

# MISSION TRIP TO AGUADA, PUERTO RICO FEBRUARY, 2024

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# AGUADA TEAM AT HOST SITE

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## SEPTEMBER, 2017

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- In September of 2017 a Category 5 Hurricane – Maria --- devastated the Island of Puerto Rico. For 39 hours 3.4 million citizens of Puerto Rico endured 155 mile an hour winds and heavy rain. The storm left the 3.4 million residents without electricity, water and communications. The physical damage was catastrophic but more devastating was the fact that over 3,000 people lost their lives 5 days after the storm more than half of the 3.4 million citizens were still without water. Water shortages still occur 7 years later due to Puerto Rico's slow progress in modernizing it's water infrastructure. Hurricane Maria caused a complete collapse of Puerto Rico's electrical systems – leading to one of the longest blackouts in US history.



# EXAMPLE OF WATER TANK ON ROOF BECAUSE OF ONGOING WATER SHORTAGES

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# MORNING MEETING – GETTING READY TO BEGIN REPAIRS ON HOME IN AGUADA

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THIS HOME WAS BADLY DAMAGED. SEVERAL OTHER VOLUNTEER GROUPS HAVE WORKED TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE DONE BY MARIA.

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# MIKE STEED AND GEORGE INSTALLING NEW PLUMBING IN KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

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# SCRAPING AND PRIMING METAL STORM SHUTTERS

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# WORKING TO REMOVE DAMAGED TILES ON ALL THE FLOORS

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# THIS HOME WAS KNOCKED OFF ITS FOUNDATION FROM THE STORM

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SOME AREAS STILL SHOW LOTS OF STORM DAMAGE. THE PICTURE ON THE LEFT SHOWS THE ONLY ALMOND TREE THAT SURVIVED THE STORM.

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THIS CHURCH IS ROUGHLY HALF MILE FROM THE BEACH AND WAS UNDER 15 FEET OF WATER FROM THE STORM SURGE

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THIS HOME WAS BADLY DAMAGED FROM THE STORM BUT WITH HELP FROM THE **STRONGER THAN MARIA** ORGANIZATION THE OWNERS WERE ABLE TO HAVE THEIR HOME REPAIRED AND RECENTLY PAINTED THIS MURAL ON THE SIDE OF THEIR HOME. THIS PAINTING SHOWS THE BEAUTY THAT SURROUNDS PUERTO RICO.

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WE WERE WARMLY WELCOMED AT OUR HOST CHURCH  
AND FELT GOD'S LOVE AS WE WORSHIPED TOGETHER.

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