



San Antonio de Padua Parish, San Jacinto, San Salvador



ADESCOS leaders gathered in St. Anthony of Padua Parish

**Active citizenship based on
faith**

MAY 2024 REPORT

ADESCOS signs agreement with COFOA



Leaders attentive to the development of the agreement signing ceremony

This Saturday, May 25, history was made. Nearly three hundred leaders of 86 Community Development Associations (ADESCOS), participated in the signing of a mutual agreement with Communities of Faith Organized in Action (COFOA) with the purpose of working for a more just and democratic El Salvador. The meeting took place in the San Antonio de Padua parish in San Jacinto, San Salvador.

Within the framework of this agreement, ADESCOS will receive training from COFOA in areas such as project management, administration, leadership, psychology, legal advice, among others.



COFOA director and leaders show signed agreement

Community leaders drive organizational process in San Vicente

Wednesday, May 22, 2024. Leaders of the community Llanos de Achichilco, El Cobano, San Vicente, continue to work together in the listening campaign. As part of this, they continue to carry out one to one, from the approach of a more humanizing dialogue.



Leaders develop 1-1 in community Llanos de Achichilco, El Cobano, San Vicente

The leaders explained that for the locals the main needs are: Lack of deeds, lack of potable water, and streets in poor condition. They will continue with the organizational process to give way to a Community Assembly. In which, by majority vote, they will decide which issue will be prioritized.



Leaders develop 1-1 in community Llanos de Achichilco, El Cobano, San Vicente

Leaders fight for street paving in La Paz

Thursday, May 30. A group of leaders of Ostuma, Santa María Ostuma, La Paz, are planning the next steps to be taken to find a solution to the priority issue :
Paving of streets.



Leaders of the Ostuma subdivision, Santa María Ostuma, La Paz, discuss the poor condition of the streets in the area.



Leaders of the Ostuma subdivision, Santa María Ostuma, La Paz, define strategies to find a solution to their issue

In that order, the leaders agreed that the first step will be to request a meeting with Elsa Antonia Guevara, head of the Santa María Ostuma district, and then they will seek a meeting with Amilcar Arias, municipal mayor of La Paz Centro, until they reach the National Directorate of Municipal Works (DOM).

Community leaders will work to improve drinking water system in Sonsonate

Sunday, May 26, 2024. A total of 75 leaders of the subdivisions Esmeralda and San Francisco, in Izalco, Sonsonate, participated in a Community Assembly. Where the issue was prioritized: Improvement of the drinking water system.



Leaders of subdivisions: Esmeralda and San Francisco, Izalco, Sonsonate, celebrate their participation in Community Assembly.

During this Community Assembly, the Research Committee was also created, with 18 leaders, who expressed their willingness to work together and organized for their community.



Leaders of subdivisions: Esmeralda and San Francisco, Izalco, Sonsonate, are attentive to the formation of the Investigation Committee.

The Esmeralda and San Francisco subdivisions are made up of 60 families, who agree that the need that most affects them is the improvement of the drinking water system, followed by street repairs, and thirdly, assistance from a health promoter.

Community Assembly planned in San Pablo Tacachico, La Libertad



Leaders of Plan del Amate hamlet, San Pablo Tacachico, La Libertad, conduct rehearsals for the development of the Community Assembly.

Friday, May 31, 2024. Leaders of Plan del Amate hamlet, San Pablo Tacachico, La Libertad, are finalizing details for the development of a Community Assembly, to be held on June 8. In where, they will know what will be the issue to be prioritized.

The leaders have already distributed roles for the Community Assembly. To this end, they have conducted rehearsals and coordinated details about the logistics of the meeting. They are also conducting 1-1, with the entire community to invite them to the Community Assembly.



Leaders of Plan del Amate hamlet, San Pablo Tacachico, La Libertad, discuss the logistics of the Community Assembly.

The Plan del Amate hamlet is made up of 100 families. They are clear that in order to improve their living conditions, it is important to apply COFOA's community organization methodology.

Leaders fight for purchase of land for a cemetery in Chalatenango Sur community



Leaders of Los Amates in a follow-up meeting to the commitment agreement at the Chalatenango Sur Municipal Mayor's Office.

Tuesday, May 28, 2024. A commission of leaders of Los Amates, Chalatenango, met with Milton Serrano, mayor elect of Chalatenango Sur, to learn about the progress of the project to purchase land for a cemetery in that community, which is made up of 250 families.

The leaders informed the mayor of the approval of \$10,000 from the municipality of the previous administration for this work. In addition, they explained that the community has the other counterpart of \$10,000 of its own funds as well as the community counterpart with \$10,000.

The leaders indicated that they are interested in knowing if the new administration would take on the project. For his part, the mayor explained that the previous mayor did not complete the process, but that they would follow up on it. In this regard, he promised to buy the land for a cemetery in Los Amates at a cost of more than by August of this year 2024.



