

2025

Annual Report



Dear Partners In Safe Water,

Every year, we are reminded that safe water begins with people showing up. It begins with community leaders who choose to serve their neighbors, Circuit Riders who return again and again, and partners like you who believe lasting change is built over time. Together, these relationships make safe water possible and sustainable and made 2025 a year of meaningful progress.

Across Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, our teams expanded into new communities, opened a new regional water quality laboratory, installed chlorinators, strengthened local water boards, and trained the next generation of environmental stewards. Together with our partners, we continued to improve both access to safe water and the systems that make it last.

It was also a year that tested the global water sector. Major shifts in international development funding created uncertainty for many organizations, while also reinforcing the importance of resilient, locally-led solutions that can endure. Amid the challenges, we remained focused on what has always mattered most: supporting communities, strengthening local capacity, and delivering measurable results.

This year, we continued a large-scale impact evaluation with the University of California, Berkeley, helping deepen our understanding of what works and why. We also advanced Results-Based Funding partnerships that reward measurable improvements in water safety. This is an exciting shift that recognizes real outcomes for communities. These innovations, together with growing partnerships and stronger local institutions, are helping build a model that is increasingly resilient, scalable, and designed to sustain itself over the long term.

Looking ahead, we see tremendous opportunity. We are working alongside governments to expand our reach, investing in stronger data and water quality systems, and preparing to bring Cova's approach to new communities in Guatemala in 2027. None of this happens alone.

Repeated acts of stewardship by Circuit Riders, laboratory technicians, community water boards, local leaders, and Cova supporters continue building a future where safe water is reliable, sustainable, and within reach for every family.

Safe water lasts because people keep showing up. Thank you for being one of them, for believing in this work, and for walking alongside us. We are honored to share this year's story with you.



Diana Cáliz

Co-founder,
Honduras Director



Ivette Morazan

Nicaragua Director



Oscar Melendez

El Salvador Director



Wes Meier

Co-founder & CEO

Our Values

- **Collaborative**
We achieve transformative change when we work together.
- **Committed**
We bring energy, resolve, and purpose to solving the global water crisis.
- **Entrepreneurial**
We innovate and adapt to create meaningful impact.
- **Results-Driven**
We learn from experience and use data to drive our work.
- **Sustainable**
We create community-centered solutions that support lasting change.
- **Accountable**
We act with integrity and transparency to earn trust.

Cova's 2025 Impact In Central America



1,797,830 People

Total All-Time Reach Provided With Access To Safe Water Solutions

→ 207,621 Added In 2025

888K Active Reach*



332,212 Families

Total All-Time Reach Provided With Access To Safe Water Solutions

→ 40,294 Added In 2025

160K Active Reach*



2,827 Communities

Total All-Time Reach Provided With Access To Safe Water Solutions

→ 278 Added In 2025

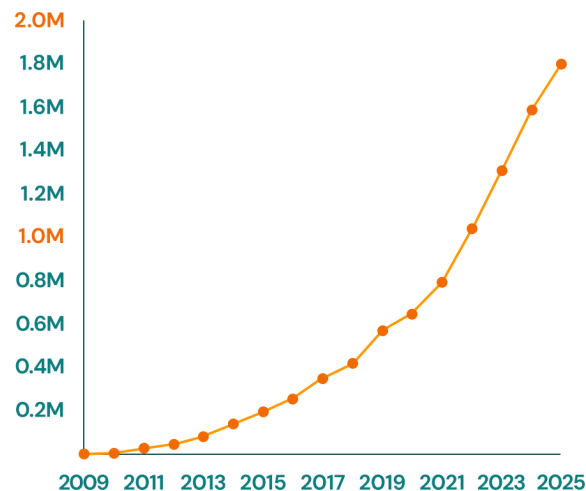
1,277 Active Reach*

**Active Reach: Communities/Individuals currently participating in Cova's Circuit Rider Model*

Where We Work In Central America



Provided With Safe Water Solutions



Circuit Rider Community Activities



Cova Circuit Riders conducted **12,713 visits** to support communities in 2025, ensuring continued access to safe drinking water through **55,541 all-time visits**.

