



# Newsletter

END OF YEAR 2025



Agros

Land . Hope . Life



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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

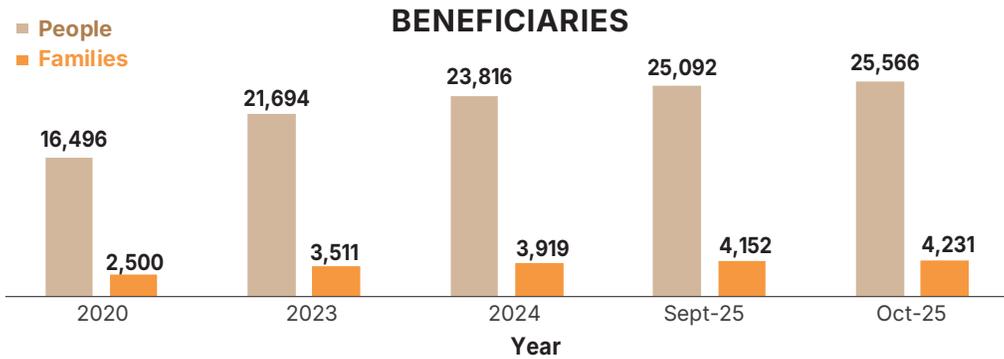
# Dear Agros Friends,

*As we enter this season of Advent—a time of anticipation, gratitude, and renewal—we reflect on the hope that was planted and the lives that have flourished throughout the year.*

Christmas reminds us that light can emerge from even the humblest beginnings, and in that same spirit, we celebrate the families who are building new futures from the ground up.

This year, Agros has taken another powerful step toward our shared vision of transforming 50,000 lives by 2034.





As of October 2025, we have exceeded our outreach goal—reaching 25,566 individuals across Central America, surpassing our original target for the year. These figures reflect Agros’ cumulative impact over more than 40 years, a testament to the faithful generosity and commitment of partners like you.

As you read through this newsletter, I’m grateful to share a series of recent updates from the field—milestones our teams have achieved since our last issue this Summer. These highlights include the continued scaling of the Harvest of Hope Center (HHC) model in Nicaragua as it integrates new communities; the launch of core operations in Honduras following the successful acquisition of new land; the growth of our Women Entrepreneur Program; the strengthening of agro-infrastructure for farming families in Guatemala’s Ixil region; the launch of the first phase of our artisanal textile value chain, blending tradition and innovation to create new income opportunities for women; and the completion of our agricultural course for a new generation of agri-business professionals in collaboration with Nicolás Christian School.

Together, these advances have expanded Agros’ regional footprint and reinforced the economic and well-being resilience of farming families across three nations.

***This Christmas, I want to invite you to pray—pray for the families who are preparing to begin a new chapter with us, and for those who continue taking courageous steps out of poverty and into prosperity. And pray about how God may be calling you to take part in their journey.***

Your generosity can be that light for families who have waited their whole lives for this moment.

From all of us at Agros, thank you for being part of this mission and for walking beside the families who are turning dreams into reality.

*“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”*  
Galatians 6:9 (NIV)



*Alberto Sofano*

PRESIDENT & CEO





## Nicaragua Highlights

Recent milestones achieved



- **Two new communities**—San Francisco Peñas Blancas and San Antonio Bull-Bull—joined La Bendición Harvest of Hope Center (HHC), adding 25 new families served by our agri-hub of services.
- **100% of producers of the HHC** completed technical training (bootcamps), integrating educational technology to enhance learning.
- **The coffee season began** with the activation of the wet mill service where the coffee is pulped and floated in water to remove defective beans. Additionally, the renewal of approximately 31 acres of grafted coffee is underway, ensuring both productivity and long-term sustainability.
- **More than 80 producers from the Agros communities of Tierra Nueva and Nueva San José villages** cultivated crops such as cocoyam, plantain, passion fruit, cucumber, jalapeño, and Nathalie peppers.
- **A cost analysis revealed a 30%** reduction in vegetable production costs, directly boosting household incomes.
- **Our Women's Entrepreneurship Program (WEP) is currently supporting and financing 119 active clients**, bringing the program's cumulative total to 1,180 women entrepreneurs as of September across Nicaragua and Guatemala. Recent progress includes the formation of the first community bank, the training of new members, and the integration of educational technologies to enhance and optimize the learning experience.





