

TO: Our **dearest** Padrinos & Madrinas

DATE: November 27, 2024

As Thanksgiving Day approaches I want to take this time to give thanks to you for all of your support! It is YOU who keeps me motivated and inspired. Muchísimas gracias!

Hard to believe that we're on our 23rd year of our wonderful partnership with the Kichwa in the Andes of Ecuador. But, as I feel is true with most everything, Team Work is what it is all about! One of the most notable projects this year was led by John Jankousky, our Hero Engineer Without Borders lead on Potable Water projects. Below you will see the people of Yugsialo starting their potable water project:



Yugsialo photos clockwise: Opening Meeting of the Minga: discussing strategy for burying of the pipe lines (I'm always distracted by the incredible scenery!); everyone beginning work (note: no supervisors!); and a very happy woman working on her portion of the trench in anticipation of not walking with buckets for water.



Ecuador is currently 'enduring' its third consecutive "no good, horrible" President. This example might suffice to summarize the impact of the recent poorly run government. For many months there have been electrical outages which last 8 to 14 hrs/day - I simply can't imagine that! The good news is, that in spite of this, our becados (scholarship recipients) are continuing their studies. Some of the new areas of study of this group are: Automotive Maintenance including EVs, Police Academy, Business Administration, and electrical engineering. They meet monthly for a Becado Meeting and then do a minga together. They are very grateful for your support.

If you are interested in volunteering – especially sharing one of your talents/passions, the next phase of the Yugsialo Project will be happening in the Spring, 2025. Just drop me a line/text/call.

Warm thoughts and BIG HUGS! And never forget, *Tu eres El Mejor* => You are so FINE!

pam  and the Kichwa in the Andes of Ecuador

Reminder: There are **several ways** to donate:

- * *check* written to Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc. & use the enclosed stamped envelope OR
- * use *Venmo* @Pamelita-Gilbert (if they ask for the last 4 of the phone number, use: 8638) OR
- * *click* **DONATE** (using Paypal which takes ~3%) from our website: www.escuelaminga.org