2026

LIFE WATER CANADA

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT













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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	*4*
2	HIGHLIGHTS	*7*
3	OUR VISION	*12*
4	OUR STRATEGY	*18*
5	OUR WORK	*22*
6	OVERVIEW	*27*
7	2026 REGIONAL UPDATES	*34*
8	OUR OPERATIONS	*64*
9	OUR SUPPORTERS	*70*

*Look for the project code in the corner of each photo, then visit lifewater.ca/impact to learn more about the project and its impact.



1 INTRODUCTION







A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR - CHERYL ANN HERTAN



As I reflect on the past 17 years of my Lifewater Canada board membership, I am in awe of how far the organization has come. I remember going with a group, headed by Jim Gehrels, to Liberia just after their civil war ended, and it was the first time women from the Americas came. The memories of the local Liberian team that was dedicated, but struggling, flood my mind. Then, leaping forward to 2020 and the world shutting down due to Covid prompted the need for ALL the L-CAN teams to be able to work without the physical presence of volunteer teams. This is another example of God using something meant for evil for good, and sparking a sense of ownership and renewed responsibility. Now the teams interact with each other and are confident in their knowledge and abilities.

When I first joined the board, we were a small group with a small budget, we are still a small group, but with a budget that has grown significantly. Meaning more people are being touched by the solution of safe water and sanitation in Africa and Haiti. I am very much aware that this increase of services and funds is due to the grace of God and that He is using you, the donor, to meet the needs of his people. Thank you seems like such a trite statement, but I am sincerely grateful for the sacrificial giving that happens to ensure that those who need safe water and sanitation obtain it.

In 2025 we celebrated 30 years of drilling wells, in 2027 we will celebrate 30 years of being a registered Canadian charity. As we wrap up the "Journey to 30" celebration, may we all pause a moment and express gratitude to the vision of Jim Gehrels and Glenn Stronks and recognize the resilience of those that are doing the work every day to fulfill that vision.

Thank you for being a blessing to many!

Cheryl Ann Hertan, MBA, ODS-C
Lifewater Canada Chair and U.S. Representative

Cheryl first trip to Liberia



Drilling during COVID



The last drilled well of fiscal 2026



A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT - LYNDA GEHRELS



I've had the privilege of watching young children grow and mature, from infants to adulthood. As Lifewater Canada, there are so many parallels to all our partners. As we move towards celebrating 30 years as a registered Canadian charity and surpass 31 years since the first well was drilled, these teams have become family. We've witnessed growth and steep positive learning curves. There have been scrapes and bruises along the years, but throughout it all, water has continued to flow.

Looking back over these 3 decades, the amount of change is staggering. I've been a part of the early goal of having a drill rig shipped into Liberia and training a team to use it, to extending our reach - and support - into Kenya, Nigeria and Haiti, and now looking to create new partnerships in new nations.

In keeping with the analogy of human development, there are times when growth causes some pain and awkwardness, some successes and failures and we've really felt all of that over the years. We have been in difficult situations and had to part ways, we have also seen teams grow beyond themselves to begin reaching out to help other teams from other organizations. Some situations bring pain, others bring a sense of pride. Both are part of growth.

As an example of one of those proud moments, this year we watched one of our partners step up to come alongside a new NGO in another nation. Inviting the foreign team to work alongside them in Kenya, they shared skills and experience. They then travelled to the new NGO's nation to upgrade their rig, resulting in successful drilling and safe water. Lifewater Canada's strategy of training and equipping local teams is growing; now local teams are training and equipping other local teams. 30 years ago, we couldn't have imagined this happening!

As we look forward to this new fiscal year, we are excited to see more of this sharing of knowledge and skills, the students becoming the teachers. To everyone who has been a supporter, either giving, sharing about the work, volunteering, or praying for Lifewater Canada, I hope you are encouraged by the growth and success, rejoicing with us as over 11 million people now have safe water to drink, improved sanitation and hygiene education. What a legacy you are having!

Lynda Gehrels
Lifewater Canada President

1995 MWTC Refugee Camp



LR27-W001



2 HIGHLIGHTS







2026 | HIGHLIGHTS

CANADIAN STAFF

Significant growth with our partners overseas found us lacking the local Canadian staff to effectively manage the number of projects being sent to us each month. For perspective, just 5 years ago, we were completing fewer than 1000 projects across all partners, this year, that number has grown to over 8000. We have welcomed 2 new full-time members in Canada to help us manage this growth, and we are excited at increasing our capacity here at home to support teams and donors in better ways.

RIG DESIGN

We spent an extended period of time on the development and manufacture of a new drilling rig, mounted on a very rugged 3-wheeled vehicle. We are pleased to report that the first of these machines was deployed in Nigeria late in our fiscal year. Testing and training with the Nigerian team has been completed, and this machine has received nothing but praise from the drilling team. This is a welcome addition to our fleet of rigs, filling the gap between the portable rigs and the larger truck-mounted rigs, enabling us to reach more communities. 3 more of these rigs are in transit to other partners at the time of this writing.

OVERSEAS TRAINING

Our overseas partners have continued to advance their skills and expertise, and have now transitioned into passing that knowledge on to other organizations and other nations. Of special note, one team from Kenya welcomed drillers from Tanzania and Uganda, passing on real world and practical techniques. In one instance, the lead driller from our Kenyan team travelled into Uganda to troubleshoot and modify a drilling rig for a local team working there, equipping that team for successful drilling in Northern Uganda. For years, we have relied on North American volunteers to provide training, it is amazing to watch our partners now taking on these roles.

REGIONAL EXPANSION

We have always had a target of reaching maximum capacity in the nations that we serve before expanding into new nations. 2026 was a significant step towards that goal. Donor support enabled us, for the first time, to move into Eastern Liberia and North-Eastern Nigeria. These expansions mark the establishment of the final phases of growth in the nations that we currently serve, reaching the underserved - and unserved - populations in these regions. This doesn't mean we are done where we are currently working, just that we have teams on the ground working on solutions, one community at a time. We are thankful for the donors that make this possible, and excited that these regional expansions will now allow us to build new partnerships, new teams, and new nations.

$34,767,170.27
total monthly economic impact

2,017,136
beneficiaries

1,805,743
hours saved per day



Turn the page for a detailed breakdown of how we calculate each of these statistics

7,010,147
monthly school days recovered

$0.13
daily savings per person

268.56
minutes saved per day per household

OUR STATS EXPLAINED

2,017,136	**combined total of nation-reported beneficiaries across 6 areas of programming**
313	**average number of people benefiting per water project** (total number of nation-reported beneficiaries) / (total number of water projects excluding standalone H+H projects)
1,805,743	**hours saved per day** (average "reduced travel time compared to old water source") x (total number of households)
268.56	**minutes saved per household** ((hours saved per day) / (total number of households)) x 60
7,010,147	**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
$0.13	**daily savings per person** (average of the nation-reported daily water savings per person)
$34,767,710.27	**total monthly economic impact** (average monthly nation-reported "water savings per household") x (total number of households)

FEATURE: The Impact of a Number



The typical household in the four nations that we served in 2026 lived an average walking time of over 32 minutes from the communities' alternate water source. Most often, that water was a contaminated stream or stagnant pond. While 32 minutes may seem almost reasonable, the average household also made this trip over 4 times daily to meet their total water needs. In reality, that 32-minute travel time (one way) translates to 268 minutes spent purely carrying water for the average family.

These 268 minutes are about more than just time.
They represent lost time in school - primarily for girls - leading to lower grades and a lower chance of advanced education.
They represent safety, as the pathways are often through completely undeveloped areas, making people susceptible to wildlife - and human - dangers.
They represent economic loss, as the chore of carrying water is often done throughout the day, it limits the possibility of running a small business or having steady employment.
They represent health, as waterborne illness - often caused by these other water sources - is a predominant factor in child mortality and adult wellness.

But these numbers also indicate something else. They show that we are making progress. We have always had a goal that aligns with the UN SDG 6; to have safe water accessible within 1 km of a home, with a total round-trip collection time of no more than 30 minutes. For the people that we were able to serve this year, that is now a reality. As we continue to advance towards SDG 6, it is exciting to see the progress and both the equality and equity that it brings.

THE MATH, EXPLAINED

With each project, our teams conduct surveys and gather data points from various sources, including schools, clinics, and the community at large. We continually review this data to ensure that projects are having the maximum possible impact. We also regularly review the data points collected, adding new benchmarcks and data points as well as long term monitoring and evaluation to ensure that impact carries on even after the teams have left. While the math may not be very exciting, the changed lives that the data represents certainly are. Each number pointing to a changed life through access to WASH programming.

3 VISION







THE WATER CRISIS

Water scarcity continues to be a defining issue for our world, with nearly 2.2 billion people without access to safely managed drinking water. Over one million people are estimated to die annually from preventable water borne illnesses.

While progress continues to be made in changing these alarming statictics, this progress must be accellerated in order to reach the UN SDG 6 targets



Source: United Nations World Water Development Report 2026

As of 2024 (latest data available), 26% of the world's population still lacked access to safely managed drinking water services (SDG Indicator 6.1.1) and 41% did not use a safely managed sanitation service (SDG Indicator 6.2.1a) (UN-Water, n.d.).*

**The United Nations World Water Development Report 2026 https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000397159*

Sub-Problems

1 CHILD MORTALITY & DEADLY DISEASE SPREAD

Contaminated water leads to cholera, diarrhea, and many preventable diseases claim thousands of lives, with children being the most at risk.

2 MISSED EDUCATION AND PERIOD POVERTY

Girls carry the disproportionate burden in water collection duties, missing school either to collect water or not attending during their menstrual cycles due to shame, stigma, and the lack of basic hygiene access.

3 WELLS BREAK OR GO UNUSED

Even when wells are drilled, they inevitably require maintenance. Many of these wells only require a simple repair, yet remain inoperable due to lack of local training and long term local capacity building.

4 CYCLES OF POVERTY

Families are unable to thrive and flourish when time is lost to water collection, illness and caregiving. Children often have to miss out on school, while adults have less time to earn a living and provide for their families. Together, these challenges can keep families trapped in the cycle of poverty.

GENDER EQUALITY

The United Nations World Water Development Report 2026 spends a great deal of time focusing on the intersectionality of water access and gender equality. While the report aknowledges that there has been progress made towards the goal of providing WASH access and programming, it also notes that "significant disparities exist". These disparities are focused among the poorest, the most vulnerable, and the most remote.

The unfortunate truth is that among these populations, it is almost always women and girls who bear the burden of providing water for a household. As such, the physical labour is carried by women, women carry the added mental and emotional stress, and women face the inherent insecurities that come with the search for water. This years' UN Water Development Report proposes that "promoting gender equality through access to adequate WASH services can lead to tangible health, social and economic benefits". We can attest to the truth of this. For over 30 years, we have witnessed, experienced, and measured these benefits, seeing families and communities thrive because their women and girls have been given equitable access.

Another burden women and girls carry is the lack of access to menstrual products, adequate sanitation facilities, and essential education on managing menstrual health. Period poverty affects millions of women and girls around the world. Without these essentials, many women and girls have to miss school or work and are forced to use unsafe alternatives, such as dirty rags or newspapers, increasing their risk of infections.

Empowering women and girls through the distribution of Dignity Kits is part of Lifewater Canada's broader mission. In addition to providing access to clean water, we focus on building sanitation facilities and delivering essential health and hygiene education. Together, these initiatives ensure that women and girls in the countries we work in have the tools they need to live healthier, more dignified lives.


N26-D049


LR26-W002


KC26-W020


H26-W018


N26-P113


Liberia Trip 2016

**The United Nations World Water Development Report 2026 https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000397159*

OUR VISION

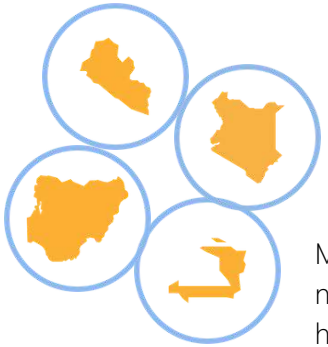
For over 30 years, Lifewater Canada has worked to provide water - and the benefits that come with it - to underserved and forgotten populations in developing nations. Our founding principle of "Where you are born should not determine whether you live or die" still holds true today. As we press forward with the work, how we operate stays at the centre of our vision; this is what we strive for:

1. **To speak and act honestly**
2. **To ensure donations are used for their intended purpose**
3. **To hold ourselves openly accountable before God and our donors for all that we do**

Our vision can be viewed from three perspectives: locally, within the countries where we operate, and on a global scale.

Local

Act as a bridge between donors and overseas teams, providing donors with a tangible way to give back and make the greatest impact they can.



