

Water Projects Report

District 7150 Council Meeting 1/06/09

Respectfully submitted by: Joette Deane, Water Projects Chair

At the District Conference I gave a presentation which included a video clip from The Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group and presentations on current projects.

The groups' information was enlightening

-6,000 children a day die from water borne illness: the equivalent of 18 jumbo jets fully loaded-per day!

- Only less than 1% of our planet's' water is safe to drink.

- By 2020 the demand for water will increase by 40%.

Rotary International President D.K. Lee and our own District Governor Larry Calabrese are urging **all Rotary clubs to do a water project**. To date all clubs have not committed to water projects.

We have several projects underway or completed.

The current projects are very affordable, reliable, and sustainable.

Water projects are in the planning or finalization stages in the following countries:

Ghana: Larry Richardson Chittenango club is the contact (fishlure@verison.net, 315-447-8066). This project was started in 2006. With club fundraising, District funds, and a Rotary International Grant five wells were drilled for \$37,150. A motor bike for a health worker to visit a region the size of Central New York is still needed. He currently travels on foot.

Sudan: Judy Young Fulton Club is the contact (young115k@windstream.com, 315-593 1888)... Funds were raised by Fulton noon and Fulton sunrise clubs and the Fulton Interact club totaling \$5,000 for a drilled well. The check was presented to Salwa Dut Penfield Rotarian and founder of Water for Sudan Inc. in October 2008. He is in the process of drilling the well. His organization Water for Life Inc. has a website of the same name which details all the projects that are in process or that they have completed.

Haiti: The Rotary International grant (\$20,000) for this project has been approved with an amended plan for \$25,000 which includes \$15,000 district funds per DG Larry. Congratulations!

Nicaragua: Contacts are Cathy Nock of Syracuse University cnock@syr.edu , 315-445-9661, and Larry Hitchcock of the Waterville Rotary club (315-336-7810). A very thorough needs assessment has been done and is attached. The projected cost for this project is \$17,500 to provide three wells for the maternal and child hospital and two other communities. Several local churches have fund raised to approximately \$6,000. Several Rotary clubs are interested in the project also. Their funds combined with District funds (\$ 3,000-\$5,000) should be able to fund the project...

Dominican Republic: Contact is Jim Gascon of the Marcellus club (jjg@ccf-law.com, 315-422-1152). Jim has partnered with representatives of the Utica Club who also work for Mohawk Valley Water Authority (Connie Schreppel and Steve Gassner) to start this project. Jim recently completed the needs assessment by testing the well and sending water samples back to Mohawk Valley Water Authority. The results showed that the well itself has clean water but the holding tank does not. The estimate to complete the project (covers for the well and cistern, new storage tank, and generator to pump the water) is estimated at \$12,000. With clubs' funds this project should be very doable.

Guatemala, Honduras, and Haiti- These are all Pure Water for the World projects. The Honduras project will be in collaboration with UNICEF. The needs assessment is attached. Pure water for the World has gotten three grants for Haiti projects and might need a club to adopt a school. Both Guatemala and Honduras will need funds. Pure Water for the World will be submitting the Honduras grant in March.

We have excellent projects to choose from-call me or email if you have questions (dongo5@aol.com, 315-342-2069).

**For general information on water projects access these web sites:
wasrag.org, [Rotary international/water/grants](http://Rotaryinternational.com/water/grants), purewaterfortheworld.org , [United Nations decade of water](http://UnitedNations.org)**