LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL

# the well



LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL EXISTS

TO DEMONSTRATE THE LOVE OF GOD

BY HELPING COMMUNITIES ACQUIRE

DESPERATELY NEEDED CLEAN WATER

AND EXPERIENCE LIVING WATER—THE

GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST—WHICH ALONE

SATISFIES THE DEEPEST THIRST.

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Nothing about this year has been normal. When Living Water International began our 2020 fiscal year, we couldn't have anticipated the global coronavirus pandemic that changed all of our lives.

Yet in the midst of many economic, social, and health crises—economic instability, the plummeting price of oil, racial injustices, and the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19—friends like you remained faithful in supporting Living Water's life-saving mission.

Because of you, we were able to pivot our strategic plans and reach 4.6 million people with COVID-19 prevention information. We truly could not have accomplished this without you!

We're celebrating Living Water's 30th anniversary this year. When I reflect on our story thus far, I'm awed by how the last three decades have equipped us to rise to the challenges of this moment. As you'll read in the following pages, God grew the impact of a short-term volunteer trip to Kenya into an international development organization that has provided over six million people with safe drinking water.

Over the last 30 years, we've learned how important local churches are to the flourishing of their communities (page 16). We've witnessed how dedicating years to sharing water, sanitation, and hygiene while deeply investing in communities can transform entire regions (page 14). And we've experienced how your generosity saves lives and impacts families for generations to come.

This year, we saw compassionate people like you arise and respond to the needs of their neighbors—across the street and around the world. Everything we've learned along the way has prepared us for this crucial time. Thank you for partnering with us for the past 30 years and the next 30 years to come!

In Christ,

Michael J. Mantel, Ph.D.

President & CEO



# YOUR IMPACT

DESPITE MANY DIFFICULTIES THIS YEAR, YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT ALLOWED LIVING
WATER INTERNATIONAL TO CONTINUE SERVING THIRSTY COMMUNITIES AND EVEN TO
EXPAND OUR WORK TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY RELIEF FIGHTING COVID-19.

In our fiscal year 2020, you helped Living Water provide safe drinking water access to 259,373 people through 805 water projects. Our global staff led 74,300 people in sanitation and hygiene promotional activities to improve community health. We also worked with local churches to share the gospel message with 271,731 people and train 10,620 people in Bible storying.

When COVID-19 spread across the globe this spring, Living Water transitioned into an emergency response strategy. As of June 30, we had reached 4.6 million people with COVID-19 prevention messages, installed 1,700 handwashing stations, and distributed hygiene supplies to 197,935 individuals. Our teams also assisted 4,931 churches and 454 healthcare facilities in their local response to the pandemic. Thank you for saving lives and sharing the hope of Jesus with communities in need!

259,373
WATER USERS

805
WATER PROJECTS COMPLETED

74,300
RAINED IN SANITATION
& HYGIENE

COUNTRY	WATER USERS	NEW WATER PROJECTS	REHABILITATIONS
BURKINA FASO	750	1	0
EL SALVADOR	6,919	53	0
GHANA	7,319	10	0
GUATEMALA	10,361	41	o
HAITI/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	14,747	35	11
HONDURAS	12,210	46	o
INDIA	37,516	152	o
KENYA	23,919	19	20
LIBERIA	26,898	30	31
MEXICO	2,033	2	o
NICARAGUA	5,318	15	20
PERU	3,446	30	o
RWANDA	12,857	38	o
SIERRA LEONE	12,230	13	21
UGANDA	32,992	27	37
ZAMBIA	28,085	47	50
ZIMBABWE	21,773	10	46

271,731
HEARD THE GOSPEL

10,620
TRAINED IN BIBLE STORYING

4



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

### Following God's Call to Serve Alongside the Thirsty

When God invites, saying "yes" can completely transform your life. That's what a group of 36 women and men from Sugar Creek Baptist Church learned when they followed God's call from Stafford, Texas, to Mombasa, Kenya, on a service trip in 1990.

In Mombasa, the volunteers worked on various projects, including church construction, medical missions, and water well drilling. The need for safe drinking water in the community they served alongside was great. "I knew people lived without safe water, but I was naïve to the impact. Working with the medical team ... impressed upon my heart that every person in the world deserves access to safe drinking water," Becky Morris said.

The leader of the drilling team, Harry Westmoreland, had designed a small drilling rig to send to Kenya. Unfortunately, shipping delays sending the rig from America postponed drilling. Gary Evans remembers watching two young children playing in a puddle of contaminated water. He knew the group's work in the community wouldn't create lasting change if residents didn't have reliable access to safe drinking water. Ultimately, the team's drilling project wasn't successful. It would be another five years before Harry and the drillers would finally reach water for a Kenyan community.

As the volunteers returned home, their hearts were stirring to do more. They knew they couldn't let communities continue to suffer without the most basic human need—water. "My plan was one round trip to Kenya and back to home." Malcolm

Morris said. "God's plan was to begin a ministry that would impact the world by bringing life-saving living water in his name to the world."

Thirty years later, the nonprofit these leaders founded, Living Water International, has impacted the lives of more than six million people as well as their own lives. Today the same Spirit that led our founders to Mombasa is still compelling people across the globe to share safe drinking water and an experience of Christ's love with thirsty communities. So when God invites, listen and then take a step forward in faith.