Mayor's Office of the Municipality of Chalatenango Sur

Expansion



COFOA continues to expand in Ahuachapán



Thursday, May 30, 2024. A total of 44 leaders from the El Tigre community in the district of Jujutla and the Monte Hermoso community in the district of Tacuba in Ahuachapán, agreed to join COFOA's organizational process.

Leaders of the El Tigre community in the district of Jujutla and the Monte Hermoso community in the district of Tacuba in Ahuachapán, meet to learn about the methodology of community organization.

These communities are located almost 15 kilometers from the coastal highway and are made up of 59 families and 295 inhabitants. The leaders explained that for sixty years they have been living without electricity, potable water, and roads in good condition.

Faced with this situation, the leaders said they were willing to work together to improve their living conditions. They decided to form the Local Organization Committee (COL), with fifteen members.



Leaders of the El Tigre community in the district of Jujutla and the Monte Hermoso community in the district of Tacuba in Ahuachapán, participate in the formation of the LOC.

leaders

More communities join COFOA's organizational process in La Libertad



Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Fifty-five community leaders met at the Ermita de la Ermita in the San Diego Hacienda community, San Diego canton, La Libertad, where they decided to join COFOA's community organization methodology. Members of the Community Development Association (ADESCO) and leaders from the neighboring communities of La Agujita and La Ceiba also participated in this meeting.



Community leaders in front of the Hermitage of the San Diego Hacienda community, San Diego canton, La Libertad.

The leaders explained that this community has existed for more than 40 years, that there are approximately 295 families between Hacienda San Diego and La Agujita, and in La Ceiba there are more than 60 families. Many of these families do not have property deeds.



Leaders of the San Diego Hacienda community, San Diego canton, La Libertad, discuss the needs of their community.

The leaders also mentioned that street repair is one of the main needs to be improved in their community. These difficulties led the leaders to see the importance of leadership training and working together as a community.

Leaders prepare peaceful rally to demand community projects in San Salvador Sur



Community leaders gathered at the Amayon School Center in Panchimalco, San Salvador Sur.

Friday, May 31, 2024. A total of 33 community leaders of Panchimalco, San Salvador Sur, met at the Amayon School Center. There they discussed the delivery of a letter to the mayor's office of San Salvador Sur to demand community projects.

The leaders are concerned that since the withdrawal of the Fund for the Economic and Social Development of Municipalities (FODES) from the municipalities, the development of projects has been further stagnated.

This concern led them to join with other communities of San Salvador Sur to organize a peaceful rally at the mayor's office of San Marcos on Thursday, June 13. And in this way, demand that the projects of their communities be taken into account in this new administration.



Community leaders of Panchimalco, San Salvador Sur, define details of action in San Marcos mayor's office



Leaders fight for the introduction of electric power in Honduran community



Wednesday, May 29, 2024. Leaders of Villa Altagracia, Marale, Francisco Morazán, Honduras, are very close to having electricity in their homes. The leaders met with Mayor Edwin Otilio Montes, and discussed the legal permit to bring power down to the homes of this community, which is composed of 47 families and 187 inhabitants.

Community leaders meeting in Villa Altagracia, Marale, Francisco Morazán, Honduras

The mayor explained that he already has the document of donation of this land, and that of the 44 houses that were built on this land, each family must have a copy of this document to go to the land registry office and get a document that certifies them as the owner of this house. With this document they must go to the office of the Empresa Nacional de Energía Eléctrica, known as ENEE, so that it can grant them the legal permit.



Illustration of electric power source

In view of this, the leaders agreed to form groups of six to visit the mayor's office in the next few days to request this document, and finally they will go to the corresponding office of ENEE to obtain their legal permit.



Leaders advance in construction of Catholic church in Honduran community

Friday, May 31, 2024. Community leaders in Cedros below Francisco Morazán, Honduras, are organizing for the construction of a Catholic church. This community is made up of 44 families and 173 inhabitants.

The leaders explained that they will coordinate a visit to the mayor and request the help he promised them for the church roof.



Photograph of the church being built by the leaders of Cedros below Francisco Morazán, Honduras.



Photograph of the small church they had in the community.

Previously, the leaders only had a small church, where a maximum of fifteen people could meet inside. The rest had to stay outside due to lack of space.

The leaders recognize that they are very close to making the dream of having a more spacious church a reality, allowing more parishioners to attend their religious services.



Community Assembly prepared in Guatemalan community

Sunday, May 26, 2024. COFOA leaders from the community of San Miguel El Cedro, municipality of Parramos in the department of Chimaltenango, Guatemala, are preparing the development of a Community Assembly, to be held on June 8. In which, they will define what will be the prioritized issue.



Illustrations of the municipality of Parramos of the department of Chimaltenango, Guatemala.

This community is made up of 22 families, who have decided to join COFOA's community organization methodology in order to work together to improve their living conditions. The leaders have already distributed the roles for the meeting and have coordinated logistical details.