

Lucas Wolf Memorial Project – Montecillos, Honduras

August 2019

A lot has happened since Fort Collins Breakfast Rotary presented a check to them to begin the project in May to support the project in memory of Lucas Wolf, one of the early Rotary Peace Fellows from District 5440, sponsored by Fort Collins Breakfast Rotary. In total, with TWP pledged funds, we had \$14,200 to support the improvements to two Montecillos communities. TWP didn't stop there, though! Thanks to a their work in their Roots of Migration Match Campaign, the funds were doubled, to \$28,400 to support even more communities!

As part of the larger TWP project to help many Montecillos communities, the TWP partner, CEASO, in Honduras started in springtime installing community tree nurseries with around 80,000 plants in seven communities adjacent to the Montecillos Reserve: Corralitos, San José de Pane, San José de Comayagua, La Danta, La Tigra, La Laguna and Balibrea.

In August, they planned on installing tree nurseries with new families in other communities with which they have already collaborated. The project will also be expanded to three new communities (3 de Septiembre, San Isidro and Nueva Esperanza).

Forest, fruit and Musaceae trees are being installed in the nurseries, and will soon begin with forage trees. Grafting processes have also been carried out in three communities, and the project coordinator conducted a practical training in grafting with community leaders from 5 communities (La Tigra, La Laguna, La Danta, Potrerillos and Bailibrea)

Also, they are in the first phase of establishing community and family gardens, with crops such as beans, radishes, mustards, carrots, beets, squash, cucumber and coriander.

- San José de Comayagua: community garden with 8 families
- Corralitos: community garden with 12 families
- Matasano: community garden, starting the process
- La Laguna and Corralitos: 2 family gardens.

Finally, the construction of 120 ferrocement household cisterns was completed, CEASO placed the gutters to leave the rainwater catchment system of each house running.

TWP has provided photos showing some of the above activity.

Rotary's project funding will begin this fall with the installment of Justa cookstoves, and next spring with more tree nurseries and rainwater catchment tanks.

Here are the goals for the larger Montecillos project that TWP is working on are, by 2021, to:

- Open and expand community tree nurseries in 19 communities - 350,000 trees planted by 2021
- Install Justa Clean Cookstoves - 1,000 total by 2021
- Complete Farmer-to-farmer training in organic agriculture and agroforestry - 10 community gardens, and 100 family gardens by 2021
- Install family and community rainwater storage tanks - 500 by 2021
- Improve family rainwater systems with expanded gutter systems
- Improve community rainwater system design with option for potable-water with integrated catchment basins and filters - complete 5 prototypes and 5 installations by 2021

I apologize for the tardy update on this project. I have been traveling for almost 2 months and simply haven't been still long enough to get things posted. For those of you who contributed personally, Thank You! For those of you who contributed through your Rotary Club, please convey our Thanks for their support. Be sure to check out the photos attached on Matchinggrants.org. We'll have more updates soon!