



# CWRD UPDATE

THE COVENANT WORLD RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024



## Transforming Lives

### The Impact of Cocepradil on Health, Livelihoods, and Dignity on Honduras

In the rugged hills of Candelaria, Honduras, near the border of El Salvador a woman is walking to get water for her family. It is hard to believe that in many regions of the world primarily women still walk to their water source. **Here in Candelaria, Cocepradil, a partner with Covenant World Relief and Development (CWRD), works to create sustainable futures through water access, women's empowerment, nutrition, and agricultural support.** In December 2023 CWRD was fortunate to view projects in various stages, from initial community interest groups, to the impact in homes, and finally a celebration for one community.

Recognizing clean water as fundamental for health, livelihoods, and dignity, Cocepradil uses community spirit, topography, and gravity to create pipelines that emphasize biblical principles and sustainable solutions. It begins with construction of tanks that hold up to 50,000 gallons and are filled by natural springs. Each community is responsible for construction and maintenance of the water lines to ensure the projects are sustainable. Homes gain access to clean water through gravity-fed pipelines that sometimes weave over thirty kilometers.

The importance of health, livelihoods, and dignity were never more evident than in our visit to the Ramos family home in the hills above Candelaria. Since they gained access to water, the family has had clean water for drinking, cooking, and bathing, along with a

sanitary toilet. This has improved overall health and allowed them to care for their son who has special needs. Livelihoods improved as they learned skills in both agriculture and animal husbandry programs with the support of Cocepradil. Their farm now works with broods of chickens and a diverse garden for both revenue and subsistence. The Ramos family is now a respected contributor to the local economy. They are helping others reach their goals, and they regularly donate smaller broods of chickens back to the program. They spoke of how thankful they are for CWRD and the dignity they have earned through these programs.

On our final evening, we were able to witness the full-circle impact with a celebration of water coming to one village. The community turned out in substantial numbers to sing, dance, and celebrate what the project means to them. An older couple dressed in traditional clothing spoke of what life was like before the water pipeline (see photo). When one woman described her life carrying water with a clay jar back to her home, she became emotional. To signify the path forward, she raised the jar high above her head and smashed it to the ground.

Donors like you have made this life-changing pipeline a possibility, altering the health, livelihoods, and dignity of these people of Honduras. **Will you consider a gift to water projects?**



### Greetings mission friends,

Clean water is foundational to community development. Through our global partners, Covenant World Relief and Development provides clean water to those facing long daily journeys to unclean sources. In this newsletter, we hope you will enjoy learning more about some of CWRD's water projects and celebrate the impact of ensuring clean water access to more people throughout the world.



Adam Edgerly, Director  
COVENANT WORLD RELIEF  
AND DEVELOPMENT

“For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.” **ISAIAH 44:3**

## Collective Action Equals Positive Change

Every year in partnership with Covenant Kids Congo (CKC), Covenant churches across North America participate in the **Global 6K**, which represents the average distance someone in the majority world walks for water. CKC is an initiative of Covenant World Relief and Development that focuses primarily on community development in the northwest region of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Nearly \$200,000 is raised by Covenant churches each year through the Global 6K. By joining this effort, we are ending the walk for water for women and children in the Democratic Republic of Congo and around the world.

In 2023, Thornapple Covenant Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, partnered with three other local churches to host the Cascade 6K, one of the top host sites for the 2023 Global 6K. This year in a continued display of unity and shared purpose, **Thornapple Covenant is set to extend its impact by partnering with six churches, doubling their collective effort.** This multi-church host site initiative emphasizes the significance of churches working together rather than competing with each other.

**THE GLOBAL 6K**, whether pursued individually or in partnership with other churches, is an example of how collective action can bring about positive change—one step at a time. To learn more about how you or your church can participate, visit [covchurch.org/6K](https://covchurch.org/6K). Use the code **ECCLADER** for a free host site leader registration.



Pastor Andrew Vanover shared, “Our neighbors, regardless of their faith, observe how we, as Christians, relate to one another. The event’s ability to bring churches together, irrespective of denomination, strengthens our collective witness.” **Walking for clean water becomes a powerful symbol of solidarity and compassion.**

## Water Facts

**1 OVER 800 CHILDREN** UNDER THE AGE OF FIVE DIE DAILY FROM DIARRHEA CAUSED BY CONTAMINATED WATER, POOR SANITATION, AND IMPROPER HYGIENE.

**2 SIX KILOMETERS (3.7 MILES) IS THE AVERAGE DISTANCE MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE MAJORITY WORLD WALK FOR WATER.**

**3 703 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE WORLD —ALMOST ONE IN TEN— DO NOT HAVE CLEAN WATER CLOSE TO THEIR HOME, ACCORDING TO WHO/ UNICEF (2023).**

**4 COVENANT WORLD RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT IS PARTNERING IN 10 PROJECTS THAT ENSURE CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR COMMUNITIES IN INDIA, NEPAL, SOUTH AFRICA, HONDURAS, DR CONGO, AND HAITI.**

