



November 28, 2023

Dear Friends,

I hope you are doing well! I'd like to share some exciting news with you: after last year's successful mission trip to Panama, where we were able to provide 78 families with clean water and saw 33 people accept Christ, Thrive Maine will team up with Filter of Hope again this year and travel to Costa Rica with a group of young adults from across Maine. Our goal is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of those in poverty and to empower the next generation as spiritual leaders to live missionally.

We will be working in impoverished communities with families who are suffering in ways we cannot even imagine. Where we are going, most people have no access to clean water to drink or cook with. Many people are collecting their water from rivers and streams that are full of bacteria, parasites and other contaminants. Even people with piped water in their houses face similar challenges. According to the World Health Organization, one child dies every 20 seconds due to water-related illnesses. The vast majority of these deaths are caused by diarrhea and can be prevented. While children are the most at risk, keeping adults healthy so that they can work full time to provide for their families is also a high priority of Filter of Hope.

While in-country, we will be going house-to-house with local church contacts to distribute water filters to families. Filter of Hope has developed a state-of-the-art water filter that will produce up to 250 gallons of clean water every day and will last at least 10 years when maintained properly. But even more importantly than delivering clean water, we will also use the filter as a tool to share the Gospel at each house. The analogy of dirty water being made clean is a powerful illustration of what Jesus does for those who believe in him: he makes us pure and transforms us into a new creation. We will share this message of hope with each family who receives a filter and they will be followed up by the local church serving alongside us.

The cost of the mission trip is **\$2,336 a person**. All four of our kids have decided to join us so as a family we are looking to raise **\$13,600 by February 1, 2024**. **Would you consider giving an end of year gift to make this trip possible for our family?** All donations are tax deductible. You can donate by making a check out to Thrive with "Litchfield" printed on the memo line and mail it to me at PO Box 993 Mt. Desert ME 04660. Or you can also give directly to <https://thrivenational.org/donate>, by selecting Dan & Heather under the "Fund" tab. We appreciate your prayers for the salvation of many Costa Ricans and for the 17 members of our team to serve courageously, grow in spiritual fervor, and return as salt and light to communities in Maine.

Thank you for considering supporting this mission.

Serving Christ,
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P.S. Thank you for those who have already given a special end of year gift, even before knowing of this need.