



water^{1st}
INTERNATIONAL

2007 Annual Report



WATER 1ST INTERNATIONAL

1904 3rd Avenue, Suite 1012

Seattle, WA 98101

(206) 297-3024

info@water1st.org

www.water1st.org

WATER 1ST STAFF AND CONSULTANTS

Marla Smith-Nilson,
Executive Director

Kirk Anderson,
Director of Foundation Relations/Major Gifts

Stephanie Nelson,
Donor Relations Manager

Jennifer Norling,
Director of Outreach and Events

Christopher Brown,
Film/Photography/Web

Steve Deem,
International Programs

Ann Hollar,
Education Outreach Coordinator

Sandy Nelson,
Graphic Design

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Akshaynagar Pallisri Sangha – India

COCEPRADIL and
Catholic Relief Services – Honduras

Dushtha Shasthya Kendra (DSK) – Bangladesh

Water Action – Ethiopia

(JANUARY 1–DECEMBER 31, 2007)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne-Marie Amies Oelschlager

Kristin Anderson

Suzanne Burnell

Linda Cheever, *Vice Chair*

Steve Crane

John Crossman

Sara DeRuyck

Linda Jangaard

Jim Moore, *Chair*

Derek Pell

Matt Steele

Christine Stickler

Darryl Swenson, *Treasurer*

Seshu Vaddey

Daniel Won

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Deirdre Anderson

Michelle Chamberlain

Pamela Copeland

Jane Enterline

Mary Kay Gugerty

Therese Hansen

Ann Marie Hitchcock

Kanchan Kaye

Patrick F. Kennedy

Diane Langstraat

Donna Larson

Rep. Jim McDermott

Grace Schlitt

Carolyn Sherwood

Basant Singh

Water 1st: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty

Thanks to our generous and committed supporters, Water 1st raised \$1,007,186 in 2007, more than doubling the amount raised in 2006. This allowed us to implement 84 water, sanitation, and hygiene education projects that are changing lives and saving lives in Honduras, India, Bangladesh, and Ethiopia. Our total number of beneficiaries is now 19,700.

Around the world, 1.1 billion people do not have clean water. Even more—2.6 billion—do not have latrines. That more than 5 million people, mostly young children, die each year from lack of these most basic services is surely one of the greatest development failures of our time.

Not having access to water and sanitation threatens life, limits opportunity, and undermines human dignity. Lack of access to clean water means people resort to ditches, rivers, lakes, and ponds polluted with human or animal excrement. People without toilets are forced to defecate behind bushes, in plastic bags, or on road sides, or for many women and girls, to wait until nightfall to relieve themselves because that is the only way to guarantee privacy.

The World Health Organization estimates that 90 percent of diarrheal cases caused by water-and sanitation-related diseases can be prevented by increasing the availability of clean water, sanitation, and improved hygiene practices. Health economists have calculated that for every \$1 invested in water

and sanitation, \$10 is gained from reduced health costs and increased productivity. It is one of the best investments we can make in the developing world.

However, at Water 1st, we believe that changing the water and sanitation status quo for our beneficiaries is not just the sensible thing to do, it is the right thing to do. Water 1st projects offer a cure for 90 percent of the world's illnesses, and the benefits to individuals and communities extend well beyond the lives saved.

This Annual Report highlights the many ways our projects are improving and transforming lives, and addressing the most fundamental issues of childhood death, poverty, and gender equality.

Through the stories of our beneficiaries, we hope you will see the powerful effect a simple water system and latrine can have on an individual and a community. And we hope you will see the powerful effect you have had on individual lives and communities with your support of Water 1st.

On behalf of our beneficiaries, thank you for demonstrating your compassion for people in need of safe water, and for being part of this exciting, life-changing work.



Marla Smith-Nilson
Executive Director



Our Vision:

We envision a world free of extreme poverty. Providing people with safe water systems, latrines, and hygiene education is the first step to ending the cycle of poverty, illness, and inequality.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to unite people to fight the global water crisis. We believe this worldwide, silent catastrophe will be solved when we build a community of concerned individuals and mobilize them to take simple, effective actions.

Water 1st educates people about the water supply and sanitation crisis in developing countries and the need for sustainable solutions, and provides an opportunity to respond in a way that has a lasting impact on people's lives. The funds we raise help the poorest communities in the world implement sustainable, community-managed projects that integrate water supply, sanitation, and health education.