Nations
We Work in

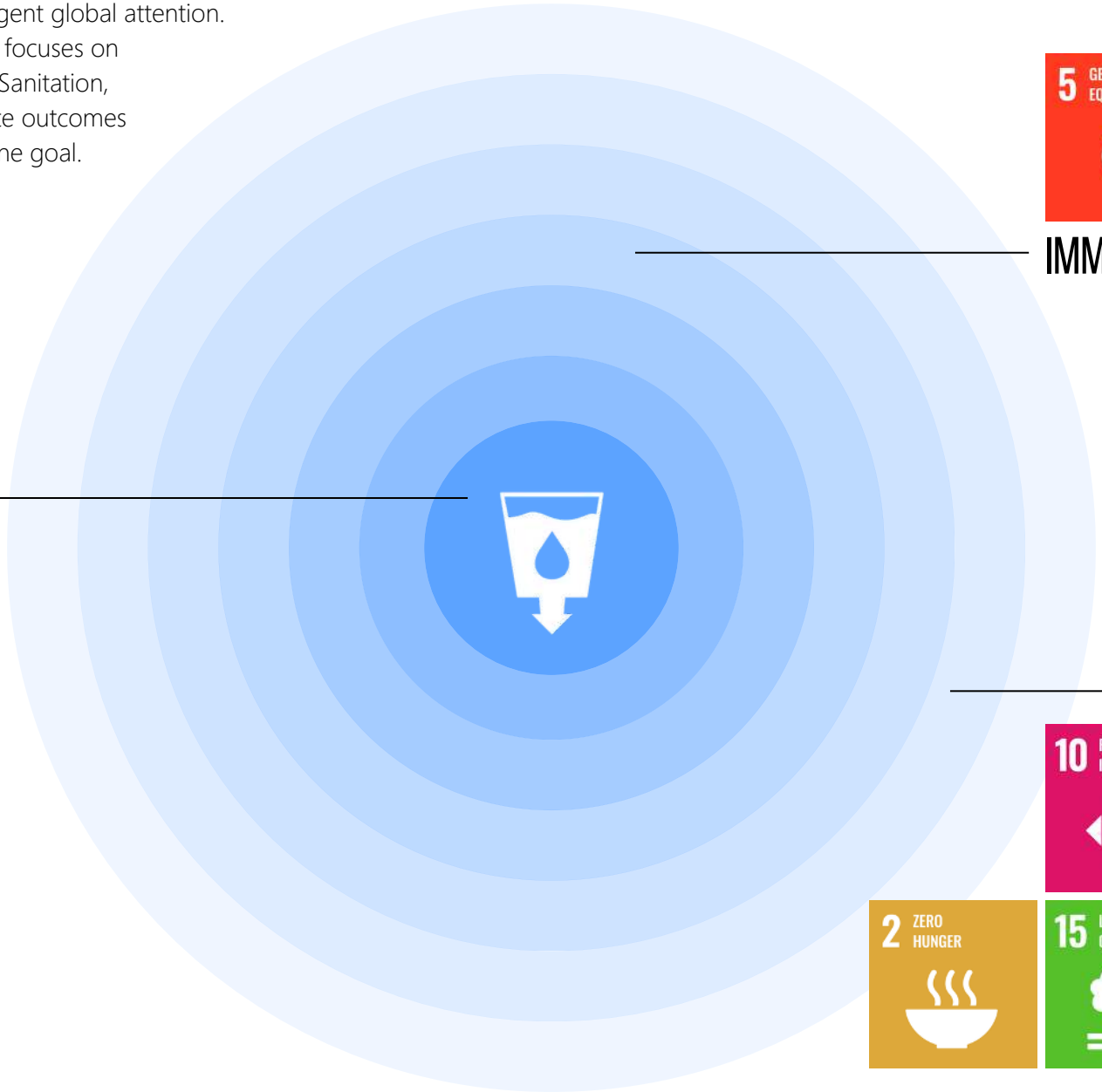
Meet the WASH needs of the nations we work in to holistically cover all regions, including the hardest-to-reach and most at-need people.

Global

Expand our work to reach to other nations to all those who need it, that we can sustainably support.

THE BIG PICTURE

The United Nations put forward 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) that need urgent global attention. 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

5 GENDER EQUALITY

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

OUR PRIMARY FOCUS

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

FURTHER IMPACTS

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

2 ZERO HUNGER

15 LIFE ON LAND

1 NO POVERTY

WHAT SETS US APART

HAVE EXPERIENCE

Lifewater Canada has a proven record since 1995; we've reached over 11 million people with WASH programming. We use a well-established framework for fiscal responsibility.

FOCUS ON LOCAL

We build capacity by forming, training, and equipping registered non-profits that are operated and managed by 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.

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.

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.

SHARE KNOWLEDGE

We provide free well-drilling training and WASH 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 continue to try to keep our overhead as low as possible. 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).

SAVE FAMILIES MONEY

Families living near our water projects spend significantly less money, as they don't have to buy from water vendors. 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.

4 STRATEGY



Ecole Genie des Enfants, Haiti

H26-P583 Pump Repair



OUR STRATEGY

1 LOCAL TEAMS. LASTING CHANGE



1 TRAIN AND EQUIP
local workers in 6 areas of WASH programs, like well drilling and pump repairs.



2 LOCAL TEAMS
complete the work with community involvement.



3 DONORS SUPPORT
these projects while villages contribute as they are able, including sweat equity.

2 CONTINUED INNOVATION

We go beyond drilling—developing smarter systems, strategic site selection, and scalable models to make the hardest to reach areas easy. We ensure our overseas team meets together to keep innovating at our International Conference.

3 ABSOLUTE TRANSPARENCY

We run lean, track every dollar, and show donors exactly how they change lives—no waste, no guesswork, just transparency and impact.

FEATURE: Long lasting solutions

Last spring, after hosting the Lifewater Canada International Conference in Liberia, two members of Lifewater Canada remained behind in order to assemble a new truck mounted rig for Liberia's rural team. During this time, a very rare day off resulted in the search for the oldest surviving Lifewater Canada drilled well.

As records from the early days are sparse, this actually turned out to be a fairly difficult task. Unfortunately, the few wells drilled in 1995 and 1996 had either been destroyed during the war, or had since been replaced after being moved due to the country's rebuilding efforts. With hand drawn maps from 30+ year old files, we went through each well completed chronologically until this one was located, approximately 90 minutes' drive NE of Monrovia.

Drilled in 1997, this well has been serving the community of Be Goba for nearly 30 years. It was originally fitted with a basic bushpump, and Lifewater teams replaced that pump approximately 15 years ago with a modern Afridev.

In what is a remarkable example demonstrated by this well, one that we strive for with all wells, is that there has been no other intervention in this community for their water source. For 30 years, they have managed their own repairs and maintenance. They have kept their own water flowing. With the basic tools and education provided by Lifewater teams, this community is a standing example of the outcomes of local empowerment.

For all of us at Lifewater Canada, this was a powerful moment. Standing in this village, hearing what the impact this well has had for so many years, watching the water flow, and tasting that cool freshness. What a reminder that what we do is not just about those who need water today, but about the generations that will follow them.



March 2025 Liberia Trip



March 2025 Liberia Trip

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.

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. 200-400 users per well
4. Affordability

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 turbitity and objectional taste/odour

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

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

4 Plan for long-term maintenance

Rationale: *It doesn't make sense to keep drilling new wells at the same rate as the old ones are breaking down and being left unused. Hand pumps failing and not being repaired is one of the world's greatest development failures.*

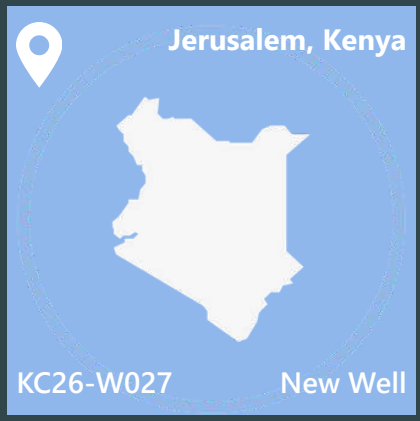
Targets:

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

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

5 OUR WORK







PROJECT TYPES

NEW WELLS

New wells are drilled to a minimum of 65 feet, with pad, sanitary seal, and casing installed to international standards to ensure that water is safe as well as accessible. We exclusively use Afridev handpumps as a simple and long lasting technology that is easily serviced at a village level.

A *Well Caretaker* selected by the community is trained and equipped. We also encourage communities to establish drawing and recharge times for the well, ensuring that overpumping does not damage the pump or impact the quality of the water supply.

REHABILITATED WELLS

Where possible, we rehabilitate broken-down wells that are no longer viable. This involves replacing the existing hand pump, sanitary seal, and the concrete pad surrounding it, along with disinfection. With the the pump, pad, and borehole restored to a safe working condition, these wells enter a second life, supported by trained caretakers in the community.

PUMP REPAIRS

A hand-powered pump is comprised of several mechanical parts, and depending on the frequency of use, repairs will eventually be necessary. Lifewater assists communities to repair pumps that we have installed and those drilled by other organizations.

COMMUNITY WASHROOMS

In an effort to reduce open defacation and the contamination of water sources, 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.

HEALTH & HYGIENE WORKSHOPS

Water from a new or rehabilitated well will quickly be contaminated if the users aren't washing their hands or engaging in other standard sanitation practices. Lifewater Canada projects include a workshop - typically 90 minutes of instruction - 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

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.

WHERE WE WORK?

The lack of access to safe water and improved sanitation continues to greatly impact billions of people around the world. In response, Lifewater Canada remains focused on bringing lasting water solutions to communities suffering from water scarcity. We work alongside local governments, communities, and partners to help strengthen local capacity through training, appropriate technology, and sustainable water solutions. Readily accessible groundwater and cost-effective development also contribute to high project success rates, maximizing the impact of every dollar invested. In 2026, these countries included Haiti, Liberia, Nigeria, and Kenya.



FEATURE: Matching Equipment


KC26-W034


NE26-W006


Drill test at Lifewater Nigeria Compound


L26-W093

When Lifewater Canada began drilling in 1995, the focus was very simple: "Do the easy ones first". At that time, the easy ones were those that could be drilled using the simplest technologies. After connecting with Lonestar Drills, a mechanical LS100 was shipped into Liberia, and locations were chosen based on what that machine was capable of; under 100 feet and no rock. This machine proved excellent at what it was designed to do, and this model is still in use today in similar locations. Low cost, few parts, and simple operation make it ideal in regions with a high water table and no rock.

As we have grown and seen the desperate need in other regions, the directive of "Where you are born should not determine whether you live or die" began to have a different meaning. Should someone born in a region with a lower water table or rocky soil be denied the same water as someone else? Our answer was a firm "NO!". This introduced the "big brother" of the LS100, the hydraulic LS200. Slightly larger and with hydraulic power, this unit was capable of reaching up to 200 feet and penetrating soft and medium rock effectively.

However, in the longer term, these machines still were not enough, as encountering medium to hard rock or lower water tables meant that drilling efforts came up short of success. We had to move to DTH drilling; running an air-operated hammer to drill through that rock. At times, we were able to accomplish this by renting commercial rigs from local companies, but the size (difficult to reach most villages) and operational expense (dramatically higher than the portable drills) of these units meant that we had to look for another solution. We finally settled on our custom assembled, Isuzu mounted, modified LS300T+. Capable of reaching 300 feet, able to drill through earth and hard rock, yet in a small enough package to reach the most remote place. This machine brought to life a change for us, instead of only doing the easy ones, we were now making the hard ones easy. While commercial rentals are still a viable option provided access is possible, the LS300 has taken the majority of the difficult drilling.

Our most recent rig bridges the gap between the portable hydraulic rig and the truck-mounted pneumatic rig. Still able to reach 300', and with the capacity to use air drilling when needed, this unit will focus on regional drilling. As it requires a transport truck for moving long distances, it will move into a localle, and remain until it's work is done before moving to the next.
As with all of our decisions, data has a great influence. A large part of keeping costs low involves choosing a machine that is capable of success in that region. Looking at Hydrogeological reports, reviewing other well logs, and speaking with local drillers and experts all contribute to helping us choose a machine that will give teams the greatest possible chance of success while keeping the cost per project as low as possible.

LESSONS WE LEARNED THIS YEAR

LESSON 1

Building Partnerships

Our international partnerships must be built on the foundational values of mutual trust, shared vision, and aligned expectations. We can't build the work of a partnership hoping that those values will follow. Foundations take time to build, and we have learned the painful lesson of rushing that process.

LESSON 2

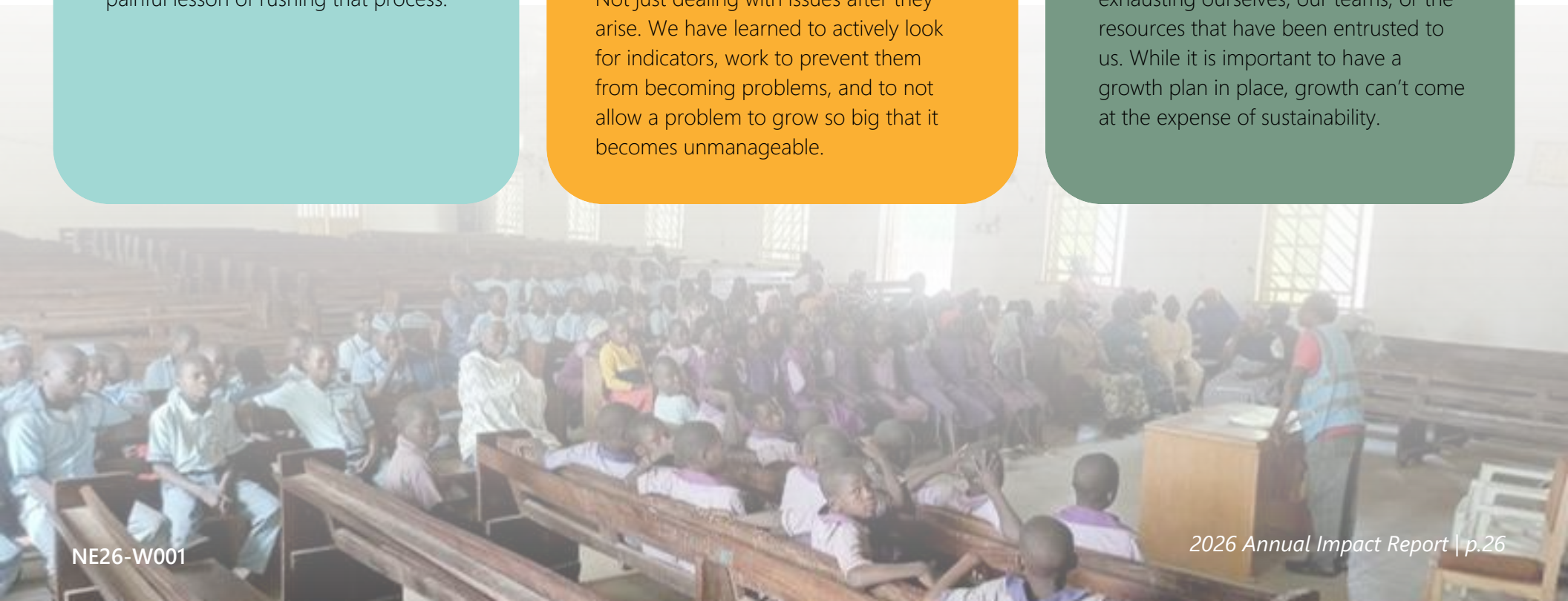
Address Problems Early

Canadian Astronaut Chris Hadfield writes of the need to ask, "What's the next thing that could kill us?". While this is certainly less literal for us than it is for commanding an international space station, the principle of anticipating problems has become deeply important. Not just dealing with issues after they arise. We have learned to actively look for indicators, work to prevent them from becoming problems, and to not allow a problem to grow so big that it becomes unmanageable.

