

2009-2010  
ANNUAL REVIEW



# Unsafe Water is

# Death

*Human beings survive less than four days without any water at all. With unsafe water, they suffer a slower death:*

**Disease.** At least 10 percent of the world's total incidence of disease is related to unsafe water. Between two and five million people die every year of water-related diseases, most of them young children. Millions more die of malaria, dengue, and other mosquito-borne diseases, which are perpetuated by stagnant, unsafe water.

**Malnutrition, stunted growth, and impeded intellectual development.** In communities without safe water, most children suffer from parasites and chronic diarrhea. This impairs their ability to grow and learn.

**Limited education.** Families that need children to transport water do not send them to school. Children sick with water-related illnesses frequently miss class.

**Physical assault.** Women and children risk assault when walking in remote areas to fetch water for their families.

**Drowning.** Children as young as three years old help their families gather water in slippery, dangerous water sources. Thousands die every year as they are collecting water.

**Injury.** A typical jerry can used for transporting water weighs forty pounds when full, and carrying water can cause permanent damage to the body.

**Wounded human dignity.** Unable to emerge from poverty, chronic diarrhea, and unhygienic conditions, people struggle to believe in their God-given worth.

**Economic Poverty.** Income-generating activities are severely hindered when people lack a safe water source near their homes.

**Conflict.** Throughout human history, water shortages have been one of the most common causes of violent conflict between people groups.



# Safe Water is

*God created water for abundant life.* In Scripture, water is used as a metaphor for healing, restoration, and delight.

Helping communities gain sustainable safe water systems allows them to experience dramatic improvements to their quality of life:

**Better health.** Individuals no longer suffer from water-related diseases or injuries related to transporting water.

**Adequate nutrition.** Diseases and parasites no longer compete with people's bodies for nourishment.

**Unhindered intellectual development.** Malnourishment caused by illness and parasites no longer impedes the brain's health and growth.

**Better education.** Children, especially girls, are allowed to go to school because they no longer need to gather water. School grounds are healthier and safer.

**Increased economic productivity.** People gain the time and health they need to pursue income-generating activities.

**Restored dignity.** Able to care for their appearance, health, and sanitation needs, individuals reflect their God-given dignity and worth.

**Greater confidence.** Experiencing newfound control over their well-being, people gain confidence in their God-given abilities.

**Tangible experiences of God's love.** Individuals and communities experience the physical security and self-confidence that God desires for all people.

## **Sustainable safe water system:**

*a safe water source providing at least 3.96 gallons per person per day and located within 0.62 miles of the home, protected by adequate sanitation facilities and effective hygiene behaviors. In other words, a sustainable safe water system involves accessible safe water, adequate sanitation, and effective hygiene practices (WASH).*

# Life



photo by Esther Havens

## OUR MISSION

Compelled by God's call and the global water and sanitation crisis, Lifewater International equips partner organizations and works with them to empower communities in developing countries to gain **safe water, adequate sanitation, effective hygiene,** and the **knowledge of Jesus' love.**



“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

— Luke 10:27

## OUR GOALS



WASH  
WATER  
SANITATION  
HYGIENE

### Community well-being improved through WASH

We look for concrete evidence that communities are healthier and more vibrant places because of Lifewater’s work.

### Empowered communities

We seek evidence that communities have acquired the motivation, skills, and resources they need to manage their water and sanitation facilities and promote healthy behaviors.



### Partner capacity building

We look for concrete evidence that our partner organizations are becoming more effective, holistic WASH development organizations.

### Spiritual transformation

We look for evidence that individuals are restoring relationships with one another and with God. We also seek evidence that Christians are inspiring others to deeper faith as they serve their communities through WASH.



Health promoters and community leaders spearheading WASH efforts in Digba, Hosanna, Ethiopia. *by Esther Havens*

## 2009-2010 PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES

Lifewater helped **56,389** people<sup>1</sup> gain at least 15 liters (3.96 gallons) of safe water per day within one kilometer (0.62 miles) of their home. Lifewater reports its beneficiaries conservatively—only up to 500 beneficiaries per well with a hand pump. While many more people often benefit from each well that Lifewater installs, 500 is the maximum number of people that can obtain the recommended daily amount of water from any single well.<sup>2</sup>

Lifewater helped **38,000** people gain the security and dignity of a hygienic, accessible latrine. An adequate latrine is defined as one that is appropriate for the local culture and has a pit, a slab upon which to stand, walls, and a roof. Lifewater counts beneficiaries based on the average household size in project areas.