The World Water and Sanitation Crisis

Lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitary latrines is the top public health problem in the world:

- More than 1 billion people in the world do not have access to a safe and adequate water supply, and 2.6 billion people lack access to basic sanitation.
- Each year, more than 5 million people die from water-and sanitation-related diseases—most deaths occur in children under age 5.

Without safe water nearby, children pay the price:

- Water-related illnesses are the number-one killer of children in the world. Every day, 5,000 children die from preventable water-related illnesses.
- Even when children do survive, they too often do not thrive. They are sick, malnourished, and make daily treks to collect water at the expense of going to school or studying.

Unlike Water 1st projects, more than half of all water supply projects in the developing world fail.

Readers of *The British Medical Journal* voted water and sanitation as the greatest medical breakthrough in the past 160 years, ranking higher than antibiotics, vaccines, anesthesia, and the discovery of DNA.

Lack of access to safe water has a disproportionately devastating effect on women and girls who are traditionally responsible for water collection:

- On average, women and young girls in developing countries walk six kilometers a day, carrying 5-gallons of water in heavy pots on their heads or strapped to their backs. This saps their energy, causes injuries, and prevents them from participating in economic and social activities.
- Water-collection duties and lack of toilets prevent millions of girls from attending school. The resulting lack of education perpetuates a cycle of illiteracy and poverty.



Sustainable Benefits

What began as the dream of a few dedicated staff, board members, and donors in 2005 has grown into a capable organization that, by the end of 2007, has brought clean water, sanitation, and hope to nearly 20,000 people in four countries. We are so grateful to the individual and organizational supporters who have embraced the Water 1st vision and made it their own.

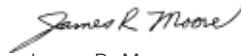
With Water 1st's outreach and education efforts, there is now a growing recognition in our community of the importance of clean water, proper sanitation, and hygiene as the first steps on the climb out of poverty. When women and children no longer spend hours each day collecting water, they can engage in more productive endeavors, including being able to attend school. When members of poor households have access to latrines and practice good hygiene, their health is significantly improved and they no longer lose days of productivity due to illness or suffer the death of their children from diarrheal disease.

Community empowerment is central to the Water 1st program model and a primary reason that our projects are sustainable over the long-term. Our beneficiary communities are empowered through participation in planning and implementation, as well as in assuming responsibility for maintenance and repairs. The community water committees that manage

these projects learn skills and gain confidence, equipping them to tackle new development endeavors.

Water 1st projects are not “handouts.” Our beneficiaries contribute hundreds of hours of labor to their projects and, in India and Bangladesh, they repay up to 100 percent of the “hard” costs, such as drilling, piping, pumps, storage tanks, and masonry through loan programs. These repayments are then applied to projects in new communities, thus multiplying the impact of the original investment—in effect, sustaining the benefits of our donors' funds over a longer period and broader population.

Sustainable benefits for both poor communities and Water 1st donors: that's a terrific strategy!



James R. Moore
Board Chair



Why Water 1st?

People living in extreme poverty have many needs, but we believe water comes first. We know that a sustainable, safe water supply is critical for survival. Safe water saves lives. There is a powerful and direct link between human development and water, sanitation, and hygiene projects.

Water 1st projects build strong individuals and communities by:

- reducing childhood mortality;
- improving health;
- reducing the time and effort spent, normally by women and girls, carrying water from distant sources;
- protecting the environment through better water and waste management practices;
- improving self-worth, social status, and dignity;
- increasing gender equality by reducing women's workloads so they can devote their energy to other activities, and enabling girls to go to school and develop the skills that will allow them to become leaders and decision-makers;
- improving economic development by increasing business opportunities, decreasing medical expenditures, and reducing the time taken off work or school due to illness; and
- accelerating overall community development by providing techniques, skills, and concrete experience in successfully addressing a major community-level issue.

2007 International Projects

In 2007, Water 1st supported the implementation of 84 projects, helping more than 13,000 people in Ethiopia, India, Bangladesh, and Honduras gain access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene education for life.

Our projects assist the world's poorest—people living on less than \$1 per day and in some cases less than \$1 per week—who do not have access to functioning public or private water supply and sewer systems.

