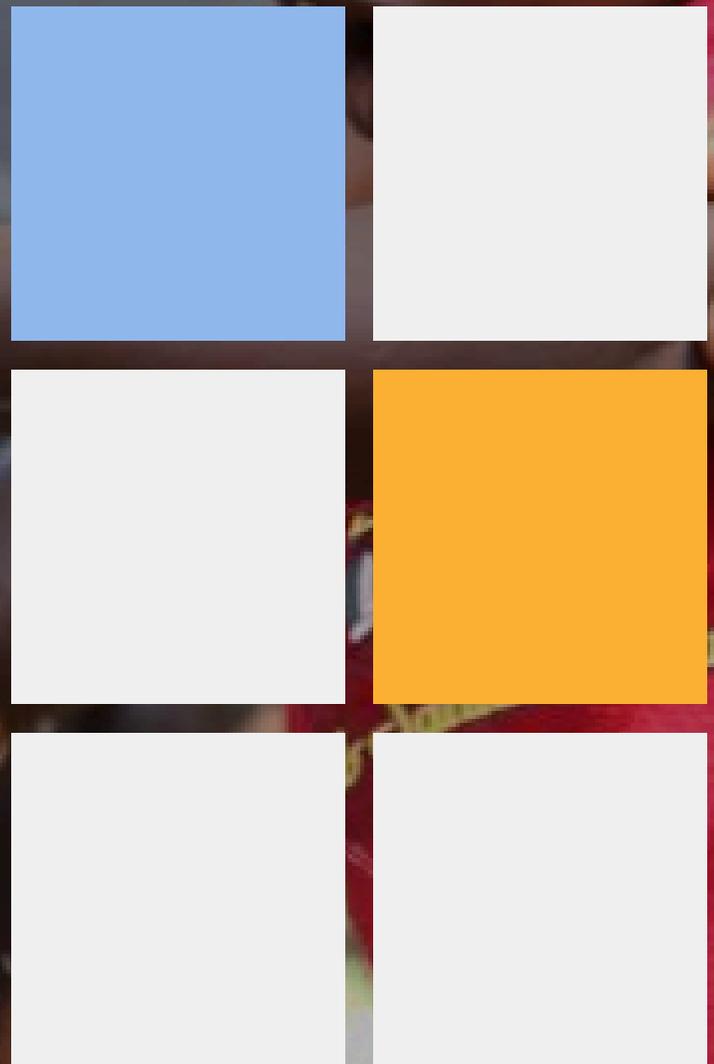




# 2024

## ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



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*Throughout this report, you will see icons like this referencing a lesson we learned this year.*

*The number corresponds to a specific lesson included in Section 8.*



1

# INTRODUCTION

# A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR

I first had the opportunity to travel to Liberia with Lifewater Canada in 2004, as part of the first group of volunteers after the country's civil war ended (see image to the right). My last trip was in 2019 when the Lifewater Liberia compound was in danger of being demolished. I was concerned that the vision of Lifewater's founders (Jim Gehrels and Glenn Stronks) – of the in-country teams becoming self-sustaining – was never going to be realized. But God's timing is not my timing! We are about to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Lifewater's first well being drilled, marking the birth of our organization. And 20 years after my first visit, the country of Liberia is now supporting two drill teams, a pump repair team, and branching out into a washroom and sanitation program. Their desire to give their people access to clean water has never been greater or more attainable.

We have teams in Nigeria and Haiti that are continuing to work despite the life-threatening violence in their countries. Throw into the mix challenges such as the monkey-pox epidemic, poor living conditions, and the aging of many of the original team members, and you cannot tell me God is not moving amongst the poor and needy. Why is He moving?... because you give generously. Not only financially, but also with your time and prayers! I am so thankful that I got to see the need firsthand and am now rejoicing about Jim and Glen's vision coming true.

Have we solved the world's water problems?... certainly not. But we are moving in the right direction, thanks to you!



Cheryl Ann Hertan, MBA, CTR  
Lifewater Canada Chair and U.S. Representative



2

HIGHLIGHTS

# 2024 | HIGHLIGHTS

## INFRASTRUCTURE

In Nigeria, new Lonestar LS300 truck-mounted rig and 2 new team support vehicles, plus rebuilt LS200 rig. New Lonestar LS200 in Liberia and progress in replacing their aging fleet of vehicles. This makes 7 new or rebuilt drilling rigs in service over the last 2 years, with 1 more on order to be put into service in 2025.

## TRAINING

Our inaugural International Conference was hosted in Kisumu, Kenya and had members of 5 drilling teams together for a week of relationship and skill building in both field work and documentation. The fruit of this effort was immediate, with drillers reaching out to one another for advice and assistance to overcome problems they experience in the field. For these teams, having an understanding that they are a part of something more than only their local team has been a tremendous motivator.

## TEAM GROWTH

All teams have now added dedicated H&H personnel, and some have added Monitoring & Evaluation officers who evaluate the efficacy of the projects completed and report on long-term impacts. Teams such as Lifewater RESCUE Kenya and STS-Lifewater have expanded their offering of programs to join other teams in community washroom initiatives.

## 1 IMPROVED LIVING WAGES

Working with all teams to evaluate inflation rates, living costs, and project expenses, we have been able to see all team members receive updated and increased salaries, so that all employees of every partner are now earning a fair living wage.

# \$10,607,812

total monthly economic impact

# 2,238,489

beneficiaries

# 672,529

hours saved per day



*Refer to page 34  
for a detailed  
breakdown of how  
we calculate each of  
these statistics*

# 462,263

monthly school days  
recovered

# \$0.18

daily savings per  
person

# 90.1

minutes saved per  
day per household

# \$5.00

SROI (social return  
on investment)



**3** VISION

# THE WATER CRISIS

Unsafe water is a leading cause of disease and death throughout the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that at least 1.7 billion (or almost 1 in 4) people on our planet are drinking water each day contaminated by feces, and over half a million people are dying each year from diarrheal diseases caused by contaminated water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene. Many of these are young children – as they are especially vulnerable to the dangers of unsafe water.

In Africa, nearly half of the people throughout the continent lack access to safe water, and only 30% of sub-Saharan Africans have access to adequate sanitation – only a four-percent improvement since 1990. In contrast, 90% of northern Africans have access.

Rising water costs, a lack of infrastructure, and climate change have led to an increase in water scarcity. And the situation is almost always worse in rural areas as they have to travel further to access safe water and sanitation services.



In response, the United Nations has included water and sanitation among its Development Goals since 2010 — insisting that everyone on the planet should have access to safe water for drinking, handwashing, and sanitation by the year 2030.

# OUR VISION

Lifewater Canada was founded on the certainty that all lives are of equal value in God's eyes and must be in our eyes too.

We envision a world in which children do not get sick and die because they have no safe drinking water; a world where girls – who would otherwise have to walk miles to find water for their families – can spend their time in school, receiving the same education as boys.

We also envision a world in which all people are treated equally, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, family status, race, culture, ethnic or national origin, religious beliefs, age, political affiliation, or other characteristics.

Our goal is to provide people with a lifetime of adequate quantities of safe water, thanks to donors who come from many walks of life and many faiths. We strive for consistency between our beliefs and our actions by:

1. Regarding all people as being created equal
2. Speaking and acting honestly
3. Ensuring that donations are used for the purpose for which they were given
4. Holding ourselves openly accountable before God and our donors for all that we do



## THE FEMALE FACTOR

*Hauling water disproportionately affects women and girls, as they are typically responsible for their family's water needs.*

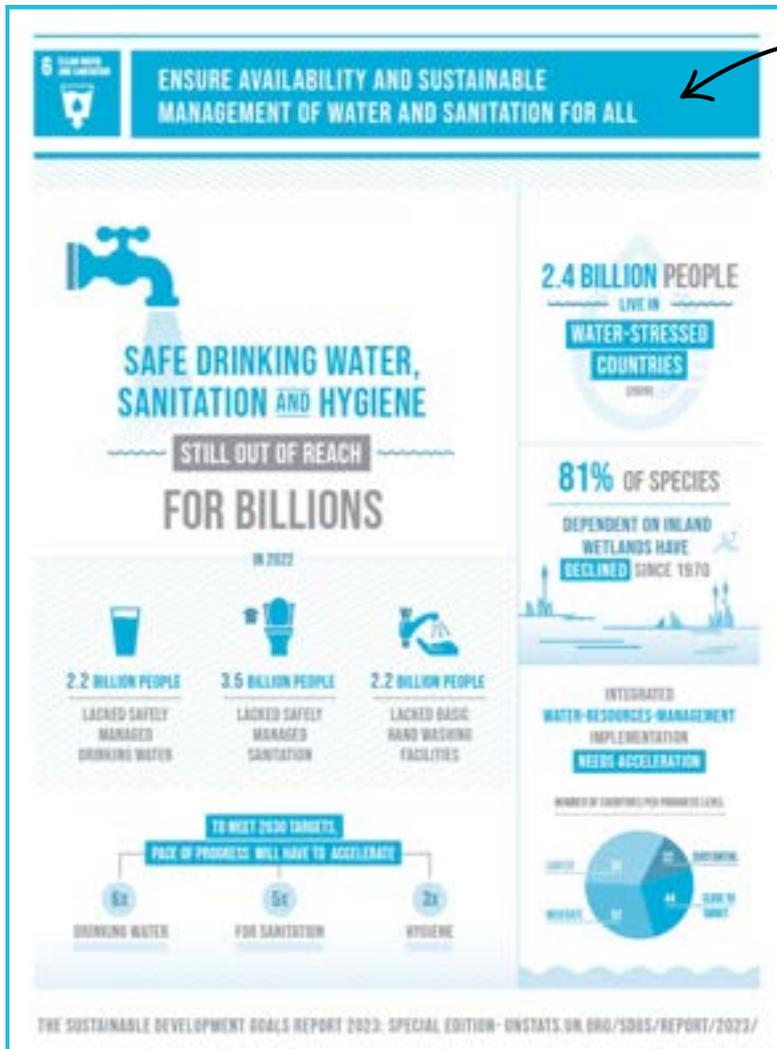
*The task takes a lot of time and effort, causing fatigue and muscular damage over time. It also exposes them to danger along the way from snake bites, disease, and violence from assault and rape – especially when travelling alone in the dark.*

*Gathering water often requires children to miss time in school, and even when able to gather water before and after class, it leaves them with less time and energy to dedicate to their studies. Girls also often miss school while menstruating, as they lack access to the basic hygiene products and safe water that would enable them to attend.*

*We at Lifewater believe that gender equality is not only a goal, but a fundamental necessity to create a better world. Empowering women not only changes their lives, but changes the world for generations to come.*

# THE BIG PICTURE

The United Nations put forward 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) that need urgent global attention. These goals are interdependent and "must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth". The SDG's are part of the broader [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), which was unanimously adopted by all Member States in 2015, and establishes a unified resolution to achieve all targets by the year 2030.



## WASH: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

"WASH" is a common acronym used by organizations around the world to refer to the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector. Universal, affordable, and sustainable access to WASH services is vital to any human aid effort and is a key focus amongst international organizations and local governments.

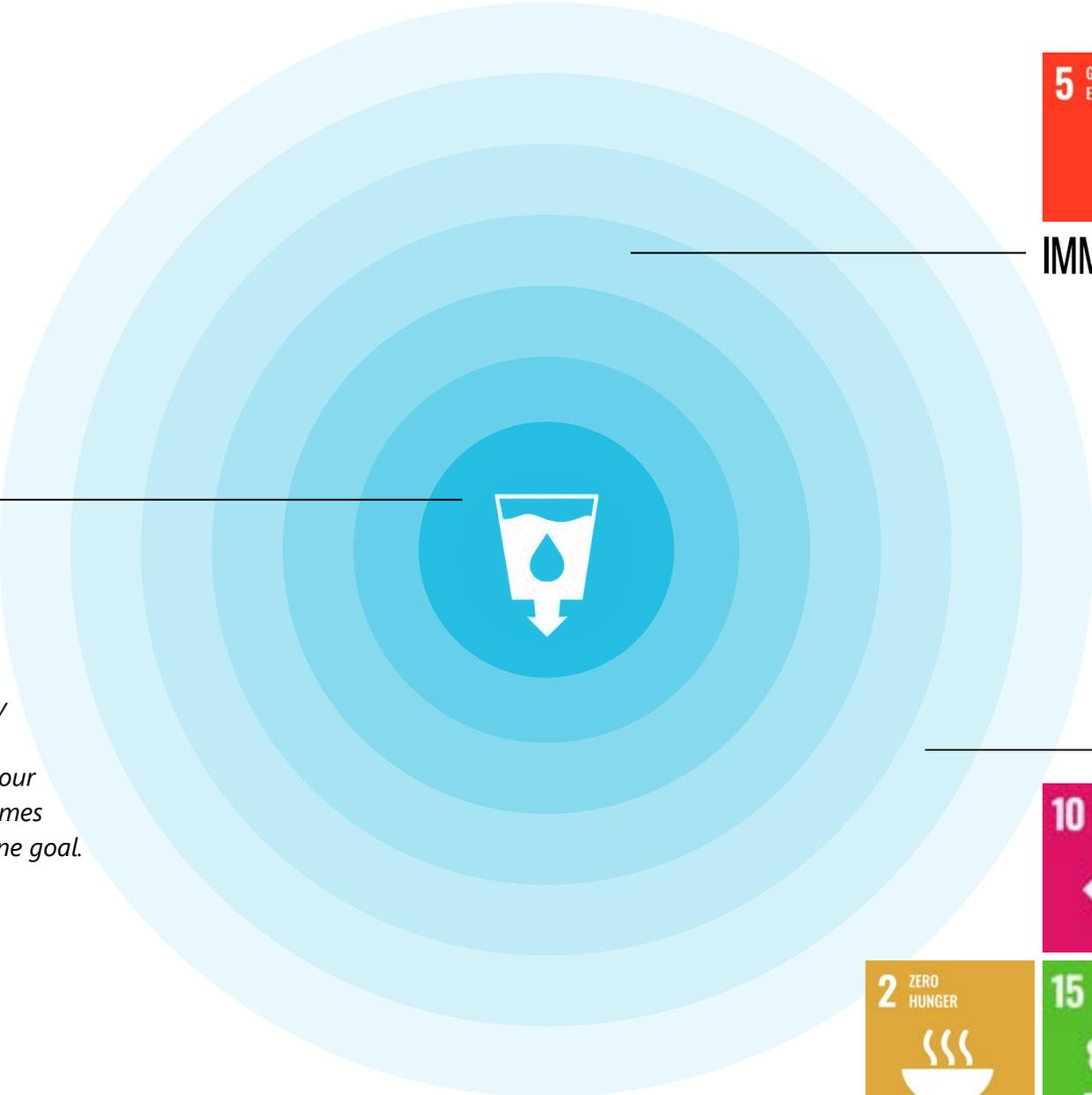
Since 1990, the [Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene \(JMP\)](#) of WHO and UNICEF has produced regional and global estimates of WASH progress, and as such, have become the leading source of WASH data. In 2017 they established baseline estimates for monitoring the United Nations' new Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets, and became custodian agencies for SDG Goal #6 - Clean Water and Sanitation.