Showing Up For Growing Communities

Honduras

743,181 people served

1,217 communities served



→ New Frontiers

Cova's Circuit Rider Model expanded into nine new municipalities, bringing water technicians, training, and water quality services to more communities than ever before.

→ Quality Assured

The new Siguatepeque Water Quality Analysis Laboratory now provides bacteriological and physicochemical testing for communities across this region.

→ Growing Local Capacity

Three new regional Circuit Rider hubs and chlorine banks were established, making technical support faster, more responsive, and closer to the communities we serve.

→ Protecting Watersheds

Seven forest nurseries were established, while 864 young people participated in environmental education focused on reforestation and watershed protection.

→ A Team On The Rise

Fifteen new staff members including Circuit Riders, laboratory technicians, and support staff joined Cova, strengthening our ability to serve growing demand.

→ Why We Show Up

Technology, equipment, and processes are essential. But the strongest safe water systems are built on trusted relationships between Circuit Riders and community water boards.

Miles For Safe Water

Two Feet And A Heartbeat

Don Francisco grows coffee on five acres of land and is the local plumber in the rural community of Suanoy. He takes his coffee with just a tiny bit of sugar and his water straight from the tap. Cova's simple in-line chlorinator ensures the community's water is safe to drink, and Don Francisco makes sure it flows reliably to homes.

The horseshoe on his ball cap may be said to bring good luck, but in Suanoy, Honduras, safe water has nothing to do with luck. Francisco laughs at the notion of being a cowboy. His is not a job for a man with a horse, he says, nor a moto nor a truck, he clarifies. The network of pipes that delivers safe water runs through forests, over rocky hills, and through muddy riverbeds, and performing checks, replacing valves, and repairing breakages, would be inaccessible by these modes.

And so, he walks to ensure safe water reaches 280 households safely. His daily pilgrimage to check chlorine levels at the community water tank might take an hour, or an entire day, depending on how many neighbors stop him for a chat or to share a cup of coffee.

When asked how long it takes to inspect the entire water system, Francisco smiles. "It's a short walk." In reality, it takes two full days. His dedication doesn't go unnoticed. Neighbors trust him. Cova's own Circuit Rider, Rigoberto, greets him with an "¡Hola, Tío!" And though he's not an uncle by familial ties, it is a term of affection and respect when community becomes kin.

Safe water requires solid infrastructure, but it lasts because of local leadership. In Suanoy, safe water isn't a matter of luck. It's the result of partnership, perseverance, and thousands of Francisco's footsteps.

"We are destined to serve, not just be served." – Don Francisco



Showing Up As Confidence Grows

El Salvador

162,143 people served

103 communities served



→ Putting Down Roots

Cova expanded into El Salvador through a strategic local partnership that allowed us to build on trusted local capacity and launch quickly, while filing legal registration to establish a permanent presence in the country.

→ Expanding Access

Twenty-five chlorinators were installed across northern Cuscatlán, while a new 35,000-litre potable water storage tank in El Zapote is strengthening safe water access for families.

→ Strengthening Support

Two new Circuit Riders joined the team, increasing technical support for partner communities and strengthening Cova's ability to provide consistent, long-term service.

→ Growing Partnerships

Collaboration around the Somos Río Lempa water security initiative laid the groundwork for a partnership with the potential to bring Cova's Circuit Rider Model to communities across nearly half the country.

→ Building Local Expertise

Routine maintenance visits strengthened community water systems while helping Cova's growing field team build the technical skills needed to support them over the long term.

→ Why We Show Up

The true measure of success is the confidence that every family can trust the water flowing from their tap.

Making Safe Water An Everyday Certainty

Shining Through

"It's like a floor that's been swept, but it doesn't shine yet. We're still working on that." For Gladys, safe water is not something you achieve once and walk away from. But even without the shine, the water system she helps lead today is a far cry from the one she inherited as water board president.

