

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

BY DOUG BROWN, SAN BENANCIO

The Salinas Steinbeck Rotary Club is leading two clean water projects in El Salvador. The projects will bring the first ever clean water to more than 7,700 people. Steinbeck Rotary is assisted by Rotary clubs throughout the area, including the Rotary Club of Corral de Tierra and the Salinas Valley Passport Rotary Club. Together they have all raised more than \$180,000 to implement the project.

Deep wells were drilled and hooked up to existing water storage tanks, and then plumbing was extended to all the homes in the area. Finally, the residents were trained in proper sanitation and hygiene. All Rotary projects incorporate the principles of sustainability – locals are trained in the care and maintenance of the facilities so that the benefits endure long after the Rotarians are gone.

Prior to these projects, many of the residents would have to gather water from the local polluted streams, endangering their health. The project has a special place in the heart of Steinbeck Rotary president, Brenda Rivas, as El Salvador is her nation of birth. The local Rotarians partnered with the Club Rotario de San Salvador Noroeste to accomplish the project. Local Rotarians have visited El Salvador to work alongside their partners.

Rotarians around the world take on these kinds of life-changing community projects for the betterment of our world. Though the big international projects often garner attention, most community improvement projects completed by Rotarians are in their own home communities. There are 1.4 million Rotarians worldwide! So the next time you see a Rotarian, thank them for their service.



Rotarians ... share the work that your Club is doing within the community and around the world! Contact Laurie.Martin@n2pub.com or phone 272-4620.