LESSON 3

Sustainable Growth

There is always a temptation to do as much as we can, as fast as we can. While we will always do the most we can, we've learned that it is very possible to do it so fast that it becomes detrimental overall. Being sustainable means continuing long term, without exhausting ourselves, our teams, or the resources that have been entrusted to us. While it is important to have a growth plan in place, growth can't come at the expense of sustainability.



6 OVERVIEW







FEATURE: Overseas Training

Since the beginning, Lifewater Canada has relied on volunteers travelling to our partner teams to provide education and training, but there has always been a deeper goal: to see those teams able to reach out and confidently pass that knowledge and those skills over to others. We are so proud of each of our partners, and their willingness to step into that challenge, teaching what they have learned and the skills that they have worked so diligently to grow to other Lifewater teams - and other organizations - to increase the impact that we have together in addressing the water crisis in our world.

This year saw Lifewater teams welcoming three separate organizations for hands on field work. These organizations came to learn how our machines work, and how we work both in and alongside communities for long-term sustainable project success.

In one exceptional example, Elijah, the lead driller from a Lifewater Canada partner, travelled to northern Uganda to work with an organization that was having difficulty getting their drill rig to successfully drill in a difficult region. After hosting the Ugandan team for almost two weeks, Elijah travelled with them back to Uganda, worked with them to modify and improve their own machine and helped to drill their first successful well.

This is a great example to us all about the power of support and cooperation. For organizations in the WASH sector, we must not compete, but act as allies. In working together, we can see greater progress and acceleration in providing safe and accessible water.



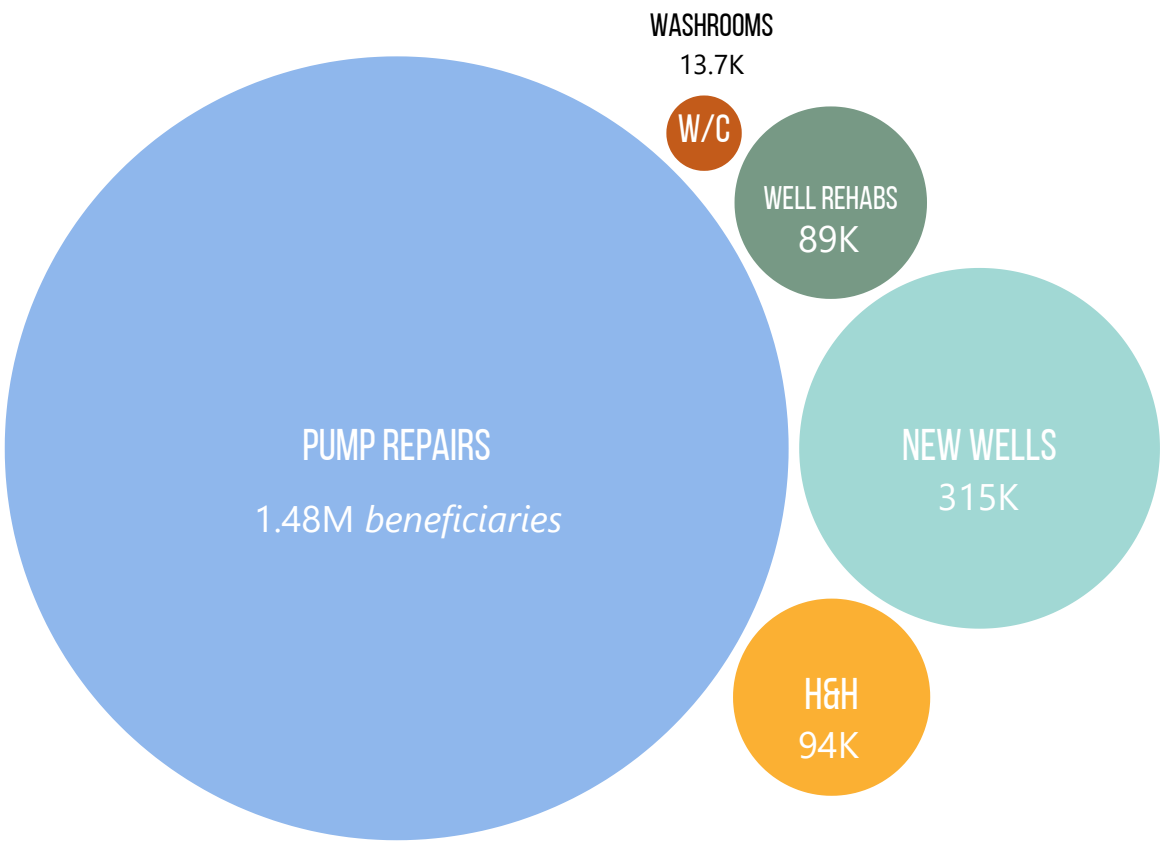
IMPACT SUMMARY

Lifewater Canada donors significantly improved the lives of **2,017,136 people** in Africa and Haiti through new wells, rehabilitated wells, repaired pumps and other water and sanitation initiatives!

- **315,070** people from **495** new water wells
- **89,688** people from **196** broken-down wells that were rehabilitated
- **1,487,733** people from **5,346** hand pumps that were repaired
- **13,756** people from **48** new community washrooms
- An additional **94,139** people also received support and training through **2,599** Health and Hygiene workshops *(stand-alone H&H programs only - not including training as part of another project)*
- *Approximately* **16,750** *dignity kits were distributed in Kenya, Nigeria, and Liberia.*

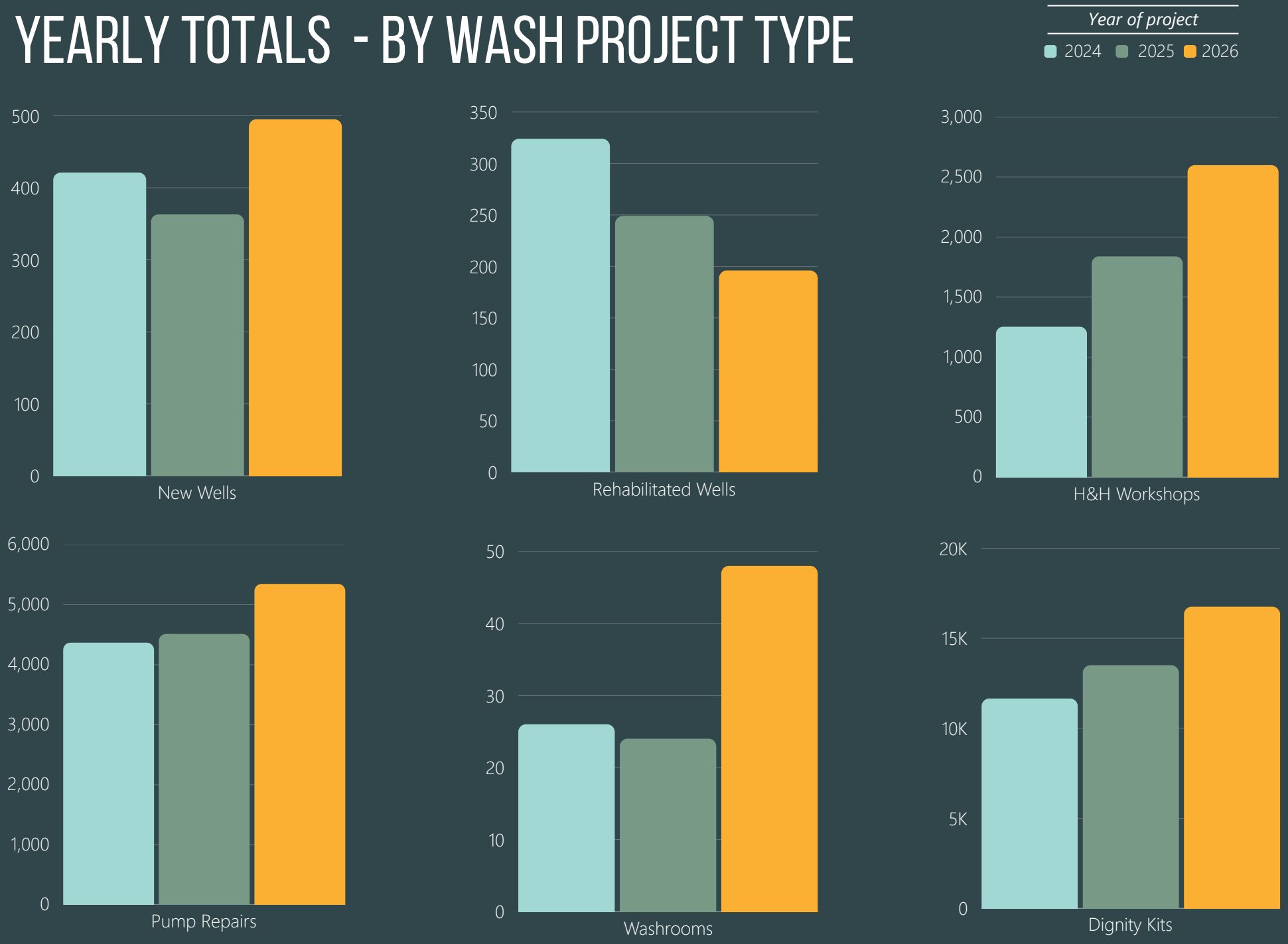
We completed a total of 8,684 projects in fiscal 2026 after 6,988 the previous year—another record accomplishment!

**size of bubbles is proportional to the number of beneficiaries*



No single part of a WASH program can stand on its own. Safe water, sanitation and hygiene education each play a vital role in strengthening the others. When multiple aspects are at work in a community, they foster greater understanding, ownership, and improved health. This is why we also include dignity kits as part of our WASH approach. For many girls and women, even with access to clean water and improved sanitation, a lack of menstrual health support remains a barrier to health, education and opportunity. When these programs work together, they remove barriers and create lasting change that transforms lives.

