



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:

Amy Boal, River Network | Felipe Benitez, Corazón Latino
aboal@rivernetwork.org | felipe@corazonlatino.us
www.rivernetwork.org | www.corazonlatino.us

RIVER NETWORK LAUNCHES SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION OF *DRINKING WATER GUIDE: A RESOURCE FOR ADVOCATES*

November 21, 2019 [Boulder, Colorado] – River Network’s interactive online *Drinking Water Guide: A Resource for Advocates* launches in Spanish this month at rivernetwork.org/drinking-water-guide. Collaborating with staff from Corazón Latino on a Spanish language translation, this version of our guide features culturally relevant language and aesthetic, with adapted images and examples to resonate with the Latinx community. The guide—developed with support from the C.S. Mott Foundation, and guided by a Great Lakes–based Advisory Committee—equips groups and individuals with the tools needed to work toward change in their communities. The *Drinking Water Guide* provides in-depth information and resources, and answers these fundamental questions:

1. Where does drinking water come from and how can we protect it?
2. What does a drinking water system do?
3. How do we ensure water is safe to drink?
4. How is drinking water cost calculated? What do water bills pay for?
5. How will climate change affect our water? What can we do about it?
6. How can we support community advocacy and engagement on drinking water issues?

“We are extremely proud to make the *Drinking Water Guide* more accessible to Latino communities,” says Corazón Latino Executive Director Felipe Benitez. “By creating a Spanish-language version of this guide, we provide equitable access to its valuable information and hope it serves to empower diverse communities and inspire action.”

Why We Created the Spanish Edition of the Drinking Water Guide

Communities across the country – primarily low-income, communities of color – struggle to afford their water, or are faced with concerns over contamination from toxins, like lead and PFAS. A 2019 Natural Resources Defense Council report found that [drinking water violations](#) are more likely to occur in places where residents are people of color. Access and availability also [vary by race and class](#).

“River Network believes that everyone should have access to clean and safe drinking water at a cost that does not interfere with other essentials, such as food, health care, housing, transportation, and education,” says Katherine Baer, Director of Science and Policy for River Network. “A philosophy of water equity—the idea that all people deserve access to safe, affordable water—grounds the *Drinking Water Guide*.” In many ways, equity means access; the Spanish language edition of our guide expands its access to Latinx communities that face drinking water issues each day.

The Drinking Water Guide is available for download in both Spanish and English at rivernetwork.org/drinking-water-guide.

About River Network

River Network is the foremost nonprofit connecting 6,500+ nonprofit organizations, agencies, tribal groups, and utilities for greater local impact and healthier rivers across the U.S. Learn more at rivernetwork.org.

About Corazón Latino

Corazón Latino works toward the common good by partnering with organizations to build culturally relevant campaigns to inform, empower, and mobilize diverse communities around environmental, conservation, education, civic engagement, social justice, and health issues through strategic communications and grassroots mobilization tools. Learn more at corazonlatino.us.

###