to work alongside Corazon personnel to complete the project. We are ecstatic as to how the Corazon personnel developed their knowledge and skills to implement the work. We are equally as ecstatic to report completion of this long – open project.

As previously reported, Corazon is on their *third* Executive Director and therefore administration, whilst improving is in a level of chaos regarding prior documentation.

Receipts for the 2019-2020 AND 2020-2021 materials are in hand. *We have submitted progress reports, and the final four septic systems for the 2020-2021 Rotary year were installed recently.* Three were installed with remote oversight by YLSRC team members as described in previous reports. The team were able to visit and were hands on, alongside Corazon with the final installation. The 3448 project is now completed.

As a reminder this is the almost the 3rd Rotary year that we have been unable to take busloads of Rotarians to the Tecate region to build new homes as we have done for at least 10 years. Please note that all new Corazon homes in the Tecate area built with bathrooms are now required to have a septic system installed at the time of construction as part of the efforts to improve family health in the area. This is a direct result of the success of

this initiative and the support from Matching District Grants. All funded systems will be built and the health and quality of life of the recipients will be tremendously enhanced as soon as it is humanly possible to do so.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project?

Some 6 to 10 Rotarians from the YLSRC have been involved in the septic tanks project at different times.

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

(a) Rotarians trained Corazon employees and they have been physically able to level the gravel in excavated holes, situate the septic tanks, assembled the piping to connect the tanks to the homes bathrooms, creating the ability for flushing toilets in the homes, replacing pit toilets.

(b) Rotarians trained Corazon employees on placement of the hand washing facilities above the toilet cistern in bathrooms so that water refilling the tank is also used for hand washing after use of the toilet. Corazon Sanitation Team Leader, Ana Rodriguez, did all the calculations and supervised all the technical aspects of the installations. She has been part of the team from the beginning and was appointed the Team Leader approximately three years ago. She is prominent in the attached photos in the blue shirt. Throughout the pandemic, Ana has ensured progress for families. We are indeed grateful to her.

c) Over the years we have now been involved in the installation of more than 30 septic systems, all of which are still functioning properly, to the better health benefit of the community.

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?

Improved health of the entire Tecate community. Currently we've just completed another 4 septic systems. There remain only 19 homes without a septic system, to be retrofitted. All new homes are constructed with a septic system installed simultaneously.

The community (some 800 plus people) benefits from improved hygiene and reduced gastric illnesses being spread and better school attendance by children.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project?

Raw sewage is flushed into a septic system, leading to reduction in fly-borne illnesses and diarrhea. Hand washing stations above the toilet tanks will lead to improved overall hygiene, which in turn means less sickness and better school attendance by children.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

Corazon assists the community through fund raising and scholarships for children. They assist with families identified to receive both houses and septic systems based on the families support of the community. Where possible, they also purchase the materials locally, supporting the local economy and have now evolved their abilities to install the septic systems and washing facilities.

Financial Report – Be sure that Income equals Expenditures!

7. Income	Amount
1. District Grant funds approved by the District	\$3,511
2. Club contribution	\$3,978
3. Other funding (specify)	
Total Project Income	\$7,489

8. Expenditures - please be specific and add lines as needed - receipts must be attached

1. Excavator, gravel, tanks, transport, piping included in total – detailed break out unavailable due as described in report (Please refer to Excel summary)	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
Total Project Expenditures	\$7,489

9. By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all of the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures have been provided to the district. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights in the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or at any time in the future, throughout the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or later developed. This includes the right to modify the photograph(s) as necessary in RI’s sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of RI and TRF.

Certifying Signature Ian Hicks Date: December 20, 2021

Print name, Rotary title, and club Yorba Linda Sunrise RC – former Chair International Service