




LIFE WATER CANADA

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

DRAMATIC PRODUCTION GROWTH

Last July, we began our 2021-2022 fiscal year with an ambitious and unprecedented goal of completing more than 2,000 projects during the next 12 months. This goal was set after completing 960 projects in 2020-2021 and 652 in 2019-2020. We are thrilled to report that, as we enter the final quarter of our fiscal year, we remain on track to meet that target, knowing that each of the 2,000 completed projects will benefit hundreds of people. In fact, during the nine months between July 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, your generosity enabled Lifewater to serve an additional **661,803** men, women, and children. Thank you!

We have developed innovative ways to handle the extra workload while maintaining very low administration costs. As a result, we have the confidence to begin considering even more ambitious goals for the next fiscal year. Your donations are giving us the means to do this work and we are very grateful. It is important to us to be good stewards of your gifts. We estimate our overhead at the end of this fiscal year will be under 7%, with a significant portion covered by donations from board members and staff, in order that your contributions go right where they're most needed!

TRAINING AND EQUIPPING - OUR LIFEBLOOD

When Jim Gehrels founded Lifewater Canada, he envisioned training and equipping local teams to do drilling and repair work in their own nations. Building capacity and ability has always been a hallmark of who we are, and a guidepost for what we do. In the country-by-country reports included in this newsletter, we describe some of the new training initiatives that are planned or already under way. Several of them involve team members in one country training and mentoring their counterparts in another. We intend, with your support, to facilitate even more of this type of training through a "Lifewater World Conference," a virtual event bringing together team members from Africa, Haiti, and Canada to encourage each other and share best practices.

FISCAL Q1-Q3 HIGHLIGHTS

	Projects	Beneficiaries
New Wells	246	150,719
Rehabilitated Wells	236	71,272
Pump Repairs	769	390,690
Rainwater Catchments	231	45,879
Community Toilets	14	3,243
Handwash Stations	(244)	(45,879)*
Health + Hygiene Workshops	(504)	(199,841)*
TOTAL	1,496	661,803

**included in other projects listed above, thus not included in total*

95,936

HOURS SAVED PER DAY

41 minutes per day per household saved in water hauling duties

\$0.22

DAILY WATER SAVINGS PER BENEFICIARY

reported average daily water costs / total beneficiaries

\$4,797,436

TOTAL MONTHLY ECONOMIC IMPACT

average monthly water savings per household x number of households



Our partners in Haiti recently reorganized their team to emphasize cross-training, streamline administrative procedures and strengthen project data collection – with a focus on pump maintenance and repair. They have a robust HACH DR900 device for accurately testing water quality, and smart phones to take better photos of each project and determine its GPS coordinates. The impact of these changes is impressive. The team has repaired a record number of pumps while also maintaining a successful drilling program and broadening its reach in Haiti. All of this was achieved amidst a pandemic, political unrest, natural disasters, major fuel shortages, and ongoing economic hardships. By the time you read this, the team will have been trained to use their new AquaBore rig, decreasing the drilling time for each well.

"Lifewater is the only organization that does pump repairs in northern and northeastern Haiti," says Hanania, our Program Coordinator there. "Many other organizations drill wells, but they don't do repairs. That is the reason our repair team is out every day. What we like most is after a pump has been fixed, you see joy in the people's faces. They are so happy to have their pump working again."

HAITI



One of the most significant changes our Liberia team is undergoing is the planned addition of a full-time pump repair team, similar to the one in Haiti, by the middle of next year, which will include some capital purchases for vehicles and equipment. Many organizations have drilled desperately needed wells in Liberia, and as a result, the need for pump repair continues to grow. As our oldest team, this is an exciting shift in programming for Liberia. They will continue to drill new wells but, with a dedicated pump repair unit, will dramatically increase long-term access to safe water for all. The absence of Lifewater Canada's physical presence, due to pandemic travel restrictions, has been felt most in Liberia; yet at the same time, we are so thankful for the technology that exists that helps us maintain and grow relationships! Fortunately, we are now able to make plans to travel to Liberia by the end of this year.

LIBERIA



With your support, the Nigeria team has continued to expand their impact. The team has embraced every challenge – excelling in both pump rehabilitation and well-drilling with a rented rig. Members have constructed a walled compound and office, a secure roofed work area between two 40-foot shipping containers, and received official NGO status from the Nigerian government – building a foundation for longevity and impact. Over the last few months however, we have seen a sharp increase in the cost of operating a rented rig. We hope to offer them a portable Lifewater rig to enable them to broaden their reach into remote areas.

Hosea, the Program Coordinator in Nigeria, is starting to share his successful practices with the teams in Kenya and Liberia. He will travel to Kenya in early June to train two new teams in well-drilling and project management. It's an exciting expansion of our vision to train and equip local people to meet their nations' needs.

"I can't even believe how much we are doing," Hosea says. "Some of the wells we are rehabilitating have been long abandoned and forgotten. Some of these communities are seeing drilled wells for the first time. Thank you for making us useful to our own people."

NIGERIA



We now have three partner teams in Kenya: (1) The Lifewater Kenya (TLK) is our original team, centrally located in the Nakuru area; (2) Christ Mission to the World (CMW) is working to the east in the Mwingi district; and (3) STADA is our newest partner, focused on providing health and hygiene training and repairing pumps in the Kisumu region.

