

KOHLER® Clarity®

BRINGING SAFE WATER TO PUERTO RICO







KOHLER® CLARITY HELPS PEOPLE AFFECTED BY HURRICANE MARIA

When Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico and other islands in the Caribbean basin in September 2017, it wreaked historic devastation including loss of life, long-term suffering and, because the storm knocked out Puerto Rico's power grid, a safe-water crisis. Kohler's social impact partners stepped in to help protect people across the island from waterborne disease with its KOHLER Clarity® water filtration system.

The simple, easy-to-use KOHLER Clarity filter, which removes 99.9% of bacteria and protozoa, was included as part of care packages organized by San Juan mayor Carmen Yulin Cruz. As families prepared to leave the Roberto Clemente Coliseum, where they had been taking shelter, the mayor ensured they left with tarps, extra food and a KOHLER Clarity water filtration system. These filters enabled people to safely drink water flowing from taps, when it was available, or secondary sources they were forced to temporarily rely upon.



As nonprofit organizations arrived on the scene, they continued to distribute KOHLER® Clarity water filtration systems to people facing unsafe drinking water. Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, saw her large network of teachers and students on the island were profoundly impacted by lack of safe water. She connected with the mayor to bring together a consortium of partners known as Operation Agua. In one year, [Operation Agua raised funds for and distributed 100,000 KOHLER Clarity® filters](#) to schools, family homes and community centers in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands, enabling more than 270,000 students to return to school.



SAVING MONEY. REDUCING WASTE.

In contrast to bottled water, the KOHLER® Clarity filter saved families hundreds of dollars per month, especially considering that prices for water had increased from about \$4 to \$15 per person per day. In addition to monetary savings, the filter keeps plastic bottles from entering the waste stream.



As the lack of safe water persisted, especially in rural areas, the threat of the tropical disease leptospirosis became an urgent concern for public health professionals. To combat this risk, **Proyecto Agua Limpia*** distributed more than 35,000 KOHLER Clarity® filters to families living in 15 municipalities of Puerto Rico. Along with preventing leptospirosis, the organization seeks to end a cultural dependency on bottled water and prepare the people of Puerto Rico for the next disaster.

*The Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust, through its Brain Trust for Tropical Disease Research Prevention program and in collaboration with the Puerto Rico Primary Care Association Network and H2O Worldwide



TEXAS

MEXICO

LOUISIANA

HONDURAS

FLORIDA

VIRGINIA

DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC

PUERTO
RICO

DOMINICA

PERU

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MAKING A GLOBAL IMPACT

Along with helping Americans affected by Hurricane Maria, the KOHLER® Clarity water filtration system has been a part of disaster relief and community development work in Louisiana, Texas, Florida, Virginia, Mexico, Dominica, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Kenya, India and Peru. It has been used by organizations including Operation Blessing, United Way, Business Connect, Rotary and World Vision.

ABOUT KOHLER

Founded in 1873 and headquartered in Kohler, Wisconsin, Kohler Co. is one of America's oldest and largest privately held companies. With more than 50 manufacturing locations worldwide, Kohler is a global leader in kitchen and bath products, engines and power systems, premier furniture, cabinetry and tile. It is also owner/operator of two of the world's finest five-star hospitality and golf resort destinations.

Working toward sustainability is an ongoing journey for Kohler, and creating water-conserving products has been a key component since the 1970s. But to truly have an impact today requires something more—a willingness to take chances, a propensity for innovation, and a commitment to making the world a better place.

Explore how KOHLER Clarity® can help you achieve your goals for bringing safe water into communities.

Contact us at WaSH@kohler.com.

KOHLER®