"TRUST GOD AND REMEMBER
TO THINK OUTSIDE THE
BOX," SHARON EVANS SAID.
"SHARING CHRIST ISN'T
JUST SHARING THE GOSPEL
THROUGH YOUR WORDS."

















THE FIRST WATER PROJECT

### **Everything Begins** with Safe Water

Living Water International's founders were determined to use their skills and resources to provide safe water where it was desperately needed after seeing the water crisis firsthand on a medical mission. However, their first attempt to drill a well in Kenya on the original trip was not successful. Three drillers returned to Kenya intent on completing the mission but were again unable to find water. Over the next four years, the group regularly traveled to Kenya in attempts to drill a successful borehole but were only met with failure each time.

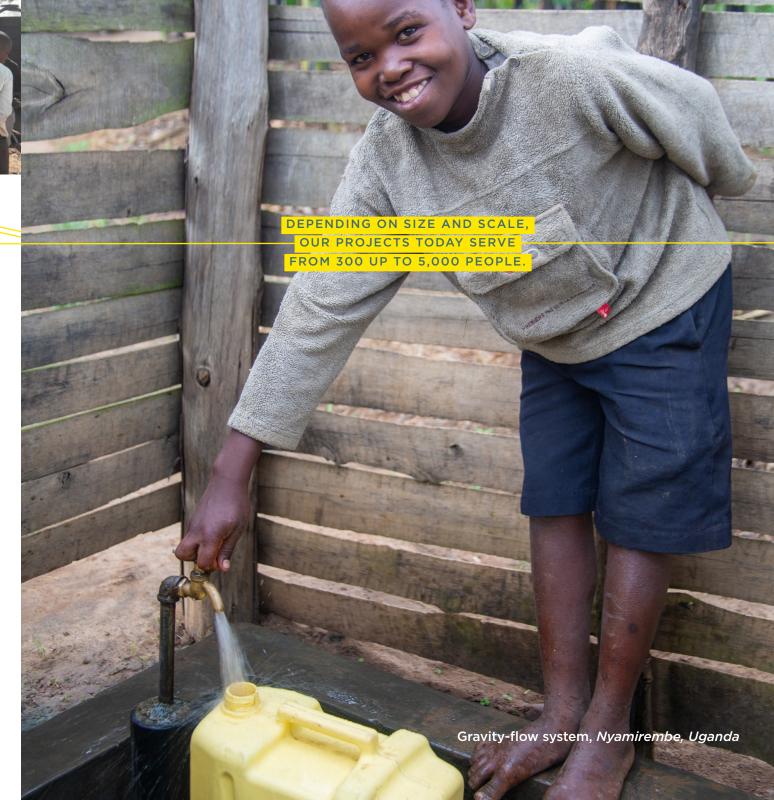
The board of directors gave lead driller Harry Westmoreland one more chance to complete a working borehole. Six weeks later, Harry had to reluctantly return to the board with only dry boreholes to show for his efforts. Even with this disheartening news, Harry was compelled to share a message of perseverance from Galatians 6:9 (NIV): "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Inspired by Harry's bold faith, the board voted to put forward additional funds and allow the work to continue. Returning to Kenya, the drillers hit water on their first attempt and completed the organization's first successful well! Since then, Living Water International has successfully completed over 21,000 water projects.

Today, Living Water projects have evolved, now ranging from simple boreholes with hand pumps for individual communities to piped water systems that provide safe water to multiple communities. Living Water International utilizes innovative technology to provide safe water, including solar-powered submersible pumps, water kiosks complete with storage tanks, and

rainwater collection systems. The Living Water staff also constructs handwashing stations and latrines, enabling communities to address the water crisis fully by having the opportunity to improve sanitation and hygiene needs.

THROUGH PERSEVERANCE
AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF
OUR GIVING COMMUNITY,
LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL
CONTINUES TO FULFILL ITS
MISSION TO PROVIDE WATER,
FOR LIFE, IN JESUS' NAME
AROUND THE WORLD.



THE FIRST LIVING WATER TRIP

### The Evolution of Living Water Trips

Beginning with the first trip to
Nueva Venecia, Guatemala, in
September 2001, Living Water
Trips have focused on two
main objectives. These short
but impactful international
experiences mobilize people from
North America to learn about
the global water crisis and equip
participants to come alongside
the ongoing work of Living Water
International's in-country staff.

Lew Hough, the Living Water Trips program's founder, laid the groundwork for the holistic philosophy of the program. His philosophy was that drilling and ministry work is ideally about stepping back, learning, and receiving. "I never let an American team come down and try to dominate. It wasn't about us," Lew said. "We weren't going down there to do it for [communities]; we were going down there to do it with them."

Since 2001, Living Water has hosted over 20,000 trip participants throughout Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Trips have always been thoughtfully designed for volunteers to become advocates for justice issues on a personal and global level in the hope that their activism will continue in their own communities long after their trip is over. Years later, countries like El Salvador—where 97 percent of the population now accesses basic drinking water service—have been completely transformed with water, for life, in Jesus' name.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began affecting the United States in March 2020, Living Water made the difficult decision to pause all upcoming trips to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to vulnerable communities around the world. During this pause, we prayerfully reworked the Living Water Trips strategy by creating new ways for participants to engage in different aspects of Living Water programs. We hope

to foster even more strategic partnerships with North American churches and other organizations.