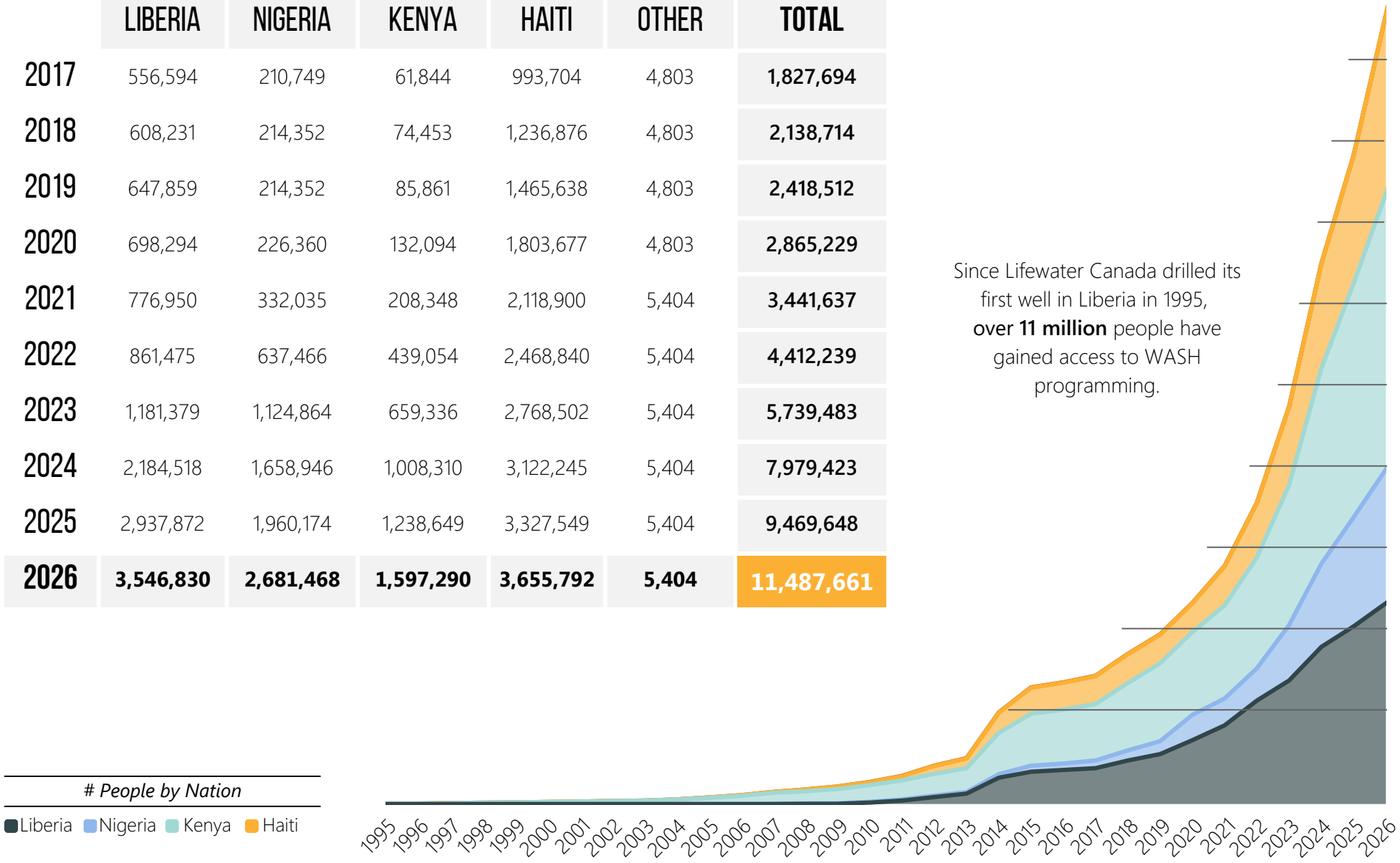
YEARLY TOTALS - BY WASH PROJECT TYPE



CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BENEFITTING

	LIBERIA	NIGERIA	KENYA	HAITI	OTHER	TOTAL
2017	556,594	210,749	61,844	993,704	4,803	**1,827,694**
2018	608,231	214,352	74,453	1,236,876	4,803	**2,138,714**
2019	647,859	214,352	85,861	1,465,638	4,803	**2,418,512**
2020	698,294	226,360	132,094	1,803,677	4,803	**2,865,229**
2021	776,950	332,035	208,348	2,118,900	5,404	**3,441,637**
2022	861,475	637,466	439,054	2,468,840	5,404	**4,412,239**
2023	1,181,379	1,124,864	659,336	2,768,502	5,404	**5,739,483**
2024	2,184,518	1,658,946	1,008,310	3,122,245	5,404	**7,979,423**
2025	2,937,872	1,960,174	1,238,649	3,327,549	5,404	**9,469,648**
2026	**3,546,830**	**2,681,468**	**1,597,290**	**3,655,792**	**5,404**	**11,487,661**

Since Lifewater Canada drilled its first well in Liberia in 1995, **over 11 million** people have gained access to WASH programming.

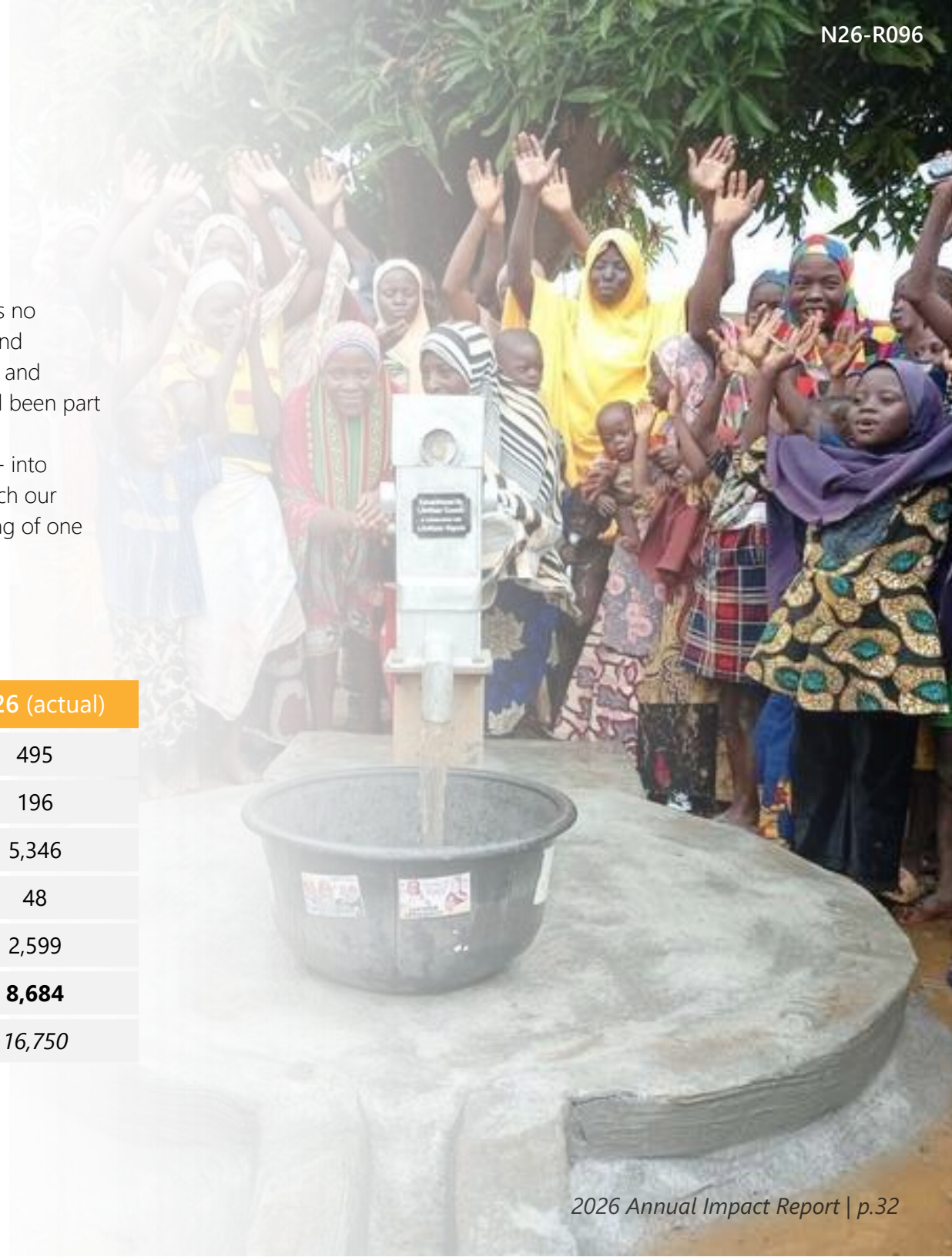


2026 GOALS IN REVIEW

We are always striving to improve our processes, and this year is no exception. Broadening the scope of our long term monitoring and evaluation, increasing the data points collected on each project, and putting added levels of verification in place for our work have all been part of our focus through this last fiscal year.
With these as our focus, and with two long awaited expansions - into Eastern Liberia and North Eastern Nigeria - we were able to reach our projected targets with exceptional accuracy, even with the ending of one partnership in our third quarter.

We projected and completed the following number of projects:

PROJECT TYPE	2026 (projected)	2026 (actual)
NEW WELLS	492	495
REHABILITATED WELLS	196	196
PUMP REPAIRS	5,325	5,346
COMMUNITY WASHROOMS	48	48
HEALTH + HYGIENE	2,746	2,599
TOTAL	**8,807**	**8,684**
DIGNITY KITS	*28,000*	*16,750*





LOOKING TO FISCAL 2027

For this fiscal year of 2027, we will be building on last years success, with a focus on sustainability. We are looking at the possibility of moving into two new nations, starting slow and expanding over time. Growth and increased impact are still targets, but only in as much as we can do with excellence. After a few years of a heavy repair focus, we expect that area of work will slow slightly.
We are giving ourselves room to complete the following number of projects this fiscal year.

2027 PROJECTS (projected year-end)	
NEW WELLS	564
REHABILITATED WELLS	441
PUMP REPAIRS	4956
COMMUNITY WASHROOMS	56
HEALTH + HYGIENE	2340
TOTAL	**8357**

We also hope to provide approximately **27,000** women and girls with menstrual hygiene products.

7 REGIONAL UPDATES

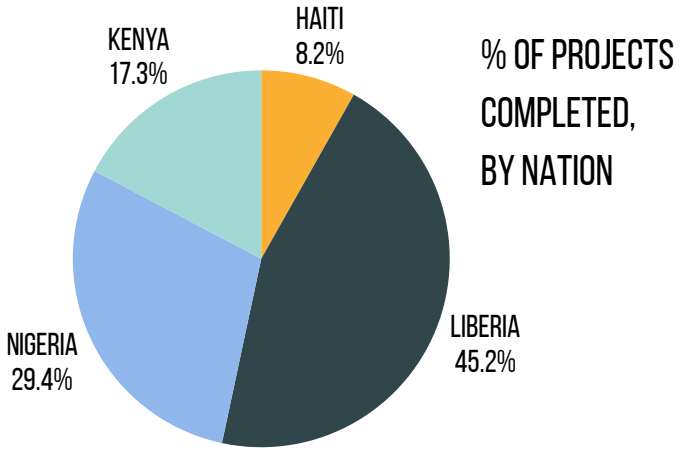






REGIONAL UPDATES

We began this year with strong targets for growth, not just in projects completed, but also in the improvement of data collection and reporting. These collection points are important in verifying each individual project, as well as calculating overall impact. We have been pleased at the growth of our partners, and how their growth challenges Lifewater Canada to continue growing as well. Although it was painful to lose one partner this year in Kenya, other teams were able to complete additional work, willing to stretch themselves into new areas, and we are grateful for their hard work in coming together to meet our goals for the year.



PROJECTS COMPLETED BY COUNTRY, BY TYPE

NATION	NEW WELLS	REHABILITATED WELLS	PUMP REPAIRS	COMMUNITY WASHROOMS	HEALTH + HYGIENE*	TOTAL PROJECTS	DIGNITY KITS**
HAITI	41	3	726	1	0	**771**	0
LIBERIA	162	72	2,762	3	1,260	**4,259**	5,500**
NIGERIA	164	96	1,146	24	594	**2,024**	4,500**
KENYA	128	25	712	20	745	**1,630**	6,750**
TOTAL	**495**	**196**	**5,346**	**48**	**2,599**	**8,684**	**16,750**
PROPORTION	*5.7%*	*2.26%*	*61.56%*	*0.55%*	*29.93%*	*100%*	**

*Stand-alone H&H projects (Not including H&H training as part of another project)
**Individual dignity kits are distributed, and not included in total projects and beneficiaries

OPERATIONAL SCORECARD

We evaluate the progress and impact of our work using the data collected from each project. 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. 200-400 users per well
4. Affordability

2 PROVIDE SAFE, DRINKABLE WATER

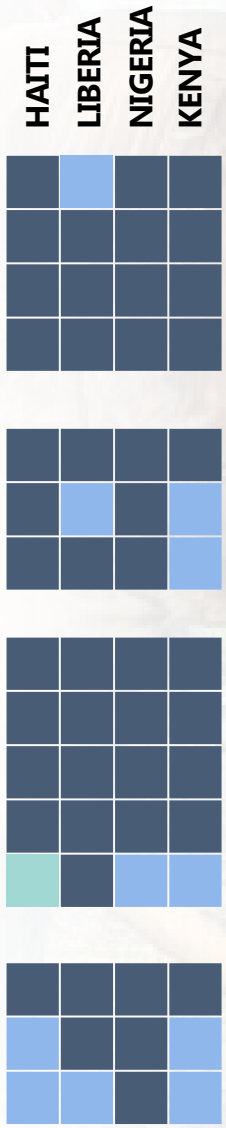
1. Water should be free of pathogenic bacteria
2. Nitrate and nitrite levels comparable to Canadian limits
3. Water free of turbitity and objectional taste/odour

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



% of Target Complete

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

LIFEWATER PARTNERS

A letter from Catherine Achieng-Wimbly, Project Coordinator, Lifewater R.E.S.C.U.E

In Mwingi, water follows the seasons.

The seasonal rivers come alive during the not promised two rainy seasons, briefly transforming the dry landscape before retreating into the earth again. When the rains end, communities return to shallow wells dug along the riverbeds, searching for enough water to carry them through the long dry months. Water is not always there and when it is, it is not always safe or clean.

For families living across this vast, semi-arid region, this is simply part of life. Yet the people of Mwingi are not helpless. They are resourceful, determined, and willing to do whatever it takes to bring reliable water closer to home. That determination is what made the partnership with Lifewater RESCUE Kenya possible.

From the beginning, the goal was never simply to drill boreholes for communities. It was to work with them as one community member put it, "We are ready to do our part. We just need the water."

In November 2022, that commitment became reality. Villagers contributed locally available materials and worked alongside our team as the first community borehole took shape. But the story did not end when the drilling stopped, in fact, that is where another chapter begins.

Today, communities know they can confidently call us when they are unable to fix a broken hand pump, so they are not left alone with a broken water point. Our repair team is always happy to get back on the road, repair the pump, and get the water flowing again.

The partnership in Mwingi is not arriving, drilling and leaving. It is working together and staying connected long enough to make sure the water keeps flowing. Because sometimes the greatest impact is not simply bringing water to a community. It is the relationship created and making sure water stays there.