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Water 1st works with four highly qualified, locally based, locally staffed partner organizations in India, Bangladesh, Honduras, and Ethiopia. Our partner organizations have a proven ability to undertake sustainable and appropriate water, sanitation, and hygiene education projects. These organizations carry out the day-to-day management and implementation of projects funded by Water 1st. They train and support local communities to plan, construct, manage, and maintain their own projects.

Our local partners are trusted and respected in the regions where we work. They have unique knowledge of the communities, an understanding of the local/national government, and relationships with local leaders. They understand the reasons people lack access to clean water, and the local traditions or customs that might prevent behavior changes to live healthier lives.

We are diligent in selecting, evaluating, and monitoring the ongoing work of our partner organizations. Applying a competent project monitoring and evaluation system is one of our central principles. We take very seriously our role in ensuring that our donors' money is being spent efficiently and effectively.



“Water 1st projects are successful and sustainable because of the strong commitment of the people in the communities we support. They are involved in every step of the planning, implementing, and financing of their projects, including provision of in-kind labor and materials. When the project is completed, the community assumes ownership of it and they are determined to keep it operating for their children and future generations.”

— John Crossman, Water 1st Board of Directors, International Programs Team

Our Work in the Field

When a community completes a Water 1st project, its members are poised to move out of grinding poverty. They are healthier. Their children not only survive, they have an opportunity to thrive. Women and girls are empowered. Entire communities enjoy accelerated economic and community development. And human dignity is restored.

These advancements occur in every community in each country where we work.

Following are a few stories from our recent site visits, illustrating the direct relationship between these important community-level advancements and the completion of their Water 1st project.



IMPROVING HEALTH AND SAVING LIVES



Access to clean water and sanitation can reduce the risk of a child dying by as much as 50 percent.

— *United Nations Development Program, 2006*

In Ethiopia, the childhood mortality rate is 15 times the rate in the United States and 30 times the rate in Norway or Japan.

— *UNICEF, 2008*

Gulany Mulisa lives in Ilamu Muja, Ethiopia and is one of the 3,500 beneficiaries of a water, sanitation, and hygiene education project funded by Water 1st in 2006 and 2007.

When we last visited Ilamu Muja, Gulany invited us into her home, a two-room mud brick house with a new corrugated tin roof. Her brother, who works in the city, bought the metal roof for her. Before we entered the home, she swept the dirt floor and placed a white tablecloth on her only table. She borrowed chairs from neighbors so that we'd all have a place to sit.

Gulany isn't sure of her exact age. She thinks she is about 70. Her story is pretty typical of her generation. She is the mother of 11 children. Seven of her children survived, but four died before reaching the age of 5. Two died in childbirth and two became ill and died at the ages of 1 and 4.

Before the Ilamu Muja project was completed, Gulany carried water home for her family every day, walking up to five kilometers over hilly terrain with a heavy clay container of water strapped to her back. When describing the water she used to drink, she said it contained worm-like parasites that she could see and feel in her mouth.

“Last year, I drank water and was sick with diarrhea. I was so weak my family had to carry me to the clinic. It took two hours on a donkey, and then we rented a car to go the rest of the way. At the clinic, they did a lab test and found worms in my stomach. I spent seven days in the hospital.”

Gulany is not alone. In Ethiopia, only 11 percent of the rural population has access to safe water. As a result, water-related illnesses are widespread, and child mortality rates in Ethiopia are among the highest in the world.

This is all history for Gulany and her neighbors. Ilamu Muja has a new water source – a well, about 450 feet deep, which has been lab-tested to ensure the water is safe for drinking. Because it is groundwater, it will stay clean and protected for Ilamu Muja's growing population.

Now that the water project is done in Ilamu Muja, Gulany told us that everything has changed for her. “We have a completely different life,” she said. “Thank you for giving me a beautiful life.”

ETHIOPIA

PROJECT NAME: Ilamu Muja

LOCAL PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Water Action

LOCATION: Ambo Woreda, Oromia

PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED: One water system with 10 community taps, 56 model latrines (remaining latrines built through replication), hygiene education, natural resource protection

PEOPLE SERVED: 3,500

In 2007, Water 1st continued its work in the rural Oromia region, about two hours west of the capital city Addis Ababa. This region has one of the highest child-mortality rates in the world. Only 11 percent of the people have safe water, and 7 percent have basic sanitation. Water and sanitation-related diseases, particularly diarrhea, are among the top three causes of death in this region.

