



Global Brigades, Inc.
1099 E Champlain Dr.
Suite A176
Fresno, CA 93720

April 3, 2019

Eng. Ricardo Montanari
VP Footprint Possibilities Inc.
Dir Ingenieros sin Fronteras, Panama
125 12th Ave N
Saint Petersburg, Florida, USA 33701

Dear Mr. Montanari,

I am writing to you today to ask for technical engineering assistance concerning the potable water projects in the communities of La Peñita and Embera Puru. La Peñita is located in the Pinogana municipality of the Darien with around 50 households serving 350 persons. The community currently has no formal water system, principally relying on rain water and water from the local river as their principal water source. Currently there is no formal water council or community organization surrounding WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) infrastructure. The community of Embera Puru is similarly located in the Darien in the Chepigana municipality. The community does currently have partial access through the community of Cañazas, though missing coverage for 30% of the population (in total 266 persons in 44 households). Additionally, there is not currently a community water council in Embera Puru.

At this initial stage, Global Brigades would like to partner with Footprint Possibilities and Engineers without Borders Panama to provide technical expertise for an engineering assessment and design of a potable water system for each community (not including treatment of grey water). Global Brigades would be delighted to provide logistical support and lodging services during this time. Please find an included list of lodging facilities, a proposed budget for the trip, depending of the quantity of volunteers, for expenses in operations and logistics for the first stage we have budgeting US\$ 10.000 of the total of this projects.

At the present time, Global Brigades is not requesting support in construction services or the commission of the two water systems, though the organization may request for such support at a later date (contingent on 2020 budgeting). Global Brigades looks forward to establishing a collaborative partnership with Footprint Possibilities and Engineers without Borders- Panama and is excited in moving forwarding in finding a solution for the communities of La Peñita and Embera Puru.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jessica Núñez de Mirabal
Global Health Director Panama
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Community Profile

LA PEÑITA:

Overview:

La Peñita is located along the scenic Panamerican highway in the Darien province of Panama. Global Brigades began working with community members in La Peñita in 2015. Before that, many community members would travel to the nearby community of Canglón for Global Brigade Medical Brigade clinics and visit the health post there. Community members have access to credit through an established and thriving Community Bank which will support continued investment in local businesses and home improvement projects for families within the community. La Peñita is made up of a population of Afro-Latinos and the most common form of income is through agriculture. Commonly grown products include ñame, a root vegetable, and rice which are produced for personal consumption and for sale outside of the community in larger markets.



Corregimiento: Metetí

District: Pinogana

GPS location: <https://goo.gl/maps/huaKjeyWVGU2>

8.139346999999999,-77.6727219

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Homes</i> | 50 |
| <i>Population</i> | 350 |
| <i>Water system</i> | No |
| <i>Community Bank</i> | Yes |
| <i>Electricity</i> | Most houses |
| <i>Health Center</i> | No |
| <i>Community Health Workers</i> | Yes |
| <i>Home with Latrines</i> | n/a |
| <i>Education in the community</i> | Up to 6th |
| <i>Distance from lodging facility</i> | 1 hour |

EMBERA PURU

Overview:



Embera Puru is a small indigenous community located in the biodiverse region of Darien and Global Brigades began working with community members in 2012. The Embera culture can be seen in the traditional housing and dress of the community members. People in Embera Puru are primarily dedicated to agriculture which includes the cultivation of rice, yucca, yams, and otoa, a root vegetable. Additionally, some community members partake in the sale of artisanal crafts or small businesses within the community. Through

Global Brigades, members have access to credit through the thriving Community Bank which will support continued investment in local businesses and home improvement projects for families within the community. Although the community sits along the Panamerican highway access to healthcare and legal services is still difficult and expensive for the majority of residents.

Corregimiento: Agua Fría

District: Chepigana

GPS location: 8.301866,-78.05404699999997

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Homes | 44 |
| Population | 266 |
| Water system | Shared with Higueral |
| Community Bank | Yes |
| Electricity | Some |
| Health Center | No, Closest is in El Tirao |
| Community Health Workers | Yes |
| Home with Latrines | 5% |
| Education in the community | Up to 9th grade |
| Distance from lodging facility | 45 minutes |

LODGING FACILITIES

PRONIÑOS DEL DARIEN CAMPOUND

The Pro Niños facility sits along the Pan-American highway, approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes after passing into the Darién province. The facility is also located about 10 minutes from the town of Meteti. Here, brigaders enjoy a beautiful view of a landscape full of green pastures and distant mountains. Global Brigades Panama has used the Pro Niños facility for several years, and it has housed hundreds of brigaders. Emergency medical care is available in Meteti and in the town of Santa Fe, about 30 minutes away.

LINK LOCATION: <https://goo.gl/maps/aMASEnssQHy>



HOSPEDAJE TONOSI

Hospedaje Tonosi sits along the Pan-American highway, approximately 1 hour 20 minutes after passing into the Darién province. Here, brigaders enjoy a beautiful view of a landscape full of green mountains and farms' pastures. The facility is also located about 15 minutes from the town of Meteti. Also, brigaders staying at Hospedaje Tonosi get to see how life plays out in a rural town in Darién. Emergency medical care is available in Santa Fé and Meteti.

LINK LOCATION: <https://goo.gl/maps/7Mc1R2r8mbk>

