



WORKER HOUSING PROJECT 2023

CONSACA, COLOMBIA



Introduction

For the past seven years, we have been working in the coffee region of Narino, Colombia building relationships with coffee farmers and making an impact through our reconstruction efforts in the region of Aponte.

Our social project helped many coffee farmers in this indigenous community and proved to be a successful model. And while we continue to provide our support in this community, we also look toward ways to make an impact through another model.

In Aponte, the majority of impact directly benefits the people who own their own coffee farms. While many are small farmers, they still have direct access to the market through exporters and are able to earn a living by cultivating their own lands.

This supply chain is common throughout the industry, but there are also many instances where one coffee farmer with a good amount of land and coffee will cultivate and harvest coffee by hiring day laborers to pick and process their coffee.

Day laborers are often limited in the amount of resources available to them. They are tied to an industry that often overlooks their hard work.

And for us, this was an opportunity to show that another model in the same region of Narino can help benefit the lives of many, not just the very few.

In 2021 we began a new partnership with coffee farmer Weykman Jojoa of Finca La Maria in the pueblo of Consaca, Colombia.

In addition to the coffee contract, Think Coffee and Weykman agreed to implement a project that would benefit the coffee laborers on his farm.

After a group meeting with the coffee laborers to discuss potential projects, it was decided by the laborers that they would like the project to focus on improving their living conditions.

Our Approach

To make an impact at origin, our approach has always been to listen to the people in the communities where we work. In the case of Consaca, Colombia, the community identified the urgent need to improve the living conditions of many day laborers.

Once a project had been identified, we reached an agreement with our coffee partner to implement a project by allocating an additional \$0.40/lb of coffee imported.

How it works

- We find a coffee community and begin a relationship with the farmers and exporter.
- We identify a project to help benefit the community.
- We import coffee, and an additional \$0.40/lb is allocated towards the project for every pound.
- We use the project fund to purchase building materials, hire a contractor, and renovate, improve, or construct a new home.

TIMELINE	DETAILS	OUTCOME
April 2022	Find a beneficiary or group of beneficiaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identified one family.• Identified a budget.
April- August 2022	Plan build out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Found a local architect.• Finalized designs and build-out plans .
December 2022- March 2023	Construct a new home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Found a local contractor to build.• Purchased materials.• Monitor construction.

\$0.40/lb

for every pound
imported

\$9,057.00

total project budget 2021-2023





Beneficiaries

Jesus Arango Villota and Maria Ines Jojoa

The poor living conditions faced by the family of three are unacceptable, with deteriorating walls and floors, no windows, and a leaky roof.



Despite working as day laborers in the Consaca community for years, including at Weykman Jojoa's farm during harvest season, they are unable to earn enough money to improve their living conditions and lead a decent life. Although other job opportunities are available in Consaca, such as construction and transportation, the family's housing situation is the most severe. As a result, we have included them in the first phase of our new initiative.



Construction

We hired a local architect and engineer to speed up the construction process. After the initial visit, we took measurements and developed a floor plan suitable for the available land. At the same time, we found a local contractor who was ready to start work as soon as the materials arrived.



Despite the exorbitant cost of materials, we refused to delay the project because of the urgent need. The contractor promptly began construction upon receiving the necessary materials, completing the construction of a new home in just two months.



Our Future Goals

Consistently engaging with the community and connecting with individuals who require our aid is imperative if we truly want to make a difference for those who labor tirelessly to pick our coffee.

1

Identify New Beneficiaries

Visit all of the people who continuously work throughout harvest at Finca La Maria. Identify those with the most urgent need.

2

Local Partnerships

Work with local architects and contractors who can easily improve living conditions in a short time. And work on creating a more efficient construction process.

3

Import More Coffee!

The more coffee we import, the more houses we can build or renovate. In order to import, we must do what we can to sell the coffee from our wonderful partner Weykman Jojoa.