Unfortunately, David Maina, TLK's founding director, suffered a serious heart attack last March and the team was forced to slow its production. Thankfully, after emergency surgery, David is recovering well and under the leadership of his children, TLK is passing on its knowledge to the other Kenyan teams. They have trained the pump repair team now active in Kisumu, and will soon host and help the drilling team from Mwingi complete the assembly of their new rig. We are very thankful for our long relationship with David and The Lifewater Kenya family, and for their efforts to see other teams succeed. As David himself expressed, *"This is not Lifewater Nakuru. This is Lifewater Kenya, I will do whatever I can to see water flow everywhere in my country."*



KENYA



Since joining us last July, CMW has installed more than 210 rainwater catchment systems at schools in the Mwingi district and is now looking to drill new wells at each school. We worked with suppliers from Texas to South Africa to develop a new rig designed for mounting on the back of a truck capable of navigating even the worst roads. This rig is on its way to Kenya, and two members of the team will receive training from TLK to operate it. STADA has also joined this initiative by providing health and hygiene training as each rainwater catchment system is installed.

STADA is an abbreviation for "Stawisha Dada" which in Swahili means "thrive sister." The organization was formed to address the inequalities women and girls in Kenya face in health care and education. The team is passionate about alleviating the suffering caused by unsafe water, poor sanitation, and inadequate hygiene. After identifying more than 300 pumps needing repair in the Kisumu region, team members have now been trained in pump repair and will soon be drilling wells upon receiving a small drilling rig (LS-100) Lifewater Canada is able to send them. The STADA team has also started a sewing industry for teen mothers, producing reusable sanitary pads that are distributed at the various health and hygiene workshops. Their executive director, Patricia, is also receiving management training from Hosea, our program director in Nigeria. It is another wonderful example of our commitment to empowering and equipping local people.



UKRAINE



When Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, all of us watched the news and heard the stories of the tremendous suffering of innocent people. Lifewater Canada was able to partner with several groups of displaced Ukrainians in Poland who were working to move food, water, and medical supplies to those struggling in Ukraine. While the final numbers from this temporary effort are not yet available, we know your donations have provided tens of thousands of bottles of water, sanitary supplies, and through a partnership with LifeStraw, more than 6,000 personal water filters for Ukrainians struggling to obtain these basics of survival within their own nation. More information and a full report will be available in our Fall 2022 Newsletter.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH AN EXTRA 41 MINUTES A DAY?

Something that really makes us feel connected and active in our work around the world is measuring and collecting data from our completed water projects. While this may seem dull, being able to quantify the impact of your donations illustrates the far-reaching ripple effect of providing safe water. For example, we can accurately report that every household benefitting from safe water through Lifewater Canada donors has received not only water, but time. On average, every household is saving 41 minutes that no longer need to be invested in walking to and from the nearest water source.

That's 41 minutes every day that can be invested in caring for one's family, earning some extra income, attending school, or simply enjoying moments with loved ones. Multiply those 41 minutes by 365 days, and each household is gaining 249 hours of extra time each year. That's ten 24-hour days. This time saving is one of many factors Charity Intelligence takes into account when determining a charity's "Social Return on Investment." The independent organization that monitors the performance of more than 800 Canadian charities says each dollar donated to Lifewater generates \$14 of community impact. For three consecutive years, Charity Intelligence has ranked Lifewater among Canada's 10 most impactful charities.

NEW PUMP SUPPLIER, "WATER WITH DIGNITY"

While Lifewater's volume of wells drilled and pumps repaired has risen dramatically over the past year, so has our need for bulk shipments from manufacturers of hand-powered Afridev pumps. Prices for these pumps have been increasing due to the war in Ukraine and its impact on global supply chains. We feared we would be forced to slow our work due to the rising prices. But as we searched for a lower-cost supplier, a manufacturer in India reached out to us after seeing a CTV National news story about Lifewater Canada and its donors providing emergency water supplies to Ukraine's war victims.

The factory owner in India told us that a charity willing to help in Ukraine was a charity he wanted to work with. He offered us a lower price for the Afridev pumps from what we had been paying and promised to maintain that price (or one even lower) until the end of our next fiscal year. We now have a guaranteed maximum price from a supplier who wants to help people have "water with dignity."

While prices in each country for equipment and materials might still undergo rapid changes, this guaranteed pump pricing will enable us to maintain a steady supply of pumps and to achieve a consistent number of new wells and repairs each month. That's great news for people desperately waiting for safe water.



NIGERIAN WOMEN PLEAD FOR SAFE WATER

Our drilling team was ready to give up on reaching the village of Gbunka because the access road was so rutted and dangerous. But the women and children of the Nigerian village pleaded with us. Some even laid down on the road to stop the drilling rig from backing up! Why were they so insistent? Because Gbunka's shallow, hand-dug wells had dried up and residents were forced to rely on a dirty river for their drinking, cooking, and sanitation needs. Residents were constantly fearful of contracting potentially deadly diarrheal diseases. We arrived in the village and, thanks to our donors, drilled two deep wells that are providing safe and accessible water for everyone.

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.

PLANNED GIVING: Want to give more but can't afford to now? Why not add Lifewater to your will? All of us face financial constraints that stop us from being as generous as we would like. One option is to include a worthy charity such as Lifewater Canada in your will. There are significant tax advantages to this type of estate planning. Please call us at 807-622-4848 to learn more.

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