# Guatemala Highlights

Recent milestones achieved

- **95% of construction was completed for twenty mesh houses**, strengthening the foundation for protected agriculture. Irrigation systems were also optimized in the communities of Los Ángeles and San Felipe.
- **In collaboration with Nicolás Christian School**, fifteen students completed the specialized course called "*Agriculture in Protected Systems*", forming a new generation of young professionals equipped with skills in crop management, harvesting, and commercialization.
- **Fifty women artisans** are undergoing several training modules in the *Jaspe technique*, which creates feathery but clear designs. A new partnership with Fundación del Banco Industrial was formalized to co-develop designs and open direct corporate sales channels, laying the groundwork for a sustainable business model.
- **We achieved a 25% increase** in the outstanding loan portfolio and a 32.4% expansion in the client base of our Women's Entrepreneurship Program in Guatemala. This growth reflects not only improved financial performance but also the intentional geographic expansion of our operations.





## Honduras Highlights

Recent milestones achieved

- **Thanks to the generous support of our donors, Agros acquired La Fortaleza,** a 216.7-acre anchor site conveniently located near major supermarket distribution centers. This site will feature a full Harvest of Hope Center. With San Antonio—a second property secured just 45 minutes away—we are now better positioned than ever to deepen our impact and bring this vision to life across the region.



- **The project was introduced to local authorities and communities,** and the family selection process was launched. Our properties are strategically positioned to serve six to eight surrounding communities ready for investment and transformation.

*The stories and impact updates in this newsletter capture the progress made since our last issue this Summer. While they reflect meaningful steps forward for families across Central America, they represent only a portion of the transformation you make possible each year. We look forward to sharing the complete impact of 2025 in our upcoming annual summary.*



Building Futures in Guatemala

**Juan Samuel Gómez Aguilar**

## “You can build a future right here”

Juan Samuel Gómez Aguilar (19 years old), from the community of Chichel, Guatemala, lives with his mother — also an Agros beneficiary — and together they are charting a new path toward stability and dignity.

After finishing high school, Juan Samuel saw many of his friends migrate in search of work. For a time, he believed that leaving the country was the only way forward. But everything changed when he joined Agros.

Through Agros’ agricultural training and hands-on coaching, Juan Samuel learned to grow new products, apply agricultural inputs correctly, care for seedlings, and monitor plant development.



*“My mom is very happy because I didn’t have to go far away. My family feels good knowing I can work close to home. I thank God because Agros came to our community to support us.”*

Juan Samuel harvested 2,808 pounds of chile siete caldos this year, generating a net profit of \$2,453.31 over a six-month period. His household has reached a Net Income per Family per Day of \$14.43 for a family of four. This level of income is above both the poverty line and the average rural income in Guatemala. It places his household in an early stage of economic resilience, characterized by an emerging capacity to reinvest in agricultural activities, education, and home improvements.

Juan Samuel’s household reached a score of 53.2% on the Path to Prosperity Index—Agros’ framework for measuring a family’s progress from poverty toward long-term stability —marking a meaningful milestone in the transition from survival to dignity. This score indicates that the household has entered the “Build” stage, where families begin developing the skills and resilience needed to grow an agricultural business, manage their own income, and gain control of their future for the first time.

With his growing experience, Juan Samuel dreams of starting a small business, buying a vehicle to transport his harvests, and one day purchasing land and building his own home.