KC26-R004

At Lifewater Canada, as with all of our partners, Catherine's description of LRK's work in Mwingi serves as a wonderful example of what we are working to build. Long-term sustainable solutions for communities through long-term sustainable relationships with partners.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Haiti


Jan 2019 Lifewater Canada Haiti trip

WASH STATISTICS

While significant progress has been made, access to safe water and sanitation remains a challenge. **73%** of the population now has access to at least basic drinking water, while **29%** has access to basic sanitation services. An estimated 7 in 10 people still lack at least basic sanitation. **14%** of Haiti's population still relies on unimproved drinking water sources. Although **23%** of people have access to basic hygiene services, many families are vulnerable to preventable waterborne diseases.

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2026 update

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE BARRIERS

Haiti's rugged mountains, scattered rural communities, and widespread deforestation create significant barriers to developing and maintaining safe water systems. Frequent hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and landslides can also damage existing infrastructure, making sustainable WASH solutions essential for improving health and resilience in vulnerable communities.


Jan 2019 Lifewater Canada Haiti trip

TEAM

LIFEWATER D'HAITI

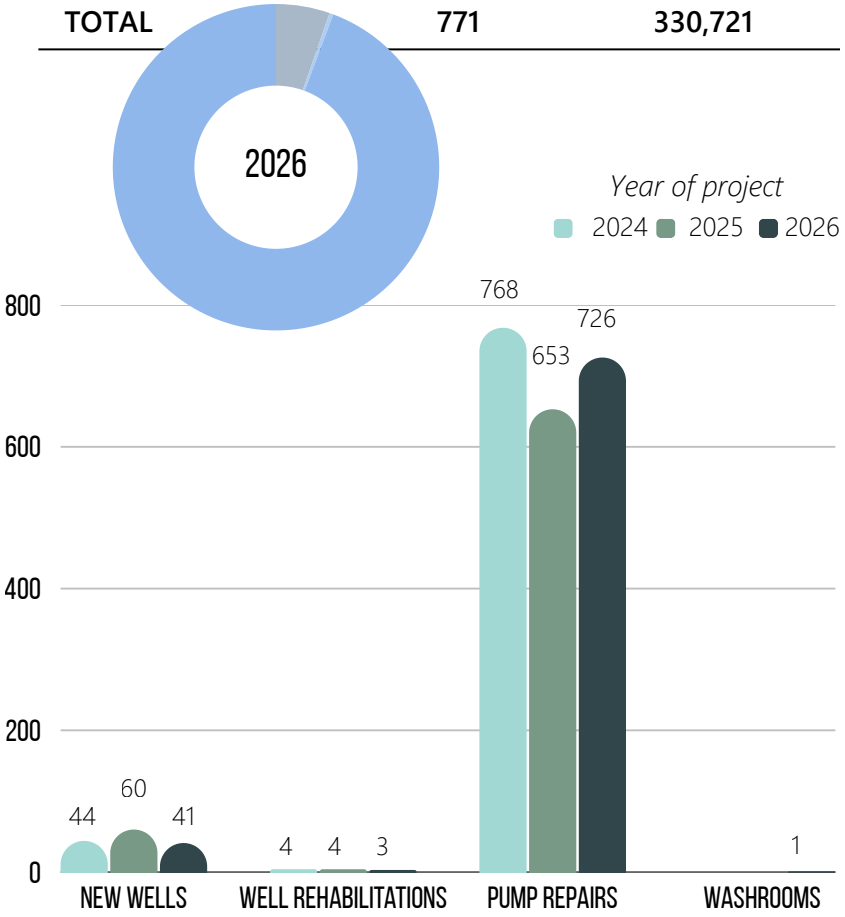


REGION: Northern Haiti
COORDINATOR: Hanania Orelus
PARTNERS SINCE: 2010

This past year, our team focused heavily on addressing a critical necessity that directly transforms daily lives: reliable access to clean, safe drinking water. In several neighbourhoods across Plaine-du-Nord, broken water pumps and failing wells had left hundreds of families without a nearby source of clean water, forcing women and children to walk long distances daily or rely on unsafe sources.
Through targeted pump repairs and well installations, we successfully restored safe drinking water access to hundreds of households throughout Plaine-du-Nord this year, Beyond fixing physical infrastructures, the true impact lies in the immediate relief felt across the community. Additionally, Haiti introduced a latrine project this year, the first ever completed by Lifewater Haiti.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	41	18,320
Rehabilitated Wells	3	2,300
Pump Repairs	726	309,701
Washrooms	1	400
TOTAL	**771**	**330,721**



ROCHE DE GODIN, HAITI

H26-P588

Women and girls in Roche de Godin are celebrating the repair of their community's hand pump. With clean water once again available nearby, they no longer have to travel long distances or rely on unsafe water sources. Community leaders have expressed their gratitude and are committed to maintaining the well so it can continue serving families for years to come.





STORIES FROM THE FIELD

WAYAN, HAITI

H26-P178

A particularly memorable moment occurred following a recent restoration in the area: within minutes of the clean water being available, children gathered with jerrycans, and community leaders shared their relief that families could finally cook, drink, and wash safely without fear of waterborne illness.

Restoring these water points has done far more than supply basic hydration; it has improved local health, restored dignity, and freed up valuable time for children to focus on their education. This progress in Plaine-du-Nord is thanks to the dedicated support of donors who continue to champion these community projects.







COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Liberia


L26-W046

WASH STATISTICS

Despite significant progress in recent years, access to safe water and sanitation remains a major challenge in Liberia. About **79%** of the population has access to at least basic drinking water services, yet **8%** still rely on surface water and **8%** use unimproved drinking water sources. Access to sanitation is even more limited: only **23%** of Liberians use basic sanitation facilities. These gaps in access to safe water and sanitation continue to increase the risk of waterborne disease and environmental contamination for many families.

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2026 update

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE BARRIERS

Liberia receives abundant rainfall each year and is rich in freshwater resources, yet many rural communities still lack access to safe drinking water. Dense forests, limited road infrastructure, and seasonal flooding make it difficult to reach remote areas and maintain water systems, and provide reliable WASH services. These ongoing challenges highlight the need for sustainable, community-led solutions that improve access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene.


Lifewater Canada Liberia trip

TEAM

LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. — LOCAL

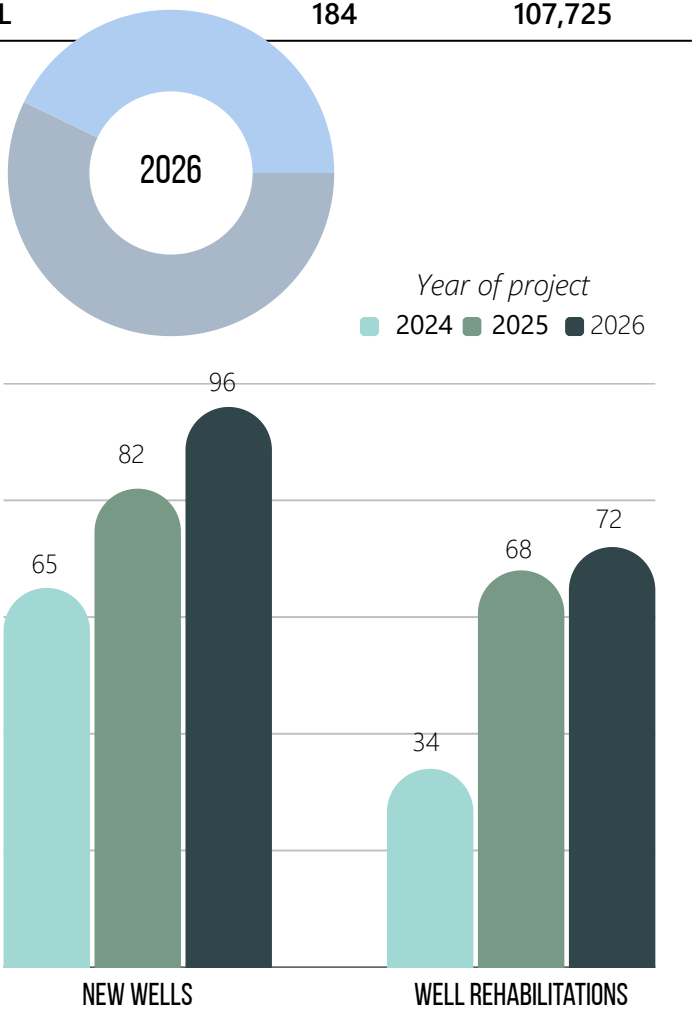


REGION: Greater Monrovia
COORDINATOR: Henry Tengbeh
PARTNERS SINCE: 1995

As our oldest partner, Lifewater Liberia Inc. (L-Linc) has achieved remarkable success serving the people of Liberia. Though there have been trials, this group always works together with Lifewater Canada towards solutions, and have never shown hesitancy at growth or change. This year has been difficult, with unusual rains impacting community access, and the sudden and unexpected passing of a dear friend and board member, Lawrence Grey. The crew pushed through those challenges to complete a record number of new wells, and grew their rehabilitation program again. As a team, L-Linc local continues to improve their processes, better their skills, and grow their impact.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	96	69,355
Rehabilitated Wells	72	38,370
TOTAL	**184**	**107,725**



VARNEY TOWN, LIBERIA

L26-W093

For years, the people of Varney Town relied on a shallow well as their only source of water. Long lines were a daily reality, and the unsafe water led to frequent waterborne illnesses.

Today, the story has changed. Through the support of Lifewater Canada and its donors, a new well and hand pump have been installed—providing reliable access to clean, safe water. This lasting solution is improving health, restoring dignity, and enabling the community to thrive.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD

BARCLAY FARM, LIBERIA

L26-W068

For the Barclay Farm Community, accessing water was very difficult and dangerous. Women and children in the community walked long distances to collect water, and on several occasions, residents reported falls and injuries while carrying heavy water containers. The community has experienced the frightening reality of a child falling into the open hand-dug well. The daily search for water took valuable time away from school and providing for the family. In the dry season, the situation became even more challenging as water sources would become scarce.

Lifewater Liberia helped change this story by providing a new drilled well with a hand pump, giving the community convenient access to safe, reliable water. Families no longer have to rely on dangerous water sources or risk injury while collecting water.

Today, Women have more time for household and livelihood activities, while children have more time to attend school, study, and play. The hand pump has brought more than water to the community; it has brought health, safety, dignity, and hope for a better future.







TEAM

LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. — RURAL

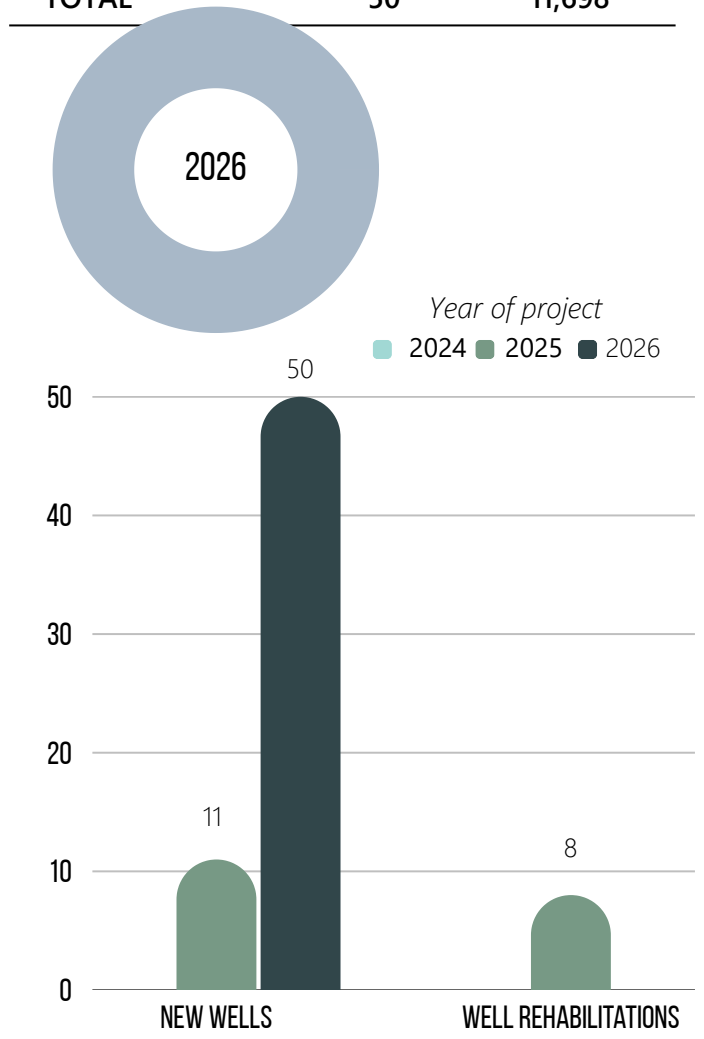


REGION: Rural Liberia
COORDINATOR: Bennie Paul
PARTNERS SINCE: 2025

Starting their work in late fiscal 2025, L-Linc Rural focuses exclusively on new wells in Northern Liberia. Coming to the Lifewater team as a cohesive and well trained team from an organization no longer working in Liberia, they were able to quickly adapt to Lifewater processes and expectations. Still working directly under Lifewater Liberia, Inc., this team has had only one question for us, "Can we do more?". It has been a tremendous accomplishment completing 50 wells in a region that has not seen a new well in decades. Our hope is that we can answer their question in the affirmative in the future.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	50	11,698
TOTAL	**50**	**11,698**



SAMMIE TA Q1, LIBERIA

L26-W043

For many years, the community of Sammie Ta Q1 faced ongoing challenges associated with a shortage of safe, clean water. Waterborne illnesses and poor hygiene conditions were part of daily life as residents had to rely on a contaminated water source for drinking and washing. Change came when the rural team arrived to construct a new well and install a new hand pump. The communal well is now providing the residents with clean, safe water for drinking and washing. The community is now seeing improvements in residents' health and hygiene practices.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD

WOTALAH TOWN, LIBERIA

LR26-W044

Wotalah Town is situated on rocky ground, making it challenging to dig a well. As a result, residents had to resort to collecting water from unsafe water sources. When the team spoke with Ma Tawah, a resident, she explained that the community had no choice but to drink from the same water source used by the goats, ducks and pigs. When the team arrived to drill a well for the community, the whole town came out and welcomed them with celebration, music and singing.

