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Villa Linda is blessed by the energy and leadership of Edgar Estuardo Reyes. Described as a man of poise and commitment, his dedication to his role as Treasurer for the Pro-Improvement Committee and positive influence in other areas has greatly inspired his fellow neighbors of Villa Linda. It is said that in whatever activity he participates he encourages others to wholeheartedly dedicate themselves. Sticking to a task to see it through its completion, Edgar is an excellent role model and motivation to Villa Linda.

## Community Organization

The leadership within Villa Linda continues to grow and strengthen. The leaders for the following committees are:

Women's Committee- Rosenda López (President), Cristina Juan Rafael (Vice President), Maria Tercero (Secretary), Maria Diego (Treasurer), Maria Villatoro (Representative), Rosa Esteban Gamarro (Representative) and Marcela Velásquez (Representative). Pro-Improvement Committee: Pablo Juan Pablo (President), Marcos Pedro Francisco (Vice President), Antonio Juan Simón (Treasurer), Faustino Pérez Ordóñez (Secretary), Antonio Juan Pedro (Representative), Juan Domingo Rafael, (Representative) and Bernaldo Juan Pedro (Representative).

# Land Ownership

It is relevant to mention the positive attitude reflected by the hard work the families are investing in the projects of their community. The first nine homes have been built. The land has been planted with basic grains such as corn and beans to support the families' immediate dietary needs and an additional 0.25 acres of coffee per family have been established to generate a profit to repay their land loan. Agricultural technicians are projecting that repayment may be possible in five years with the income from the coffee alone.

## Housing & Infrastructure

Nine houses have been finalized. In groups of seven, members of the community worked together weekly to construct the houses. The process involved making the concrete blocks by hand using a mold, carrying wood harvested from the land 3,000 feet up a forty-five degree incline, putting together the concrete columns and putting the blocks in place.

### Sustainable Economic Growth

With help from field staff, forty-eight birds and six pigs were vaccinated against possible infectious disease.

In terms of the coffee crop, the members of Villa Linda believe that inverting to a work day schedule is necessary. The farmers are planning to work together with collective support from the entire community, establishing the crops from the plants grown in the green house.

Food security within the community has now been assured as the basic grains such as corn and beans are available. These crops were planted as the result of a united effort from everyone, a community activity that was done willingly and without complaint. Observations of interaction within the group during this period of transition demonstrated perseverance throughout the project and fairness and equity of labor among the members.

## **Community Education & Training**

Seventeen women of the business leadership within the community have been trained so that women of Villa Linda may undertake the management, administration and growth of their own businesses.

Training to prepare women for the technical components of Community Banks was provided in support of the community's first bank (a group of women receiving a group loan to invest in their individual businesses). Additionally, twenty men and nineteen women attended other trainings, including how to strengthen the functions of three leadership committees (Improvement, Development and Education) and the importance of citizenship at the community, regional and national levels.

It is important to stress the growth in the children's school attendance from the previous year to the current. As of last year, there were no students in Villa Linda. This year the community is providing education for thirty-two of its children.