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News Release

Non-Governmental Organizations Work Together to Provide Water to Communities

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico – Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are supporting over 89,000 total residents in 237 communities all across Puerto Rico that rely on water sources from pumps and wells for their drinking water.

The NGO engineers, working in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), assessed the water systems in these communities for damage and evaluated them for repair or replacement solutions. FEMA and other government agencies are able to meet the immediate potable water needs by delivering bottled water to those that cannot access bulk water sites, while the NGOs and Puerto Rico's officials are working to find more permanent answers.



Water Mission and Project Hope coordinate to provide solutions to remote communities



EPA and Local Law Enforcement in Aguas Buenas assessing a water treatment system

This is where NGOs such as Water Mission, Samaritan's Purse, the Salvation Army, Project Hope, Mercy Corps, the American Red Cross, and others, come in. One of the solutions has been to distribute Pure2Go Water Purifier™ kits or Sawyer PointONE™ filters to the residents. These reusable filters remove harmful bacteria. Living Water™ Treatment Systems have been installed directly into nearby creeks and streams to provide the residents with purified water when their original water treatment methods are not repairable. Meanwhile, some water treatment systems just need a power source, which the NGOs are able to provide via solar or diesel/gas powered generators.

Monetary donations to these organizations are the best way to be a part of providing Puerto Rico with potable water. The donations are used to purchase the supplies, arrange transport for the supplies to Puerto Rico, and distribute them to these communities.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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The SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters, which can cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged real estate and personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

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