

MISSION MOMENT

Letting Love *Grow* in Nicaragua

*Nobody hungry, nobody thirsty,
shade from the sun, shelter from the wind,
For the Compassionate One guides them,
takes them to the best springs.*

– Isaiah 49:10

Imagine not knowing where your next meal will come from. Imagine the constant fear of political unrest. Imagine working hard to produce crops to feed your family and earn a living, but constantly battling the effects of climate change threatening your ability to bring those crops to harvest.

Imagine all of these things happening at once.

It might be difficult for our siblings in Nicaragua to believe there will ever come a day when they do not hunger or thirst. For them, food security can seem like an unattainable goal. But through a partnership with Growing Hope Globally and respected local organization CIEETS, Week of Compassion partners have teamed up with 220 families in eight communities to thrive despite such adversity. Your continued support is helping these farmers plant new types of crops, find new ways of earning extra money, and sustainably care for the natural resources around them. These are just a few stories of hope from some of our partner families...

René Bermúdez and Iris Mercedes Canales are active participants in the CWS-supported program, taking on new initiatives and enterprises. They are working hard to ensure that their family always has enough to eat and a way to





René Bermúdez and his son René Camilo.
photo credit: CWS

earn a living. Rene is raising stingless Melipona bees, which produce medicinal honey that he can sell. He learned about poultry raising and has started raising chickens – and now has forty hens that produce eggs, plus another 140 that he is preparing to sell! Iris says that her family's nutrition has improved through the program. They have begun to eat a more diverse diet.

Claudia Palacios is a single mom who has struggled to take care of her children. Even though she owns a little bit of land, she has lost several harvests to the effects of climate change. “A lot of people in this community are in the same situation. When it rains too much, the crops die from disease or they're washed away. When it doesn't rain enough, they dry up. Either way, us farmers lose everything.” But now, Claudia is participating in the CWS-supported farming program. She's planted beans and is working with program technicians to improve her harvests.

“We're here, thanks be to God. And we are blessed by CLIEETS and CWS with this project. It's a blessing for us, for El Tigre, San Gregorio, Los Ranchos, San Vicente, San Antonio, all of us here. God willing, we'll continue this work for the benefit of everyone. We are getting big changes in the weather, the climate, the rain is irregular... CLIEETS has helped us a lot to adapt to the changes. We can't rely on

the sort of agriculture that we used to rely on.” – Pastor Adan García Díaz of the Nazareno Church in El Tigre

Your generous gifts through Week of Compassion will help these families and many others continue to build a sustainable life – without hunger or thirst – as they learn new ways to produce food and income. Please give generously so they will continue to reap the harvest of God's love growing in their communities.

