

# Construction Of A Street Connecting The Las Pilitas Community Of El Amel Neighborhood To The Town Of San Pedro Puxtla



## CHAPTER

Central Ohio Professional Chapter

## PROJECT TYPE(S)

Civil Works

## PROJECT ADOPTION DATE

November 2007

## PROJECT PHASE

Implementation

## DIRECTLY AFFECTS

140

## INDIRECTLY AFFECTS

2500 residents

## FUNDS NEEDED

\$20,365

## THE NEED

Families in a poor area of San Pedro Puxtla, El Salvador are in critical need of environmental and infrastructure improvements to meet basic human needs. Families displaced from their historic lands by landslides resettled on a former landfill at the edge of town known as Las Pilitas. Due to rugged terrain, Las Pilitas is cut off from amenities available to the rest of San Pedro Puxtla, such as treated drinking water, trash services and systems for handling waste water. Las Pilitas is set apart from the community not only by lower sanitation levels, but also by its lower standard of living.



## PROJECT SCOPE AND PROGRESS IN 2012

This project aims to not only bring healthier living conditions to the families, but also include them more thoroughly in the social and economic life of the larger community. A critical first step in meeting these basic needs is to construct a street, with proper drainage systems, connecting Las Pilitas to San Pedro Puxtla. Without a street, the neighborhood's topography makes it impossible to properly provide other health and sanitation services. **In March 2012 latrines, retaining walls and drainage works were installed by a team of a dozen US volunteers and many local workers. However, the major work of paving the roadway remains to be done.**

## FUTURE INVOLVEMENT

The ultimate goal of this EWB program is to bring important municipal facilities and services to the neighborhood, including improved handling of sewage and storm runoff, treated drinking water and improved latrines.

To date the EWB team has made progress towards all these goals. The team has involved the local water authority (ANDA) after residents voiced a need for treated drinking water into their community. As a result, an application to ANDA is in review and the street construction project will integrate waterlines for future treated drinking water supply to individual homes.

## About Engineers Without Borders USA

EWB-USA is a nonprofit humanitarian organization established to support community-driven development programs worldwide through partnerships that design and implement sustainable engineering projects. Over 12,000 EWB-USA members, comprised of professional and student engineers or other disciplines, work with local communities and NGOs in over 45 developing countries around the world on projects such as water, renewable energy, sanitation and more. EWB-USA has touched the lives of more than one million people. For more information visit [www.ewb-usa.org](http://www.ewb-usa.org)

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