# THE RIPPLE EFFECT

## OUR PRIMARY FOCUS



*Lifewater Canada primarily focuses on Goal #6: Clean Water and Sanitation, but our work has immediate outcomes and impacts beyond this one goal.*



**IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES**



**FURTHER IMPACTS**



# OTHER SDG DEFINITIONS

The following related Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) include a brief description of the goal's objective according to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



*End poverty in all its forms everywhere*



*End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*



*Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*



*Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*



*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*



*Reduce inequality within and among countries*



*Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*

THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF SAFE WATER:

# SUBSISTENCE FARMING

Yumbe Secondary School is one of the schools we have been honored to construct a well and give over three hundred students access to clean and safe drinking water. While our goal to provide access to clean water was well advanced following the completion of the school's well, we recently discovered that the institution has done so much more than just enjoy drinking clean water.

To provide context; Yumbe Secondary School is in the Mwingi region where, because of lack of water – clean or not – has made it impossible for residents to farm. This makes them rely on meat and cereals, as the communities in the rural areas rarely have vegetables in their diet.

For this reason, it was a pleasant surprise to learn that Yumbe Secondary School is now subsistence farming; growing vegetables to supplement and improve the students' diet. They water the garden using water from the well given to them by Lifewater Canada donors.



THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF SAFE WATER:

# DIGNITY KITS

STADA, one of our implementing partners in Kenya, distributes “Dignity Kits” – consisting of 5 reusable sanitary pads in a reusable, zippered bag – in the Kisumu and Kitui counties of rural Kenya. Girls in these rural areas have to miss class time in school due to their limited access to affordable Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) products and information. According to the Kenyan Ministry of Health, 54% of Kenyan girls face challenges in accessing MHM products, and 65% are missing sufficient access to these products. When girls lack affordable access to menstrual care, they sometimes turn to the desperate practice of ‘sex for pads’ – which is the exchange of sex for sanitary towels. This leads to teenage pregnancies, HIV/AIDs infections, and eventually school dropouts.

In pursuit of ending period poverty, STADA focuses on keeping girls in school, creating awareness of MHM – thereby reducing period shame, and providing platforms to conduct research that would influence MHM policies. In achieving these objectives, STADA has produced more than 20,000 kits containing washable/re-usable sanitary towels since 2022. More than 16,322 have been distributed so far. Every three months, STADA carries out assessments to determine the impact of the program. From their most recent assessment, school absenteeism was reduced by 74%, which has improved academic performance amongst girls in school by 55%!

*“In Kasraro Village, we used to report 5 pregnant teenage girls before the program became implemented. But now, the cases have reduced to at most 1 in the locality. We attribute this to the education and engagement that STADA has with our young girls and the distribution of reusable sanitary towels, as they don't have to buy. We thank STADA for their efforts”*

– Joel Noi, focal person,  
Kasraro Village





4

STRATEGY

# OUR STRATEGY: A 3-PHASE APPROACH

1. TRAIN AND  
EQUIP LOCAL  
WORKERS

*We train and equip our partner teams. We enable our overseas teams to meet together and share knowledge during our annual 'International Drilling Conference' that everyone may benefit.*

2. LOCAL TEAMS  
COMPLETE  
THE WORK

*Lifewater partners with local non-profit organizations to complete water and sanitation projects in-country. These teams then train and equip a local Well Caretaker from the community, and host Health and Hygiene workshops to help prevent water-related diseases.*

3. DONORS MAKE  
PROJECTS  
AFFORDABLE

*Donors fund these projects while villages contribute a token amount of money and "sweat equity."*

*For villagers earning \$1 a day, a \$5,000 well may as well cost \$5 million.*

3

# LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE

## PUMP REPAIR TEAMS

Every one of our partners has developed a well-trained and dedicated pump repair team, designed to be easily accessible, and readily available to handle any breakdown that the well caretakers are not able to handle on their own. This helps ensure that the pump operates with as little down time as possible and keeps safe water flowing for as long as possible!

4

## WELL CARETAKER

Every Lifewater water project since 1995 has included the training of a Well Caretaker. Not all have carried on as intended, but the position helps ensure the pump lasts longer, the water remains safe, and conflicts do not escalate among villagers waiting in line.

One of the key jobs of the caretaker is to monitor the pump while it is in use. By ensuring that the handle is operated with "full" strokes, the pump cylinder will last much longer than when there are rapid, short strokes – as these cause wear to only a short section of the cylinder.

The Well Caretaker ensures people are not bathing, watering animals, doing dishes, or washing laundry at the pump. They also watch that children are not touching and contaminating the spout while washing their hands after toileting. The caretaker makes sure that "social etiquette" is practiced at the well. This may include preventing young girls from being forced from their place in line, littering, toileting in the vicinity of the pump, or drawing excessive amounts of water.

Finally, the caretaker is the most likely person to notice if the pump is not performing as it should. He or she can alert the local Lifewater Pump Repair Team to ensure the pump is repaired before it stops working altogether.



# OUR DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Lifewater is guided by four key Development Goals and each goal has several targets used to measure them. To learn more about each target's significance and scoring, and to read application stories explaining why we adopted it, visit the "Our Story" section of our website at [www.lifewater.ca](http://www.lifewater.ca).

## 1 Meet basic water availability service levels

**Rationale:** *Beneficiaries should have year-round access to adequate quantities of water within 1 km of their homes and with minimum wait times. Failure to meet these requirements jeopardizes health as water use for hygiene will fall significantly.*

**Targets:**

1. Located within 1 km of 90% of users
2. Year-round water availability
3. 150-600 users per well
4. Affordability

The first two goals focus on ensuring people have a maximum 30-minute round-trip to gather safe water that is available year-round.

## 2 Provide safe, drinkable water

**Rationale:** *The main purpose of providing water systems is to help people gain access to safe drinking water supplies they will use to improve their health and well-being. The water must be safe, but also pleasant enough to encourage beneficiaries to drink it.*

**Targets:**

1. Water should be free of pathogenic bacteria
2. Nitrate and nitrite levels comparable to Canadian limits
3. Water free of turbidity and objectional taste/odour

## 3 Actively engage communities

**Rationale:** *A water project must not be built in a location where it won't be well used, or where it inadvertently increases religious or inter-tribal conflict over power or control.*

**Targets:**

1. Health and Hygiene training with all water projects
2. Community involved in picking well site
3. Community participation
4. Built on community land
5. Dedication Celebration and Deed Transfer

The second two goals relate to community ownership of water projects and their commitment to long-term maintenance of these projects.

## 4 Plan for long-term maintenance

**Rationale:** *It doesn't make sense to be drilling new wells at the same rate that wells are breaking down and not being used. But hand pumps failing and not being repaired continues to be one of the world's greatest development failures.*

**Targets:**

1. Strive for more than one community water source
2. Help communities develop a clear maintenance plan
3. Trained Well Caretaker

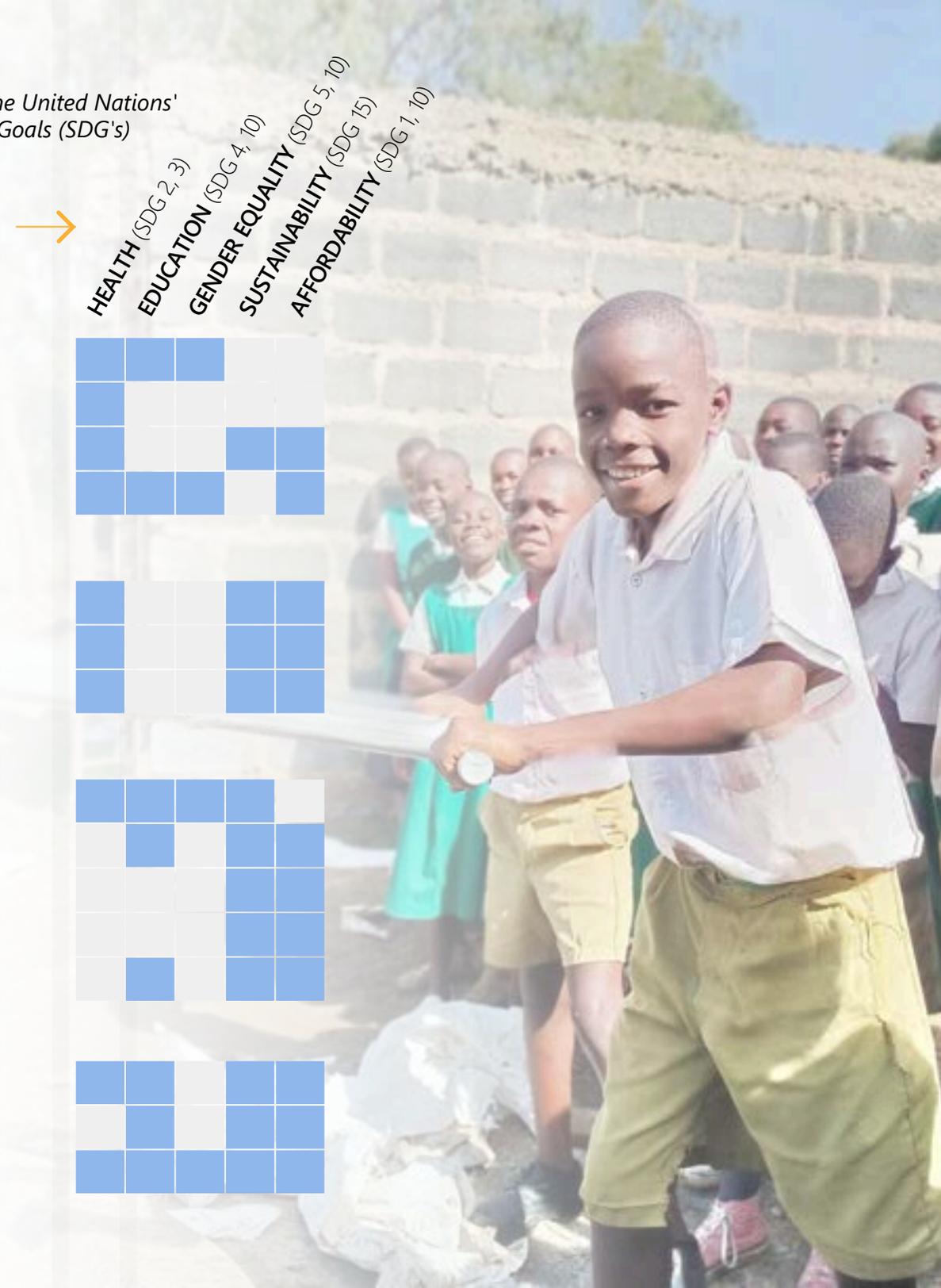
# GOALS' IMPACT

\*Measured in relation to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

## SDG OBJECTIVES\* →

HEALTH (SDG 2, 3)  
 EDUCATION (SDG 4, 10)  
 GENDER EQUALITY (SDG 5, 10)  
 SUSTAINABILITY (SDG 5, 10)  
 AFFORDABILITY (SDG 15)

- DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGETS**
- 1 MEET BASIC WATER AVAILABILITY SERVICE LEVELS**
    - 1. Located within 1 km of 90% of users
    - 2. Year-round water availability
    - 3. 150-600 users per well
    - 4. Affordability of drinking water
  - 2 PROVIDE SAFE, DRINKABLE WATER**
    - 1. Water should be free of pathogenic bacteria
    - 2. Nitrate and nitrite levels comparable to Canadian limits
    - 3. Water free of turbidity and objectional taste/odour
  - 3 ACTIVELY ENGAGE COMMUNITIES**
    - 1. Health and Hygiene training with all water projects
    - 2. Community involved in picking well site
    - 3. Community participation
    - 4. Built on community land
    - 5. Community ownership (Dedication/ Deed Transfer)
  - 4 PLAN FOR LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE**
    - 1. Strive for more than one community water source
    - 2. Help communities develop a clear maintenance plan
    - 3. Trained Well Caretaker



# WHAT SETS US APART

## HAVE EXPERIENCE

Lifewater Canada has a proven record since 1995; giving more than eight million people safe water so far! We follow an established framework for fiscal responsibility.

## FOCUS ON LOCAL

We build capacity by forming, training, and equipping registered non-profits that are made up of local people. We emphasize sustainability by keeping projects *affordable* rather than *free*, encouraging volunteerism, and maintaining a long-term local presence to help communities with ongoing maintenance.

## SHARE KNOWLEDGE

We provide free well-drilling training materials for any organization to use; we want to help as many people as possible, and believe that true empowerment comes from sharing knowledge! One of our most important teaching resources is Lifewater Canada's Well Drilling Manual.

## KEEP COSTS DOWN

We consistently keep our overhead below 10%! Our small handful of employees in Canada work from their own homes with only an occasional need for someone to visit overseas. We also use low-cost, accessible technologies (i.e., hand-powered well pumps rather than those requiring electricity or gas engines).

## PROVIDE TRAINING

The training provided to our overseas teams includes well drilling and repairs, hydrogeology, water quality testing, equipment maintenance, prevention of disease transmission, and business planning.

## MONITOR EACH PROJECT

Details about each project are loaded into a custom database that enables us to track when each project was completed, and when it was last inspected. The database also includes the contact information for the Well Caretaker we train in each community, and the maintenance contract information.

## SAVE FAMILIES MONEY

Families living near our water projects that would spend as much as \$120/month to buy drinking water now spend only \$1.35/month to help maintain their community well. This saves money for other pressing needs and reduces health care costs for individuals and society. It also enables greater economic productivity as people are healthy and able to work.

## REPORT TO OUR DONORS

We link all donations to specific projects so that when projects are completed, donors have access to detailed reporting including photos, GPS coordinates, community profiles and thank-you letters.



# 5 OUR WORK

# WHERE WE WORK

We focus our work on Haiti, Liberia, Nigeria, and Kenya because these countries have a desperate need for safe water, their governments have limited capacity to respond, and there is a general lack of required equipment and trained workers. In addition, groundwater is readily accessible at a low cost, resulting in a high project success rates and maximum impact for every dollar invested.