Beginning in 2021, Living Water plans to offer three levels of trips that create a multi-year journey of learning and service. The progression of trips will take the participants through the lifecycle of a Living Water program, from working on drilling projects in smaller communities to engaging more fully in programs that span multiple communities. Through this new model, groups will learn how to engage crossculturally as well as understand issues of poverty, the need for WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), and the central role of the church in community change.

With this new strategic focus, the lives of all participants—both the visitors and the communities they serve alongside—will continue to be transformed together through the mutual sharing of God's love.







### Transforming Entire Regions with Safe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

In 2012, Living Water
International's first WASH
(water, sanitation, and hygiene)
Program Area was implemented
in Ruhaama, Uganda. This multiyear plan focused on combining
sufficient access to safe water
with sanitation and hygiene
promotion to improve the health
of communities across an entire
district. WASH Program Areas
(WPAs) would also empower local
leaders to mobilize their own assets
for community development.

The innovative WPA approach resulted from Living Water's five-year global strategic plan, "Watershed: Cultivating Our Strengths for Growth and Impact," which launched in 2011. This plan called for Living Water to grow beyond its historical community-by-community water access approach and toward focusing on whole districts within each country, working in a particular area with a target population

between 30,000 to 100,000 people for a span of three to five years.

None of these goals can be achieved without first establishing a strong foundation of trust and reliability between local communities and our in-country staff. Our staff began to create strong relationships with community leaders over time. They saw improved outputs and also heard deeply moving stories of families that had overcome the water crisis after generations of struggling.

One of these families was John and Viviannah from Nyamirembe, a community within the Ruhaama WPA. Uganda's water crisis took everything from them, including their crops, business, and, most tragically of all, two of their children. After much heartbreak, safe water now flows from a Living Water gravity-flow water system near their home, which also serves up to 12,000 of their neighbors!

John has now taken responsibility for the health of his community by helping neighbors construct their own latrines and serving on the water committee. Their family's business has flourished due to water availability, and they are able to employ seven community members. Their story is best summarized in a phrase which John holds in high regard, "Yesu Namara," which means "Jesus has accomplished it all."

When the Ruhaama WPA was completed and began to phase out in 2019, overall water access to an improved water source had increased from an average of 49 percent to 73 percent with 400 water points constructed and 200,000 people reached with the gospel message. It is inspiring to see how years of work has yielded such transformation for communities like John and Viviannah's.

TODAY, WE ARE
TRANSFORMING
COMMUNITIES THROUGH
12 ACTIVE WPAS ACROSS
RWANDA, KENYA, UGANDA,
LIBERIA, MEXICO, HAITI,
ZAMBIA, INDIA, SIERRA
LEONE, AND NICARAGUA.



### THE LAUNCH OF THE CHURCH MOBILIZATION STRATEGY

### Equipping Churches and Communities to Flourish

In 2013, leadership teams at Living Water followed the calling to redouble our commitment to the Church and position it at the center of our WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) activities. Living Water began establishing the framework for a new strategy for church and community mobilization to radically reorient the organization to now serve the global Church in more intentional ways.

Country directors and program leaders from Living Water's country offices began gathering for Church Mobilization Forums hosted in countries such as Ghana and Zimbabwe. The focus was to build relationships to better proclaim and demonstrate the gospel across regions. As a result of these forums, Living Water's global team identified key pillars which form the basis for church and community mobilization now known as Flourish.

# THREE SPECIFIC ELEMENTS MAKE UP THE FLOURISH MODEL:

- Organize churches for collective impact across program areas.
- 2. Host contextual Bible storying workshops through a focus on biblical stories and dialogue to unify churches around their core beliefs.
- Enable effective WASH-focused church mobilization that uses a step-by-step guided process to put the local church at the center of a WASH program.

Through Flourish, Living Water has grown a robust network of church alliances and key partners from a broad range of denominations and countries, both on a local and national level. The importance of the connections that have developed as a result of the Flourish model was displayed in a different way when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. The communities we serve alongside are among the most vulnerable to the virus since, prior to Living Water's intervention, the residents lived without water access

and sanitation facilities like handwashing stations.

Living Water's global staff have empowered and equipped our church partners to be voices of strength and leadership in their communities during this time. Through digital methods such as WhatsApp, social media, and SMS messaging, we were able to share information about methods of COVID-19 prevention and community transmission. Living Water staff and their church partners are also mobilizing water user committees to improve rules and procedures used at water points, including the installation of handwashing facilities at water collection points and social distancing during queueing. As of June 30, Living Water has been able to directly support 4,931 churches in their response to the pandemic.

Through partnerships created by our Flourish strategy, Living Water is better able to fulfill our mission of water, for life, in Jesus' name and demonstrate that transformational change can occur when the global church unites for a purpose.



#### THE EBOLA OUTBREAK RESPONSE

# What the Ebola Crisis Taught Us About Fighting COVID-19

From 2014 until 2016, West Africa suffered from the worst Ebola epidemic in history. In Sierra Leone and Liberia alone, the Ebola epidemic claimed the lives of 8,766 people.<sup>1</sup>

However, the open defecation free communities in Living Water International's WASH Program Area (WPA) in Margibi County, Liberia, reported zero cases of Ebola—despite being located in one of the most-affected areas of the country.² While the two viruses are very different, Living Water's emergency response to the coronavirus pandemic mirrors our efforts to prevent the spread of Ebola in healthcare facilities and vulnerable communities.

