



# Lifewater Canada

## The Year in Review

The fiscal year for Lifewater Canada starts on October 1. However, it feels like the year started in January with news that a large earthquake had hit Port-au-Prince, the Capital of Haiti. Lifewater Canada volunteers immediately went to Haiti to help and donations started pouring in from Canada, the USA and as far away as Australia and the Netherlands. The deployment of volunteers, equipment and training has continued to this day, with the focus now on long-term development rather than emergency aid.

Due to your generosity, the effort in Haiti did not sideline much needed work in Africa. In fact, this year ended with 116 communities having benefited from receiving safe drinking water, improved sanitation, and/or knowledge on how to fight disease. This means improved health for nearly 50,000 men, women and children!

This amazing 61% increase over last year was only possible because of the generosity of ordinary people like you. The need is as great as ever, but together we really can make a life-giving difference. Thank-you.

*Jim Gehrels*

Jim Gehrels, President

## Haiti Update

Les & Jim went to Haiti right after the earthquake. They rented a bus, filled it with water, food and medicine and drove it through the mountains to Port-au-Prince. They arrived at night with the city shroud in eerie darkness broken only by brightly lit UN checkpoints and burning tires on street corners. They were greeted by rubble-strewn streets devoid of people and by unsettling aftershocks



The loss of hundreds of thousands was personalized by one, Katie Hadley. This young Canadian Colleague arrived at the Hotel Montana one hour before the quake. At the request of family and friends, Les and Jim helped searchers look for her. Her body was found the next day.



*Hotel Montana – Formerly 5 stories*

In contrast, tens of thousands of families will never know what became of their loved ones, lost forever in mass graves or under tons of unmovable rubble.

In the face of such overwhelming loss, there was overwhelming generosity. Another shipment of relief supplies was quickly sent to the Capital. Then one hundred biosand filters were distributed to ensure that displaced families had safe water to drink.

After this emergency aid had been provided, long-term development work began. The impact of earthquake survivors relocating to under-serviced communities in the Cape Haitian area was assessed and priority areas identified. Half a dozen wells were drilled and many more were repaired and put back in service.



*First Well Drilled in Memory of Katie*

Partnerships with two local NGO's were established, and 2 drill rigs and 4 army trucks purchased. More volunteers made two more trips to provide training and prepare for a baseline survey of pumps to be carried out in 2011. Please contact Jim ASAP if you would like to help with this.

## New Wells

This past year, you helped drill 86 wells in Africa and Haiti. Every well is a partnership between you the donor, our local partners and the beneficiary school or village.



Each well has a story to tell, about how it brings special blessing to a particular place and people. Like this story from Ba Di Fou Town:

“The source of water prior to the installation of this handpump was found high up in the hills. Often times the water was so shallow we would have to draw it using a flat plate. When we left for water in the morning, we wouldn't get back till 11am. We often were sick as our animals also drank from the same place in the river. We are very grateful for having this pump so near us. It has a very good taste and everyone comes from the neighbourhood to draw from this pump. Our village has many children and we are so happy to have safe water that doesn't make them grow sick and perish. *Thank you abundantly and may God bless you*”



*Girl drawing safe drinking water*

## Liberia Update

Lifewater Liberia reached several key milestones this year including:

- Office & Meeting Room furnished and put into use
- Air Hammer & Compressor obtained for LS350 to drill wells deeper into rock
- Bought 1 Ton Drilling Truck
- For the first time in 15 years drilled one well per week for the entire year!

During the year, six volunteers travelled to Liberia to help provide logistical and technical training and support. Hugh stayed for 2 months to provide drill training, including initial Air Hammer Drilling training. Thanks Hugh!

Much progress was made on the new compound including:

- Finished Multipurpose building interior, including wiring and plumbing, installation of screen doors, kitchen etc.
- Completed wiring for large, medium and small generators and battery light backup.
- Installed yard spotlights and security bars on front porch.
- Delineated property boundary using trees & corner walls.
- Finished 4 worker housing units which are all occupied.

## Where Does Your \$ Go?

Here is a summary showing how your donations were used....

2009/2010 Total:	\$654,196
Capital Expenses	45%
Well Construction	37%
Training	8%
Sanitation & Hygiene	5%
Handpump Repair	1%
Overhead	4%

## Kenya & Zambia News

Hugh, Lynda & Jim spent time with “The Lifewater Kenya” staff, providing the office workers with computer training and assistance with how to document and file project information. Drillers were provided with field experience on how to drill deeper and how to better remove cuttings from drilling mud. But the highlight was inspecting completed wells and washrooms, seeing first hand the impact they have had on schools, orphanages, clinics and towns.



*School Girls lining up to draw water*

Time was then spent in Zambia with our local partner, “Seeds of Hope International Partnerships”. Weeks were spent providing extensive field and classroom training for drillers using mud-rotary drilling rig.

### Lifewater Canada

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