

Stories of your gifts in action – *You are transforming the lives of families in Central America!*



Members of the Women's Entrepreneurial Program.
Story on Page 3.

Agros' 40th Anniversary!
What's next? *More inside...*

Inaugurating HOPE!

This past December, we were able to come together to celebrate the grand opening of the Agros agribusiness hub - the Harvest of Hope Center!

The hub, or HHC, provides regional agricultural and technical support to farmers surrounding Agros villages. This allows for many more families to learn skills to help them exit poverty.

This new element of the Agros model expands the Path to Prosperity to families who don't live in the Agros villages. Over 50 local farmers now have new support, training, and tools to farm their own land.

This was a resource you helped to build!

Now, nearby families can have access to innovative resources they never dreamed of, thanks to you!

You can meet farmer Jose Evenor Castro and his family and explore their HHC experience on Page 3.



INSIDE



Agros: The Next Generation

PAGE 2



Agrihub Family Thrives!

PAGE 3



40th!

PAGE 4

Your Gift Provided A Lifetime of Opportunity to Hundreds of Families!

MINISTRY MOMENT

Isaiah 65: 17-25

¹⁷“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind... ²³They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them.”

“As ones who are committed to the work of Agros, we see God’s promise fulfilled for these tender families. It’s a promise not only describing how weak become strong, but of joy and celebration for generations to come. It’s God’s promise of hope.

The fragility of life for the poor is immense. As I’ve traveled in Nicaragua and Guatemala, I have seen this firsthand. Witnessing their hard work and perseverance to create a better life for their family, we know it is not in vain. They are growing strong before our eyes. Agros helps to bring that strength and resilience so the promise of hope can be fulfilled.

With great wonder and thankfulness, we see the transformation of lives by the hand of God.

As we love the poor, we are a part of God’s promise.”

Kristi Drake, Chair, Agros Board of Directors



From Generation to Generation

Children are the future - and these Agros kiddos are stepping up to ensure their own future is a healthy and safe one!

“The Earth is not our planet, it is our home!”

...was the chant of the youth Environmental Brigade in the Agros village of Nueva San Jose. The children, inspired by Agros initiatives such as village garbage cans, began their own group to learn and produce news ways of taking care of the gift God has given them - Earth. Their first order of business? To plant a lemon tree grove!

This is the incredible thing that happens when children are given opportunity to dream - they spread their wings and produce beautiful things. They find inspiration...and HOPE

By providing a gift to Agros families, you are empowering future generations of families like Joany’s to hope and to dream!

When parents are able to provide for their families beyond just a basic meal, when the children don’t have to help the parents work, when families can be healthy units and children can just play...

This is what sustainable change from generation to generation looks like!



“I like to help the earth because God gave it to us.”
- Joany

From Poverty to Prosperity!

Your gift helped entrepreneurial women in the Ixil with loans to expand their businesses!

The most effective way to eradicate poverty at the household level is to invest in the entrepreneurial spirit of women. Agros has been able to unleash the entrepreneurial spirits of over 1000 women.

For Josefa and her husband, Saul, the challenge of poverty was a daily reality in the Ixil region of Guatemala. Josefa had learned the art of weaving from an elder in her village, but needed many more resources to truly flourish.

One day, she learned of Agros’ Women’s Empowerment Fund. The prospect of receiving holistic support, including financial education and essential tools, was a dream she hadn’t dared to imagine, yet it changed their lives completely!

Today, Josefa and Saul’s accomplishments have exceeded their wildest dreams thanks to WEF.

They operate three looms and have even been able to purchase a solar panel, which no longer restricts their work hours. Their dreams grow, as they aspire to invest in the resources needed to grow their weaving business. Their biggest dream is to eventually own land.

Their children now bask in the joy of a bright future. They thrive in school, and revel in the love and attention of their dedicated parents. The Lux family’s transformation has been nothing short of incredible.



Growing Resources, Planting Hope

A new chapter of Agros support - expanding transformation!

Jose Evenor Castro is one of the first producers to work at the HHC. He lives in a nearby village and learned of the La Bendicion HHC through word of mouth. Jose was the proud owner of a plot of land thanks to family inheritance, but lack of training left him without knowledge of what to do with it. Instead, he worked mainly as a day laborer on coffee farms, earning an average of \$6.30 per day. **It wasn’t enough...**

He applied and joined in August 2023, motivated by the opportunity to learn how to grow enough produce to generate income for his family.

José started his first planting plan last October and was able to produce 51,820 units of Natali chilis, surpassing the projected harvest goal of 50k units. With this first cycle, he achieved **gross sales of \$4,096 USD, with a profit of \$2,400! Incredible!**

Local families have access to technical and innovative resources, and a chance at new hope - thanks to you!

There’s more... the story continues at agros.org/blog/!



“I used to work on coffee farms and now I am dedicated to developing my own crop. I am making a profit that is helping us meet our goals,”
- Jose, 37



Seeds of Promise, Harvests of Hope



Accelerating transformation for 50,000 people

40 Years of Agros

About 40 years ago, the “crazy idea” came to me that we could help the poorest rural farmers in Central America buy and work their own farm land to break the centuries-old cycle of poverty.

Thanks to the faithful dedication of friends like you and the hard work of so many, that crazy idea became reality. We did it! That cursed cycle of poverty has indeed been broken. As you read this newsletter, you’ll see proof that the Agros model works.

Please join me and our 40th Anniversary campaign to reach even more families.

Skip Li
AGROS FOUNDER



STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected with Agros families and stories of their success throughout the year!

Find more stories at agros.org/blog or follow us on social media. Build a life and a future established in opportunity and hope.

CONTINUE THE LEGACY

You can make a life-changing gift for Agros families today.

Contact Agros if you would like to support the 40th Anniversary fundraising campaign or mail in the form below.

For more information contact us at: give@Agros.org

WE’VE MOVED!
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I WANT TO PROVIDE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE TODAY!

Please! Use my gift to provide land and sustainable change to a family in Central America today.

Enclosed is my gift to celebrate 40 years of breaking the cycle of poverty for families:

- ⑨ \$40 to provide lasting hope & prosperity for Agros families.
- ⑨ \$400 to provide lasting hope & prosperity for Agros families.
- ⑨ \$_____ to provide lasting hope & prosperity for Agros families.



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agros.org

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For credit card gifts, please give securely online at Agros.org/give. Thank you!