"We are uniquely equipped to apply the same level of rigor and devise contextualized interventions and response strategies to other disease outbreaks, such as COVID-19," said Gebeyehu Ayele, Living Water's Senior Program Advisor. Our successful Ebola response fostered lasting partnerships with local churches, governments, and other NGOs. Informed by this history, the government of Sierra Leone included Living Water in a national task force to address COVID-19.

During the Ebola epidemic, Living Water relied heavily on churches and community leaders to relay hygiene education to their neighbors. We also learned that public service announcements through mass media and print resources like posters are effective channels to communicate crucial prevention messages.

The relational strategies we developed during the Ebola outbreak have allowed Living Water to continue serving churches and mobilizing communities virtually—without risking the health of immunocompromised people. Our teams have utilized digital technologies, like SMS and social media, to spread COVID-19 prevention resources.



To fight the Ebola epidemic, Living Water's staff in West Africa provided access to safe water and sanitation facilities for 15 Ebola Care Centers and 64 communities. While frequent handwashing is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19, globally 43 percent of healthcare facilities don't have safe water or handwashing stations at points of care.3 By June 30, 2020, Living Water's global staff had helped 454 healthcare facilities respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing water access, handwashing facilities, cleaning supplies, and/or personal protective equipment (PPE).

Living Water's frontline heroes in West Africa continue fighting every day to save the lives of their neighbors—using the lessons of the past to guide them through the challenges of today. THE LIVING WATER TEAM IN LIBERIA DISTRIBUTED HYGIENE SUPPLIES TO **21,529 PEOPLE** FROM MARCH THROUGH JUNE 2020 TO PREVENT COVID-19.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2019) 2014-2016 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa, Atlanta.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Community-Led Total Sanitation (2015) ODF communities in Margibi didn't experience Ebola virus.

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF and World Health Organization (2019) WASH in health care facilities: Global Baseline Report 2019, Geneva.

### **GENIUS OF ONE CONFERENCE**

In July 2019, Living Water International and our friends at The Crossing—an innovative, multisite church in St. Louis, Missouri—hosted The Genius of One conference for 1,000 East African church leaders. The goal of these conferences was to gather leaders from different contexts, create space for building cross-cultural relationships, and celebrate the unity of God's family.

Over the course of two weeks, The Crossing and Living Water held three separate conferences in Kampala, Uganda; Nairobi, Kenya; and Kigali, Rwanda. In each country, bishops, pastors, educators, and leaders from the local, district, and national levels attended.

The team from The Crossing and other pastors from St. Louis and Ferguson shared powerful insights from Pastor Greg Holder's book, "The Genius of One," and from their experience in ministry. Together, leaders worshipped, fellowshipped, and started a dialogue on how to deepen relationships between churches here in the United States and all across the African continent. One faith leader told our team, "Only Living Water is getting behind the local Church. We can see that Living Water is committed to sharing the gospel and making disciples of all people."

TEXAS 250 ARISE GALA

Last September, 13 Team Living Water cyclists and five support volunteers conquered the second annual Texas 250—250 miles of Texas Hill Country cycling. Starting in Leakey, Texas, they faced high temperatures and steep inclines as they rode to Flatonia over three days.

Fernando Mendiola from Houston knew God was calling him to take on this challenge. "God tells us to get up and go, and when we do, [we] become a conduit," Fernando said. The Texas 250 team raised \$29,561 to support the work of Living Water!

On October 17, 2019, sunrise hues adorned the reception hall of the Hilton Americas-Houston in honor of Living Water International's annual gala. The 2019 gala's theme was "Arise"—celebrating the empowering impact of water, for life, in Jesus' name.

The re-imagined, immersive reception hour featured food and beverage tastings like Ugandan coffee and Indian chai at regional stations hosted by Living Water's in-country staff. Water walk participants were cheered on by onlookers as they marched down the runway with jerry cans in hand. The flash of camera bulbs shimmered through the crowds as guests posed in front of an illuminated backdrop that read, "Arise, shine, for your light has come (Isaiah 60:1, NIV)."

Moreen Katugume from Living Water Uganda was one of our powerhouse keynote speakers. Moreen shared her story about rising above the difficulties of the water crisis and helping women and girls do the same through her work at Living Water. Inspired by moving testimonies and stories of impact, nearly 1,000 gala guests raised a total of \$3.5 million together!







#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROGRAM LAUNCH

Living Water International launched its pilot trip of the new Dominican Republic program, centered around water project rehabilitations, in December 2019. Participants included experienced staff members from El Salvador, Haiti, Mexico, and Houston, as well as faithful Living Water Trips alumni.

Rehabilitation projects are necessary when there is a pre-existing but malfunctioning water system in a community. These systems were not originally constructed by Living Water and are often municipal water sources, which means that the rehabilitation projects encourage the community to work with government officials, water sector experts, and other stakeholders.

During the pilot trip, the leaders of the community, the Living Water Trips team, and church mobilizers held a meeting with district water engineers and government officials. They discussed a plan to rehabilitate the community water tower and pump house. Community members who had felt overlooked by the municipality had a chance to voice their opinions and communicate their needs—strengthened by the support of Living Water's relationship with the local government.

These rehabilitation projects position community members to take ownership of not only repairing but, in many cases, improving their water sources for the well-being of their region. Residents become change-agents and champions for sustainable water-management and community-driven solutions.