Lifewater helped **47,063** people learn how to keep themselves healthy through simple, effective hygiene practices. Lifewater arrives at this number by counting community members that receive hygiene education from certified hygiene trainers through a Lifewater-funded project.



Lifewater trained **241** community leaders (e.g., in-country partner organization staff members, government health workers, school directors) in Africa and Asia as certified WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) trainers. Certification requires that a person attend Lifewater training courses, complete training hours in local communities, demonstrate proficiency in the material, and successfully train others in the field.

<sup>1</sup> In fiscal year 2009-2010, Lifewater had active projects in Central Asia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Laos, and Uganda and initiated a partnership in the Dominican Republic.

<sup>2</sup> By standardizing its method of counting beneficiaries, Lifewater gains a clear picture of the scope of its work. By not counting partial beneficiaries, Lifewater reflects its desire to continue working in a region until people gain the full recommended amount of safe water per day and are no longer forced to compete for limited safe water supplies.

**SECONDARY BENEFICIARIES** In addition to helping our primary beneficiaries, Lifewater's work in 2009-2010 benefitted hundreds of thousands in secondary ways:

■ When Lifewater begins installing safe water systems in new communities, the number of people who use a single well often exceeds 2,000. While they do not obtain the recommended daily supply of safe water, these individuals experience an improved quality of life.

• In 2009-2010, one of Lifewater's Ugandan partners reported that 39,000 were collecting water from 23 new wells installed as part of a project. Because Lifewater wants these individuals to gain the full recommended supply of safe water, Lifewater reported only 11,500 primary beneficiaries (500 per well). Lifewater is working to install more wells so that people in this region of northern Uganda no longer need to compete for beneficial yet insufficient safe water supplies.

■ Many of our in-country partners in Africa, Asia, and Latin America organized WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) promotion events that reached thousands of people not counted as direct beneficiaries.

• Lifewater's partner in Laos organized two major hygiene promotional events attended by an estimated 3,000 people. The Lao WASH promotion team used drama, song, and appropriate technology demonstrations to focus on the importance of handwashing and safe water storage.

• Lifewater's partner in northern Uganda coordinated its third year-long WASH soccer tournament in 2009-2010. Each soccer game drew between

2,000 and 5,000 people. At half-time, soccer fans learned about WASH and the gospel through song, drama, and speeches given by the soccer players.

■ Many people who have learned good hygiene practices from Lifewater-funded projects have shared their knowledge with others.

• A Lifewater-trained school director in Bule Hora, Ethiopia, taught his students about good sanitation and hygiene, created a WASH club, and constructed school latrines. Students were asked to bring water and ash or soap from home for handwashing. This stimulated discussions at home and inspired many families to construct their own latrines and handwashing devices.

■ Many communities that have been empowered through Lifewater's training programs are now working with other agencies and making important strides to improve their health and overall well-being.

• A partner in Uganda trained staff members of a major international development organization utilizing Lifewater training and curriculum. In many countries, government workers and staff members of other NGOs frequently attend Lifewater training courses.

• In Ethiopia, when a community where Lifewater works became the nation's second community to be officially declared "open defecation free," the government health worker for that community had the opportunity to share what he had learned at Lifewater trainings on national television and at national gatherings.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFICIARIES**



Empowered by its supporters, Lifewater staff and in-country partners form working relationships.

Lifewater staff and volunteer field trainers train in-country partners.

In-country partners drill wells and train community leaders in water system management and repair, sanitation, and hygiene.



Local leaders motivate and train their communities to use and maintain their water and sanitation resources.

Community members teach their families and inspire surrounding communities to make positive changes.

