



Instituto de Acción Social - Nicaragua

April 23, 2014

Before I requested continuation of NOVA's \$200/month for the John XXIII Institute in Nicaragua, I had asked John XXIII on very short notice for a project for NOVA to sponsor that John XXIII otherwise wouldn't be able to do. Because of that short notice, John XXIII was able to respond only after I submitted my request and after NOVA generously approved the funding. I wanted to share with you, belatedly, how the Institute will be using NOVA's \$2400 this year.

Some years ago the Institute had built a drinking water well for Tamalapa a community of 26 families (106 people) in the municipality of Dario City, about 75 km. north of Managua. That community recently and generously agreed to share its well water with Los Llanos, a nearby community of 107 families (497 people). Funding from the British Catholic development agency CAFOD has confirmed the well's capacity and is now improving the well's pumping and storage capacity and building the actual connection between the two towns.

Tamalapa is as poor as it is generous. None of its homes currently has a direct connection to the community's well. So the women and girls (as is the culture, which John XXIII keeps trying to change) have to make repeated 2- to 4-km roundtrips throughout the day to haul water. When it comes to doing the laundry, they have to haul their small children and dirty clothes down to the community laundry sink near the well or down to a nearby creek where they wash the clothe against the rocks.

At the cost of \$48 per connection, NOVA's \$2400 will allow John XXIII to connect each of the 26 homes in Tamalapa to their newly improved well, as well as making similar connections (to a different well) for 24 new homes the Institute is building in Sébaco this year.

I'll send pictures after the project is completed.

Thanks!

~John Mooney