# OUR PROJECT TYPES

## NEW WELLS

We drill wells to a depth of at least 100 ft and install casing to prevent ground water from leaking in. We also install hand-powered pumps to prevent the contamination that occurs from using a rope-and-bucket method. The new well is disinfected immediately after drilling, then disinfected again after the pump has been installed.

Each well has an official *Well Caretaker* who the community has selected and we have trained and equipped. The pumps sometimes have a security jacket around them that protects parts from being stolen. We also encourage communities to establish regular water-drawing times so the pump can be locked and protected during down times. This means the Caretaker must supervise the pump at each of those designated times, which helps promote a system of regularity.

## REHABILITATED WELLS

We rehabilitate broken-down wells that are no longer providing water. This usually involves replacing the existing hand pump and the concrete pad surrounding it, along with a full disinfection. The well and pad are restored to a safe working condition. Lifewater replaces and rehabilitates wells that we originally drilled, and those drilled by other organizations that no longer provide support.

## PUMP REPAIRS

4

A hand-powered pump is comprised of several mechanical parts, and depending on the frequency of use, repairs will inevitably be necessary. Lifewater repairs pumps that we have installed, and those drilled by other organizations that no longer provide support.

## COMMUNITY WASHROOMS

One of the most important ways a community can become more sanitary is by having proper disposal of their sewage. We build community toilets and hand-washing stations at schools, churches, orphanages, medical clinics, and community centres. There is a wide range of toilet options ranging from single-stall pit latrines to six-stall pail-flush toilets with septic tanks. As a result, there is a wide variation in construction costs.

As part of some of these projects, we also install large rainwater storage tanks to store water for sanitation purposes only. Local community members are responsible for ongoing maintenance and treating the water with chlorine to ensure it remains safe to use.

5

6

## HEALTH & HYGIENE WORKSHOPS

Water from a new or rehabilitated well will quickly contaminate if the users aren't washing their hands or engaging in other standard sanitation practices. Lifewater Canada projects include a half-day workshop to help community members learn about the sources of dysentery, cholera, and other diarrheal diseases, disease transmission and how to reduce it, and how to care for their water and environment. We also offer stand-alone training in communities where there isn't an ongoing Lifewater project.

## DIGNITY KITS

2

We distribute washable/reusable sanitary pads at health and hygiene workshops, ensuring menstrual periods do not stop girls from attending school and continuing their education. This program began with the STADA team in Kenya, but we are working to incorporate Dignity Kits in all countries we work in, with plans to launch the program next in Liberia.

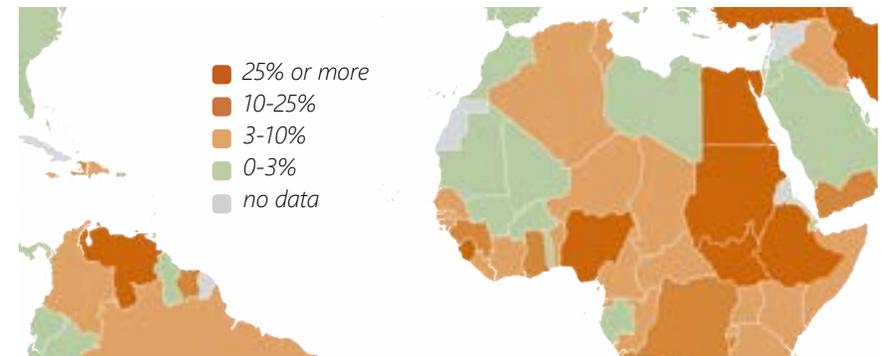
# KEEPING PROJECTS AFFORDABLE

World inflation has been a substantial concern for us in the years since the global shutdown from the COVID-19 pandemic. In our fiscal year 2023, we saw inflation peaking in Haiti at over 44%, approaching 25% in Nigeria, just over 10% in Liberia, and 7.7% in Kenya. While we are beginning to see things even out, and in some cases even slow down, Fiscal 2024 saw the rates remain high at 23% for Haiti, 26.3% for Nigeria, 6.3% for Liberia and 6.6% for Kenya.

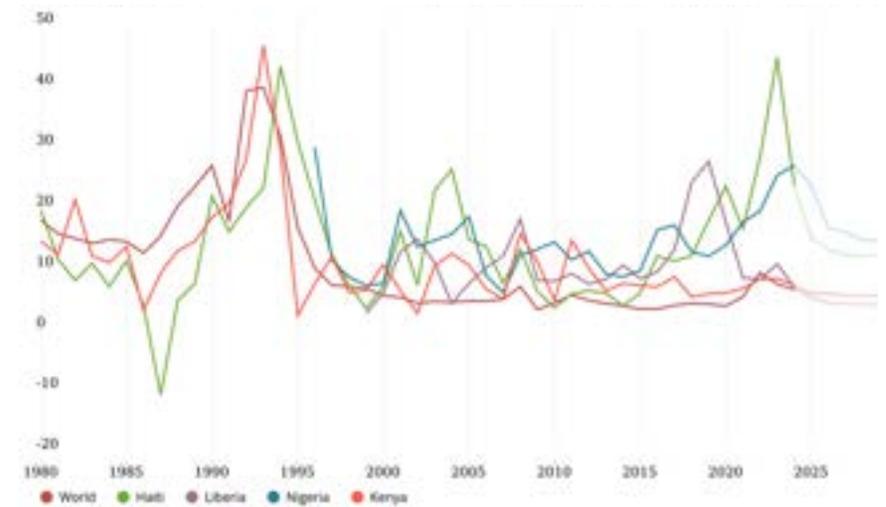
Yet, despite this worldwide inflation, we were able to keep our average project prices steady right until the end of the year, with just a 5% increase to our new wells going into Fiscal 2025 – all while working with each of our partners to actually increase employees' salaries to keep up with inflation.

While there were several factors involved in achieving this, without a doubt the biggest was connecting with a manufacturer in India that believes in, and desired to support, our work. After beginning the relationship in 2022, we took some time to build trust and ensure quality, before introducing a consistent inventory of Afridev pumps and repair parts for several types of hand pumps in each nation. This inventory is stocked by Lifewater Canada and managed by our local partners, who complete a monthly physical count. The products are then sold to each partner at Lifewater Canada's *landed* cost in each nation. In Liberia, for example, a complete Afridev pump used to cost Lifewater Liberia just over \$1,200 USD, and each part was purchased from a separate supplier at a great cost in time as well as money – sometimes being unable to work due to a lack of supply. Now they can take a complete pump from inventory and pay only our *landed* cost. In Liberia, this is just over \$450 USD. **The ripple effect here is that more work can be done, more time can be saved, and more people ultimately served.**

## INFLATION RATE BY COUNTRY, 2024



## INFLATION RATE HISTORY, % PER YEAR



©IMF, 2024, Source: World Economic Outlook (April 2024)

# SAMPLE PROJECT COSTS

We provide the average global cost of each type of project because costs may vary country by country or even community by community. This is due to several factors including the price of local materials and equipment. It may also cost more at a project site if Lifewater is not already working in that area or it is in a remote or hard-to-reach location. We review our costs regularly to ensure the averages we list here are accurate.

Villagers actively participate in the work, usually contributing \$100 to \$300 towards each project through cash, supplies, labour, and services.

3

NEW WELLS  
\$5,500

PUMP  
REPAIRS  
\$125

HEALTH &  
HYGIENE  
\$100

WELL REHABS  
\$1,500

WASHROOMS  
\$3,500+

DIGNITY KITS  
\$5



6

OVERVIEW

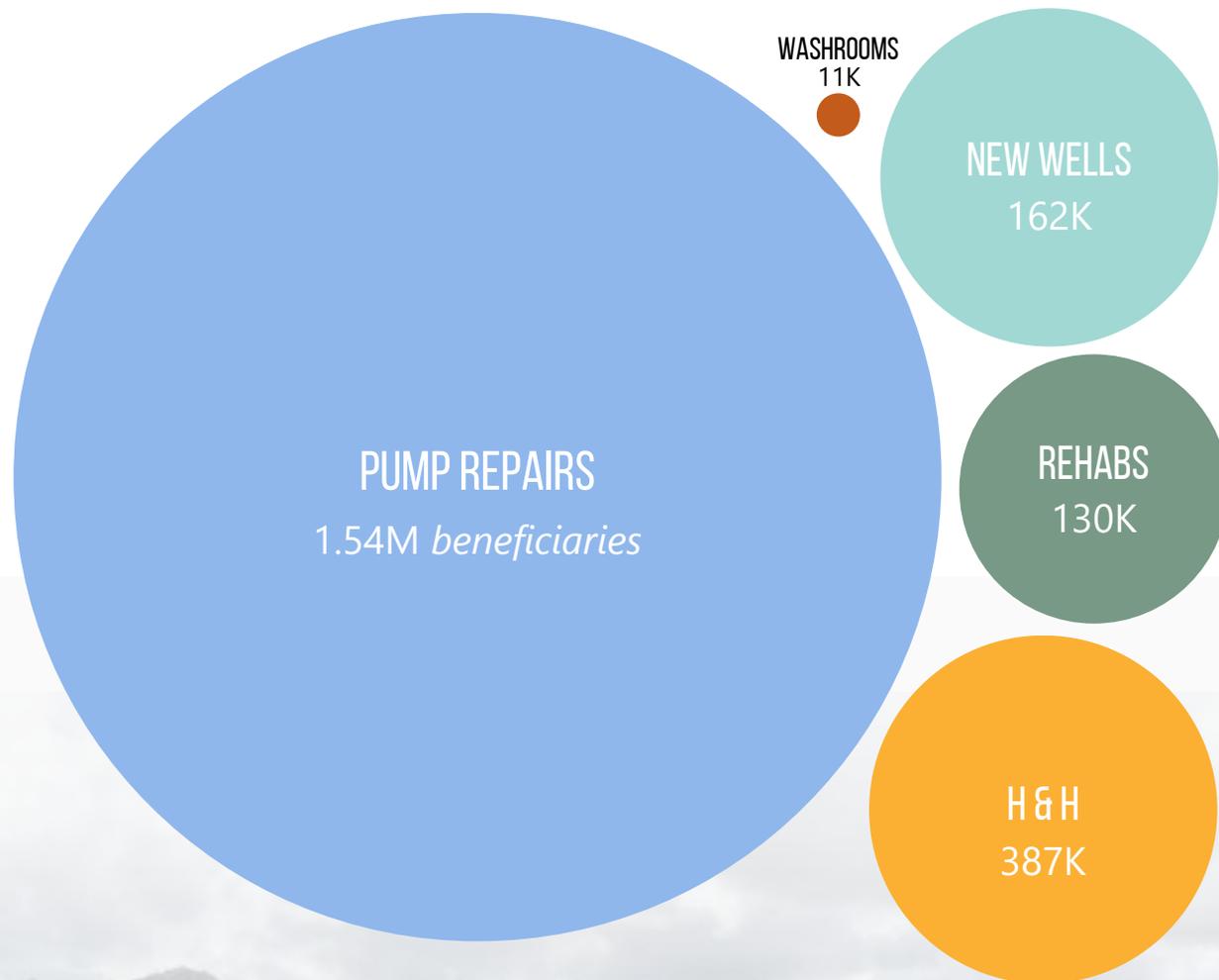
# IMPACT SUMMARY

Lifewater Canada donors significantly improved the lives of **2,238,489 people** in Africa and Haiti through new wells, rehabilitated wells, repaired pumps and other water and sanitation initiatives!

- **162,181** people from **421** new water wells
- **130,347** people from **324** broken-down wells that were rehabilitated
- **1,548,268** people from **4,367** hand pumps that were repaired
- **10,773** people from **26** new community washrooms
- An additional **386,920** people also received support and training through **1,253** Health and Hygiene workshops (*stand-alone H&H programs only - not including training as part of another project*)
- Approximately **11,650** dignity kits were distributed in Kenya

**We completed 6,391 water projects in fiscal 2024 after 3,662 the previous year – a record accomplishment with our teams smashing our original goal of 3,451!**

size of bubbles is proportional to the number of beneficiaries



# IMPACT SUMMARY

We had originally set an internal goal, albeit a conservative one, of working with our partners to complete nearly 3,500 projects in Fiscal 2024. As is our normal practice, we started the year slowly with projects, as we took the time to focus on team training in technical skills. This included office work, computer skills, and field training. By the end of our first quarter in October, the teams were well on schedule to reach the goal we had set. However, as the year progressed, the teams continued to show that they were capable of completing more projects, with excellence, than we had planned. Therefore, we made the decision to let them push as hard as they felt capable.

Seeing what these teams are capable of has been incredible. For example, we had always imagined a time that we would see a well a day drilled for a year, but in this fiscal we far exceeded that number, reaching an astounding 421 new wells. This same incredible achievement is paralleled in all of our project types, showing that our partners are highly capable and more than willing to exceed what is asked of them.

## 2024 PROJECTS + BENEFICIARIES

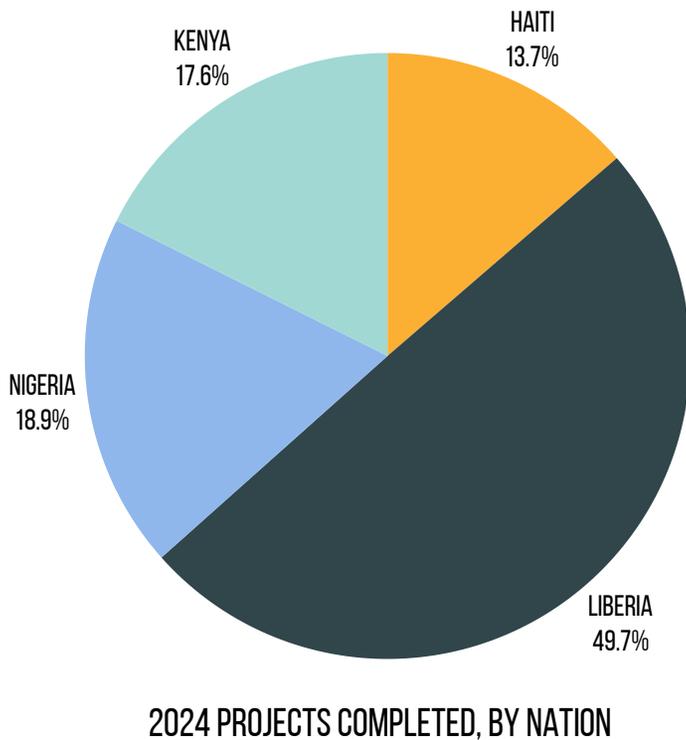
	NEW WELLS	REHABILITATED WELLS	PUMP REPAIRS	COMMUNITY WASHROOMS	HEALTH + HYGIENE*	DIGNITY KITS**	TOTAL PROJECTS	TOTAL BENEFICIARIES
HAITI	44	4	768	0	0	0	816	353,651
LIBERIA	65	34	2,211	2	867	0	3,179	1,002,010
NIGERIA	210	230	750	21	0	0	1,211	533,944
KENYA	102	56	638	3	386	11,650**	1,185	348,884
<b>total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>4,367</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>6,391</b>	<b>2,238,489</b>
<i>proportion</i>	6.59%	5.07	68.33%	0.04%	19.60%	**	100%	

\*Stand-alone H&H projects (Not including H&H training as part of a project)

\*\*Individual dignity kits are distributed, and not included in total projects and beneficiaries

# OPERATIONAL SCORECARD

At Lifewater Canada, we strive to be as transparent and authentic as possible, with a healthy amount of both third-party and internal analysis of our work and operating procedures. We evaluate the progress and impact of our work using the data collected from each project through our partner teams. We then 'grade' each nation on a scorecard derived from our Development Goals and their corresponding targets.



DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGETS

## 1 MEET BASIC WATER AVAILABILITY SERVICE LEVELS

1. Located within 1 km of 90% of users
2. Year-round water availability
3. 150-600 users per well
4. Affordability

## 2 PROVIDE SAFE, DRINKABLE WATER

1. Water should be free of pathogenic bacteria
2. Nitrate and nitrite levels comparable to Canadian limits
3. Water free of turbidity and objectional taste/odour

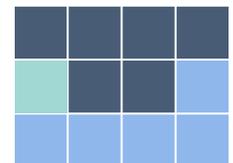
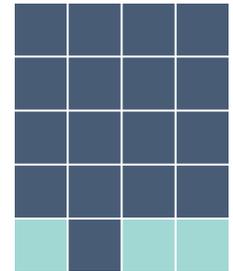
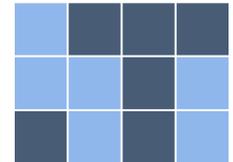
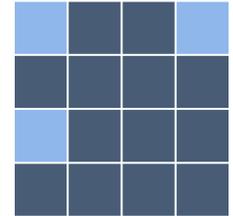
## 3 ACTIVELY ENGAGE COMMUNITIES

1. Health and Hygiene training with all water projects
2. Community involved in picking well site
3. Community participation
4. Built on community land
5. Dedication Celebration and Deed Transfer

## 4 PLAN FOR LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE

1. Strive for more than one community water source
2. Help communities develop a clear maintenance plan
3. Trained project technician and Well Caretaker

HAITI  
LIBERIA  
NIGERIA  
KENYA



% of Target Complete

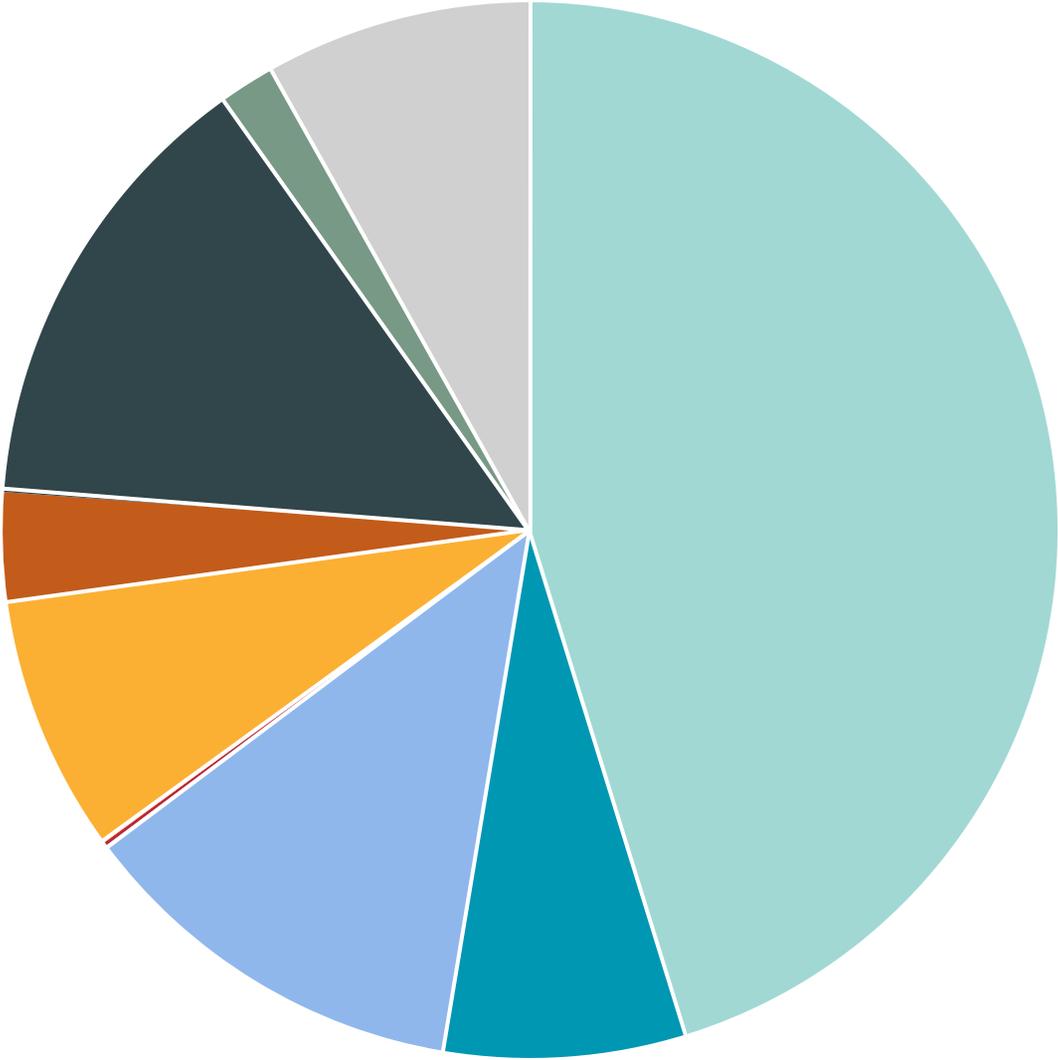
- 90% or above
- 60% - 90%
- 60% or below

# HOW WERE YOUR DONATIONS INVESTED?

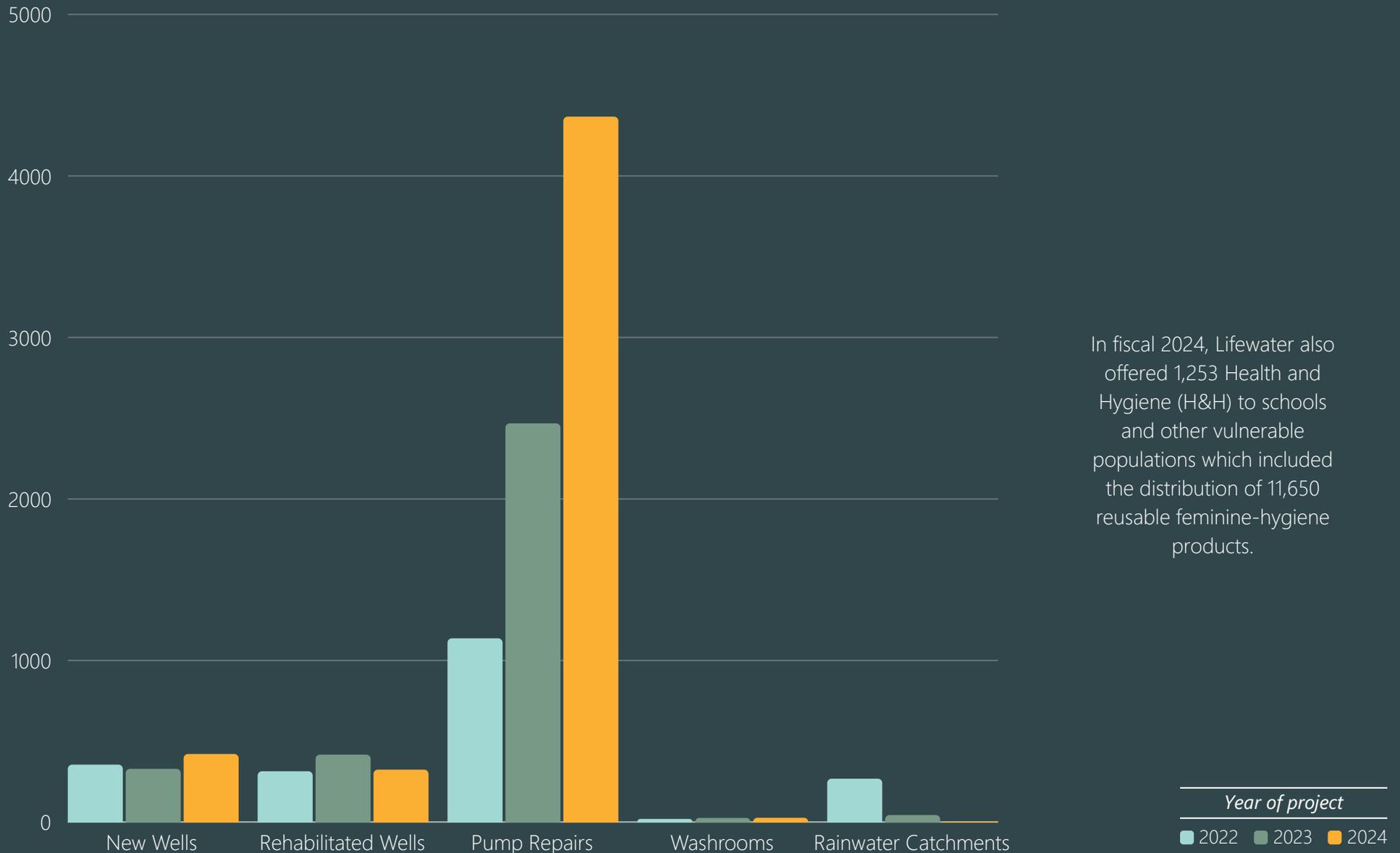
PROJECT SECTOR	INVESTMENT	%
New Wells	\$1,803,048	45.1
Rehabilitated Wells	\$297,081	7.4
Pump Repairs	\$488,185	12.2
Rainwater Catchment/Storage	\$4,963	0.1
Health and Hygiene	\$317,442	7.9
Sanitation	\$131,613	3.3
Infrastructure/Equipment*	\$560,036	14.0
Training and Education	\$68,262	1.7
Overhead**		
Administration	\$41,838	1.0
Fundraising	\$35,610	0.9
Wages and Benefits	\$245,818	6.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,993,896</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Infrastructure/Equipment includes repair and storage facilities, vehicles, equipment, tools, etc.

\*\*Overhead includes salaries, contractor fees, fundraising costs, office supplies, etc., of which \$22,031 was funded by board and staff donations.



# YEARLY TOTALS // BY WATER PROJECT TYPE

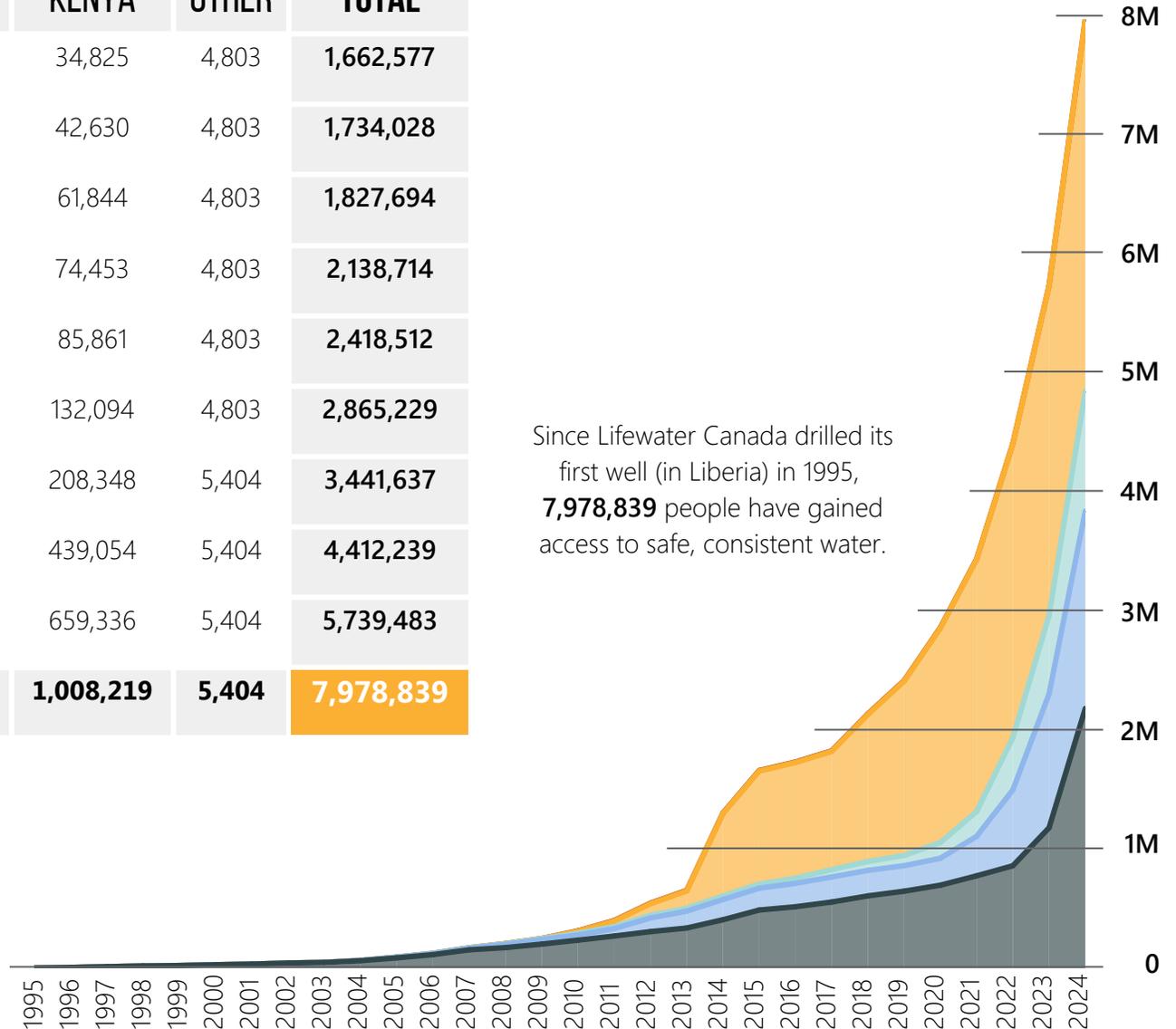


In fiscal 2024, Lifewater also offered 1,253 Health and Hygiene (H&H) to schools and other vulnerable populations which included the distribution of 11,650 reusable feminine-hygiene products.

# CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BENEFITTING

	HAITI	LIBERIA	NIGERIA	KENYA	OTHER	TOTAL
2015	950,473	489,346	183,130	34,825	4,803	1,662,577
2016	972,689	516,966	196,939	42,630	4,803	1,734,028
2017	993,704	556,594	210,749	61,844	4,803	1,827,694
2018	1,236,876	608,231	214,352	74,453	4,803	2,138,714
2019	1,465,638	647,859	214,352	85,861	4,803	2,418,512
2020	1,803,677	698,294	226,360	132,094	4,803	2,865,229
2021	2,118,900	776,950	332,035	208,348	5,404	3,441,637
2022	2,468,840	861,475	637,466	439,054	5,404	4,412,239
2023	2,768,502	1,181,379	1,124,864	659,336	5,404	5,739,483
<b>2024</b>	<b>3,122,152</b>	<b>2,184,256</b>	<b>1,658,807</b>	<b>1,008,219</b>	<b>5,404</b>	<b>7,978,839</b>

Since Lifewater Canada drilled its first well (in Liberia) in 1995, **7,978,839** people have gained access to safe, consistent water.



# People by Nation  
 ■ Liberia ■ Nigeria ■ Kenya ■ Haiti

# OUR STATS EXPLAINED

2,238,489

**combined total of nation-reported beneficiaries**

433

**average number of people benefiting per water project**

(total number of nation-reported beneficiaries) / (total number of projects - excluding standalone H+H projects)

672,529

**hours saved per day**

(average "reduced travel time compared to old water source") x (total number of households)

90.1

**minutes saved per household**

((hours saved per day) / (total number of households)) x 60

462,263

**monthly days recovered that children (usually girls) were in school**

((estimated number of school-aged children) x (average school hours recovered per month/student)) / 8 hours a day

\$0.18

**daily savings per person**

(average of the nation-reported daily water savings per person)

\$10,607,812

**total monthly economic impact**

(average monthly nation-reported "water savings per household") x (total number of households)

\$5.00

**SROI (social return on investment) = a \$5.00 economic return for each \$1.00 invested by a donor**

((total monthly economic impact + (average daily school days recovered x daily value of tuition) / total nation expenses)

# LOOKING AHEAD TO FISCAL 2025

In addition to continuing to improve policy and procedure within each team, we will be spending time this year with those team leads who are still in need of honing computer skills, as all of our reporting is now done electronically.

We are also working on a plan to introduce our Dignity Kit program across all nations, hoping to launch in Liberia in our second quarter, Nigeria third quarter, and Haiti in fourth quarter.

A new drilling rig is on order for L-Linc, with a new team currently on staff and training with the existing team. This new team will operate in the remote areas of Liberia, and is currently being referred to as Lifewater Rural.

In response to the tremendous need for pump repairs, we will scale back slightly on drilling new wells and expand the repair program, as well as increase the reach of sanitation and hygiene initiatives.

We hope to complete the following number of projects:

2025 PROJECTS (projected year-end)	
NEW WELLS	365
REHABILITATED WELLS	246
PUMP REPAIRS	5,800
COMMUNITY WASHROOMS	41
HEALTH + HYGIENE	1,880
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,332</b>

Depending on how well the dignity kit program is received in our other nations, we also hope to provide approximately **18,000** women and girls with menstrual hygiene products.

This is a lot of work for all of us – thank you for joining with us in it!





7

REGIONAL UPDATES

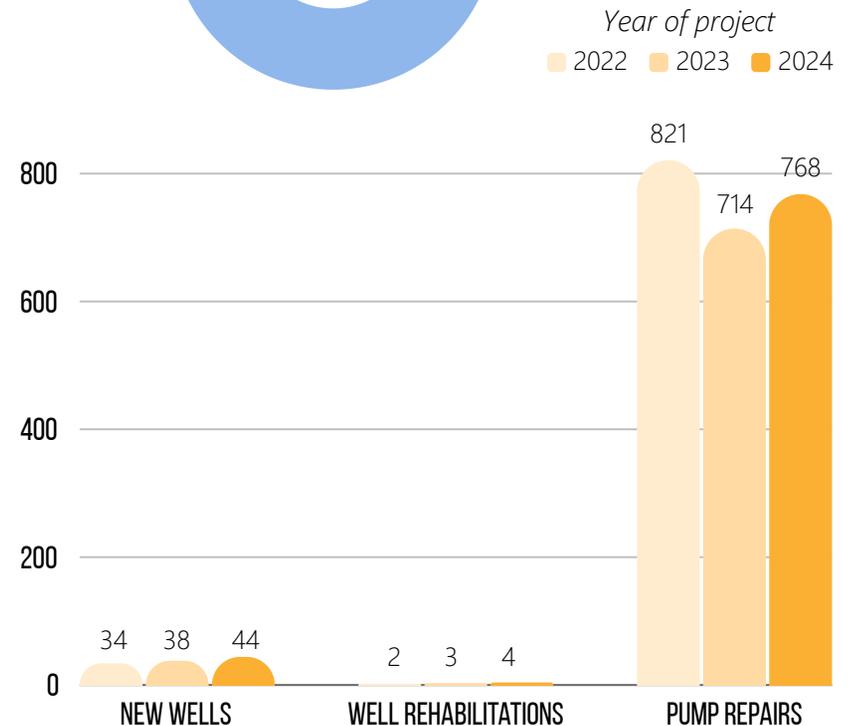
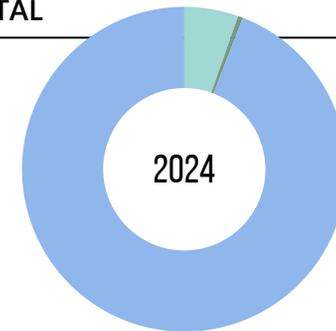
# HAITI

The ongoing turmoil the nation of Haiti is experiencing has continued to impact our Lifewater d’Haiti team, and it can be easy to focus on the negative repercussions of this adversity. The lack of an effective police force has resulted in rival gangs running the nation, making safe passage challenging. The high inflation rate and cost of living have resulted in some of the highest fuel and maintenance costs that the nation has ever seen. And in the absence of regulated property development, a neighbor of the Lifewater d’Haiti team’s compound has heavily excavated a hill and moved the earth around the compound’s perimeter wall, threatening its collapse and creating a vulnerability to theft and trespassing. The team has faced more challenges than these, but with the support of Lifewater Canada and our donors, this small team continues to meet their challenges and overcome them!

We marked a major milestone with Lifewater d’Haiti this past fiscal year, in which the team, led by Hanania Orelus, achieved a state of independence that was always prayed for, but feared never to be realized. In the past, Lifewater d’Haiti relied heavily on the in-person presence of Lifewater Canada volunteers for many basic functions, from repairs to bookkeeping, scheduling and planning. As we have not been able to travel since 2020, they have been forced to handle these matters *internally*. From something as basic as the Program Coordinator purchasing and setting up their own laptop and using file sharing for project reports, to sourcing and ordering parts for vehicle repair and maintenance, this team has become a true partner, and as such, a true joy to work with.

With all this happening, they also had their second-best year for new wells, completing 44, and pump repairs, completing 768. This is in spite of not working for almost two months due to the nation’s instability. All of their work was also completed with their smallest team ever, and it is worth noting that their all-time records were set in a year that had a larger team, as well as several *Canadian volunteers* working with the team for approximately six months! Their current team may consist of only six people, but these members not only understand the vision, but have adopted it as their own. There is still work to be done, both inside the team and in the nation, but we are seeing tremendous strides in the right direction. An incredible year of **growth** for this team!

PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	44	19,069
Rehabilitated Wells	4	1,734
Pump Repairs	768	332,848
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>353,651</b>



# LIFEWATER D'HAITI



## A LETTER FROM HAITI

*The impact that Lifewater has had on the community, especially in the north and northeast is astronomical, and the testimonies have been numerous. The people have spoken; their access to clean water has immensely improved their quality of life, and now they have potable water for drinking, cooking, and bathing. This has led to a severe decrease in the spread of diarrheal diseases, like cholera and polio. It has also promoted their economic development – as clean water plays a key role in agriculture, supporting crops and livestock. They no longer must cross dangerous roads nor walk long distances for water, which is cost and time effective. They could not be more grateful; your generosity is a testament to your compassion and commitment to make a difference. Actions that the government should have taken to ensure a brighter future, you are the ones who take the initiative, setting examples for them.*

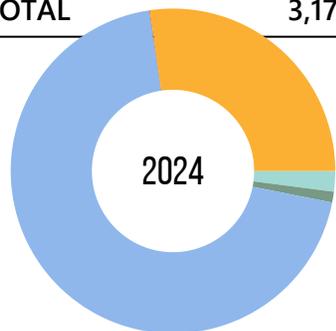
*Hania Orelus, Program Coordinator  
Lifewater d'Haiti*

# LIBERIA

We are thankful for the continued great strides made in Liberia. The introduction of the STS-Lifewater team, who work in the pump repair sector, allowed Lifewater Liberia (L-Linc) to focus on drilling new wells. Reverend Stephen Varfee transitioned to the role of Country Coordinator to keep the two teams working in harmony.

This division of project types proved to be tremendously positive, allowing existing employees to focus on the work they love most, and bringing in new experts to bolster all programs.

PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	65	20,489
Rehabilitated Wells	34	10,717
Pump Repairs	2,211	696,899
Washrooms	2	630
Health + Hygiene	867	273,275
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,179</b>	<b>1,002,010</b>



## A LETTER FROM STEPHEN VARFEE

*It is always a blessing to share my personal story about the work we do in Liberia with you, our partners and donors. Together we have gone beyond ourselves to serve others with the most important human need – water. Our work depends on the good will of people like you, and that is why we remain grateful to God always for His love and gift of life through the work we do together as partners. When I take a look at my journey over the last eight years, working first as the Project Coordinator for Lifewater Liberia (L-Linc) and now as the Country Coordinator, serving both the L-Linc and STS-Lifewater teams, I see it as a call to service by God, and my contribution as a work of Ministry.*

*I first want to recognize the spirit and passion of our team. Their willingness to go to hard-to-reach areas working for days or weeks without their families, sleeping in the open or in their vehicles, just to make sure we keep water flowing to those who need it most. The smiles on the faces of the local people, or the kids playing with the pump water as it flows, brings me so much joy and hope for the local communities. Safe water makes a huge difference to their health and wellbeing, and reduces the cost of water for them, improving their livelihood. I am always delighted to see our work reach across religious, cultural and political lines – that we are seen as friends, and I get to see the gospel coming alive according to Matthew 10:5-8b, "freely you have received; freely give".*

*The impact we have together – from your donations to the integrity of the management (Lifewater Canada), to our local implementing team leaders, to the sacrifices of our workers in the fields, and endless flows of God's Blessings – help us to complete incredible and unmatched work compared to any other WASH organization over the last 20+ years of work in Liberia.*

*To God be all the glory for great things He has done through our hands. Amen!*

*Stephen Varfee Jr.,  
Country Coordinator, Liberia*

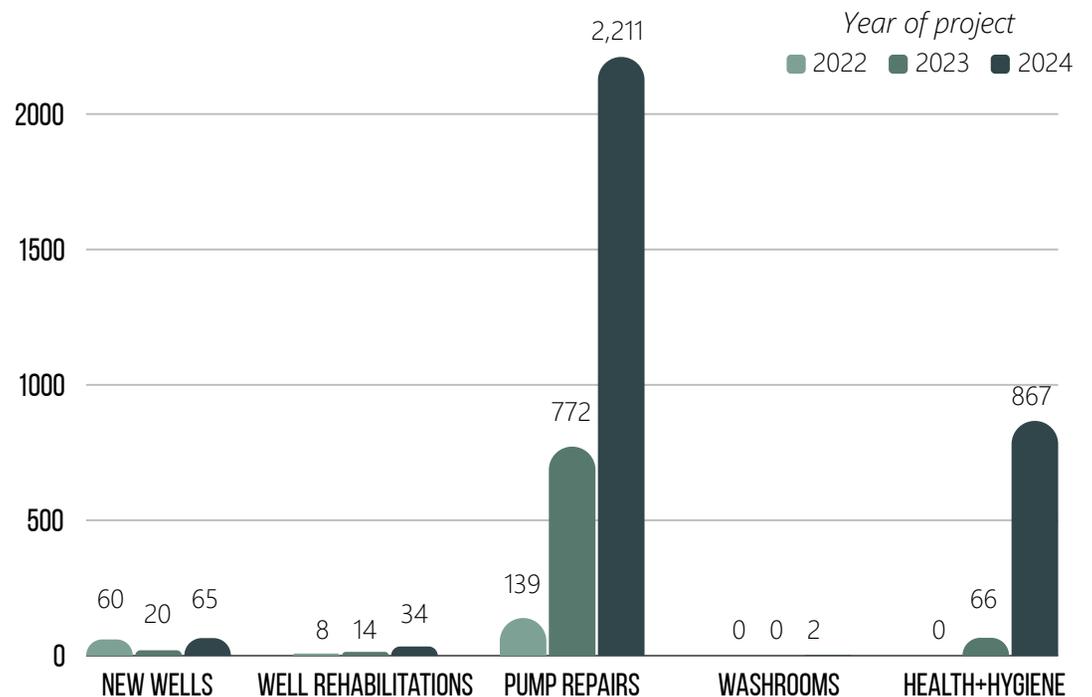
## LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. (L-LINC)

Lifewater Liberia has had a momentous year! After electing a new Board of Directors two months prior to the start of Fiscal 2024, the energy, ownership, passion, and responsibility has continued to fuel their new vision. They started by taking an honest look at their own internal operating procedures, evaluating everything from equipment maintenance schedules, to budgeting and employee salaries, and decided to make some bold changes – presenting a plan to Lifewater Canada, not for our approval, but for input and advice. This was the first sign that the new board was understanding the concept of working as partners, and one that we joyfully welcomed.