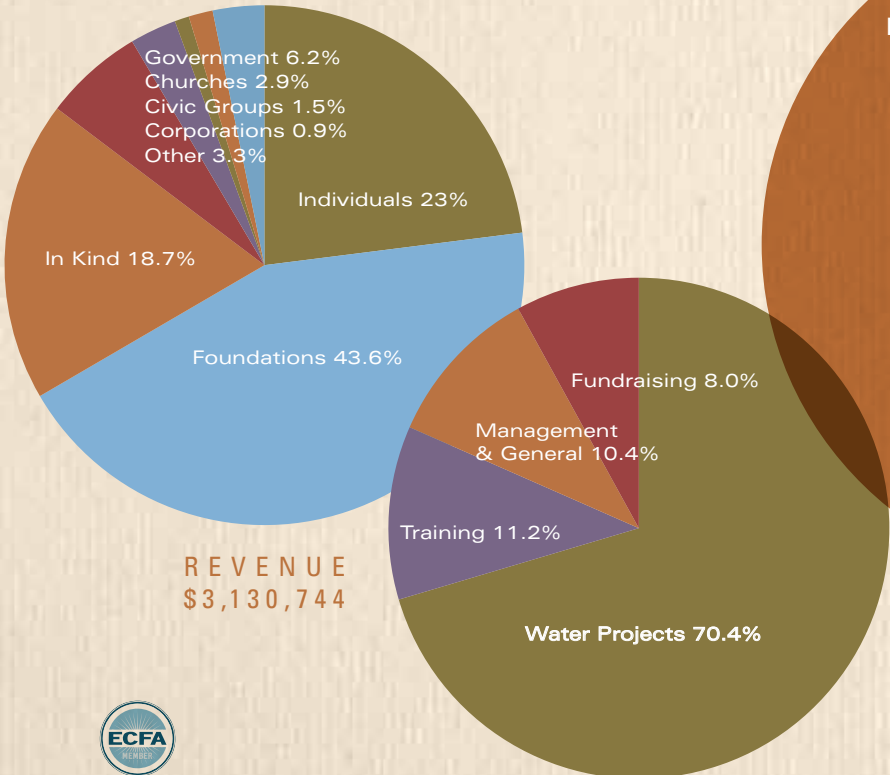
**The benefits of Lifewater's work continue to multiply.**





# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2010



**REVENUE**  
\$3,130,744

**EXPENSES**  
\$2,919,666



**HIGHLIGHTS:**

- A total of 33 field trainers participated in 11 international training trips.
- Eighty-three individuals participated in state-side courses to prepare for international trips.
- Lifewater gained a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.
- Lifewater opened a new office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Total income increased by 32.3% over the previous year.



Lifewater field trainers and staff trained Lifewater's Ethiopian partner organization and key local leaders in essential WASH and adult education skills.



Based on the Lifewater training it received, Lifewater's Ethiopian partner trained local government workers, school directors, teachers, and community leaders.

School directors and teachers mobilized student health clubs to teach WASH to their classmates and families and constructed school latrines with handwashing stations.

Government health workers and community leaders worked with "model households" to build latrines and adopt good hygiene practices.

Inspired by their improved health, model households motivated neighbors to build latrines and adopt good hygiene practices.



Quality of life for 55,800 people dramatically improved.



Aga Heliso, model household member, next to his new latrine. *by Esther Havens*

# Project Highlight Ethiopia

an example of Lifewater's work around the world

Name: **The Hosanna Project**

Location: Ten rural communities near Hosanna, Ethiopia, with a total population of 55,800

Goal: Improve health and well-being through holistic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) development.

The Hosanna region is remote, has a deep water table, and its geology is difficult—making well drilling there challenging and expensive. Lifewater decided that initiating the project with well installation would leave insufficient resources for sanitation and hygiene education. Because installing wells results in limited health improvements if not bolstered by adequate sanitation facilities and effective hygiene practices, Lifewater decided to invest in the latter while continuing to seek funding for safe water sources. **The results of sanitation and hygiene efforts alone were remarkable:**

Statistics	Baseline Survey (February 2007)	Final Evaluation (December 2009)
Acute watery diarrhea	43.0% of young children	4.0% of young children
Latrine coverage	60.9%, with many poorly maintained	97.2% (one community reached 100%)
Handwashing at critical times	26.0% of population	98.4% of population

**Follow Up:** Motivated by their greatly improved health, confidence, and ability to work together, **community members are anxious to add to their health gains with safe water.** Lifewater is confident that the ten communities of the Hosanna Project will be good stewards of safe water systems when they are installed.

Lifewater has obtained a grant from a major donor for a portion of the water project for the ten communities and is actively seeking \$80,000 to complete funding. If you are interested in contributing to this project, please contact Lifewater at [info@lifewater.org](mailto:info@lifewater.org) or 888.543.3426.

**1995-2001** Lifewater helped establish an exemplary Ugandan water development organization.

**2001-07** During years of ongoing, violent civil war, Lifewater helped train and equip its Ugandan partner to provide safe water in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps and war-torn local communities.

**2007-2010** As violence subsided, Lifewater and its partner used a holistic water development strategy to help resettle refugees from the IDP camps and rebuild communities.