Once the drilling was completed and the new well was dedicated, the community celebration continued. Now, Ma Tawah and other residents will no longer have to share their drinking water with livestock.

The Liberia Rural team was overwhelmed by the joy on the faces of people who had endured so much pain and suffering just to access safe water. For the team, Watalah town was a powerful reminder of why they continue to do this work: to serve people who are often felt overlooked and to bring hope of a different story- one with accessible safe water. This town serves as an everyday reminder of the impact our Lifewater partners have in Liberia and countries beyond.







Team

STS-LIFEWATER

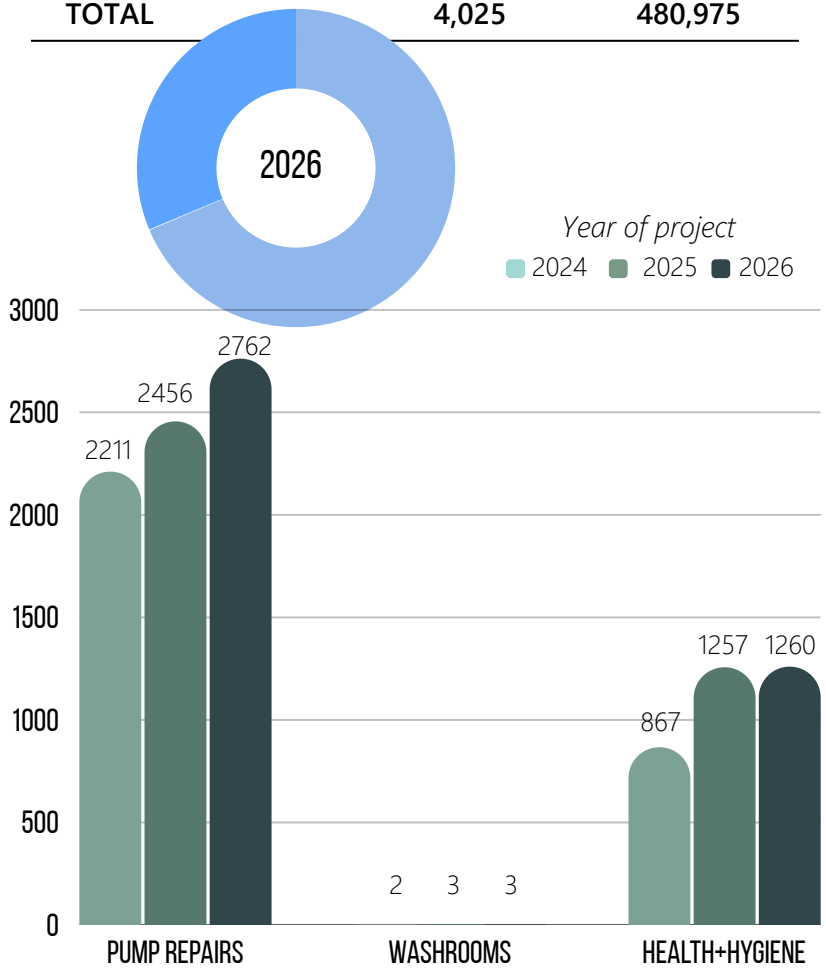


REGION: Liberia
COORDINATOR: Joe Sloan
PARTNERS SINCE: 2023

STS-Lifewater is still a relatively young team in Liberia, but their growth is worth noting. In the beginning, their focus was on desperately needed pump repairs and Health & Hygiene training; they have now become a core part of every project that is done in Liberia. STS-Lifewater handles all imports into the country for all teams, manages inventory and procurement, and ensures that L-Linc drilling teams have the pump supplies needed to reach the record numbers that those teams are achieving. To top that off, they have become self-sufficient in their financial management and planning and have grown their repair teams as needed to reach remote areas, bringing water access back to communities in need.


LS26-P2075

PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
Pump Repairs	2,762	444,917
Washrooms	3	2,200
H&H Workshops	1,260	33,858
TOTAL	**4,025**	**480,975**



MADINA TOWN Q1, LIBERIA

LS26-P2146

When the hand pump serving Madina Town stopped working, residents were forced to rely on a nearby creek for drinking and washing water. The alternative source was contaminated, exposing the community to the risk of waterborne illnesses. Community members felt relief and a renewed sense of hope when STS Liberia arrived and fixed their hand pump. Not only has safe water returned to Madina, but so has time for education, providing for their families, and improved health.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD

GOLDEN HEART ACADEMY SCHOOL, LIBERIA

LS26-H0550

When STS Liberia visited the Golden Heart Academy to repair the school's hand pump, the team also provided training on Health and Hygiene. The students had very little prior knowledge about these topics. This training gave them the opportunity to see and learn how simple practices can help protect their health and the health of those around them. The children learned the importance of personal hygiene, proper sanitation, and how to protect their water sources and their surroundings. With safe water flowing again and new knowledge about health and hygiene, students are able to make healthier choices and pass on what they learned to their family and friends.







COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Nigeria


N26-W009

WASH STATISTICS

While access to WASH services has improved across Nigeria, significant gaps remain. **82%** of the population uses at least basic drinking water services, yet only **30%** have access to safely managed drinking water. Only **48%** of people have access to basic sanitation, and **32%** have access to safely managed sanitation services. This still leaves millions vulnerable to preventable waterborne diseases.

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2026 update

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE BARRIERS

Nigeria's vast size and diverse geography create unique challenges for expanding access to safe water and sanitation. From the dry Sahel regions in the north to the flood-prone coastal areas in the south, communities face different water-related risks. Rapid population growth, uneven infrastructure development, and seasonal flooding can place additional pressure on water systems, making sustainable WASH solutions essential across the country.


Taken near Bacuhi, Nigeria

Team

LIFEWATER NIGERIA



REGION: Central Nigeria

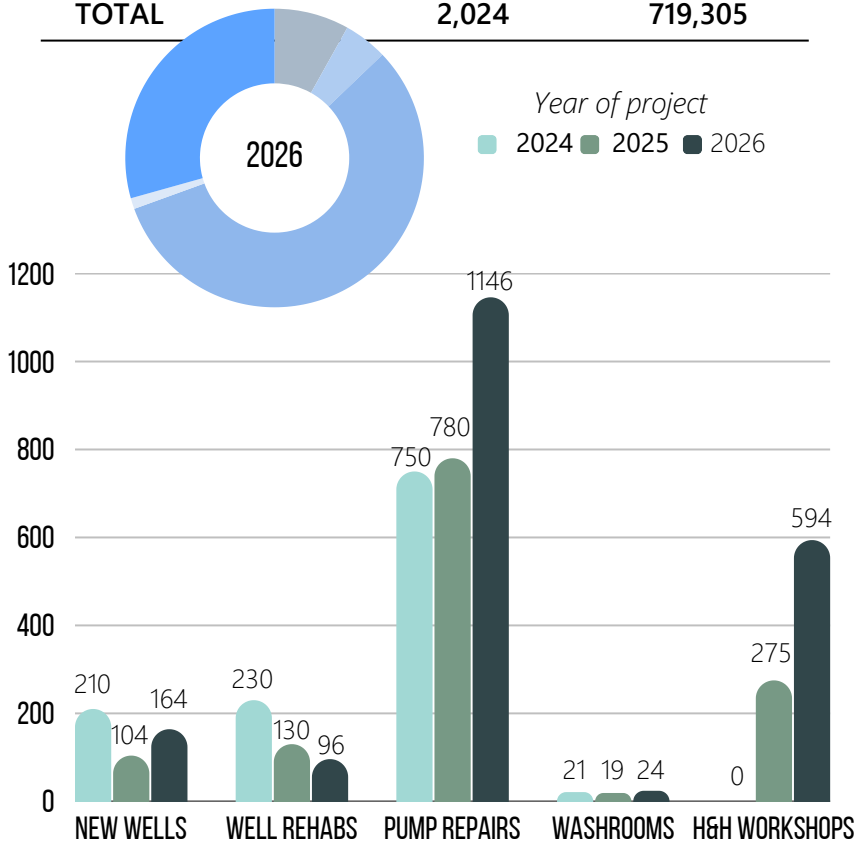
COORDINATOR: Hosea Apeh

PARTNERS SINCE: 2021

All of our time working with Lifewater Nigeria (LHIN) has been a pure joy. This past year the team settled into a solid routine with consistent WASH programs across all 6 areas of our work. The excellence of their work, from digging a mud pit to submitting a project, is always evident. Late this year, they welcomed the first of our production trike rigs, and after rigorous testing, deployed it to the expansion region in North East Nigeria with great success. In 2026, Lifewater Nigeria did more than deliver water; the team brought hope closer to families who need it most and renewed confidence in a safer, healthier tomorrow.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	164	170,652
Rehabilitated Wells	96	42,888
Pump Repairs	1,146	471,938
Washrooms	24	8,586
H&H Workshops	594	25,241
TOTAL	**2,024**	**719,305**





BAKIN KOGI PRIMARY SCHOOL, NIGERIA

N26-R083

The rural Bakin Kogi Primary School serves as a place of learning and a gathering point for the community. When the school's handpump broke down from being overused, students were forced to leave school during the day to search for water. Lifewater rehabilitated the pump at the school, providing safe water again close by. Now students can remain in class, lessons flow without interruption, and community members can access water without disrupting their routines.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD



POKATA, NIGERIA

NE26-W016

The need for safe water is especially urgent in the Northeast of Nigeria, where insecurity can turn the simple act of fetching water into a dangerous journey. Many families travel long distances only to find unsafe sources. The Northeast community of Pokata relied on an open water source that was not safe. When it dried up, residents turned to another questionable source covered with spirogyra. Spirogyra is a green algae also known as water silk. This contaminated water led to widespread waterborne diseases, severely impacting the health of the community.

The arrival of Lifewater Nigeria and the construction of a new well brought a sense of relief, protection, greater dignity, hope and renewed confidence for the future. Children have more time for school and to play, while families are experiencing improved health and security.







COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Kenya


Lifewater Canada Kenya 2015 trip

WASH STATISTICS

Access to safe water and sanitation varies widely across Kenya, with many rural and drought-prone communities facing the greatest barriers. While **66%** of the population has access to at least basic drinking water services, an estimated **19%** of Kenyans still depend on surface water sources. Gaps remain in sanitation and hygiene; **41%** have access to basic sanitation services, while only **36%** have safely managed sanitation. This demonstrates the continued need for lasting WASH interventions.

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2026 update

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE BARRIERS

Kenya's varied geography, from fertile highlands and coastal regions to dry arid and semi-arid lands, creates unequal access to water across communities. Recurring droughts, changing rainfall patterns, and remote rural settlements make reliable water access a challenge for many families, making locally led water solutions essential for creating healthier, more resilient communities.


Lifewater Canada Kenya 2024 trip

Team

THE LIFEWATER KENYA



REGION: Nakuru, Kenya

COORDINATOR: David Maina

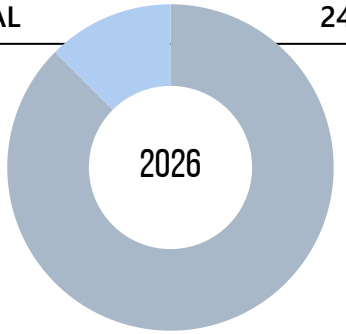
PARTNERS SINCE: 2005

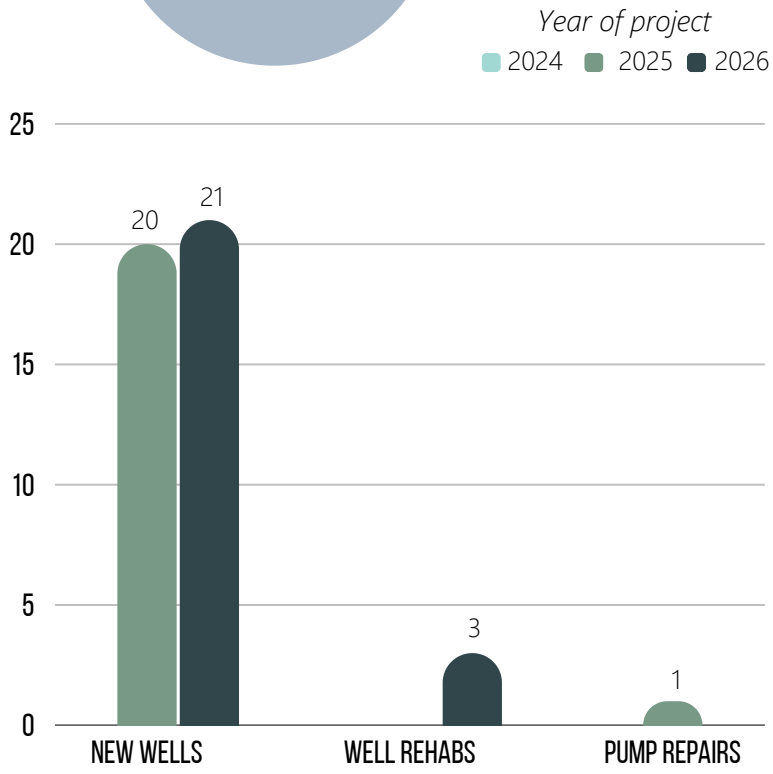
Early in the year, The Lifewater Kenya (TLK) suffered a catastrophic failure with their drilling rig, causing months of unforeseen downtime. At the same time, long standing staff members from the drill team reached retirement. These were major contributing factors to a lower than projected number of projects completed. However, this is only a part of their story.