A comprehensive water system was completed in the 10 rural communities of Ilamu Muja. Ten new taps are now flowing with clean water, and the 3,500 residents are celebrating their new life with a water system and latrines.

Before the project, villagers were walking long distances to collect water for their families. Water sources were shared with cattle and other livestock, and subject to agricultural runoff, making them extremely contaminated with bacteria and parasites.

Villagers also have latrines now, which provide an additional safeguard against the spread of disease and add to each person's sense of dignity. Volunteer village-hygiene communicators continue the work of hygiene promotion, talking with community members about the importance of latrine use, hand-washing at critical times, and keeping households and surrounding courtyards clean.

Because hand-washing can prevent the transmission of a variety of pathogens, it may be more effective than any single vaccine.

— *The World Bank*



PHOTO: Alex Stonehill for CIPMag.org



EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS



The United Nations estimates that two-thirds of children not attending primary schools in poor countries are girls, and two-thirds of the illiterate of the world are women. Poor access to safe water and sanitation is a key cause.

Women with just a few years of basic education tend to delay marriage and have smaller, healthier families. Each additional year of female education reduces child mortality by 5-10 percent.

Maria Isabel Orellana is up at 5 a.m., and while her children and husband continue to sleep, she leaves to collect water for her family of six. All the water that the family uses must be collected from a small water hole and carried in a container on her head. It's a 30 minute walk down a steep, rocky hill and then up the hill again with the 40-pound load. It's a journey most people would be challenged to complete. Maria does it wearing simple rubber flip-flops.

When Maria returns from her first trip to the water hole, she begins making breakfast. Before long, the smell of fresh corn tortillas and dark coffee permeates the air. Another day of hard work has begun for the people of San Gabriel, Honduras.

By 7 a.m. the meal is over, and Maria and her husband, Florentino, head out to their corn fields. No babysitter arrives for the younger children at home. Instead, Maria's 5-year-old boy has the responsibility of watching his younger sister, age 2. Their two oldest children, ages 7 and 11, walk to the local school.

Once Maria's work in the fields is done, it's time to prepare lunch. This means another trip to the water hole before she can make another batch of tortillas. Maria's daughter leaves school to join her mother in collecting and carrying water for the family.

At the end of the day, Maria and her daughter make a final trip—two if there is time—to provide water for dinner and washing. Maria told us that she feels like she carries water, “all the time.”

Thanks to Water 1st supporters and our local partner organization in Honduras, the long walk has ended for Maria and her daughter and the other women and children in San Gabriel. Water began flowing at taps conveniently located on the porch of each home in the community and at the school.

Gracia Alberta, the one school teacher for the San Gabriel community, shared how the project is already bringing positive changes: “This water project is a significant change for the people of San Gabriel, especially the children. Students, mostly girls, no longer have to leave class to help their mothers carry water. They are healthier now, and are able to concentrate more on their studies.”

When the community of San Gabriel committed to building a water project, it was perhaps the first time in their lives that women like Maria felt valued, that their time was worth investing in, too. Empowerment of women doesn't just happen when a girl graduates from elementary school or a woman starts her own business. Empowerment begins when a commitment is made to invest in their lives, both by us as the donors and by their spouses and sons who contribute significant labor in the project construction.

HONDURAS

PROJECT NAME: San Gabriel

LOCAL PARTNER ORGANIZATION: COCEPRADIL and Catholic Relief Services

LOCATION: San Andrés, Lempira District

PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED: One water system with 45 household taps, 45 latrines, hygiene education, natural resource protection training

PEOPLE SERVED: 310

The work of Water 1st in Honduras is focused on the southern area of the Department of Lempira, one of the poorest and most vulnerable regions of the country. The people in this region rely on subsistence agriculture to meet their most basic needs, and are extremely limited in their resources, lacking access to basic public services.

With the help of our local partner organization, the community of San Gabriel implemented a sustainable spring-fed, gravity-flow system with household and community water taps in 2007. The villagers contributed all the labor to the project. The men left their homes each day at 3 a.m., walked uphill to the construction site, worked a full day, and returned home at 6 p.m. They carried 100-pound bags of cement and thousands of feet of pipe up steep terrain for six miles. This work continued as they excavated miles of pipeline trench, constructed a water tank, and built household water taps and latrines. Every household in San Gabriel now has water at the turn of a tap.