Gladys is no stranger to rebuilding. Years ago, flooding and mudslides swept away her home. She managed to pull her young grandson to safety, but the pair lost everything that night except for the clothes they were wearing.

When Gladys stepped into water board leadership in her new community, she once again took on the work of rebuilding. There were no savings to speak of, little trust in the system, and no confidence in the water quality.

Together, with support from Cova, the system has been strengthened through chlorination, regular maintenance, and daily water testing. And with water quality comes confidence. Confidence in every glass, every meal, and every child growing up drinking it in.

Today, Gladys picks up her testing kit and says:

"So we're 100%—I'd go so far as to say 100% certain that the water is safe to drink."

That kind of confidence doesn't happen without your support. Gladys still talks about making the system shine. But today, families can trust the water flowing from their taps. And that's enough to make the whole system gleam.

"I'm grateful for your presence and for the support you give us. Together, we're one team, and we work better that way." – Gladys



Showing Up When Conditions Change

Nicaragua

892,506 people served

1,507 communities served



→ Steady Through Uncertainty

Cova maintained its long-term presence across 14 municipalities in five departments, ensuring communities continued receiving the support they rely on, despite a rapidly changing environment for non-profits.

→ Partnership In Action

Cova worked alongside trusted partners to provide technical assistance and support the installation of 27 chlorinators in community water systems, strengthening safe water access.

→ Growing Trust

Water boards beyond established Circuit Rider districts increasingly turned to Cova for reliable chlorine supplies—a clear sign of growing trust in local service delivery.

→ Built To Last

Communities continued transitioning to Cova's chlorinators, replacing troublesome equipment and making water treatment simpler, more reliable, and easier to maintain.

→ Learning Together

Nicaragua welcomed Cova's Board of Directors and hosted the annual regional gathering of staff from across Central America, creating space to learn, collaborate, and plan together.

→ Why We Show Up

Every community is different. The Circuit Rider Model succeeds by adapting alongside communities to meet local needs.

Connecting The Dots

Drawn Together

Don Manuel stands beneath the shade of the corrugated roof of an open-air shelter and points to the thick blue rectangle drawn in the top corner of a flip chart. A few short horizontal ladder-lines down the side transform the basic shape into La Suiza's water tank.

With his finger, Manuel traces the blue line that connects the tank to an irregular shape drawn at the bottom of the page. Beside it is the word *pozo* (the well). Another blue line branches from the tank to a collection of smaller squares drawn in series and topped with triangles. Beside each of these homes are names: *Mario*, *Maria Elsa*, *Manuel*. Two larger rectangles are marked *Escuela* (School) and *Centro de Salud* (Health Center).

The very last felt-pen drawn square in the schematic is marked *Casa de Brenda*. And it is at Brenda's house that Cova's visiting global board of directors is gathered around the flipchart with Don Manuel, local water board president, and Brenda herself, water board treasurer, to learn how La Suiza cares for its water system. The hand-drawn map shows who and what is connected, benefitting, and sharing in keeping safe water flowing.

In Brenda's backyard, the group shares a meal around a long table with sturdy timber benches. Over bowls of soup and fresh tortillas, which the visitors help prepare under the patient instruction of their hosts—they are here to learn, after all!—conversation turns from the infrastructure to the everyday.

Since Cova's chlorinator was installed, they explain, children no longer think twice before accepting a glass of water at a neighbor's house. They drink with confidence because they trust the water, no matter whose tap it comes from.

In La Suiza, safe water success has been realized in a community where safe water and hospitality are clearly offered with equal generosity to neighbors and visiting parties alike.



Partnering For Change

Nearly half the rural population in Central America lacks access to safely managed drinking water, resulting in death and disease as well as children missing school, families losing crucial income, and deepening gender inequities.

We believe safe drinking water not only improves the health of rural communities in Central America, but provides a basic need that lays the foundation for building a stronger, more prosperous life. We are grateful that our partners and supporters share this belief.

Together, we aim to reach over 6 million people with safe water solutions across four Central American countries by 2035. Our strong partnerships are making this vision a reality by investing not only funding, but also expertise, resources, and programmatic guidance that continue to strengthen and expand our impact. Thank you for your steadfast support in ending the water crisis.