### **HOUSTON MARATHON**

Stella Chen was one of the 105 Team Living Water runners who participated in the 2020 Chevron Houston Marathon on a sunny Sunday in January. While Stella had run the Aramco Houston Half Marathon four times, this race was different for her.

"I was blessed to have the opportunity to visit Honduras [with Living Water Trips] in December 2019," Stella said.

"After coming back from the trip, my [marathon] training had a whole different meaning. Every mile I ran had a face—a Honduran friend. Every mile became a prayer for the thirsty," Stella said.

Together, Team Living Water runners raised \$102,000 for the thirsty through this year's Chevron Houston Marathon!

### **GIVING TUESDAY NOW**

Since 2012, the global organization, Giving Tuesday has focused on encouraging generosity around the world. The organization typically celebrates this global day of giving on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. However, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for additional financial support, Giving Tuesday announced that May 5, 2020, would be another day of generosity to specifically support those who are on the frontlines in the fight against COVID-19.

Living Water encouraged our supporters to join us in our Giving Tuesday Now campaign, Clean Hands Saves Lives, to help protect vulnerable communities from COVID-19. Through these peer-to-peer fundraisers, our community raised over \$40,000 for the thirsty and proved that compassion, generosity, and action unite people in times of crisis.

### WORLD WATER DAY 5K

The Living Water community united virtually March 28, 2020, to run and walk five kilometers in celebration of World Water Day, raising \$17,400 together! Like in years past, the option for a virtual World Water 5K was popular for supporters outside the Houston area. However, this year, the COVID-19 pandemic interfered with plans to host an in-person race, so the 5K shifted to a virtual-only event to protect the safety of participants.

Champions from across Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wyoming walked or ran in their own neighborhoods while practicing social distancing. Greg and Phyllis Edelbrock, supporters since 2005, walked their fourth virtual World Water Day 5K in Highland Village, Texas—proudly wearing their Living Water gear.

"We don't run—unless it's an emergency!" Greg said. "But when we've worn Living Water t-shirts, we've had people stop us to ask about Living Water and its mission, and that's one objective of the World Water Day 5K."







# COVID-19 RESPONSE

While life is changing because of the coronavirus pandemic, Living Water International's core mission remains the same. Our work sharing safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, and the hope of the gospel message is essential. As of the date this report was published, Living Water is actively working in 18 countries to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health of vulnerable communities.



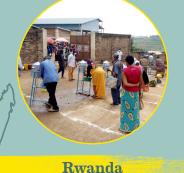
### Honduras

In Honduras, we empowered 45 local churches to help their neighbors prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Choluteca, Marcovia, and Namasigue municipalities. The Living Water team mobilized church leaders to protect their neighbors from COVID-19 and trained community members directly during the completion of water projects. We also distributed desperately needed hygiene kits containing household cleaners, disinfectants, hand soap, face masks, and disposable gloves to churches and healthcare facilities.



### Peru

In Peru, Living Water's work was deemed essential by the government, and our team was able to continue drilling water projects and leading sanitation and hygiene trainings with a focus on COVID-19 prevention. The longstanding relationship our locally led team established over many years was critical to reaching eight remote indigenous communities with COVID-19 prevention resources. Our staff shared messages pertaining to COVID-19 over a loudspeaker in central community areas. We also distributed face masks, materials for handwashing stations, and cleaning supplies to the community leaders.



In Ruhango, Rwanda, our team partnered with district government officials to develop preventative measures for the Ruhango main market, which serves up to 2,500 people every day. We recommended safety measures like requiring shoppers to wear facial coverings and encouraging social distancing of at least two meters from one individual to another. The Rwanda team also provided pedal-operated "tippy taps" (simple handwashing stations) at the market entry points so that community members could purchase essential supplies for their families while also practicing healthy hygiene habits.

### Response through June 30:



4.6 MILLION REACHED WITH PREVENTATIVE MESSAGES



1,700 HANDWASHING STATIONS INSTALLED



4,931 CHURCHES + 454 HEALTHCARE FACILITIES SUPPORTED



211 WATER PROJECTS
INSTALLED



197,935 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED
HYGIENE SUPPLIES



# CHAMPIONS FOR THE THIRSTY

### THE YU FAMILY

The Yu family—parents, Stephen and Isabel, of Sugar Land, Texas; daughter, Emily, of Boston, Massachusetts; and son and daughter-in-law, Alex and Jessie, of Mountain View, California—have funded three water projects in Zambia. After Alex and Jessie visited Zambia in 2017 and saw the need for safe water firsthand, their family rallied to end the water crisis for Zambian communities in need. From coast to coast, the Yu family is united in their passion for helping families access safe water.

#### HEMBREE CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Sarah Hembree Hill, Doctor of Chiropractic, has been a chiropractor at her family's practice, Hembree Chiropractic in Tyler, Texas, for the past 12 years. Their mission and passion are to provide healing and relief to patients experiencing pain without medicine or surgeries.

In 2018, Sarah's father and fellow practitioner, Dr. Mark Hembree, returned from a service trip to Haiti and told stories of six-year-old children walking to the river to get water. This touched Sarah's heart, and she began to dream about doing something to help children like the ones her father spoke of. Inspired, she set up a fundraising page in January 2019 for a Living Water well in Haiti. The staff at Hembree Chiropractic began to share the goal with their patients through social media, flyers, and brochures. Each month, they recorded their progress toward their goal in the form of a countdown chart in the office.