A village water and sanitation committee manages the long-term administration, operation, and maintenance of the project. Households are now paying a monthly user fee to the water committee to cover the operation and maintenance costs of the water system.

As it is with all our projects, water and sanitation committees consist mostly of women. Women and girls are traditionally responsible for collecting water for their families, so they benefit significantly from these projects. It is very important to involve them in the project and seek advice from them about key issues.

Having an important public role as a hygiene promoter or a water committee member enhances the women's skills in the community, gives them more confidence, and ultimately makes them stronger and more respected community members.



“With the water projects, I see women transformed from timid, shy people to strong, independent women. Our project participants hold leadership positions in the community. Some of the women have also run for office at the municipal and department level. And next, eventually, I believe we will see our first female Honduran president!”

— *Maria Blanca de Perez, former president, COCEPRADIL, Water 1st Honduran partner organization*



ACCELERATING ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



It is estimated that the poor of Bangladesh spend more than \$70 million annually treating diarrhea.

Improved water and sanitation has positive impacts on economic growth and poverty reduction. According to a recent World Health Organization study, every \$1 spent on improving water and sanitation generates an average economic benefit of \$10.

Jahanara Bagum and her husband and their three children live in Kamrangir Char slum, a squatter settlement located within the capital city of Dhaka, Bangladesh. They are now benefiting from a water and sanitation project funded by Water 1st in 2007.

Like others living here, Jahanara and her family migrated to Dhaka in search of work. Jahanara found a job in a plastic factory as a part-time laborer, and her husband pilots a river taxi across the Buriganga River. On a combined income of \$1.50 a day, they are able to rent an 8' by 8' room in which their family of five sleeps and stores all their possessions. The room has a corrugated tin roof, a simple wood plank floor, and walls patched together with tin, cardboard, and fabric, providing minimal shelter.

Basic amenities, such as water and toilets, are virtually non-existent in these slums. Before the water project, Jahanara and her neighbors were forced to buy water of unknown quality from very expensive, market water vendors. They also collected water from the Buriganga River, polluted with raw industrial and human waste. Lacking toilets, residents used “hanging latrines,” a common feature in slum communities. These latrines are built over the water ways, depositing waste directly into people’s domestic water source.

Community members were frequently ill from the contaminated water. Doctor’s bills and medicines whittled away their earnings. Missed work due to

illness delivered another economic set-back. At any given time, 30-45 percent of the urban poor of Bangladesh are ill.

The course of Jahanara’s life changed when our partner organization approached her community about implementing a water and sanitation project. After the community successfully completed their water and sanitation project, they decided to apply their newly gained skills and expertise to address their community’s next needs. By the time we met them in 2007, they had set up a solid-waste collection system and had worked together to get a natural gas line extended to their communal kitchen. With the training they received from our local partner organization, the community was already organized and able to take on the responsibility to administer these new projects.

In communities all over the world, we have witnessed this same chain reaction of events as a result of a water project. Empowered communities no longer feel isolated and helpless and on their own tackle other problems in the community, like building roads and schools and opening small businesses. And because community members are healthier, they are able to work consistently. Money that was once spent on medicines can be redirected toward activities that move their communities forward. That’s why at Water 1st, we believe providing people with water is the first step to ending poverty.

BANGLADESH

PROJECT NAME: Pallabi, Demra, and Kamrangir Char settlements

LOCAL PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Dushtha Shasthya Kendra (DSK)

LOCATION: Dhaka

PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED: 71 water projects, 103 latrines, hygiene education

PEOPLE SERVED: 5,700

With more than 12 million people living in Dhaka, one-third of the population lives in slums. Results of life in this unhygienic environment are not surprising: more than 300,000 children die each year in Bangladesh from diarrhea.

The world's population is rapidly shifting from rural areas to cities. By 2025, it is estimated that almost 70 percent of the total world population will be urban, with 80 percent of these people living in developing countries. Much of this growth will be in dense slums where basic amenities are limited if they exist at all.

