



District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Yorba Linda Sunrise  
Project Title: Septic tanks and sanitation for families, Tecate, Mexico in cooperation with Corazon (DDF 2880)

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

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 had hoped to cross the border to supervise the projects where the excavation is overseen by Corazon and the primary tank placed correctly;
5. YLSRC members which includes an engineer supervise the critical aspects of the installation to insure long term serviceability of the system and future potential maintenance. This had to be implemented by the Corazon personnel owing to border closure due to the Covid crisis.
6. Corazon finishes the clean up around the project.
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. We were also forbidden to cross the border into Mexico. We have therefore not been able to assemble the team required to conduct installations since March 2020. We have not been able to visit for installation purposes. *However, Corazon personnel have developed their knowledge and skills to complete the work and they scheduled installations again.* Work has progressed with virtual oversight by the YLSRC members. This means each step of the procedure has been recorded and sent to our YLSRC team for review.

There have been some additional administrative challenges as the Executive Director of Corazon quit due to family challenges during the pandemic. They are now on their third Executive Director and therefore administration is in a level of chaos. Documentation is not easy to obtain.

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 2019-2020 Rotary year were installed recently. The 2880 project is now completed.

As a reminder this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> (almost 3<sup>rd</sup>) Rotary year that we are 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.

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

Improved health of the entire Tecate community. Currently we've just completed another 4 of 22 homes waiting for septic systems to be added. At an average of 4 persons per home, 88 people benefit directly.

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	\$3,237
2. Club contribution	\$3,237
3. Other funding (specify)	
<b>Total Project Income</b>	<b>\$6,474</b>

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

1. Excavator, gravel, tanks, transport, piping (Please refer to Excel summary)	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
<b>Total Project Expenditures</b>	

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