In May 2019, their goal became a reality when they raised \$10,000! Through their efforts, Living Water drilled a well for the community of Nan Moulin, Haiti. The Hembree Chiropractic legacy of healing continued through the gift of safe water!



#### ABIGAIL AND LUKE BERGSTROM

When Abigail and Luke Bergstrom from Houston, Texas, first heard about Living Water International in 2009, the call to help women and children affected by the global water crisis deeply resonated with them. As long-time supporters of the thirsty, the Bergstroms hope to set an example for their five sons—to show them that following Jesus involves serving others.

Since 2018, Abigail has donated all the proceeds from her Etsy knitting business, Pearl Moon Light, to fund Living Water projects. Connecting her business with such an important cause has brought new meaning to her creative work and challenged her to create new products. Additionally, Luke's employer recently matched their family's gift of \$10,000!

"It's sobering knowing that where you are born in the world has a significant impact on the opportunities and prosperity that are afforded you," Luke said. "[Safe] water won't solve all the world's problems, but it is a necessary first step in eliminating barriers and providing for basic needs that should be given to all people."

#### ANDREA AND JASON PENNER

Andrea and Jason Penner have been volunteering with Living Water International for 14 years. Andrea grew up in a very small, rural town in Alberta, Canada, where she helped her dad haul water to her family's home every week until her parents could afford to drill a well when she was 11-years-old. This understanding of the importance of safe water access made Andrea eager to help when, after she moved to Houston as an adult, a friend asked if she would like to volunteer at Living Water. Jason joined in to support his wife in her efforts, especially with Living Water's annual gala.

Andrea loves to help organize, plan, coordinate, and set up events, like the World Water Day 5K. She often uses her talents to organize or take care of odd jobs around the office. The Penners are glad to be able to serve at Living Water for God's glory and to sponsor water projects when possible to serve God and his people.

"Living Water has allowed me to do things I never thought were possible for the Lord and to serve His people on earth," Andrea said. "You never know which of the smallest of tasks you've learned today may be used tomorrow to serve in a way you never dreamed possible."





A group of visionary philanthropists in Dallas, Texas, called the Aqua Munda Society is committed to supporting and engaging in the life-transforming work of Living Water International. Founded in 2018, the society is comprised of 22 inaugural families who have each committed to give \$15,000 over three years. Through dinner parties, events at their country club, and even a vision trip to Mexico to view Living Water's work, the Aqua Munda Society has become deeply rooted in the mission to provide safe water around the world.

"The idea behind the Aqua Munda Society was to bring together a select group of friends and colleagues for a set amount of time, during which we would meet regularly to learn more of the mission and message of Living Water International and [make a] financial commitment," shared Jack Vaughn, founder of the Aqua Munda Society. To date, the Aqua Munda Society has given over \$386,200 to Living Water—transforming thousands of lives.

For the faculty at River Oaks Elementary School in Houston, Texas, curriculum is about much more than making sure students are equipped to advance to the next grade. They encourage their school community to become strong advocates for justice—no matter the age! This is why, since 2006, River Oaks Elementary School has partnered with Living Water International to hold a Water Day event to raise awareness about the global water crisis. Both students and their parents are engaged through activities, guest speakers, and even an interactive "walk for water" course that the children participate in.

Keri Fovargue, River Oaks Elementary School principal, sees this partnership with Living Water as a bigger life lesson for the children. "Through this hands-on experience, every student leaves River Oaks Elementary School with an appreciation for humanity and the resources needed to sustain life," Keri said. "Knowing we all can take baby steps to make a difference empowers them long after elementary school."

For the past two years, WaterBridge Resources in Houston, Texas, has chosen to forgo sending corporate gifts to clients at Christmas time and, as an alternative, decided to sponsor water projects instead. They have sent their partners and customers holiday greetings about engaging in the spirit of giving through supplying the most-basic human need—water. WaterBridge Resources transports, treats, and recycles water for the midstream energy industry in environmentally responsible ways. The company strives to make a positive impact for customers, employees, and in the communities where they operate.

Living Water's mission of delivering life-saving water to those who need it most aligns with WaterBridge Resources' values of environmental stewardship and benefiting the communities where they operate. WaterBridge Resources' generosity has changed the lives of over 500 people in Rwanda through two new safe water projects! The company's commitment to water management, good stewardship, and giving back has ended the water crisis in these communities.







# CHURCHES

### WAIPUNA CHAPEL

After attending Living Water International's 2019 gala, the youth pastor, Kaipo Thomas, and several youth leaders of Waipuna Student Ministry were inspired to make a difference in the lives of the thirsty. The student ministry of Waipuna Chapel in Kula, Hawaii, had already participated in their church's long-standing fundraising initiatives for Living Water, including Advent Conspiracy. However, the students decided to become even more involved by visiting local businesses and neighbors and educating their community about the water crisis. As a result, the students raised \$2,000 to sponsor a well rehabilitation in Uganda!

### RENOVATION CHURCH

A team of 14 members from Renovation Church in Portage, Michigan, traveled to Sierra Leone in November 2019 on a church partner vision trip. Through this experience, they witnessed Living Water's WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) programming up close in Moyamba. They met with regional church planting partners and supported our Sierra Leone staff as they facilitated sanitation and hygiene activities. The Renovation Church team also heard stories of community transformation from local leaders.

Upon returning home, team members became advocates for the thirsty and motivated their church to sponsor Living Water's Moyamba WASH Program Area for the next several years!

