

With proper cleaning, maintenance and monitoring the Ceramic Water Filter can provide potable water for rural families that draw their water from surface-influenced, contaminated sources such as springs, rivers, wells, or standing surface water.

Tens of thousands of filters have been distributed worldwide and workshop trainings conducted with organizations such as International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, Doctors Without Borders, UNICEF, Plan International, Project Concern International, Oxfam, GTZ and the Peace Corps.

Production facility trainings have been carried out in countries around the world, among them: Guatemala, Honduras, Cambodia, Yemen, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, El Salvador, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

We rely on partner health organizations to provide appropriate training and education about filter use. We have assisted in laboratory testing and field studies of the filter with institutions such as MIT, Tulane University, The University of North Carolina and the University of Colorado.



[www.pottersforpeace.org](http://www.pottersforpeace.org)



Your tax deductible donation will help PFP continue it's mission of assisting potters and providing low-cost potable water. Donate on-line at our website or send to:

Potters for Peace  
P.O. Box 1043  
Bisbee, Az, 85603

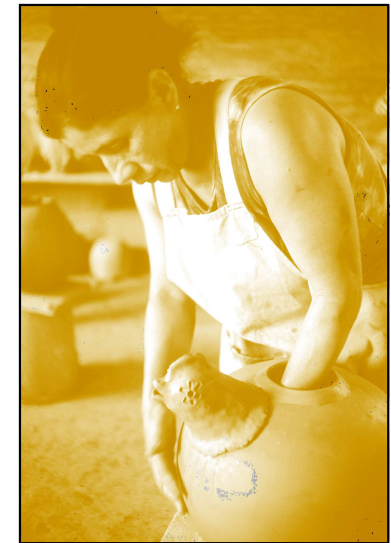
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# POTTERS FOR PEACE



We offer support, to developing world potters; assist with appropriate technologies sustained using local skills and materials; help preserve cultural traditions; and assist in marketing locally, regionally and internationally.

The story of Potters for Peace began in 1986 when a group of potters affiliated with the Quixote Center in Washington DC joined a delegation to Nicaragua. The group befriended a women's pottery/canning cooperative which motivated the first PFP fundraising sale in DC. A banner was made reading: "Potters for Peace"



The vast majority of potters in Central America are rural women and the core work for Potters for Peace has always been assisting these hard working people to earn a better living.

PFP is a 501©(3) U.S. non profit organization and a registered non governmental organization in Nicaragua.

We have one full time employee in Nicaragua to coordinate international and ceramic water filter work and a part time U.S. director.

Funding comes from individual donations, grants, and annual regional sales to which many potters donate their work.

## What We Do

One of our main activities with Central American potters is improving marketability of their products through design improvement. We arrange interchanges, so participants can learn from each other and workshops are offered with professional designers.

A Training Center has been built in La Paz Centro, Nicaragua where potters may come to attend extended workshops free from distraction.

We assist in developing markets in the U.S. by connecting Nica potters with wholesale buyers. Marketing assistance in Nicaragua has included constructing local road signs and showrooms and organizing and funding rural potters to participate in fairs.

We provide materials, technical assistance, and training for building wheels and other studio tools such as extruders and pug mills.

Fuel-efficient firing methods are introduced when appropriate such as downdraft low fire kilns built with local materials and a low cost burner has been developed that can be fired with agricultural waste.

We provide scholarships to Nicaraguan potters for apprenticeships and trainings on specific techniques such as use of the potters' wheel and clay jewelry.

Over the years we have arranged and/or financed the trips of Nicaraguan potters to the U.S. to participate in conferences and conduct workshops.

Each year in January we offer a two-week brigade/tour to give North American potters the opportunity to visit and work with Nicaraguan potters in their workshops and homes and we can sometimes place volunteer North American technical assistants and interns in Nicaraguan communities.

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The Ceramic Water Filter

Hurricane Mitch in 1998 was the catalyst for a major new project for PFP --low-cost colloidal silver impregnated ceramic water filters. In early 1999, we set up a filter production workshop at an existing pottery cooperative in Nicaragua.

PFP now works worldwide to assist organizations in the set-up of filter making facilities. We do not make filters for sale but train potters to produce them with local materials .

The filter element is an approximately 11" wide by 10" deep open-top clay cylinder which after firing is treated with colloidal silver, a well known microbicide which remains in the filter. The rate of filtration is determined by the mixture of combustible material, sawdust or rice husks, which is added to the clay before firing. The fired, treated filter is then placed in a plastic or ceramic receptacle with a lid and faucet.

The filter is almost 100% effective at removing bacteria and Giardia from water and is usable for at least four years.