“We support Cova because they’re focused on addressing one of the hardest challenges in the sector - keeping rural water services running for good and the water safe, at scale. Their approach to strengthening water boards, working with government, and linking finance to reliable services as part of a sustainable model - is a great example of the level of innovation and high-quality execution required to succeed. We’re proud to be on this journey with them!”

—  **STONE**
Family Foundation

“We partner with Cova because it combines significant social impact with an innovative and scalable model. By strengthening and leveraging existing community water systems, Cova helps ensure long-term access to safe drinking water while building local ownership and resilience. What stands out most is the professionalism of the team and their ambitious vision to develop national partnerships that can extend this impact across all rural communities.”

—  **DANONE**
communities

“Since 2023, Rippleworks has supported Cova with both our pro bono programs and funding, and 2025 showed exactly why that investment matters: 207,621 more people gained access to safe water, bringing Cova’s total reach to nearly 1.8 million. We’re proud to back a model that treats safe water not as a one-off project but as an ongoing, locally-run service across Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador.”

— **rippleworks**

“Cova brings integrity and a deep commitment to high-quality service. We share a common vision, and together we are working to institutionalize and scale results-based approaches for reliable drinking water services across Latin America.”

—  **OPTIME**

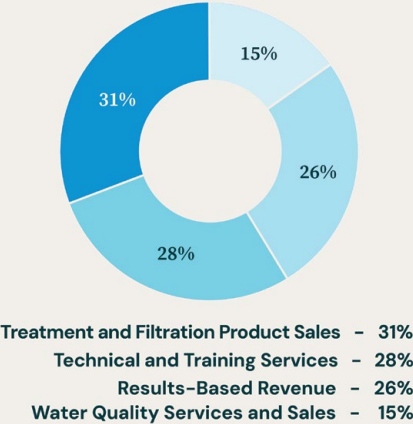


Our Financials

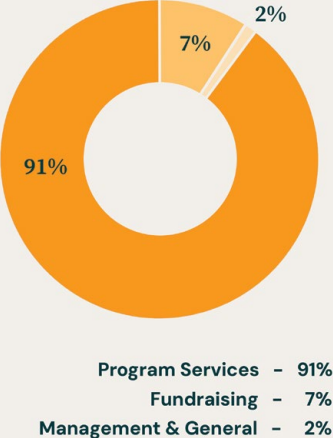
Cova Consolidated Financial Statements for the Years Ending December 31, 2025 and 2024.
Complete, audited financial statements are available upon request.

Statement of Activities	2025	2024	Statement of Financial Position	2025	2024
INCOME			ASSETS		
Philanthropic Support	\$4,937,897	\$920,881	Current Assets	\$4,533,833	\$1,062,680
Program Revenue/Investment	\$1,008,670	\$980,618	Fixed Assets	\$47,346	\$52,699
Total Income	\$5,946,567	\$1,901,499	Total Assets	\$4,581,179	\$1,115,379
EXPENDITURES			LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Program Services	\$2,157,065	\$1,607,170	Current Liabilities	\$64,506	\$26,721
Fundraising	\$ 154,562	\$150,398	Long-Term Liabilities	\$275,000	\$426,025
Management & General	\$55,900	\$33,485	Total Liabilities	\$339,506	\$452,745
Gross Expenditures	\$2,367,527	\$1,791,052	NET ASSETS		
Surplus/(Deficit) Related to Net Assets	\$3,579,040	\$110,447	Unrestricted Net Assets	\$4,252,420	\$470,433
			Temporary Restricted Net Assets	-	\$192,200
			Total Net Assets	\$4,252,420	\$662,633
			Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$4,581,179	\$1,115,379

Field Program Revenue



Use of Funds



Cova Board of Directors

Caitlin Shields, <i>Board Chair</i>	Jon Goldin	Greg McGrath
Diana Cáliz	Céline Gongora	Wesley Meier
Terry Gallagher	Nicole Linda Kelsey	Nick Wobbrock