In Bangladesh, our local partner organization, DSK, continues to provide safe water and reliable latrines in the crowded urban slums of Dhaka. Water 1st supplied Pallabi, Demra, and Kamrangir Char community members with small loans to pay for the construction of their water and sanitation facilities. Repaid loan funds are then used for additional water and sanitation projects. A nine-member, all-female water and sanitation committee manages the communal facilities, keeping them clean, secure, and maintained, and makes sure the loan is repaid.

Your contributions helped more than just the 5,700 people who received water systems through Water 1st funding. Our partner organization's approach in these slum communities is to achieve full water supply and sanitation coverage in a large section of the slum. For some community groups, this means helping them install a water point with a loan from the Water 1st International project budget. For others, DSK may ascertain that the cluster is able to finance the water point on their own. In one area where DSK installed 16 wells, neighboring groups installed an additional 11 wells on their own. Without the presence of our partner organization, the neighboring groups would not have the information or confidence needed to implement their own projects. Thus, contributions from Water 1st supporters leveraged safe water projects for even more people.



RESTORING DIGNITY



“Water is the essence of life and human dignity. Water is fundamental to poverty reduction, providing people with elements essential to their growth and development.”

— Sergio Vieira de Mello, former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Bharati Tripradan lives in the village of Rajnagar Shrinathgram, in the Sundarbans of West Bengal, India. The Sundarbans is a group of islands located where the fresh water of the Ganges River and the salt water of the Bay of Bengal meet.

The 3 million people living here are very isolated and must travel long distances by foot and river taxi to reach the mainland. Their poverty and isolation means they do not have access to basic services such as piped water, toilets, electricity, and health services. Bharati is now one of 3,600 beneficiaries who have safe water and sanitation for life.

Bharati is a mother of two boys, ages 14 and 7. Since the time they were infants, she bathed her sons in a filthy pond. Her boys were frequently ill, sometimes requiring medical attention at the health clinic, an expensive journey in a river taxi for this family that relies on rice cultivation and fishing to feed themselves.

Now Bharati has a well a short walk from her house. She is no longer in the difficult position of deciding whether to bathe her children in dirty pond water or allow them to run around unwashed. Her sense of pride in being a good parent has been restored now that she has easy access to enough clean water to make bathing a part of her children’s daily routine.

With no latrines in her village, Bharati and her neighbors were forced to defecate in open fields, a humiliating experience in itself, and a contributing factor to the spread of disease in the community. “There was no private place for me to relieve myself. Some of the wealthier land owners around here would yell at me when I used their fields. I would also try waiting until nighttime so no one would see me.”

As part of the Water 1st funded project in her village, Bharati learned that toilets, as well as safe water, are an important part of improving the health of her family. Through training given by our local partner organization, she learned that when human excrement is not contained, disease spreads rapidly, resulting in high incidences of illness.

Even though money is tight for this subsistence-living family, they decided to invest in a toilet. The Water 1st grant paid for 60 percent of the cost of the toilet and the family is paying the other 40 percent of the cost, the equivalent of \$30 over a four-year period.

The decision has proven to be a positive one for Bharati’s self-esteem. “With our new toilet, I am no longer scared and ashamed,” she said. Sanitation enhances privacy, self-worth, and dignity.

INDIA

PROJECT NAME: Sundarban Villages

LOCAL PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Akshaynagar Pallisri Sangha

LOCATION: South 24 Parganas District, West Bengal

PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED: Nine wells, 250 latrines, hygiene education

PEOPLE SERVED: 3,600

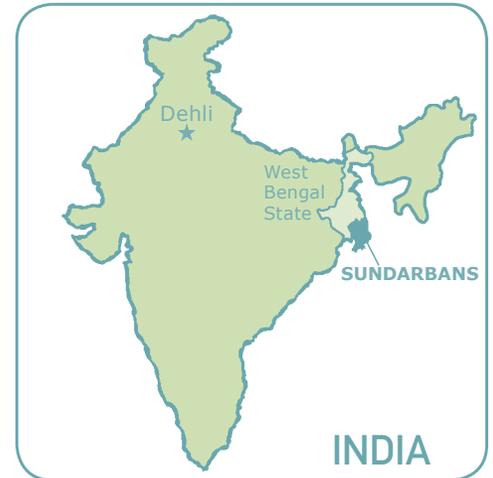
The Sundarbans in West Bengal is one of the most impoverished regions of the entire Indian sub-continent — 94 percent of the people live below the poverty line as subsistence fishermen. Many villagers walk two miles to find water from unprotected ponds, canals, and marshes. The shallow wells are unsafe for drinking. It is estimated that 65 percent of the children in this region suffer from chronic diarrheal illnesses, permanently impairing their mental and physical development.