*“I want to improve my life little by little, always trusting in God,” he says.*



Building Futures in Guatemala

**Juan Carlos Aguilar Molina**

## “Faith and hard work make everything possible”

For 22-year-old Juan Carlos Aguilar Molina, from Chichel in Guatemala, the land has always been more than a livelihood — it is a calling. *“I dedicate myself to two things: agriculture and serving God,”* he says. *“He is the one who helps us and allows us to rise each day.”*

Juan Carlos lives with his wife in a multigenerational household, including his parents and siblings. In the past two and a half years, Juan Carlos has strengthened his farming skills through Agros trainings — transitioning from traditional open-field agriculture to greenhouse cultivation. During this year, he produced 3,163 pounds of chile siete caldos, generating a net profit of \$2,670.38 over a five-month period. With this performance, his household’s Net Income per Family per Day reaches \$15.17, a figure that stands well above the poverty line and the average income of rural households.

In addition, Juan Carlos invested in the mesh house, which has an approximate useful life of three years. This allows him to continue new crop cycles sustainably without incurring additional infrastructure costs.

More recently, this household’s Path to Prosperity score—Agros’ framework for measuring a family’s progress from poverty toward long-term stability—increased to 64%, signaling an important step forward. This progress places the family in the “Growth” stage, meaning they are generating working capital, expanding their production, and connecting with reliable markets where they can consistently sell high-quality crops for a profit.

### Strengthening his home, his family, and his future

Juan Carlos has invested in tangible improvements at home. He participated in hygiene trainings, received food assistance during difficult months, and this year, a new latrine was built for the household, significantly improving sanitary conditions.

Learn more about  
Path to Prosperity,  
Agros’ Theory of  
Change model.





# A grateful farewell

TO OUR VICE PRESIDENT,  
**KEN KIERSTEAD**

*After eight years of remarkable service, we bid a heartfelt farewell to our Vice President, Ken Kierstead, as he retires from Agros.*

Throughout his tenure, Ken has been a driving force behind Agros' growth—building meaningful relationships, strengthening partnerships, and expanding our reach to transform more farming families' lives across Central America.

His leadership, wisdom, and compassion have left a lasting mark on our mission and our people. We are deeply grateful for his dedication and the legacy of hope and impact he leaves behind.

**Thank you, Ken, for your vision and for walking with Agros in our journey to end rural poverty through land, opportunity, and dignity.**

## Agros memory AN ANECDOTE

Early in my time at Agros in 2017, I met a man whose story shaped my understanding of our mission. His name was **Boanerges**, a humble farmer from the Agros community of Piedra de Horeb in Honduras.



When we spoke that warm May morning, he stood confidently beside a pickaxe, sharing how he once survived as a migrant day laborer—chasing harvests across Central America, earning barely enough to keep his family alive. But the man in front of me was nothing like the man he described. Through faith, vision, and tireless work—combined with the opportunities Agros provided—Boanerges had rebuilt his life from the ground up.

In just seven years, he became the owner of his own land, developed a thriving agribusiness of corn, beans, coffee, and tilapia ponds, and emerged as a respected leader in his community. He had moved from landless poverty to prosperous entrepreneurship.

What he told me that day has stayed with me ever since:

*“Ken, with Agros and God’s blessings, I have accomplished more for my family in the last five years than in the previous thirty on my own.”*

That encounter affirmed for me the power of Agros' Kingdom mission—and inspired me to give my very best every day.



# Join Us in Transforming Lives

This Christmas, may we be reminded that true joy is found in giving—in sharing light where darkness once was, and in planting seeds of hope that will bear fruit for generations.

As we celebrate the progress of 2025 and look toward the road ahead, we invite you to be part of this transformative journey.

*Together, we can empower 50,000 lives by 2034—helping farming families across Central America build a future rooted in land, opportunity, and hope.*

May this season fill your home with peace, gratitude, and the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

**Merry Christmas and a blessed,  
joyful New Year!**

*The Agros Team*

## Grow With Them

As we celebrate this season of hope, we are deeply grateful for the ways you've walked alongside families working to build a more secure and dignified future. If you feel called to deepen your impact before the year ends, becoming a Monthly Donor is one of the most meaningful ways to support long-term change. **Every Month, Growth Happens** — for Them and for You.

Every **monthly gift**—no matter the amount—helps create stability for families and hope for the next generation. Thank you for considering becoming a Monthly Donor this season. Together, We Grow Hope.

Scan the QR and help a family take their next step out of poverty.



**Agros**

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