**2008-2010** Lifewater and its partner established a WASH promotion soccer league to build self-esteem in young men and to promote positive change in communities torn apart by war.

**2009-2010** Motivated by the great need for WASH and the partner's capacity to reach up to ten communities per month, Lifewater initiated a project targeting approximately 190 communities.

**2010** As Lifewater receives funding, schools and communities are gaining the basic WASH resources they need to rebuild their lives.

#### Highlights:

In January 2010, Lifewater field trainers taught hand pump repair to nine Ugandan volunteers. After the training, Lifewater's Ugandan partner began giving small-scale jobs to the trainees. Because local water committees are collecting user fees for well maintenance, villages have been able to pay the new team for their pump repair services. These young men now have a way to provide for their families, and countless communities are enjoying reliable safe water sources.

In June 2010, champions from Lifewater and its Ugandan partner's WASH promotion soccer league in northern Uganda participated in the "World Water Cup" in Kampala. The event drew a number of dignitaries, including members of the Ugandan Parliament. After the event, Lifewater's partner wrote, "This has restored hope and confidence in people reaching out to the community with the message of WASH, bringing healing and restoration to broken relationships."

# Project Highlight Uganda

an example of Lifewater's work around the world

**Name:** **Project Restoring Hope** (Spring 2009 to Spring 2012)

**Location:** Ogur and Abako Districts, Lira, northern Uganda, with a total population of 96,100

**Goal:** Help nearly 200 impoverished communities in northern Uganda improve their health and well-being through water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH):

- (1) drill deep and shallow wells and repair damaged handpumps;
- (2) proceed with the third year of the WASH promotion soccer league;
- (3) continue to train community leaders in WASH skills; and
- (4) establish water committees to collect user fees and oversee well maintenance and repair.

#### Baseline Survey

Indicator	Before Project Began
Access to an improved source of drinking water	17% of total households
Adequate sanitation facilities (e.g., hygienic latrine)	17% of total households
Safe drinking water storage	1% of total households

#### Progress:

A total of 44 villages now have safe water and active water committees overseeing well use, user fee collection, and well maintenance. In addition, Lifewater and its partner have trained 265 teachers, trainers, and community health workers in community health through hygiene. These trainees are actively passing on the lessons they have learned to their families and communities.



# STRATEGIC GOALS 2009-2014

PROGRESS IN FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010



Scale up existing programs, initiate partnerships in new countries in Africa, and expand in Latin America.

## GOAL ONE

Fund in-country partner organizations to help 250,000 people gain access to safe water and 75,000 people gain access to adequate sanitation every year.

Train 500 in-country partner staff members, community health workers, and teachers in hygiene education every year.

✓ Initiated partnerships in the Dominican Republic and Tanzania and began scaling up projects in Ethiopia and Uganda. Helped 56,389 people gain the full recommended amount of safe water per day, 38,000 people gain adequate sanitation, and 47,063 people learn lifesaving hygiene skills. Trained 241 individuals as certified WASH trainers

Open an office in Africa, increase efforts in schools, and develop programs for urban areas.

## GOAL TWO

Enhance WASH program implementation to support strategic growth and facilitate the delivery of our training programs

✓ Opened new Lifewater office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2010 with East Africa director, Zerihun Hailu

✓ Sent 33 volunteer field trainers on trips and trained 83 field trainers to prepare them for service.

✓ Completed contextualized curriculum for northern Uganda in 2009. Began developing urban strategy in the Dominican Republic

## GOAL THREE

Expand technical expertise and training programs to cultivate innovative holistic WASH interventions

Formalize process to help partners contextualize Lifewater's curriculum, share the gospel in and through their work, and work in both rural and urban contexts

## GOAL FIVE

Double number of active field trainers and stateside volunteers and equip them for ministry

Increase new donors, church donors, and average gift size

✓ Increased income by 32% and gained 681 new individual donors

Develop e-learning program for field trainers and create toolkits tailored to specific groups

## GOAL FOUR

Increase annual income to six million dollars



## GOAL SIX

Distinguish ourselves in WASH implementation, curriculum development, and training.

Meet other strategic goals, gaining high ratings from outside evaluators, and further developing monitoring and evaluation systems

Gained four-star rating from Charity Navigator. In Ethiopia, worked with national university to conduct project evaluations

## Board of Directors

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Retired CEO

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Treasurer: Rick Wolfe  
CFO, Transitions Mental Health

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Photo by David Uttley



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