

#### THE YEAR SO FAR

July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023

All teams are working under capacity in this first quarter to focus on documentation and improvement in their workflow management. We expect each team's productivity to increase in the next three quarters. L-Can's capacity is also being strengthened to handle this massive increase in product.

- 73 new wells
- 45 rehabilitated wells
- 866 pump repairs
- 5 community toilets
- 1 rainwater catchment systems
- 157 health and hygiene workshops
- 1,147 total projects

# FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

### A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In our conversations over the last 6 months, inspiration has been a constant theme. As you read this newsletter, I pray that you too will be encouraged by the accomplishments and successes of our teams. They certainly inspire us here at home to reach upwards, stretching our limits. We've seen successes in situations that held more despair than hope, watched all our partners mature from infancy towards maturity in a few short years and in the last few months reach productivity that brings me right back to being inspired all over again. It is all made possible through your generous gifts, your prayers, and your support.

Lifewater Canada's passionate vision of bringing safe water, sanitation, and improved hygiene to struggling villages in 3 African nations and in Haiti is increasing exponentially and we are excited to be the conduit between you - our donors, and the people in need. Thank you so much!

#### Lynda Shhrels



#### BEHIND THE SCENES OF SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Four years ago we were looking at just over 700 completed projects for an entire year; this year we anticipate over 6000. To handle this volume of productivity requires exceptional partnerships where we support each other in the work. Across the board, our partners have risen to the challenge, taking on tasks such as uploading their own work to the website. Catherine from Kenya now checks and follows up with the teams to ensure all documentation is complete before submission to Lifewater Canada. Joe from STS has been working with Dan, Lifewater Canada's Vice President to create a standard electronic form that we plan to use in all nations. The in-country teams are beginning to order their own supplies as well, needing less facilitation from Lifewater's home office.

Giving a person a hand up rather than a hand out has progressed to working together as equals supporting each other in every aspect of the work, and the outcome is an abundance of safe water flowing to those in need.

## 223,976 HOURS SAVED PER DAY

86.5 minutes per day per household saved in water hauling duties



reported average daily water costs / total beneficiaries \$6,729,923 TOTAL MONTHLY ECONOMIC IMPACT

average monthly water savings per household • number of households



NGFRIA

Continued and increasing violent upheaval is the state of this nation's political climate, as gangs continue to rule the nation. Both food and fuel shortages lead to severe hardships. The recent border closure to the Dominican Republic will significantly impact this team's ability to obtain parts and fuel. In spite of these factors, our skilled and passionate team of drillers and pump repair members continue to carefully go out drilling new wells and keeping the existing wells in good working order. They are hopeful to reach 800-1000 villages with pump repairs while increasing the number of new wells this fiscal year up to 60. To have these men and women continue to work is not only life-giving from the water they provide but a shot of hope when there is so much despair. We are grateful for their bravery and commitment and would ask for continued prayer for this team.

LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. (L-LINC) has made a complete turn-a-round. The legacy from 28 years of work is strong, vibrant, and passionate. Since the relaunch of this team in April of 2023, their vision has been renewed. They have strengthened their infrastructure, repaired broken vehicles and rigs while pushing forward with new financial procedures, improved documentation, and leadership models. With this new leadership's efficiency and focus, the sky is the limit. Already they have saved about 60% of their portion of the new drill rig (LS 200 H+) scheduled to arrive in March 2024. They have broadened their partnership to blend with Kenya and Nigeria in a recent international conference and have set their sights on increasing their drilling and well rehabilitation reaching into the more remote districts.

STS-LIFEWATER is a powerhouse! Joe Sloan's vision has the entire team working to expand their program into distant counties. The concept of blitzing an area to meet all that district WASH needs is both cost effective and powerful. Both partners are mobilized, and the end result is incredible, leaving each district strong and well serviced. Of all their accomplishments of note is the very first completed community latrine in a decade! Joe has also been developing an assessment tool to gather stats to assess the impact of this clustering of projects and the beginning results are very affirming. Joe's plan is to complete over 2000 pump repairs and as many latrines as possible. Gifts to support this work are appreciated.

**NIGERIA (LHIN)** The hazards for this team have not improved. Great care needs to be taken traveling to the various communities. Their new cube van mobile storage unit has proven to be a huge asset and they could easily double their pump repair component this year. In addition to the hand of God and the provision for this team, we are honored to support the legacy that John Enejoh Apeh, founder of LHIN (formerly Water Products Ltd.) and late father of Hosea, the present Program Coordinator, created. Hosea and his brother Paul's vision and stewardship of this legacy is awe inspiring to his team and to us here in Canada.

The remaining portion of this fiscal year is to grow a dedicated health & hygiene component with the possible inclusion of dignity kits if funds allow. With excitement they are looking forward to adding the new LS-300T+ and a rebuilt LS-200 to their compliment. This will allow them to reach the forgotten villages with life-saving water, sanitation, and Hygiene education.

STADA (Kisumu) This vibrant team of men and women are incredible advocates and dynamic implementors working to improve all aspects of WASH initiatives. They now have 2 repair teams and have just had a second new rig added to their complement that will handle drilling in more rocky terrain. The regions of their work have expanded to many counties outside of their home base. They continue to bring dignity kits (five reusable female hygiene pads in a kit) into the schools and the outcome of this initiative has radically diminished the loss of girls' school hours while significantly improving test scores and reducing teen pregnancies. Intensive training for their technical teams and documentation improvements are one of our goals for this new team. Their team vision is to step up all components of their WASH programing, supported by your gifts.