Water 1st funded the installation of nine new wells and 250 toilets in the Sunderbans in 2007 with our local partner organization, APS. Each well serves about 400 people, bringing the total number of individuals served in 2007 here to 3,600.

One unusual characteristic of our India projects is the application of capital-cost recovery in a rural, primarily subsistence economy. Even though villagers are poor, beneficiaries are repaying 40 percent of the capital costs of their water and sanitation projects through monthly installments over several years. Repaid funds are then used for new water projects.

Whether villagers have contributed 10 rupees or 100 rupees, their giving makes the project theirs, giving greater assurance that the project will be well maintained. This also preserves their dignity and makes them feel proud that they have not been given a handout. Repaid loan funds from our 2007 projects are being used to fund an additional well and 10 toilets in 2008.

The role of women in our India water projects, and all Water 1st-supported projects, is critical. Because women are traditionally responsible for collecting the household's daily water, female membership on the water committee is highly encouraged. Gender and leadership training helps communities integrate women into the decision-making structure.



Ethiopia Water Tour

Diane Langstraat, 2007 Water Tour Participant

With the constant barrage of requests for money, it's difficult to decide which causes are most important and will provide the greatest value. It's even more difficult when it's an international organization. How will I know if the people living in remote villages will even benefit from the money I send?

After reading Water 1st's website and seeing their video, I was deeply moved. With all the technology and wealth of resources in this world, I was astounded to learn that there are still people in this world who have to spend six hours a day walking back and forth to a filthy, worm-infested watering hole for water, a resource we take for granted. It was even more shocking to discover that small children, like my four-year-old daughter, have to spend their entire

I thought I was going to Ethiopia for a cultural experience, but it turned out to be a life-changing one.



day engaged in this back-breaking task. I was so moved by what I learned that I wanted to see it first hand. I thought I was going to Ethiopia for a cultural experience, but it turned out to be a life-changing one. After seeing the faces of the people in these villages, watching women and children walk to and from watering holes carrying heavy containers of water on their backs, and watching children drinking and bathing in water that we wouldn't let our animals drink, my life was forever changed. No longer could I look at this as someone else's problem, it was now my problem, too.

The problems related to water are endless. Children are often left at home alone to fend for themselves while their mothers are out fetching water. Children are unable to go to school because they have to spend their days fetching water. There are no schools or medical facilities in these small villages because they can't get teachers and medical personnel to stay without access to clean water or latrines. There are no latrines so the villages are breeding grounds for disease. Without latrines, there's no privacy and consequently, no dignity.

What I found truly amazing was that even though people in these villages are desperately poor, it was apparent that no one was looking for a handout. The communities want water and although they don't have the financial or technical resources to get it themselves, I can attest that they're more than eager to do their share by



providing the physical labor necessary to make it happen. This includes manually digging a pipeline six miles long with simple pick axes and shovels, which is nothing short of amazing.

After seeing a project in action and meeting members of the communities that benefit from these projects, I have a deeper appreciation for the work Water 1st provides. It's not just about water. It's about providing water, sanitation, and health education—all three components are equally important to truly effect change in these communities.

It's both heartbreaking and encouraging to know that for as little as \$60 to \$100 a person, which is what we spend on a night out, the quality of someone's life can be greatly improved, for a lifetime. I applaud all the people involved with Water 1st and their commitment to this cause. A cause that saves lives!

2007 DONORS

In this Annual Report, we thank those who generously contributed to Water 1st from January 1 to December 31, 2007.

Through the support of individuals, schools, corporations, religious organizations, civic groups, and foundations—people of all ages and backgrounds—together, we raised \$1,007,186 to support the implementation of 84 water, sanitation, and health education projects in Honduras, India, Bangladesh, and Ethiopia.

All your gifts are valued and add up to support entire village projects. Your support has a lasting impact on thousands of lives and sends a message of hope to the people we serve around the world.



INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Giving by individuals is a vital part of our mission and work. Each gift makes a difference. We thank you for your support.