While restaffing, training, and repairing equipment took time, TLK is also a central point for every project completed in Kenya, supporting other teams, and other nations, through inventory management, import logistics, and legal requirements. TLK ended the year strong, with staff and equipment to work in their region while also maintaining assistance and oversight for others.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	21	8,922
Rehabilitated Wells	3	1,930
TOTAL	**24**	**10,852**





UPPER HILL ACADMEY, KENYA

KT26-W006

At Upper Hill Academy, there are about 600 students. For most of them and their families, walking several kilometres to find water became necessary after their harvested rainwater ran out. At times, the school would buy drinking water for the students, but it was not a sustainable solution due to the high cost of clean water from the water vendors.

Today, due to the generosity of donors and the partnership between Lifewater Canada and The Lifewater Kenya, safe, clean water is now flowing at Upper Hill Academy. Having accessible water nearby is creating conditions for students to stay in school, learn more, dream, and hope for the future.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD

SIGOWET COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL, KENYA

KT26-W004

At Sigowet Comprehensive School, water used to come at a cost—not only in time and effort, but also in safety. For years, more than 500 learners and their families in the surrounding community depended on the nearby river as a source of water. Reaching the river meant walking a considerable distance, often carrying containers back and forth. For children, this journey was particularly challenging. The river was not only far from their school and homes, but the river also presented safety risks. All of these factors made the search for water a daily concern.

This year, that story began to change. The drilling of a water well at Sigowet Comprehensive School has brought a safe and much-needed source of water closer to home. This well represents something much greater for this community: safer days, healthier surroundings, and more time for children to learn and grow.

The time and energy once spent travelling to fetch water can now be redirected towards education, family responsibilities, and other productive activities.

The impact is not measured only in litres of water. It is measured in the learner who can focus on lessons, instead of worrying about fetching water; in the parent who has greater peace of mind, knowing that their child is no longer required to make a long journey to the river; and in a community that can look ahead with greater confidence.







Team

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

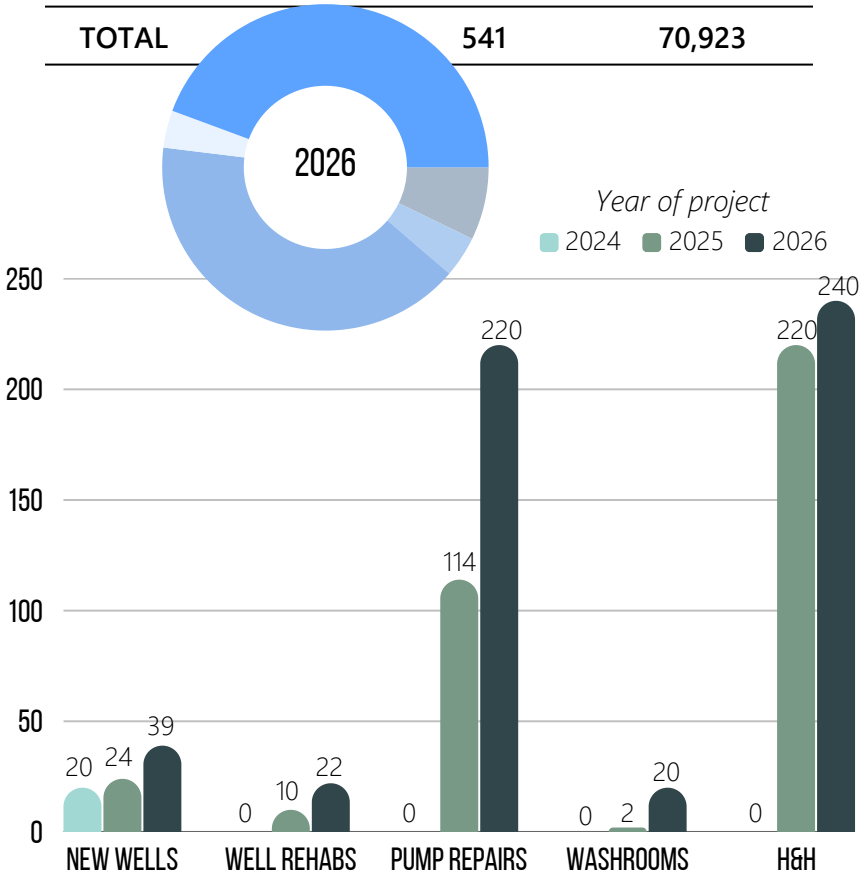


REGION: Mwingi, Kenya
COORDINATOR: Catherine Achieng
PARTNERS SINCE: 2023

Lifewater R.E.S.C.U.E. Kenya has continued to steadily build on their previous years' successes, setting up a formidable drilling program, and adding in the full scope of WASH programming into their work in Mwingi. Late in the year, this also included finalizing the ground work for adding Dignity Kits to the existing sanitation program. We are thankful for a team that builds their work with measured determination, and as a result, creates lasting impact in their region. As previously mentioned, this year they also welcomed several teams from different regions and nations, passing on their knowledge and skills to help even beyond their own borders.



PROJECT TYPE	PROJECTS	BENEFICIARIES
New Wells	39	7,169
Rehabilitated Wells	22	4,200
Pump Repairs	220	52,762
Washrooms	20	2570
H&H Workshops	240	4,222
TOTAL	**541**	**70,923**



UPPER LENZA, KENYA

KC26-W035

For years, the Upper Lenza community faced severe water scarcity, relying on distant, unsafe water sources that occupied hours each day and exposed families to waterborne diseases. Today, thanks to a well drilled by Lifewater R.E.S.C.U.E. Kenya in partnership with Lifewater Canada, the community now has reliable access to safe water. This has led to improved health and sanitation, restored dignity, increased school attendance, support for small-scale farming, and new opportunities for social and economic growth.







STORIES FROM THE FIELD

NGANGANI PRIMARY SCHOOL

KC26-L016

Ngangani Primary School was one of the schools that previously received a well from Lifewater Canada. The goal of the well was to improve health and hygiene among the students and to provide clean drinking water. Yet, the local team received reports of students continuing to miss out on school.

The problem was sanitation; the school lacked a safe latrine. The latrine structure that served the school for years was damaged and unsafe. Thankfully, Lifewater R.E.S.C.U.E. Kenya and Lifewater Canada and it's donors partnered to construct a latrine for the school. A new four-door latrine is now there for students to have a secure place to go, while enjoying privacy with an improved sense of dignity.









Team

STADA KENYA

In May of 2026, the partnership between STADA Kenya and Lifewater Canada came to an end. Beginning in late 2021, this team worked in 6 areas of WASH programming in Kisumu, Kenya.

It is never our goal to have a short-term relationship with a team. Our desire is to build stable and productive long-term partnerships, but we also accept that there are times that partnerships must end.

We are thankful for the work that we were able to complete during our time together, and for those schools and communities that were truly impacted.

We are committed to keeping our focus on our two remaining teams in that nation, and are not looking to create any new partnerships in Kenya.


KS26-P427


KS26-P488


KS23-W001

8 OUR OPERATIONS



Englise Methodiste de Beaudin, Haiti



H26-R002

Pump Rehabilitation



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

Per Lifewater Canada's Audited Financial Statements, for the year ended June 30th, 2026

REVENUE:	2026	2025
Donations		
Individual	$ 3,184,999	$ 2,356,755
Corporate	362,046	209,395
Foundations	620,192	729,907
Civic Groups	408,384	1,477,393
Gifts in kind	11,136	-
International	591,010	170,168
Interest income	39,076	43,679
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	8,423	1,145
TOTAL	**5,225,266**	**4,988,442**

EXPENDITURES	2026	2025
Well construction	2,105,436	1,535,601
Well rehabilitation	208,136	256,138
Pump repair program	593,490	458,645
Tank catchment systems	2,737	-
Sanitation	187,455	154,963
Health and hygiene	586,051	383,147
Infrastructure improvements	465,167	518,465
Training and education	102,474	133,293
Administrative expenses	59,087	60,281
Fundraising	80,559	40,773
Wages and beneefits	367,481	341,503
TOTAL	**4,758,073**	**3,882,809**

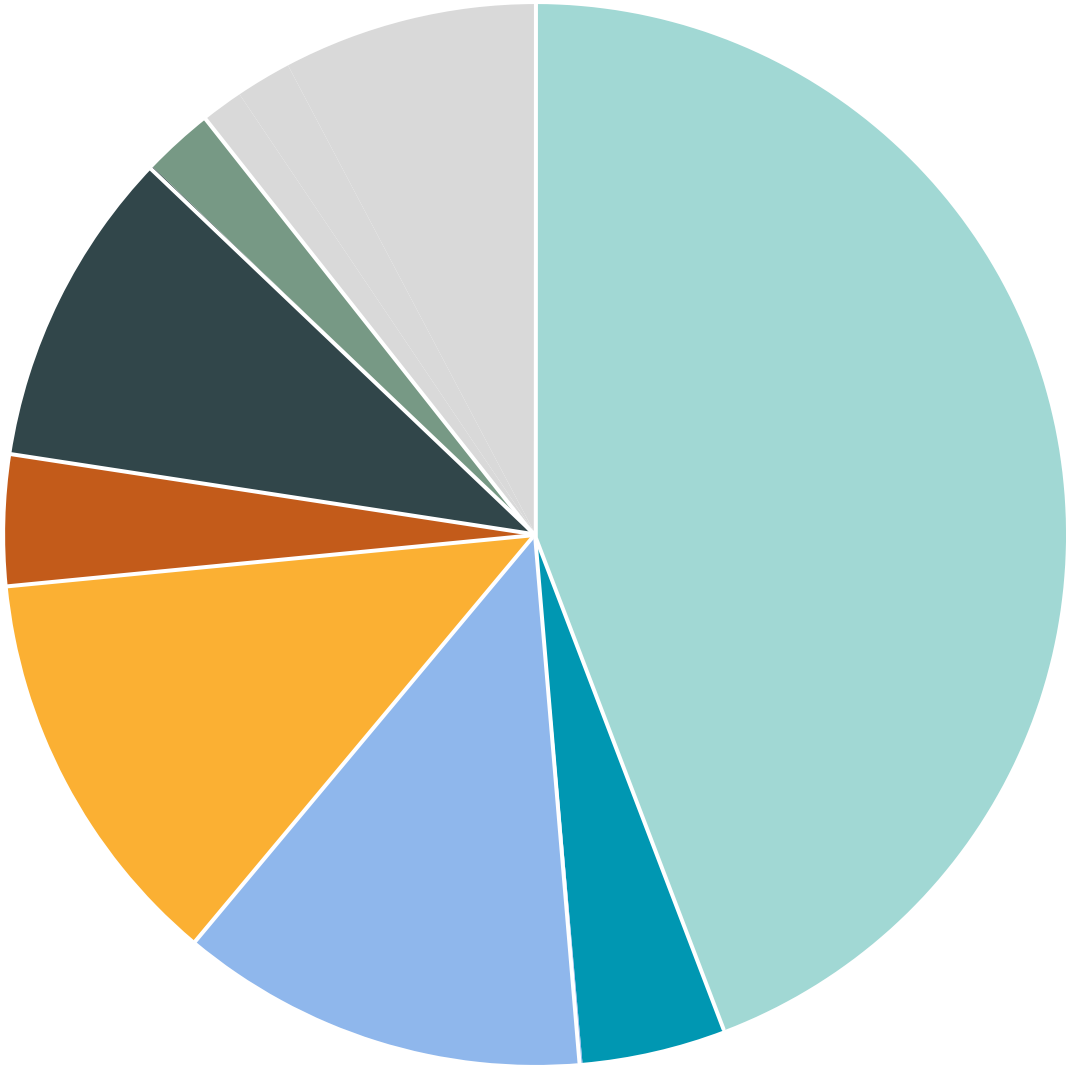
TOTALS:	2026	2025
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	$ 467,193	$ 1,105,633
Net assets, beginning of year	$ 1,972,150	$ 866,517
Net assets, end of year	**$ 2,439,343**	**$ 1,972,150**

HOW WERE YOUR DONATIONS INVESTED?

