



Lifewater: Training & Drilling....

The Year in Review

With your generous support, we made a real difference in the lives of African villagers this past year. Your donations helped:

- Volunteers provide Africans with advanced drill training.
- Drill crews double their production, drilling wells for 37 villages in Africa. These wells provide safe water for 20,000 people in orphanages, villages and schools!
- Start a full-time health & hygiene program in Liberia.
- Provide training material world-wide free of charge!

We are inspired by all the schools, community groups, churches, and families who gave generously to sponsor washrooms and wells. Thanks also to humanwave.com for encouraging us to expand our vision of what can be done.

On behalf of children, women and men who still lack safe water, I ask for your continued support.

Sincerely Yours,

Jim Gehrels, President

2005 Trip to Liberia

In February 2005, 4 volunteers traveled to Liberia to train and encourage the local drill team.

Hank, a skilled general contractor, taught the team how to use forms to build handpump pads that are stronger and use less cement!

Lynda, a nurse with nearly 30 years experience, trained 2 health & hygiene workers who joined the team on a full-time basis.

Jim taught the team how to better manage drilling mud and optimize filter pack and together they successfully drilled two wells.

Finally, Bob held a 3-day retreat, helping the team identify obstacles to program growth and together came up with solutions.



Child watching Lifewater Team working in La du town

Health & Hygiene Program

This past year, we started a full-time Health & Hygiene team in Liberia. They teach proper hand washing, the importance of latrines, and basic diseases transmission information.

Since our trip in February, they've started several school hygiene clubs & created 3 community hygiene centers where local villagers spread their new knowledge to their neighbors.

This knowledge does save lives. Recently, the hygiene team went to Gbah Town where a baby had just died and two others were suffering with running stomach. The team was able to prepare oral rehydration solution for the sick children and they recovered.

During one of the training workshops, a Liberian woman shared how many of her babies had died. During the workshop, she realized that this may be due to the local custom of giving month-old infants a drink from the local water hole. Now that she has learned how contaminated these water holes are, she can teach young mothers to break with custom and not give their infants water to drink unless it comes from a new handpump.

Thanks from Africa

We the students of Bible Faith Public School extend appreciation for giving our school a new hand pump. We have been drinking from a shallow hole we called well. Because of the bad water condition, our friends have been getting sick with running stomach. May God continue to bless Lifewater Liberia so they can provide more safe drinking water. Rose Kollie - Student Leader, Mary Johnson - 5th Grade, Anthony Togba - 3rd Grade

Where Did Our \$\$ Go?

2004/2005 Total	\$119,000
Well Construction	77.9%
Training	13.5%
Health & Hygiene	4%
Overhead	4.6%

How Does Lifewater Rank?

We evaluated our performance using the methodology developed by www.charitynavigator.org Organizational efficiency and capacity were assessed using performance categories such as fund-raising efficiency and growth in revenue vs expenses.

We received the highest possible ranking, with a score of 99%.

We score well because we are run by volunteers working out of our homes. As a result, our costs are low and your donor dollars go where they are needed - training and helping people in Africa obtain safe water and sanitation.

The Year Ahead

In Liberia, rebel groups have been disarmed and rural villages are being rebuilt. As a result, the local drill team is being swamped with requests for help. We want to respond by drilling 50 new wells in 2006 - safe drinking water for 25,000 people! In order to do this, we need your generous support and ask that you mention what we are doing to your friends, family, neighbours and co-workers.

In November 2005, a team of 3 volunteers will travel to Liberia to work with the local team. Goals for this trip include holding a capacity building workshop, better integrating the health & hygiene workers into the drilling program, resolving obstacles to washroom construction and providing tips on how to resolve drilling problems encountered over the past year.

A follow-up trip in February 2006 will inspect wells to ensure that the increased well production is not resulting in decreased quality and will look at options to build a warehouse and workshop.

Another goal is to make a French and Spanish version of the drill manual available on-line. Please let us know if you want to help with this project.

Finally, Lifewater continues to work in the Jos area of Nigeria, and we hope to raise enough money to drill another 6 wells here in the coming year. We also look forward to a visit from Silas who heads the drill program there.

Sponsors are Needed!

Right now 6 villages are waiting for well sponsors. Sponsors for school toilets are also needed to keep children healthy.

Consider sponsoring a well in memory of loved ones. Make a lasting difference by giving the gift of life in memory of a life.

To make one-time or monthly donations, please write to us at our address provided below or visit: lifewater.ca/donate.htm to give using your credit card. Contact us if you want to learn how to give through **United Way**.

Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be held in Thunder Bay on Nov. 27. Financial reports will be presented and board members elected. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mrs. Cathy Ypma @ (807) 767-5634.

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