



LIFE WATER CANADA

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER



HOPE IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC

A note from Lifewater's president - Lynda Gehrels

While the world struggles with uncertainty and isolation, a new village well, repaired pump, rainwater catchment system, hygiene class, or chance to share problems and offer solutions brings hope and restores a community's resolve to go on. We are not only providing water, we are showing that someone cares enough to come alongside to support them. This is what we do and who we are. Our hearts yearn to do what we can to break the cycle of poverty and despair, to meet the need of safe drinking water for all children, the vulnerable, and those who need it most.

This past year has been the most difficult and rewarding year in Lifewater's 26-year history. During the pandemic we have created a new team in Canada and worked hard to strengthen our relationships with our overseas partners. Travel was not possible so new and improved communications were developed to remotely support the work, and improvements were made to ensure safe water flows to those in need. We recognize the hardship this time has brought and the sacrifice that has been made by many to continue this work. From all of us at Lifewater Canada, and on behalf of our teams in Haiti, Liberia, Kenya, and Nigeria, thank you for joining us in this mission!

FISCAL 2021 IMPACTS

From July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, we reached an incredible **531,120** men, women, and children. Not only with water, but with safety, security, education, and love.

	Projects	Beneficiaries
New Wells	119	131,394
Rehabilitated Wells	138	99,400
Pump Repairs	588	279,950
Rainwater Catchments	79	15,016
Community Toilets	11	2,160
Handwash Stations	20	3,200
TOTAL	955	531,120

19,193 — ONE OF OUR FAVOURITE NUMBERS



This represents the number of days every month that, because of your donations in 2021, children are now free to return to school because they are no longer required to carry water long distances for their families.

Being available for school does not always mean that a family can afford to send their child back, and that is why we have also measured the economic impact that a new or rehabilitated well, a repaired pump, or a water catchment system has in a community.

By saving these families the expense of purchasing water, making it possible to pay local tuitions, and redeeming the time of school-aged children, you are having a far greater impact than just a fresh glass of water. You are also a part of empowering and educating a generation.

FINDING BALANCE

On the surface, repairing hand pumps appears to be much more cost-effective than drilling wells as a method of providing safe water. A new well costs about \$5,000 whereas repairing a hand pump costs only about \$125.

However, we can never stop drilling new wells. Why? Because many of the hand pumps we repair or replace have failed from over-use. They were over-used because there were not enough wells in a community to meet everyone's water needs. The ones that were available were in constant demand, leading to chronic breakdowns. When these pumps fail to work, communities are forced back to unsafe water sources.

Therefore, it is important for Lifewater to continue to maintain a balanced approach. We need to drill more wells to lessen the demand on existing pumps, while at the same time continue to repair broken pumps and rehabilitate existing wells.

62,049

HOURS SAVED PER DAY

35 minutes • per day • per household saved in water hauling duties

153,543

MONTHLY SCHOOL HOURS RECOVERED

19,193 recovered school days for children • per month • globally

\$2,051,316

TOTAL MONTHLY ECONOMIC IMPACT

average monthly water savings per household • number of households

HAITI



Haiti was hard hit by COVID-19, political upheavals, fuel shortages, and rampant violence in the nation. Yet the team pushed through these hardships and rallied to record productivity. Focusing on pump repair to make the best use of the limited fuel available, they repaired 499 pumps in fiscal 2021, along with 26 new wells. At the beginning of the 2022 fiscal year last July, we initiated a new incentive program with our team, working to build a greater sense of ownership and pride in the work. As a result, we have seen an incredible 208 repairs so far this year, along with 12 new wells, keeping safe water flowing for thousands of people.

LIBERIA



Liberia has been through difficult times and has been hit with civil war, Ebola, and now COVID-19. Still, the team consistently and carefully continued its work. Our focus is to strengthen the pump repair program because recent initiatives by other NGO's to install many new wells has not included a robust repair program to keep pumps working. It is a dire need and a challenge we are rising up to meet. We hope to travel there this winter, and will focus on the pump repair initiative, including how to effectively service remote areas of the country. We eventually want to establish satellite repair depots. During the first three months of this pump repair initiative, the team completed almost 75% of the total rehabilitation and repair work done during the previous year. They have caught the vision!

NIGERIA



In late 2020, your generosity enabled us to relaunch work in Nigeria. Our commitment to our partners there to consistently fund their work has led to the imminent confirmation of a new Nigerian-registered NGO called "Lifewater Nigeria"! The commitment of this team is astounding, they have built their own compound, and rented a drill rig. The water team provided support to Lifewater Canada to help the Nigerian team purchase a truck, tools, and personal protective equipment.

To date they have drilled 63 wells, rehabilitated 217 pumps, and built 10 community toilets. We have also worked with them to initiate a robust pump repair program to meet the acute need this nation has for safe water.

KENYA



The Lifewater Kenya (TLK) had an exceptionally slow year, marked by COVID-related struggles, family illnesses and aging. The managing director has done a wonderful job over the years, and we will continue to work alongside this team as much as they can accommodate us. But the need for water in this nation remains acute and we have initiated a new partnership with Christ to the World Mission. Founded by South Sudanese refugees who have relocated into Kenya, they have proven to be exceptionally dedicated, possess a great attention to detail and excellence, and share our common goals and values. Presently they are hard at work providing 245 schools with rainwater catchment systems. They have a great approach to village investment, equipping, and teaching, and we look forward to broadening their work to include pump repair and drilling in the future.



PARTNER WITH US

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

PLANNED GIVING: Want to give more but can not afford it 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.

FISCAL 2022 GOALS

With the essential support of donors like you, and God's continued blessing on our work, we plan to complete more than double the water projects between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 as was accomplished the previous fiscal year.

This includes:

- 320 new wells
- 279 rehabilitated wells
- 14 community toilets
- 275 rainwater catchment systems
- 1,137 pump repairs

2,025 total projects

With the launch of the new Kenya team and the expansion of our work in Nigeria, Lifewater's teams worldwide have all stepped up to meet this target. After the first three months of the new fiscal year, we have achieved 25% of the years target – exactly where we want to be. It is daunting, perhaps daring, and it will require hard work. But the need is great, the suffering is real, and the benefits are proven.

Please make it possible through your donations!

CONTACT US:

LifeWater Canada
457 Heather Crescent,
Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 5L1
807.622.4848
info@lifewater.ca
www.lifewater.ca

600

BENEFICIARIES PER PROJECT

\$0.13

DAILY WATER SAVINGS PER BENEFICIARY

reported average daily water costs / total beneficiaries