In their plan, they outlined how the previous board had neglected equipment maintenance to the point that the team was no longer able to drill, so they arranged for a short-term rental of a rig from a local commercial driller who was lacking work. At the same time, they reallocated their spending – focusing on repairing what they were able to repair, selling what they were not, and bringing their equipment back into serviceable condition. They renovated and repaired their facility and compound, which had been long neglected, and made a much needed improvement to the employee housing. While all this was happening, they put an emphasis on debt repayment and achieved debt free status on April 16! Add into the mix the introduction of a brand new Lonestar LS200 hydraulic rig (paid for in a 50/50 split with Lifewater Canada) and a radical revamp of employee salaries which saw ALL employees now joining the rest of our partners in earning a solid middle to upper-middle class wage, and I think we all agree that this has been a banner year for Lifewater Liberia Inc.! Even amidst all the changes, they only missed their all-time completed wells record by 7 wells. And as a bit of a sneak peek, they have another drill rig on order and have signed a new drill team to work in the rural northern area of Liberia... but that is a story for next year.

## SERVICE-TO-SERVANTS – LIFEWATER (STS)

For STS-Lifewater, this has been a year of growth. The team completes an average of 185 pump repairs each month, reinforcing our longstanding belief that maintenance is key to long-term success in any drilling program. Dozens of organizations have drilled in this nation as it recovered from its brutal civil war, and the people are thankful. When those organizations leave however, there is still work to be done in repairing and maintaining those wells. Under the direction of Joe Sloan, STS Lifewater Program Coordinator, pumps across Liberia are being mapped and logged into a database, maintenance schedules created, and local caretakers trained. Branching from this, STS offers community Health + Hygiene seminars, and in 2024, began a deeply needed sanitation program which sees community washrooms successfully erected. This team is working to their capacity, reaching hundreds of thousands of people, and in their joy, bringing safe and reliable water and sanitation services to Liberia. They manage the inventories for all of our Liberian teams. Impressively, they have also substantially invested in their own infrastructure, installing a generator due to Monrovia’s unreliable public power, and rotating their field vehicles on a regular basis.



# LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC.



## A LETTER FROM LIBERIA: L-LINC

*I want to take this time to appreciate Lifewater Canada for their support and for providing their resources to sponsor or support water projects in Liberia. Our work is very important, as we are reinforcing the national government effort in providing safe drinking water for Liberians in the WASH sector.*

*The testimonials and employee feedback from the field about the water projects are impressive; the locals appreciate the sponsors and donors for giving their resources in order to provide them with safe drinking water.*

*There is high demand for safe drinking water in all counties, and we receive many calls from across the country seeking safe water.*

*Best regards,  
Henry S. Tengbeh, Program Coordinator  
Lifewater Liberia Inc.*



## A LETTER FROM LIBERIA: STS

*Liberia is one of the wettest countries in the world yet around 90% of the population does not have access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation and hygiene services. According to 2020 estimates from the WHO/UNICEF, the percentage of people drinking surface water in rural areas has remained constant at about 26%, yet the total number of people using surface water has increased due to population growth. Over 1.9 million people practiced open defecation in 2020, and only 18% of the total population had access to basic sanitation services. As population density continues to increase in both urban and rural settings, the health impacts of open defecation will continue to worsen. Liberia faces both significant challenges and opportunities in delivering sustainable and affordable WASH services.*

*STS-Lifewater has been addressing these challenges through the repair of hand pumps and the construction of flushable communal latrines within Liberia. Our "Assessment and Education" (A+E) team evaluated several communities to identify gaps in accessing water and sanitation facilities. The level of health and hygiene awareness sessions conducted by the team has helped communities adhere to basic universal health practices such as hand washing, cleaning and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities.*

*Our work has helped curtail open defecation and cases of waterborne diseases have decreased. Community members now have access to safe drinking water and do not have to rely on a creek or shallow well to get water. We also see these achievements being maintained in the future because every community has in place a Well Caretaker to supervise the day-to-day running of water and take necessary actions when needed.*

*Joe Sloan, Program Coordinator,  
STS-Lifewater*

# STS- LIFEWATER



# NIGERIA

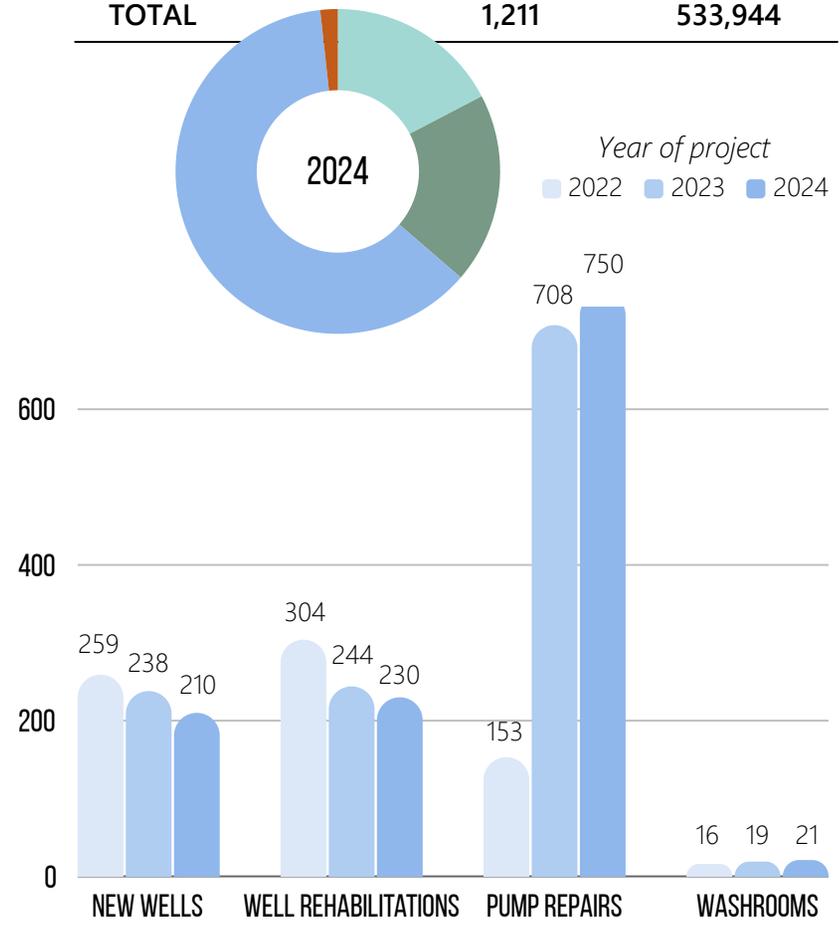
2024 was a significant year of operations for Lifewater Hygiene Initiative of Nigeria (LHIN). Formerly known as Water Products Ltd under one of our original Nigerian partners, John Apeh, LHIN became a registered Nigerian NGO after John passed the work on to his son, Hosea. With triplet toddlers at home, he manages LHIN as well as working as a psychology professor at the university of Abuja, recently being named as the dean for the faculty of education. A busy man, who is absolutely passionate about the work of providing safe and accessible water to his nation.

This past fiscal year we were able to realize a long term plan of building a truck-mounted rig – affectionately called "Jake" – as well as fully rebuilding Hosea's father's original drill, effectively putting 2 rigs into service that are both capable of reaching the harshest environments and serving the most forgotten people in Nigeria. Jake is a modified Lonestar LS300 drill, mounted to a four-wheel-drive Isuzu chassis, and also carrying a 185cfm compressor. A very compact package, but able to traverse very difficult terrain that is impassable for larger rigs. It is capable of drilling through hard rock to a depth of 300 feet which is ideal for our work, as the handpumps we utilize have a maximum lift of 300 feet as well. LHIN was also able to introduce a comprehensive Health & Hygiene program, providing these seminars in every community that they complete a project in. As a true partner in this work, Hosea has also begun contributing directly to the costs of projects, understanding that long term sustainability requires local input in order to keep costs reasonable. Whether raising money from local businesses, mobilizing volunteers to serve, or simply selling eggs as an income-generating project, Hosea and LHIN have shown that partnership in the *cost of the work* rather than just the work itself is an effective and positive strategy.

This all comes as great news from a nation plagued by corruption, bribery, high insecurity, and rampant inflation. Yet even facing these extreme challenges, the team continues to work diligently. It is worth mentioning that the teams have had to flee villages where they were working when bandits have raided, stealing cattle and shooting locals, one member of the staff was even abducted and beaten this spring, being held for ransom and threatened with death. Yet those teams return to those very villages to complete their work, and that abducted employee returned to work the very day she escaped.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	210	92,592
Rehabilitated Wells	230	101,409
Pump Repairs	750	330,683
Washrooms	21	9,260
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>533,944</b>



# LIFEWATER HYGIENE INITIATIVE OF NIGERIA

## A LETTER FROM NIGERIA

*In Nigeria's rural communities, Lifewater's arrival marks a turning point from heartbreak to hope. Where children once risked their lives to fetch distant, contaminated water – some even crushed by vehicles or felled by snake bites and disease – wells now provide clean water just minutes from home. Tears of anguish become tears of joy as families celebrate this life-saving blessing.*

*The impact ripples out, as they gain not only reliable drinking water, but sanitation facilities and vital hygiene education. The effects are both measurable – in reduced illness – and immeasurable, in the dignity and wellbeing restored.*

*Lifewater Nigeria has also transformed its own staff, empowering them to break free from poverty. With stable livelihoods and prudent financial stewardship, they are building homes, starting families, and becoming vessels of hope to others.*

*Through WASH initiatives that serve both physical and spiritual needs, Lifewater's work is a testament to the power of love in action, bringing renewal to parched ground and weary souls. Nothing could be more fulfilling than being a part of Matthew 25:40, "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

*Hosea Apeh, Program Coordinator  
Lifewater Hygiene Initiative of Nigeria*

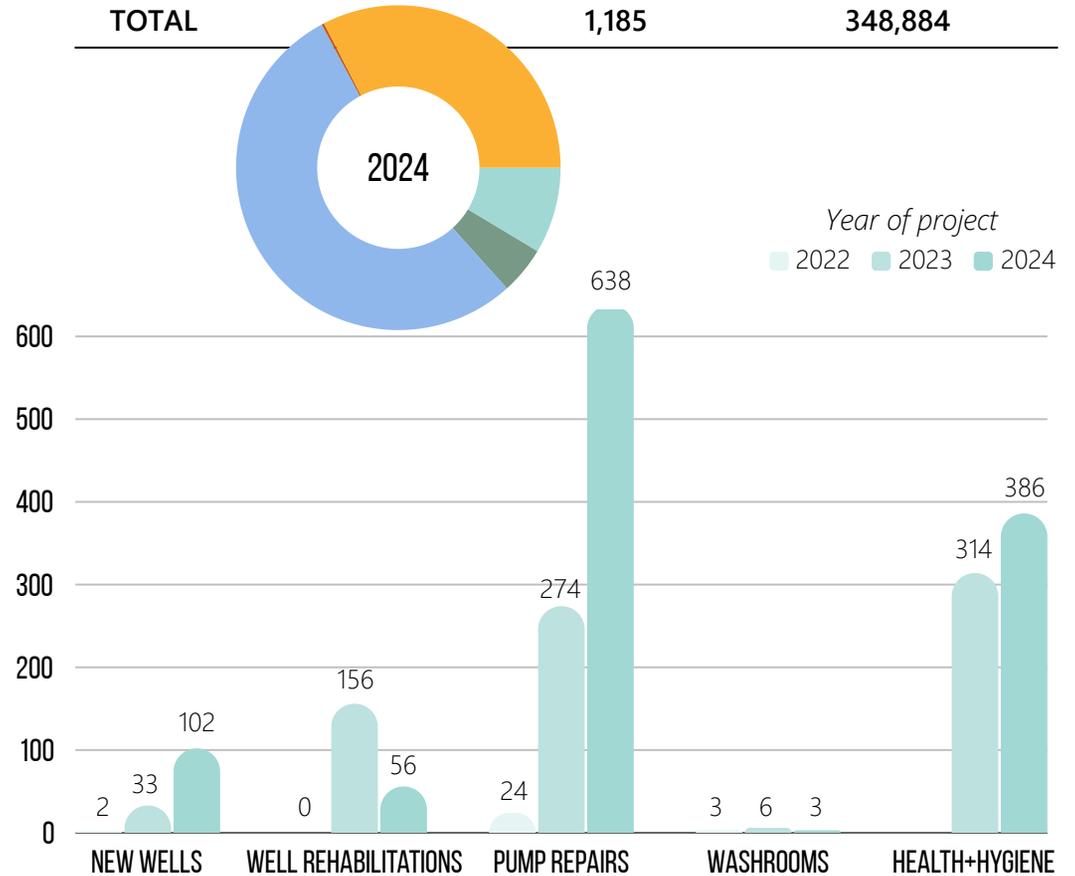


# KENYA

As a whole, Kenya has become a difficult nation to work in. Though the security is good and teams do not face the same dangers as some of our other partners, there has been a steadily increasing impact of government regulations on our work, as well as a sharp increase in the cost of the imports that we require on hand to do our work.

An example is a recent shipment of drill stem that was made as a donation to one of the teams which was given at no cost to either Lifewater Canada or the locally registered partner. Incredibly, the Kenya Revenue Agency saw fit to charge over \$6,000 in taxes, on a shipment that carried with it a letter of donation. Since the Kenya Revenue Agency has made it extremely difficult for NGOs (either local or international) to be granted tax exempt status without paying exorbitant “fees,” there was no choice but to pay the bill. This government is in a deep state of debt, and higher taxation has been the only solution they have been able to come up with. We are grateful for excellent relationships with many levels of government, giving us the ability to work freely on a local level in spite of the difficulty on a national one.

PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	102	30,031
Rehabilitated Wells	56	16,487
Pump Repairs	638	187,838
Washrooms	3	883
Health + Hygiene	386	113,645
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>348,884</b>



## **THE LIFEWATER KENYA (TLK)**

In 2022, the Director of TLK, Reverend David Maina, suffered a heart attack. After some time, he was thankfully able to recover but his absence was felt – as we saw a massive decrease in projects completed by this team. So much so, that the last project submitted was in Fiscal 2022. Though The Lifewater Kenya has generously supported and assisted the other two Kenyan teams during this time, for which we are extremely grateful, they have been unable to serve in their own community. The reasons for this were quite varied, from aging equipment to insufficient succession planning, but thankfully, we are finally seeing their WASH program come back to life.