### GRACE CHAPEL

Grace Chapel in Wilsonville, Oregon, has partnered with Living Water International since 2007. For three years, this church community has hosted its annual Golf Well golf tournament. In September 2019, Grace Chapel raised over \$10,439 through the tournament to sponsor a water project in Haiti.

Lead Pastor Mike Tatlock saw the water crisis up close for the first time on a Living Water Trip to Guatemala. There he saw the contrast between life with safe water and how communities suffer without water access.

Golf Well has helped unite the Grace Chapel community around helping thirsty people. "If people can't go [on a Living Water Trip], and if they can't give a large sum of money, but they can be involved in a passion of theirs like golf, it's a great way for them to grow in awareness of [the water crisis] but also feel like they are part of the Living Water family," Pastor Mike said.





When news of the coronavirus started ramping up in early March 2020, Living Water staff gathered globally to pray and discern how best to move forward. From that, four goals were identified:

STOP COVID-19

through learning, establishing personal behavior protocols, and by continuing our mission to fight this virus on the front lines.

2 LOVE AND INVITE

by encouraging our community of partners and investors and asking them to join with us to share safe water and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

3 BLESS THE THIRSTY

by working through the global complexities in 18 vulnerable countries as the virus spread, along with limits on gatherings and mobility to continue to serve with the poor.

ENDURE TO SERVE

by retaining and enhancing our essential capacity.

The fourth goal, "Endure to Serve," required lots of prayer, creativity, and collective action. The result was a conservative financial plan for the remainder of fiscal year 2020 and carrying into fiscal year 2021. The goals of the plan are to:

- Achieve a break-even, conservative cash budget in FY20 and FY21;
- Assume no Living Water Trips through
  December 2020 and expect only 70
  percent revenue from funders;
- Raise as much cash as possible to enable us to add back some ministry output reductions;
- Complete 2020 outputs at 93 percent of our planned water projects, 95 percent of our sanitation and hygiene promotion activities, 97 percent of our church and community mobilization activities (plus set quarterly goals to diminish the impact of the crisis) and revise 2021 outputs (both core outputs and those focused on COVID-19);
- Reduce expenses to align with diminished resources through strategic shifts and efficiencies, organizational and personal sacrifices, and ministry output reductions.

Ministry output reductions, if needed, could include cutting 253 water projects from our original plans for the 2021 fiscal year in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, and India, which will postpone the dreams of 74,000 women, men, and children for safe water. Reducing expenses, while necessary, are extremely difficult decisions to make—especially in times like these.

We are beyond grateful for our financial partners who stepped up and extended a "lifeline" so that we could retain as much of our critical work as possible. We believe that the ongoing generosity of our supporters will allow us to not have to reduce our ministry outputs so that we may continue blessing communities with water, for life, in Jesus' name.

WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR
PRAYERS. THROUGH CHALLENGES,
THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES,
AND AS YOU'VE SEEN IN THE PREVIOUS
PAGES, THE LORD HAS BEEN WITH US
THE PAST THIRTY YEARS AND HAS
PREPARED US FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS!

36 37

### **OUTSTANDING STAFF**



### **Meet Fatmata**

Fatmata Conteh, winner of the 2019 Living Water Way Africa award, grew up without safe water in Calaba Town, Sierra Leone. Her family walked six miles on steep, dangerous roads to collect water from surface water sources where neighbors did laundry and bathed. Fatmata didn't have access to safe drinking water until she was 18, so she understands the struggles of thirsty families like hers.

Fatmata's favorite part of her work in Sierra Leone is interacting with community members and hearing stories of how their lives have changed since Living Water partnered with them. "I see hope. I see myself in their situation. For me, it took a long time for my family to access safe water. But I see, for them, change—a quick change," Fatmata said. "If you want to be a part of that change, then I think supporting Living Water International is the most productive and best decision you could ever make."



#### IN MEMORY OF CHARLENE SCHROEDER

January 28, 1943 - March 29, 2020

This past March, the Living Water family said goodbye to one of our own, Charlene Schroeder. Charlene joined Living Water International in 2008 and faithfully served in our Programs department, working with our staff all around the world as they reported on completed water projects. During her battle with cancer, she insisted on working and always had a smile on her face, even on the hardest days. Charlene's joyful optimism and true passion for serving the thirsty is an inspiration to all of us at Living Water. While she will be greatly missed, we celebrate knowing that she is in the arms of our Savior.

#### FOUNDERS' WEEK STAFF AWARDS 2019

Winners' names are accompanied with peer commendations.

### SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD - AFRICA WINNIE OWAKO

"Winnie is willing to take on additional roles in order to ensure work is done well. That is what servant leadership is all about."

### SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD - LATIN AMERICA, CARIBBEAN, AND INDIA ANA RIVERA

"Ana works tirelessly to help everyone around her whenever she can."

### SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD - USA JONATHAN SCHINZLER

"Jonathan leads with humility and is able to build trust with all of his colleagues."

### LIVING WATER WAY AWARD - AFRICA FATMATA CONTEH

"Fatmata is transparent and trustworthy with noble character. She exemplifies Living Water's core values."

### LIVING WATER WAY AWARD - LATIN AMERICA, CARIBBEAN, AND INDIA BLISS ABRAHAM

"Bliss has shown exemplary leadership and has coordinated the production of the whole country of India."

### LIVING WATER WAY AWARD - USA JODI MOHNEY

"Jodi does everything with the goal of honoring God in the process."

