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The community of Yucuruchi now has potable water! February 2024

Dear Friends of Amazon Promise,

2024 is off to a busy and productive start! Constructive might even be a beer word.

As I write this, the Amazon Promise team on the ground in Iquitos, along with partners from Engineers Without Borders Kansas City, have just finished construction on a potable rainwater catchment system in the remote community of Yucuruchi, located on the lower Ucayali River.

Thirty-two families now have access to clean water for the first time.

This is the 19th community to have lifesaving sparkling clean water. Amazon Promise special projects manager, Jose Luis Valles, has been the coordinator for every one of these water systems, and we're profoundly grateful for his dedication to bringing clean water to all.

See map below showing the water systems installed since 2011, including photos from the recent installation in Yucuruchi.

In January, after a year of planning, we partnered once again with Global First Responder to construct a 2000 sq. ft. multipurpose community center for the village of Mariscal Caslla, and also provided medical care to 480 people in several communities in the surrounding lower Ucayali River area. This team accomplished so much in just five days in the field. See photos below.

We're proud of our continuing partnerships. Together we reach more people in need and have a greater more positive impact.

Our family planning program continues to grow and attract more women living in remote jungle communities who want to take charge of their personal and reproductive health. Working closely with a GERESA Loreto (ministry of health in Iquitos) healthcare brigade, our team will travel by boat and on foot this March to reach women and their families living in remote communities to provide follow-up, education, register new participants to the program, and provide urgent and basic medical care to the general population.

These Amazon Promise quarterly medical outreach interventions provide women, and their families secure and stable access to healthcare.

It is inspiring to have such a positive and constructive beginning to the new year and we look forward to continuing the work bringing relief and hope to people in need in the Peruvian Amazon.

Since 1993, Amazon Promise has been providing health care and education to remote communities of the world's largest rainforest, enabling thousands of people in great need a chance to lead healthy and successful lives.

Your generous financial contributions are making a serious impact for people who are suffering in Peru, and we can't thank you enough for your support.



[Support Amazon Promise with a gift today](#)

**Truly A Small World**



Edward Heath, RN and Randy Jotte, MD



Edward Heath is from a remote village on the Yarapa River where Amazon Promise has worked since 1993.

When he was a little boy, he was adopted by one of our volunteers, Steve Heath, who took him to live with his family in Illinois.

Edward's desire to help others lead him to nursing school, and eventually specializing in emergency care.

In 2022, he brought his own volunteer medical team from the hospital he works at to provide care in his village and surrounding river communities. (See our October 2022 newsletter)

If that isn't incredible enough, in November 2022 while working in the ER at the Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, Edward met physician, Randy Joe, who was on the first ever Amazon Promise (then Rainforest Health Project) volunteer medical teams in 1993, along with Steve Heath. They were actually roommates at the camp our team was based out of. Recognizing Edward's last name, Dr. Joe asked if by chance he was related to a man

named Steve. And the rest his history.

Could this mean a reunion team is in the works?



Map showing all nineteen potable water systems to date. The yellow arrow show where the latest system is being installed in the community of Yucuruchi, Feb. 2024.





Finished community center in the village of Cas Ila. Medical clinics, January 2024.



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The Amazon Promise office in Iquitos, Peru is open year-round to receive patients and provide follow-up and ongoing care to those in need. Malecon Tarapaca 322 - (065) 231683.



Thank you, Amazon Promise team in Iquitos!



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