This past year, David's son Sammy took over the program, and brought with him a tremendous passion to serve his nation, specifically in the Nakuru region where they are headquartered. We were also able to rebuild their trailer-mounted drill, including truck-mounting the entire machine, which had become impossible to transport due to changes in Kenyan laws. This happened late in the year, so no new wells were reported this Fiscal year, but it was a major milestone for this team. It has been great to see our longest-standing partner in Kenya be rejuvenated, now back diligently drilling new wells and repairing pumps. It has been a great lesson in planning for long term sustainability.

## **STAWISHA DADA (STADA)**

Lifewater Canada originally began partnering with STADA to lead Health and Hygiene seminars for our other Kenyan partners who did not have the capacity to do so. But after seeing their willingness to serve, their passion for people, and their commitment to the work, it was hard to limit them to only that area. Fiscal 2024 marked an accomplishment for this team, as they brought in a Lonestar LS200 portable drill. This drill purchase was made in partnership with Lifewater Canada, with each organization bearing 50% of the cost. This machine significantly increased their capacity, both in number of wells drilled and in the areas they are capable of drilling in. This year also saw STADA expand and streamline their staff to form a dedicated repair team, two separate drilling teams, as well as Health and Hygiene facilitators. While this does represent a learning curve for all, we've found that when working with a team that exhibits a true desire to improve daily, that learning curve actually becomes a joy rather than a burden.

STADA also now acts as the central inventory hub – supplying all Kenyan partners with pump installation and repair parts from the Lifewater Canada inventory stored in their secure compound. This model has worked so well that we have also introduced it in other nations where we work with multiple teams. 2024 also marked our first full fiscal year including *Dignity Kits* in our programs. Produced at STADA's in-house manufacturing facility, over 16,000 girls and young women now have access to dignified menstrual hygiene.

While STADA works in many other program areas (i.e., food, mental health, literacy), Lifewater Canada is a partner in only their WASH programs.

## **LIFEWATER R.E.S.C.U.E KENYA (LRK)**

The LRK team works in the arid terrain of the Mwingi district which, save for the thick low brush and massive rock outcroppings scattered throughout, is barren. With only a single tarmac road in the area, access to hundreds of communities is only by dirt or sand trails. With steep, rocky climbs, dry river crossings that are prone to flash floods, and daytime temperatures approaching 40 degrees Celsius, working here is not for the faint of heart. On top of this, a language barrier exists – few people speak Swahili, and even fewer speak English, most using local dialects that require translation. Self-sufficiency was a big part of the training within the team. In the past, their drillers would simply drill the borehole, and the development and installation of the pump was outsourced to another Lifewater partner in Kenya. As the team has advanced both in drilling skill and problem-solving capacity, we have trained them on the entire installation process. They can now see a well through from beginning to end – the moment water flows from the pump. Additionally, the team has now added a staffing component to handle community and school Health and Hygiene seminars, ensuring timely and ready access to this potentially life saving knowledge. Very late in the year, LRK also initiated work in pump repair, purchasing a three-wheeled cargo motorcycle that can more easily access forgotten pumps, restoring them for the benefit of the community.

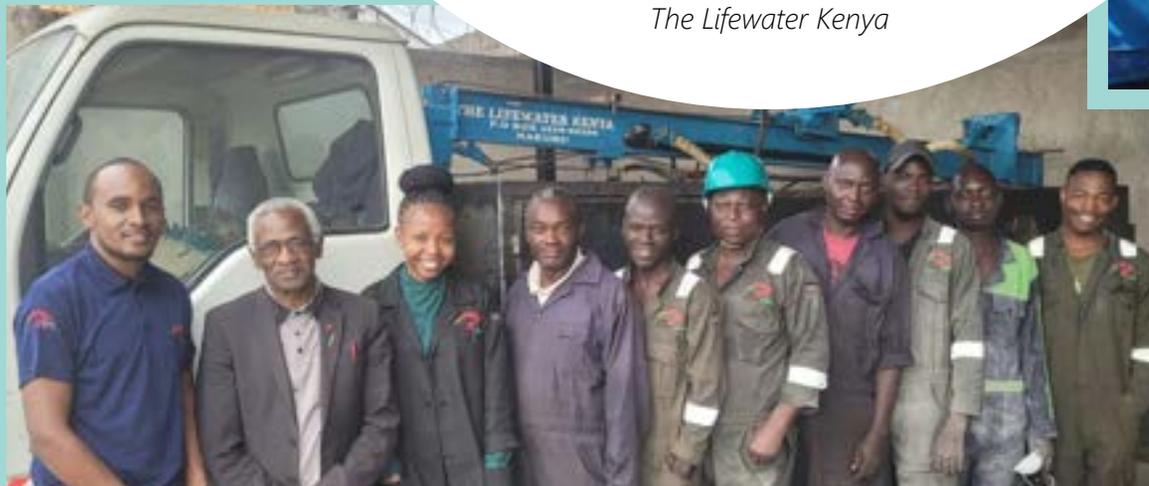
## A LETTER FROM KENYA: TLK

*The Lifewater Kenya began in 1987 with a vision to serve people in Kenya by providing safe drinking water, and by showing them the love of Jesus Christ – who provides such water that we never thirst again.*

*In some of our communities people walk long distances to wash their clothes and fetch drinking water from a river that livestock also drink and contaminate with manure. This has exposed many – especially women who handle the household chores – to health risks such as waterborne diseases like cholera and typhoid, or muscle tears from carrying heavy loads on their backs. But WASH programs have enabled us to bring solutions. Though wells reach a vast number of families and communities, they are expensive and sometimes we are restricted by the water table level; so rainwater storage tanks have been of great relief to institutions like public schools, especially during rainy seasons. Sanitation is also a big challenge as pit latrines can face the risk of sinking. We have constructed washrooms for public schools and communities that have high populations of children as the low-middle income earners can only afford public schools where education is almost free, and services are limited.*

*The beneficiaries are very happy and our employees are as well, our work creates jobs for them that they can put food on the table for their families. Indeed, we appreciate Lifewater Canada for being our major donor and helping provide safe drinking water. Thank you for making our lives and the world a better place to live in. May God bless you.*

*Dorcas Wainana, Program Officer,  
The Lifewater Kenya*



# THE LIFEWATER KENYA

# LIFEWATER R.E.S.C.U.E KENYA

## A LETTER FROM KENYA: LRK

*When we started working in the Mwingi region, I did not understand the extent of the clean water needs amongst the residents. The solution to increasing access to clean water meant lots of work, dedication and determination. It has been over three years since Lifewater Canada began working with Mwingi communities and being part of the team has always been an honor. Seeing water tanks harvesting rainwater in schools where there was not enough clean water, or new wells occupying spaces in areas where there was none and offering a permanent solution to the scarcity of clean water is a reward in itself. The communities in Mwingi have always needed a hand to help fight scarcity of clean water in the area, thankfully, Lifewater RESCUE Kenya, fully supported by Lifewater Canada is a steady and determined partner in that fight. While there is still lots of work to be done, I feel immense gratitude for the work we have done so far.*

*Catherine Achieng Wimply, Program Coordinator,  
Lifewater R.E.S.C.U.E Kenya*



# STADA



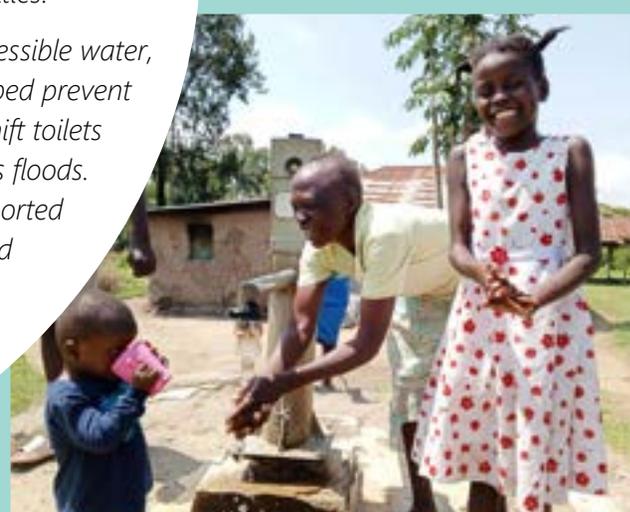
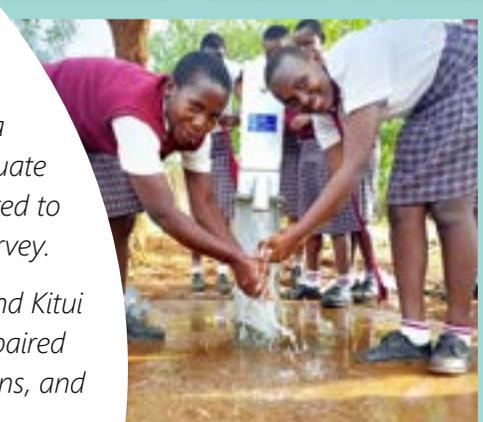
## A LETTER FROM KENYA: STADA

*As a developing country, rural-urban developments have greatly impacted WASH activities in Kenya, with more resources being allocated to urban areas. As a result, water, sanitation, and hygiene activities are on a decline in rural communities. Statistically, 25% of rural schools have an inadequate supply of safe water, and 14% of rural dwellers practice open defecation compared to 4% of urban dwellers, according to the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey.*

*Over the last 2 years, STADA has implemented WASH programming in Kisumu and Kitui counties. Since the onset of implementation, STADA has drilled 110 boreholes, repaired 1,050 and rehabilitated 170 pumps, constructed 7 latrines and handwashing stations, and conducted 1,440 health and hygiene talks in schools and communities.*

*As a result, there has been an increase in the supply of safe, clean, and accessible water, with a reduction in the spread of water-borne diseases. Latrines have helped prevent open defecation, leading to minimal cases of diseases when the makeshift toilets built by communities are swept away in the event of calamities such as floods. Students have been in school more, with reduced drop out cases reported especially among girls. We have also noted that there's increased knowledge on handwashing through the health and hygiene talks frequently conducted.*

Patricia Nudi, Program Coordinator,  
STADA





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LESSONS

# LESSONS WE LEARNED THIS YEAR

## LESSON 1: IMPROVED LIVING WAGES

At our first international conference, hosted in Kenya in October 2023, a representative of Lifewater Canada had a conversation with longtime L-Linc driller, Rocky Kollie. Joining the team in 2005, he has devoted his adult life to the work there and is a fixture in their organization. When his daughter, Esther, recently graduated high school and was looking to join university, Rocky was not able to afford the cost. This is not an expensive venture in Liberia, yet it was still out of Rocky's reach.

We investigated and found that the salary rates and pay increments set by the L-Linc Board of Directors had not kept up with the cost of living over his nearly 20 years of employment. While it isn't Lifewater Canada's role to dictate wages for our independent in-country partners, this revelation led us to open up discussions with all of our partners about what could be done – finding solutions where wages were too low, and ensuring that each employee was earning a fair living wage in the country they work in.

## LESSON 2: THE IMPACT OF DIGNITY KITS

During a post-drilling assessment done at Ogenya Camp in Kenya (an internally displaced persons' camp), we noticed that the total number of school absenteeism had not dropped as significantly as expected upon completion of a new well and community washroom. We then did some research to uncover the reason for this departure from past surveys.

We found that this particular camp had an unusually high percentage of school-aged girls and, even though there was fresh water and a washroom on site, girls were missing school during menses due to not having adequate access to menstrual hygiene products. As sanitation is a part of our mandate, we took action. In Fiscal 2024, 11,650 young women received "Dignity Kits", a packaged set of reusable sanitary pads that our team in Kenya has produced locally and distributed as needed. The overall impact has been a staggering 74% decrease in girls missing school, because they now have access to water, sanitation AND hygiene.

## LESSON 3: VILLAGE PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL\*

In a normal marketplace, money must be exchanged before goods or services are provided. We have learned however, that if water wells are provided for free, there is very little village ownership and the well will not be maintained, leading it to break down more frequently.

For projects to be successful in the long-term, we have found that community members must be willing to work together, provide accommodations for the local Lifewater team while they are on-site, and give time, energy, and other resources towards the project.

Villagers perform maintenance, raise repair funds, and establish rules for issues such as:

- When the pump should be locked and when water can be drawn (to guard against over-use and breakdown)
- How users must contribute towards required pump repair work
- Ensuring that women and children have easy and safe access to the well
- Who will be the official Well Caretaker

*\*this lesson was learned in a previous year, but we felt it was pertinent to include*

## **LESSON 4: LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE\***

In the early years of Lifewater Canada, we would train a local "pump repair technician" in each community where we drilled. Over time, we learned that this approach, while well-intentioned, was not sustainable due to the large number of wells now drilled each year. It also became common for the tools provided to be stolen or lost, and for the technicians themselves to lack confidence in their training, as they seldom had to use the knowledge and skills they had acquired.

We have instead shifted our focus to well-trained and easily accessible repair teams. By focusing our training, we have been able to grow and improve maintenance schedules, making better use of time and resources, and ultimately see more people served with safe water.

## **LESSON 6: ASSESSMENT AND EDUCATION**

While the backbone of our work has always been to provide safe water, we cannot ignore the adjacent services that affect it. Serving a community's water needs has a profound impact on health, wellbeing, and hope, but if open defecation is not also addressed, it can spoil a new well and spread disease due to lack of proper hygiene. In Fiscal 2024, we have finally been able to implement full community needs assessments, which aim to address all aspects of WASH programming. In addition, our assessment teams also provide valuable knowledge – furthering the impact that safe water can have on a community. They provide long-term results reporting on these projects, ensuring that the work that we are doing is having the greatest possible impact that it can.

## **LESSON 5: RAINWATER CATCHMENT**

After an impromptu audit in Kenya of the rainwater catchment tanks installed, we found that although these tanks were being used, they were largely not being maintained properly. The large plastic tanks require regular flushing, scrubbing, and disinfecting to keep the water safe, or else the risk of contaminated water increases tremendously. Combining this with the dramatic increase in the cost of these tanks, and that our goal is not just to provide water, but to provide SAFE and accessible water, we realized that this type of project would have to be phased out of our programming. The existing tanks we had installed have been converted to handwashing or irrigation only purposes, and our focus remains on long-term safe water solutions.

## **LESSON 7: INDEPENDENCE AND PARTNERSHIP**

In the early days of any team, there is a great deal of direction and decision-making that must be made by Lifewater Canada to keep the team moving in the right direction. Young teams are sometimes like young children, needing more attention and help than an adult child.

But just as children grow, so do these teams.

On a recent trip to Nigeria, two members of Lifewater Canada built a truck-mounted rig for the team, working shoulder-to-shoulder with our partner team, instructing them in welding, design, and fabrication. Once the rig was in service and the Canadians returned home, those Nigerians were so inspired and equipped by what they had learned that they refurbished their 30-year-old trailer-mounted rig – taking the initiative to manufacture a deck and mount it to the truck as well.