LIFEWATER RESCUE KENYA (LRK) (Mwingi) This team continues to learn and grow. Since they began, they have been focused on gaining the tools, skills, and knowledge that has led to the consistent production of successful boreholes in an incredibly challenging area. To this point, LRK has directly partnered with STADA on the delivery of Health & Hygiene seminars and the installation of pumps. The result is that safe water is flowing to schools in Kitui county. We are looking forward to training a local pump repair & installation team and Health & Hygiene team to develop a more efficient and expedient process. With each successful project not only does safe water flow but great joy as well from the students and staff and the community.

THE LIFEWATER KENYA (TLK) (Nakuru) This is the father team of Kenya and continue to provide oversight and leadership for our other teams, from government compliance to troubleshooting. TLK is always available to these 2 new teams. This coming year we are excited to be working towards relaunching the well drilling compliment of TLK with the refurbishment of their LS-400 ria.











The analogy of a stable 3-legged stool is often used to describe an effective WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) program. Our teams are improving in all three areas. We've stepped up our drilling and pump repair component, which is important as  $26\%^{\dagger}$  of the world's population doesn't have access to safe drinking water. An astounding 46%<sup>†</sup> of the population however doesn't have access to adequate sanitation and our sanitation initiative needs strengthening. Latrines are expensive to make and challenging to fund, but if open defecation is allowed to continue, water sources are quickly contaminated and disease follows. We proudly share that Liberia has constructed their first latrine in nearly a decade and it's a beauty! Our hygiene programming is also increasing across all nations with huge impact and plans to initiate the dignity kits production into other nations has started. +United Nations report 2023



#### MORE THAN JUST DRILLING





#### **OUR FAVOURITE NUMBER - 866 PUMP REPAIRS**





Every one of the 866 pump repairs is serving on average 245 people! That's 212,170 people benefiting from pump repairs alone. This is only in a 3-month period – that's like 72 pump repairs a week – mind blowing!!! As with previous years, we have intentionally slowed down production early in our fiscal year to focus on work and documentation processes between our head office and overseas teams, working toward maximum capacity later in the year when we are more certain of funding. If the trend continues, we expect to repair around 6000 village wells this fiscal year! Our previous record (2023 Fiscal) was 2468 repairs in 12 months.

It's easy to see why this is our favorite number, because apart from not enough water points serving the population (which leads to premature pump failure), a pump repair accomplishes nearly all the benefits that providing a village with a new well would. Pump maintenance is a fraction of the cost of drilling a new well, and that translates into a good bang for your donor dollar!

This accomplishment points directly to the collective vision that our teams now share – a focus on pumps and long-term maintenance.

#### REACHING THE FORGOTTEN

Since inception Lifewater Canada's guideline is to 'do the easy ones first to reach the most people'. In our current area of operations, we feel we have accomplished this, but there are many remote forgotten villages in need that we have not been able to touch. Our new robust mounted drill rig designed with more off-roading capacity has overcome the poor road issues. The introduction of 2 and 3 wheeled motorcycles for pump repair teams has also provided access where larger 4 wheeled vehicles could never reach. Upcountry satellite depots and mobile storage vans allow teams to carry enough parts to cluster projects, holistically addressing all WASH needs in these villages while reducing the overall amount of travel time required, lowering cost and avoiding dangerous night travel. By addressing the challenges in these ways, we can now lend a helping hand to these forgotten villages across our African partners.



#### LATRINE RESTORES HOPE IN ZEEWHOR COMMUNITY

In the heart of Zeewhor Community, a transformative project had taken root—the construction of a public latrine. This seemingly simple initiative has proven to be a beacon of change, igniting a ripple effect that would touch every corner of the village.

The impact was profound. Women, who had once risked their safety by venturing into the wilderness, now had a safe haven for personal needs. Children were no longer exposed to the dangers of the wild, and the fear of disease transmission waned.

Water sources are no longer contaminated by open defecation, leading to a decrease in waterborne diseases. Zeewhor is shedding its burdens, and the signs of a healthier, happier community were evident.

But the impact has extended far beyond the practicalities of sanitation. The latrine is now a symbol of dignity and progress. It empowered residents, particularly women, who felt a newfound sense of pride in their community. It is becoming a place for conversation, for building bonds, and for fostering a stronger sense of unity.

In Zeewhor, the public latrine was not just a structure; it was a catalyst for change. As the village transformed, it served as a reminder of what a united community could achieve. Zeewhor was no longer defined by indignities but by the resilience and spirit of its people.

The story of Zeewhor has become one of transformation and hope Ref — a reminder that even the simplest of projects could ignite powerful change and uplift a community from the depths of adversity.



by Joe Sloan, STS-Liberia PC

## PARTNER WITH US

**MONTHLY GIVING:** Want to have a growing impact? If you are not yet, consider giving monthly! It gives us a steady foundation to send support and keep safe water flowing. You can set it up easily through CanadaHelps at:

www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/lifewater-canada

**PLANNED GIVING:** Most of us are not able to be as generous as we would like – we have bills to pay! You can however, include Lifewater Canada in your will. There are great tax advantages with this type of estate planning. Please call us at 807-622-4848 to learn more.

**SECURITIES DONATIONS:** Donate stocks, mutual funds, or other securities to Lifewater Canada and receive a significant tax credit. Learn how by clicking the **DONATE** tab on our website.

#### PROJECT COSTS (CDN):

Wells	\$5200	Latrines	\$1500-9000*
Repairs	\$170	H&H	\$100
Rehabs	\$1450		

\*(depends on size + nation)

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