PROJECT SECTOR	INVESTMENT	%
New Wells	$ 2,105,436	44.2
Rehabilitated Wells	208,136	4.4
Pump Repairs	593,490	12.5
Health and Hygiene	586,051	12.3
Sanitation	187,455	3.9
Infrastructure/Equipment*	465,167	9.8
Training and Education	133,293	2.2
Overhead**		
Administration	59,087	1.2
Fundraising	80,559	1.7
Wages and Benefits	367,481	7.7
TOTAL	**$4,758,073**	**100.0**

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

**Overhead includes salaries, contractor fees, fundraising costs, office supplies, etc.



OUR FISCAL 2026 BOARD

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

Cheryl Ann Hertan (Board Chair)
MBA, CTR, John Muir Health, California

Jason Gehrels (Vice-Chair)
Financial Advisor, World Financial Group, Ottawa, ON

Lynda Gehrels (President)
Registered Nurse, Thunder Bay, ON

Donald Heerema (Financial Controller)
Chartered Account, Thunder Bay, ON

Harvey Pepneck (Member at Large) - Passed away April 26, 2026
Farmer, Vauxhall, AB

Edwin Makkinga (Member at Large) - Stepped down Feb 28, 2026
Manager, Climate Policy for Enbridge Inc., Calgary, AB

Stan Denhoed (Member at Large)
Senior Hydrogeologist, Harden Environmental Services Ltd., Moffat, ON

Robert Jarrett (Member at Large) - Effective Feb 28, 2026
Environmental Engineer, Decatur, GA





OUR FISCAL 2026 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 - ON
Dan Nickol, Vice President - AB
Sharlyn Nickol, Executive Administrator + Human Resources - AB
Shirley van Dyken, Financial Administrator - ON
Scott Chapman, Foundation + Grant Manager - BC
Jeff Adams, Donor Relations Manager - West - AB
Betty-Ann Reid, Fundraising + Donor Relations - East - ON
Coleton Nickol, Data Entry Analyst - AB
Michaela Traves, Social Media Coordinator - SK
Jamie Staal, Creative Lead (on maternity leave) - AB
Samantha Zeffer, Donor Relations Manager - East - AB
Jasmine Harding, Administrative Assistant - ON

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, Lifewater d'Haiti – Haiti
Rev. Stephen Varfee, Country Coordinator – Liberia
Henry Tengbeh, Program Coordinator, L-Linc. Local – Liberia
Bennie Paul - Program Coordinator, L-Linc Rural - Liberia
Joe Sloan, Program Coordinator, STS Lifewater – Liberia
Hosea Apeh, Program Director, LHIN – Nigeria
Rev. David Maina, Managing Director, TLK – Kenya
Catherine Achieng-Wimbly, Program Director, LRK – Kenya

ORGANIZATION CHART

LIFEWATER CANADA - AS OF JUNE 30, 2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LYNDA GEHRELS
PRESIDENT

DAN NICKOL
VICE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN-COUNTRY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



HAITI

LIFEWATER D'HAITI
HANANIA ORLELUS



LIBERIA

COUNTRY COORDINATOR
STEPHEN VARFEE

LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. (L-LINC), LOCAL
HENRY TENGBE

LIFEWATER LIBERIA INC. (L-LINC), RURAL
BENNIE PAUL

STS-LIFEWATER
JOE SLOAN



NIGERIA

LIFEWATER HYGIENE INITIATIVE OF NIGERIA (LHIN)
HOSEA APEH



KENYA

DOCUMENT DIRECTOR
CATHERINE ACHIENG-WIMBLY

THE LIFEWATER KENYA (TLK)
DAVID MAINA

LIFEWATER RESCUE KENYA (LRK)
CATHERINE ACHIENG-WIMBLY



CANADA

SHARLYN NICKOL
EXECUTIVE ADMIN & HUMAN RESOURCES

DONOR RELATIONS EAST
SAMANTHA ZEFFER

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
JASMINE HARDING

SOCIAL MEDIA
MICHAELA TRAVES*

FOUNDATION & GRANT MANAGER
SCOTT CHAPMAN

DONOR RELATIONS WEST
JEFF ADAMS*

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR
SHIRLEY VAN DYKEN*

DATA ENTRY & ANALYSIS
COLETON NICKOL*

CREATIVE LEAD
JAMIE STAAL*

LIFEWATER CANADA

*denotes part-time employee



9 SUPPORTERS



Lpains Town Q5, Liberia



L26-P2197 Pump Repair



CHURCHES AND CIVIC GROUPS

Bethel Christian Reformed Church, ON
Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Newmarket, ON
Bethel Christian Reformed Church, SK
Bethlehem Christian Reformed Church, ON
Brooks Christian Reformed Church, AB
Burdett Christian Reformed Church, AB
Calvary Christian Reformed Church, ON
Calvary Christian Reformed Church, ON
Calvin Christian Reformed Church, ON
Calgary Model Parish, AB
Cambridge- Narrows Community School, NB
Christ Church Bells Corners, ON
Christian Community Church, ON
Christian Reformed Church, AB
Christian Reformed Church of Iron Springs, AB
Cobequid Educational Centre, NS
Community Christian Men's Group, BC
Community Church of Richmond Hill, ON
Corpus Christi Catholic Women's League, ON
Covenant Christian Reformed Church, Woodstock, ON
Covenant Christian Reformed Church, ON
Crossfire Assembly, ON
Ebenezer United Church, ON
Emmanuel Christian Reformed Church, AB
Emo Christian Reformed Church, ON
Emo CRC Dorcas Society, ON
Faith United Church, ON
Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph Canada, ON
First Baptist Church, ON
First Christian Reformed Church, ON
First Christian Reformed Church of Kemptville, ON
First Christian Reformed Church of Toronto, ON
Gilpin Elementary School, BC
Global Conscience Circle, ON
Good Shepherd Church, ON
Grace Church, Anglican Church of Canada, ON
High Country United Church, ON
Holy Family Parish CWL, ON
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, ON
Immanuel Community Church, ON
Knox United Church UCW Unit 3, NS
Kiwanis Club Cochrane, AB
Koinonia Evangelical Church, BC
Ladner Christian Reformed Church, BC
Langley Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, BC
Little Current United Church, Little Current, ON
Living Hope CRC Orillia, Orillia, ON
Loads of Love Humanitarian Aid and Mission Society, ON
Loch Raven United Methodist Church, MD
Loch Raven United Methodist Women, MD
Malagash United Church, NS
Mara Community Church, BC
Maranatha Christian Reformed Church, ON
McKenzie Highlands School, AB
Meadowlands Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, ON
Murphy Rotary Club, NC
New Covenant Assembly, AB
New Life Christian Fellowship, ON
NW Ontario Water & Wastewater Association, ON
Rehoboth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, ON
River Park Christian Reformed Church, AB
Rosslyn Women's Institute, ON
Service To Servants, FL
Slate River Women's Institute, ON
Slate River Baptist Church, ON
Southside Victory Church Fellowship, AB
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, ON
St. John's Anglican Church, NS
St. Margaret's Catholic Women's League, ON
St. Matthew's Anglican Church, NL
Table of Grace Reformed Church of Calgary, ON
Vanastra Community Christian Reformed Church, ON
Valley Elementary School, NS
Water of Life Project, Truro, NS
Water Street Christian Reformed Church of Guelph, ON
Willowdale Christian Reformed Church, ON
Woodstock Baptist Church, ON



H26-P628

CORPORATIONS

15232309 Canada Inc., ON
1621687 Ontario Ltd, ON
17262965 CANADA INC, ON
1914817 Ontario Inc, ON
A. Kalani Medical Professional Corporation, ON
Aquafor Beech Limited, ON
Azimuth Environmental, ON
Becht Engineering Calgary, AB
Bison Piling & Excavation, MB
Bona and Klein Medicine Professional Corporation, ON
Brimdale International Inc., ON
C.J. Amerongen Professional Corporation, AB
Charity Auto Sales, BC
Cityscape Plants Ltd., BC
CodeMasters Agency Inc., ON
Cooper Equipment Rentals, ON
Core6 Environmental, BC
Coutts & King Inc.
Crewe Morris Creative Inc., ON
Dalorose Farms Ltd., AB
Dell Smart Home Solutions, ON
Derek Hoevenaars,ON
Donald G. MacGregor Investments Ltd, AB
Dr. Jeremy Zung Medicine Professional Corporation, ON
Dr. Jocelyne Marie Danais Brown Medical Corporation, MB
Duivenvoorden Haulage Ltd., ON
Dutrion North America Ltd., AB
Echologics, a Division of Mueller Canada Ltd., ON
Eco Clip Solutions Inc., BC
Eurowest Developments Inc, BC
Expedia Cruiseshipcenters, ON
Fernando Arteaga Professional Corporation, AB
Gemtec Consulting Engineers & Scientists, ON
GEO Morphix Ltd, ON
Geo-Environmental Drilling, ON
GIP Paving Inc, ON
Grow Trade Consulting Inc., ON
Harden Environmental Service Ltd, ON
Harpell Associates Inc, ON
Hub Tune Up & Repair Centre Ltd., NS
Iconix Waterworks, ON
Ingredion Canada, ON
Insitu Holdings Inc., ON
Intelerad Medical Systems, Inc., QC
International Water Supply Ltd., ON
J. Chang Inc. BC
Jakes Future Inc., ON
Jolly Farmer Products, NB
Jones Consulting Group Ltd., ON
L&C Fink Farms Inc, SK
Laboratoires Dermadry, QC
Lumina Group Inc., ON
M. Mikhaeil Medicine Professional Corporation, ON
Mar-King Construction Company Ltd, ON
Mash Strategy Inc., AB
Matti Homes Inc., ON
Medtronic, MN
Menic Planning Services Inc., ON
Mila Lane PREC, BC
Miz Rentals Inc, ON
Mobile Guardian Consultants (16706657 Canada Inc.), AB
Natalie Wainwright Medicine Professional Corporation, ON
Nicky Tu Personal Real Estate Corporation, BC
Noanel Inc., ON
North Rock Group LTD., ON
Nuna Link Ltd., NU
Phillips & Jacobsen Enterprises Inc., BC
Point to Point Communications, ON
Prateek Sehgal Medicine Professional Corporation, ON
Pratt Hansen Group Inc, ON
Premium Pork Ltd, AB
Puremidwifery Equipment and Supplies Ltd., ON
Quality Electric Motor Rebuilders (QEMR), ON
Quatro Investments Corp, ON
Quinn Construction, ON
R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, ON
Rinker Materials, ON
Riva International Inc., AB
RJ Burnside and Associates Limited, ON
Rowan Williams Davies & Irwin Inc. (RWDI), ON
Royal LePage Lannon Realty, ON
S. Laursen & Son Draperies Ltd., BC
Sage Management Inc., ON
Samaritan Enterprises Inc., MB
SCG Process, ON
Simcoe County Heavy Construction, ON
South End Windows and Doors, NS
Stephanie Gilchrist Personal Real Estate Corporation, BC
Eve Strain, AB
Sunbelt Rentals, ON
Syntec Process Equipment Ltd, ON
Buchanan Programme & Timo Vink, BC
The Good Plumber Inc., ON
The Meadows of Aurora, ON
Thrive with Trupti Inc., AB
VEI Contracting Inc., ON
Wamco Waterworks, ON
WWOTC. Inc, ON
Yves Leroux Medical Inc, NS



LS26-P1474

FOUNDATIONS

At The Kitchen Table Foundation, BC
Bernhard Melitz Foundation, AB
Beyond BC Greenhouse Charitable Foundation, BC
Cavelti Family Foundation, ON
Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation, ON
Fellowship of Man, ON
Gail Blanchette Charitable Foundation, ON
Hageman Family Foundation, ON
Hinchliff Charitable Trust, ON
Isaac Family Foundation, ON
Jacma Foundation, ON
JMB Charity Fund, ON
JP Hall Family Charitable, ON
Kett Family Fund, ON
Kim & Helen Lewis Foundation, ON
Larry Bannerman Foundation, ON
Lederman Foundation, QC
Luke Four Foundation, ON
Many Trees Foundation, BC
N.A. Taylor Foundation, ON
Omand Family Charitable Account, BC
Pecan Foundation, ON
Peter Gilgan Foundation, ON
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund (PECSF), BC
Roland Foundation, ON
Ronald & Hope Lowry Foundation, ON
Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation, BC
Safe Harbour Foundation via Benefaction, ON
Shell and Kay Maude Charitable Foundation, AB
Sinnathamby Foundation, ON
Tanner Family Foundation, ON
The Blossom Foundation, ON
The De Boer Foundation , BC
The John and Isabelle Foundation, BC
The Peterborough K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation, ON
The Pew-Halim Family Foundation, ON
The Southbeach Foundation, ON
Wee Waifs Worldwide Trust, BC

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 donors to direct funds to Lifewater Canada.

Aqueduct Foundation, BC
Battlefords and District Community Foundation, SK
Benefaction, ON
Benevity Community Impact Fund, AB
Calgary Foundation, AB
Canada Gives, ON
CanadaHelps, ON
Charities Aid Foundation of Canada (CAF), Toronto, ON
CHIMP: Charitable Impact Foundation, Vancouver, BC
Fiera Capital Foundation, Toronto, ON
Friends Of The Great Commission, Colorado Springs, CO
Giftfunds Canada, Edmonton, AB and Kingston, ON
GiveWise Giving Fund, Abbotsford, BC
Gold and Higgins Foundation, Niagara Falls, ON
Link Charity, Toronto, ON
Ottawa Community Foundation, Ottawa, ON
PayPal Charitable Giving Fund, Washington, DC
Private Giving Foundation - TD Wealth, Toronto, ON
Raymond James Canada Foundation, Vancouver, BC
Sickkids Charitable Giving Fund, Toronto, ON
Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation, Toronto, ON
Toronto Foundation, Toronto, ON
United Way (various locations)
UK Online Giving Foundation (UKOGF), London, UK
Vancouver Foundation, Vancouver, BC
Winnipeg Foundation, Winnipeg, MB



KC26-L015

LIFE WATER CANADA
www.lifewater.ca



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

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

WATER IS LIFE!

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

An average well has a cost of $5,500 and our target number of users is 300 people. This gives us an initial completed cost of $18.33 per person. With proper care and maintenance, this well will easily provide water for several decades. On average, major repairs such as a pump replacement are not required for 15 years. This means that over the course of those 15 years, the cost per user per year is $1.22.

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

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