### INNOVATION AWARD UGANDA SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

"The Uganda team developed and implemented three new sanitation and hygiene payment programs to build relationships and ownership."

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD HOPE LIVINGSTON

"Hope cares very deeply, and her passion for the thirsty is evident in everything that she does."

### CEO DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WESLEY CHARLES

"Wesley is humble and wise, committed to developing national leadership within countries he serves. He has built the organization's compacity well in complex and volatile environments and serves effectively as a peer on the senior leadership team."

### CEO DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD CARLOS MOLINA

"Carlos supports the development of his team, both professionally and spiritually; and he always challenges them to accept new responsibilities."

LETTER FROM FINANCE



Chairman of the Board Retired Senior Vice President SEFA



**HOLLIS BULLARD** Volunteer



**KEN ADAMS** Chief Medical Officer for Medicare and Retirement, Texas UnitedHealthcare



**RANDI BELISOMO** Co-Founder & President Life Matters Media



CHAD DRESSER Buffalo Bayou Resources, LLC.



DR. JERRY L. EDMONSON Lead and Founding Pastor The Fellowship



**DOUGLAS GAITHER** President Gaither Petroleum Corporation

MIKE MASON

CEO

Weathermatic, Inc.



**MIKE HALE** Owner Halex Oil Corporation



**SHANNON HAYES** Director of Women's Ministry Crossing Point Christian Church



**MELISSA MORRIS** Volunteer



MITCH PEAIRSON **Executive Pastor** Grace Fellowship UMC

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Gary W. Loveless Malcolm Morris Tommy G. Thompson Peter Watson

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOE BULLARD

Over the past 15 years, Joe and Hollis Bullard have selflessly given their time and resources to the thirsty, serving on Living Water's Board of Directors and providing water to more than 40,000 people. In October 2019. Joe Bullard went to be with the Lord after a brave battle with cancer. Joe's faith was a constant source of light, even in the darkest circumstances. By sponsoring water projects across the globe, Joe offered hope to those who needed it most. To honor his memory, Hollis and the Bullard family set up a fundraiser for Living Water, which raised over \$110,000. Joe's legacy continues to invite others to support his commitment to bring safe water to thirsty people.



I am pleased and amazed at God's blessings this year, especially with unforeseen obstacles. The COVID-19 pandemic presented a huge challenge to Living Water International, resulting in worldwide uncertainties and the temporary suspension of our Living Water Trips program (which historically represents up to 25 percent of our revenue).

But God is more powerful than any challenge we could imagine. Through you, our giving community, God has overwhelmed our organization with blessings. Living Water has been able to continue our critical work, which has a direct impact in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in the vulnerable communities where we work.

The following information is management's financial estimates and highlights from our 2020 fiscal year prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). We invite you to review our detailed audited financials and Form 990 which will be published on our website as soon as they are available.

Living Water takes transparency and accountability seriously and is proud of the high ratings we have received from watchdog agencies which confirm this commitment—including a Platinum seal on Guidestar. I am proud of the in-country leadership and our highly qualified finance team, who always strive to improve organizational controls. Through their efforts, we remain good stewards of the resources our supporters provide.

From the global Living Water International community, thank you for investing your resources to meet the needs of the most vulnerable across the world with water, for life, in Jesus' name!

Sincerely,

**Jonathan Schinzler** Vice President, Finance









### **REVENUE** TOTAL REVENUE & EXPENSES \$24,951,000 19.2% \$4,803,000 17.1% 48.0%-\$4,271,000 \$11,958,000 5.5% **GRANTS & LOCALLY** \$1,361,000 TOTAL EXPENSES 5.3% \$22,931,000 \$1,323,000 4.9% 15.4% \$1,235,000 \$3,358,000 **78.2%** 6.4% -\$17,722,000 \$1,851,000 50% 41% \$1,631,000 \$8,842,000 \$7,262,000

### Year ended June 30

Revenue	FY18	FY19	FY20
Total Contributions, Fees & Events	\$27,568,000	\$23,732,000	\$24,951,000

Operating Expenses	FY18	FY19	FY20
WASH and Christian Witness	\$16,063,000	\$16,615,000	\$16,006,000
Living Water Mission Trips	\$3,320,000	\$2,693,000	\$1,716,000
Total Programming Expense	\$19,383,000	\$19,308,000	\$17,722,000
Fundraising	\$3,661,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,358,000
Administration	\$1,720,000	\$1,578,000	\$1,851,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	\$24,764,000	\$24,686,000	\$22,931,000

Net Assets	FY18	FY19	FY20
Change in Net Assets From Operations	\$2,762,000	(\$954,000)	\$2,020,000
Consolidation of Affiliates & Other	\$42,000	_	_
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$8,540,000	\$11,344,000	\$10,390,000
Net Assets End of Year	\$11,344,000	\$10,390,000	\$12,410,000

Learn more at water.cc/financials



JESUS ANSWERED, "EVERYONE WHO
DRINKS THIS WATER WILL BE THIRSTY
AGAIN, BUT WHOEVER DRINKS THE
WATER I GIVE THEM WILL NEVER THIRST.
INDEED, THE WATER I GIVE THEM WILL
BECOME IN THEM A SPRING OF WATER
WELLING UP TO ETERNAL LIFE."

-JOHN 4:13-14, NIV



### LIVING WATER INTERNATIONAL

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