



# ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA

May 2024

Great Lakes Regional Steering Committee Newsletter

## Resource of the Month

### CECorps Project Manual Resources

The Community Engineering Corps (CECorps) Project Manual provides all interested and current CECorps volunteers with the information needed to execute a CECorps project. The Great Lakes Region has many active CE Corp Projects. See the project map below!

### Project Manual Resources

### Project Map

## Volunteer Opportunities

### 2024-2025 Executive Fellow

### 2025-2027 Board of Directors Student Rep

### CORP Co-Chair

### EWB is hiring!

See link for details! The new position application will be updated shortly.

### Recent graduate?

See the volunteer posting to see opportunities across the country or remote position.

### Volunteer Postings Link

## INFORMATION REQUESTS

Mark your calendars for the annual Great Lakes Regional Conference this fall! The GLR is planning the conference for September or October. Please complete the survey below to voice your opinion on what you see at the conference.

### Complete this SURVEY!

The GLR RSC would like to send these newsletters to all of our volunteers. Please have you chapter members provide their contact information using the link below.

### Complete this SURVEY!



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## CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

Western Michigan University

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Our chapter, established in 2016, has made significant progress in the last year despite only taking on one project so far. We are happy to say that we are projected to finish by December of this year! Based in San Antonio de Upa, Nicaragua, our focus lies on implementing a new spring box and health unit. At the moment we are refining final designs and will proceed with remote implementation. The current infrastructure at the spring is over 10 years old and it is comprised of three walls and a conduction line to the community. Our current spring box design includes a closed catchment and collection. In addition, there will be a sediment filter and chlorinator before the collection box. Our health unit will consist of two laundry rooms, two showers, three water stations with a base to collect water, and a grey water system.



Last February we began a partnership with Florida International University (FIU). FIU had previously undertaken a project around Nicaragua and completed up to a pre-implementation plan. However, the project fell through due to land disputes. Since our partnership started, FIU has supported us financially and through mentorship. FIU's assistance has not only provided crucial funds but also helped us achieve our end-of-year timeline.

In addition to mentorship, we would like to thank Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur for her years as our advisor! Dr. Ari-Gur has been our advisor since 2016 and has seen our chapter go through many stages and different teams. She has supported us significantly with her engineering knowledge and helped us increase our media foot traffic. While we are sad to see Dr. Ari-Gur leave, we are excited to see that she will be traveling for a sabbatical. Thank you Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur for your wisdom, mentorship, and commitment to our organization!

As we bid Dr. Ari-Gur's farewell, we welcome a new advisor: Dr. Yufeng Hu from WMU's Civil Engineering department. Dr. Hu's expertise in structural engineering and commitment to expanding our reach on campus makes him a valuable addition to our chapter. We look forward to working closely with Dr. Hu and the possibilities that his leadership will bring.

Lastly, our club would not be complete without the mention of our local project team. They are a team of students, not associated with EWB-USA, helping the Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids area with their engineering and STEM knowledge. Their current project is in collaboration with Gibbs House in Kalamazoo, improving their compost's Static Aeration System. Their goal is to find a suitable mesh material to stop dirt and debris from falling into the pipe while still allowing air to pass through. This project is being funded by WMU Student Sustainability Grant.