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OUR OPERATIONS

# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

Per Lifewater Canada's Audited Financial Statements, for the year ended June 30th, 2024

<b>REVENUE:</b>	2024	2023
Donations		
Individual	\$ 2,036,222	\$ 1,834,170
Corporate	153,407	156,457
Foundations	688,595	514,692
Churches + Schools	670,775	335,200
Gifts in kind	611	19,479
International	78,711	67,329
Interest income	23,819	14,836
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	3,686	8,482
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,655,826</b>	<b>2,950,645</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	2024	2023
Well construction	1,803,048	1,334,198
Well rehabilitation	297,081	409,470
Pump repair program	488,185	302,956
Tank catchment systems	4,963	141,684
Sanitation	131,613	104,661
Health and hygiene	317,442	77,233
Infrastructure improvements	560,036	404,640
Training and education	68,262	59,300
Administrative expenses	41,838	40,951
Fundraising	35,610	27,216
Wages and benefeits	245,818	172,809
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,993,896</b>	<b>3,075,118</b>

<b>TOTALS:</b>	2024	2023
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ (338,070)	\$ (124,473)
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 820,911	\$ 945,384
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 482,841</b>	<b>\$ 820,911</b>

# OUR TEAM

## OUR BOARD

Lifewater Canada has an independent governing board of directors, made up of people from diverse backgrounds and who pursue thorough deliberation and sound decision-making.

**Cheryl Ann Hertan (Board Chair)**

MBA, CTR, John Muir Health, California

**Herman (Harry) Oussoren (Vice-Chair, Secretary)**

P. Eng., Insitu Contractors, Guelph, ON

**Lynda Gehrels (President)**

Registered Nurse, Thunder Bay, ON

**Donald Heerema (Financial Controller)**

Chartered Account, Thunder Bay, ON

**Jason Gehrels (Treasurer)**

Financial Advisor, World Financial Group, Ottawa, ON

**Les Babcock (Haiti Coordinator)**

Lifewater Drilling, Bow Island, AB

**Edwin Makkinga (Member at Large)**

Manager, Climate Policy for Enbridge Inc., Calgary, AB



# OUR TEAM

## OUR STAFF

Lifewater Canada is led by a small team of volunteers, employees, and contractors who work from their homes to minimize overhead costs:

**Lynda Gehrels**, President (volunteer) – Thunder Bay, ON

**Dan Nickol**, Vice President – Coaldale, AB

**Sharlyn Nickol**, Executive Administrator + Human Resources – Coaldale, AB

**Shirley van Dyken**, Office Administrator – Thunder Bay, ON

**Scott Chapman**, Corporate Relations + Grant Manager – Coquitlam, BC

**Jeff Adams**, Donor Relations Manager - West – Calgary, AB

**Betty-Ann Reid**, Fundraising + Donor Relations - East – Bolton, ON

**Coleton Nickol**, Data Entry Analyst – Coaldale, AB

**Michaela Nickol**, Social Media Coordinator – Saskatoon, SK

**Jamie Staal**, Website Design, Brand + Marketing Manager – Edmonton, AB

Lifewater has drilling and repair teams overseas that are paid on a per project basis. These are the hard-working people leading those teams:

**Hanania Orelus**, Program Manager, Ld'H – Haiti

**Rev. Stephen Varfee**, Country Coordinator – Liberia

**Henry Tengbeh**, Program Coordinator, LL-Inc. – Liberia

**Joe Sloan**, Program Coordinator, STS Lifewater – Liberia

**Hosea Apeh**, Program Director, LHIN – Nigeria

**Rev. David Maina**, Managing Director, TLK – Kenya

**Catherine Achieng Wimply**, Program Director, LRK – Kenya

**Patricia Nudi**, Program Director, STADA – Kenya



# ORGANIZATION CHART

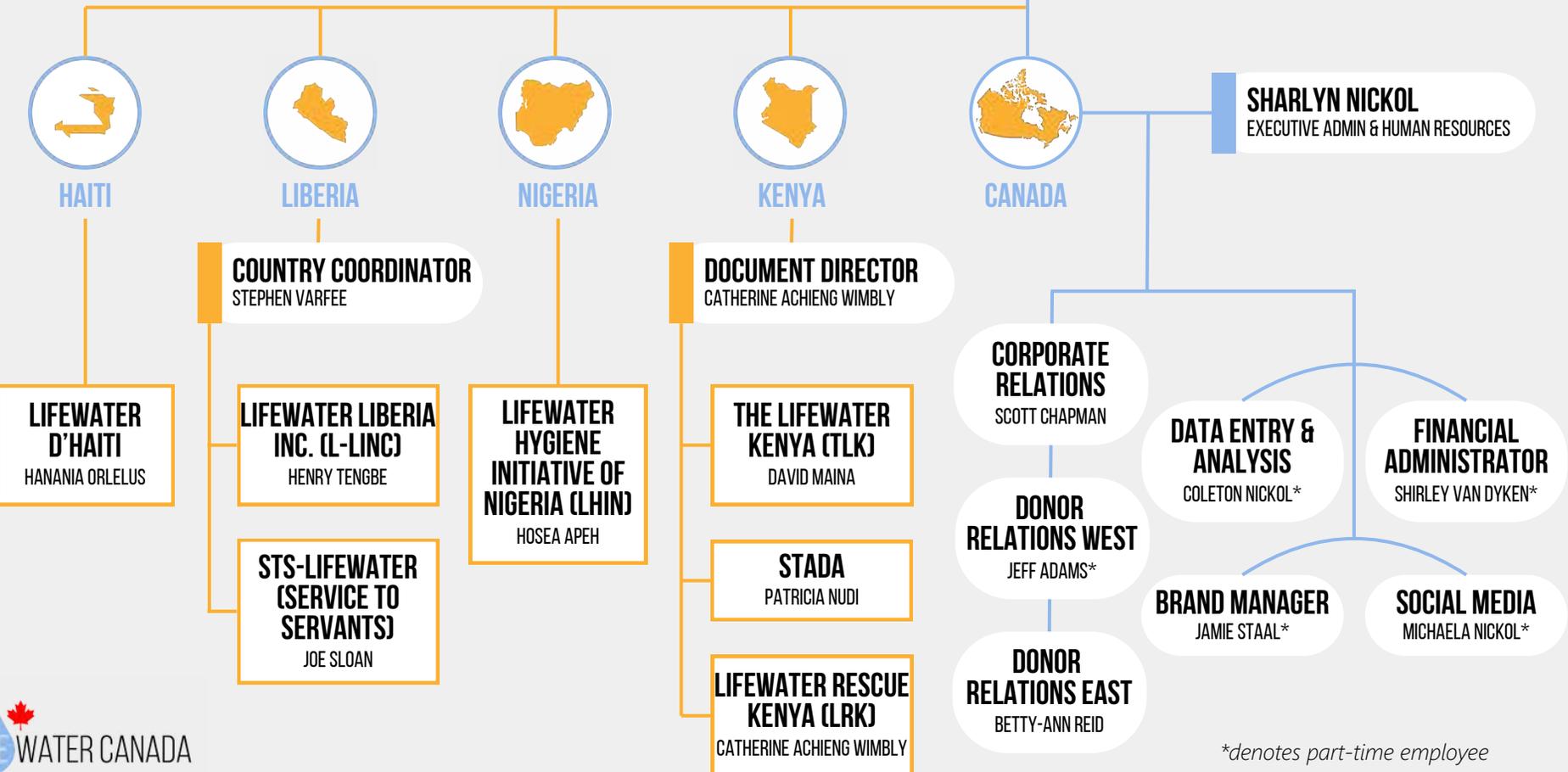
LIFEWATER CANADA - 2024

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 HARRY OUSSOREN, VICE-CHAIR & SECRETARY  
 LYNDA GEHRELS, PRESIDENT  
 DON HEEREMA, FINANCIAL CONTROLLER  
 JASON GEHRELS, TREASURER  
 LES BABCOCK  
 EDWIN MAKKINGA

**LYNDA GEHRELS**  
 PRESIDENT

**DAN NICKOL**  
 VICE PRESIDENT

**IN-COUNTRY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**



\*denotes part-time employee





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SUPPORTERS

# OUR SUPPORTERS

## FOUNDATIONS

At The Kitchen Table Foundation, Vancouver, BC  
Bernhard Melitz Foundation, Edmonton, AB  
Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation (CTFF), Toronto, ON  
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Michael and Gay Booth Gifting Fund, Kingston, ON  
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The Clint Brooks Family Foundation, Calgary, AB  
The Nikita Foundation, Toronto, ON  
The River Prayer and Worship Center Inc., Thunder Bay, ON  
The Southbeach Foundation, York, ON  
Wee Waifs Worldwide Trust, North Vancouver, BC

## SCHOOLS

Bible Hill Junior High, Truro, NS  
Chester Elementary School, Toronto, ON  
David Suzuki Secondary School, Brampton, ON  
Green Acres School, Brandon, MB  
Matthews Hall School, London, ON  
St. Elizabeth Seton School, Newmarket, ON  
Valley Elementary School, Valley, NS





## CHURCHES AND CIVIC GROUPS

Bayside Fellowship, Thunder Bay, ON  
Bethel CRC, Saskatoon, SK  
Bethlehem Christian Reformed Church, Thunder Bay, ON  
Burdett Christian Reformed Church, Burdett, AB  
Christian Reformed Church, Taber, AB  
Christian Reformed Church of Iron Springs, Iron Springs, AB  
Church of the Northern Apostles, Whitehorse, YT  
Community Christian Reformed Church, Richmond Hill, ON  
Common Impact Group, Banning, CA  
Emmanuel CRC, Calgary, AB  
Emo Christian Reformed Church, Emo, ON  
Emo CRC Dorcas Society, Emo, ON  
Faith United Church, Courtice, ON  
First Baptist Church - Petrolia, Petrolia, ON  
First Christian Reformed Church, Thunder Bay, ON  
First Christian Reformed Church of Kemptville, Kemptville, ON  
Global Conscience Circle, Thunder Bay, ON  
Grace Church, Anglican Church of Canada, Milton, ON  
Grace Community Church, Red Lake, ON  
Grassroots Church, Thunder Bay, ON  
Hope Christian Reformed Church, Thunder Bay, ON  
Ladner Christian Reformed Church, Delta, BC  
Little Current United Church, Little Current, ON  
Loch Raven United Methodist Church, Baltimore, MD  
Loch Raven United Methodist Church Women, Baltimore, MD  
Murphy Rotary Club, Murphy, NC  
OPSEU Local 722, Thunder Bay, ON  
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Thunder Bay, ON  
St Matthew's Anglican Church, Gander, NL  
The Church at Southpoint, Surrey, BC  
The Good Shepherd Church, Englehart, ON  
The United Church Women, Mitchell, ON  
Unity Christian Mission, Calgary, AB  
Ursuline Religious of the Diocese of London, Chatham, ON  
Water of Life Project, Truro, NS  
Willowdale Christian Reformed Church, Willowdale, ON

## CORPORATIONS

10126822 Manitoba Ltd – GoliathTech MB, Stonewall, MB  
1358461 Ontario Ltd – Trading As Kam Yuen Canada, Markham, ON  
1621687 Ontario Ltd, Thunder Bay, ON  
Advicetap Digital Inc., Vancouver, BC  
Aliments PM Inc., Sherbrooke, QC  
Armin Barati Personal Real Estate Corporation, Toronto, ON  
Avertex Utility Solutions Inc., Amaranth, ON  
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Lauren Parente Enterprises, Mississauga, ON  
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Mastercard, Purchase, NY  
Matti Homes Inc., Richmond Hill, ON  
McKesson Corporation, San Francisco, CA  
Nicky Tu Personal Real Estate Corporation, Burnaby, BC  
North west Funderal Planning & Funding Ltd., New Westminster, BC  
Northern Consulting, Marketing and Research Inc., Calgary, AB  
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OGIG Corporation, Newmarket, ON  
Paddock Drilling Ltd., Brandon, MB  
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PGL Environmental, Vancouver, BC  
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RJ Burnside and Associates Limited, Orangeville, ON  
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The Podcast Collaborative, Vernon, BC  
Thunder Bay Co-Op Farm Supplies, Slate River, ON  
Transitions Hair Salon, Thunder Bay, ON  
World Water Operator Training Company Inc., Windsor, ON



## OTHER PARTNERS

*Sometimes donors choose to donate through a third-party charitable foundation for privacy or ease-of-use reasons. The following organizations are used by these donors to direct funds to Lifewater Canada.*

Abundance Canada, Armstrong, BC and Calgary, AB  
Aqueduct Foundation, Vancouver, BC  
Benefaction, Toronto, ON  
Benevity, Calgary, AB  
Canada Gives, Cobourg, ON  
CanadaHelps, Toronto, ON  
Centraide of Greater Montreal, Montreal, QC  
Charities Aid Foundation of Canada (CAF), Toronto, ON  
Charities Aid Foundation of America (CAF), Alexandria, VA  
CHIMP: Charitable Impact Foundation, Vancouver, BC  
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Friends Of The Great Commission, Colorado Springs, CO  
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PayPal Charitable Giving Fund, Washington, DC  
Raymond James Canada Foundation, Vancouver, BC  
Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation, Toronto, ON  
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United Way – Alberta Capital Region, Edmonton, AB  
United Way – Calgary and Area, Calgary, AB  
United Way – East Ontario, Ottawa, ON  
United Way – Greater Toronto, Toronto, ON  
United Way – Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, ON  
UK Online Giving Foundation (UKOGF), London, UK  
Vancouver Foundation, Vancouver, BC  
Winnipeg Foundation, Winnipeg, MB

# THANK YOU

## FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



### WATER IS LIFE!

*We are called "Lifewater" because water is essential to life – to every living being's survival.*

*A little more than \$1 donated to Lifewater Canada can provide safe, accessible water to a child or adult for one year. That estimate is based on the fact a typical well in Africa or Haiti costs \$5,500, lasts almost eight years before major repairs necessary, and each well serves an average 600 people during each year of its "life span" before major repairs.*

PLEASE DONATE TODAY  
AND JOIN US IN THIS  
LIFE-SAVING WORK!

A registered Canadian charity since 1997:  
Legal name: Lifewater Canada  
Corporation Number: 344140-7  
Business Number: 885420737RR0001  
Netherlands AnBi RSIN: 8239.79.660

#### CONTACT US:

Lifewater Canada  
807.622.4848  
info@lifewater.ca

457 Heather Crescent, Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 5L1