\$25,000 AND ABOVE

Ty Cramer and Steve Romein
Pat Kennedy and Melissa Ries
Brian and Diane Langstraat
Mary Pigott and Roger Giesecke
Darryl Swenson

\$10,000 – \$24,999

Margaret Case
James Moore and Kristi Branch
Judy Pigott
Martin Simsak
Richard and Barbara Stuart
Daniel Won

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Linda and Martin Cheever
Linda Chelotti
Jeff Herrin and Joy Shafer
Jon and Nancy Magnusson
Paul and Yaffa Maritz
Jennifer Norling and Kirk Anderson
Jerry O'Leary
Eric and Alice Smith
Marla Smith-Nilson and Jim Nilson

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Luther Black and Christina Wright
Matthew and Barbara Black
Jim and Pamela Copeland
Steve Crane
Noel and Stephanie Cross
John and Elsie Crossman
Avis Durgan and Jeffrey Stephenson
Karin Ferguson
Carl Haefling and Pamela Johnson
Edwin James and Marilee Eaves
Todd and Donna Larson
Robert Lipscomb and Kitty Barkley
Mary Lou Mac Kay and David Bailey
Glen and Alison Milliman
Brant and Anne-Marie Oelschlager
Eric Schoening and Christine Maxwell
Bob and Sandra Seidensticker
Brad and Lynanne Struss
Stacey Van Norman



Hayden Hunsakor with Water 1st Executive Director Marla Smith-Nilson. Hayden decided to give his allowance to Water 1st and people who need clean water.

“My family and I support Water 1st quite simply because it is the right thing to do. As a mother, my heart breaks for the parents in countries who must watch their children drink dirty water every day, after having walked for miles to retrieve it. In a world with such incredible wealth, entire villages should not have to work so hard for water or suffer so much from water-borne disease.

We give money to support Water 1st because clean water should be a basic human right.

We give time to Water 1st because it is run by caring and dedicated people who truly believe we can change the world one person and one dollar at a time. The optimism at Water 1st is contagious. I want my children to catch it and I hope the world follows.”

— *Angele Hunsakor, Water 1st supporter*

\$1,000 – \$2,499

Ed and Jill Allen
Dave and Deirdre Anderson
Ted and Carol Anderson
Sarah Banks and Malcolm Harker
Karen Cameron
Cynthia Carlstad
Kim and Tracy Carroll
Nancy Carroll and Bradley Wakeman
Dino and Jeannine Christofilis
Sara De Ruyck and Chris Hansot
Barry and Stacey Devenney
Gretchen Dingman and Tom Lee
Michael Duarte-Pedrosa and Leslie Garland
Margie Duckstad and Kevin Coluccio
Matt Eiler and Jolyn Leslie
Walter and Jane Enterline
Joshua Epperson
Dick and Marlene Fallquist
Kevin Feltes
Terrence and Ellen Gibbons
Rush Green and Lisa Bergstrom
Jason and Devon Gregory
Nick and Denise Hagan
Brad and Ingrid Halverson
Spencer Hamlin
Jon and Alix Hughes
Steve Isaac
Gordon and Chris Johnson
Larry and Karen Karpack
Kate Kerkering and Alex Chen
Patricia Kimler
Heather Leach and Mark Hofer
Stephen and Lori Markowitz
James Mc Dermott and Therese Hansen
Kathleen Mc Donald and Arnold Peterson

Cindy and Patrick Mitchell
Lawrence Molloy and Lisa Olszewski
Sam and Susie Naficy
Stephanie Nelson and Kendall Magnuson
Tom and Beth Nelson
Karen Nilson and Chris Pamp
Craig and Deanna Norsen
David Nuttall
Jan and Gene Oliver
Lois and Vikas Passi
Derek Pell
Gloria Pfeif
Russ Porter
Cayce and Lauren Roy
Scott Sherwood and Carolyn Brady Sherwood
Ken and Mary Jo Smith
Jay and Christine Stickler
Alayne and Robert Sulkin
Dan Temkin
John Teutsch
Mark and Susan Torrance
Gerald Tuttle and Kathleen Gorham
Seshu Vaddey and Marcelle Caturia
Menno Van Wyk
Mark and Kim Wagner
Thomas and Jeanne Walker
Brian and Sonja Whitaker
Matthew and Lisa Willis
Julie Wroble and Rick Kolpa
Ann Wyckoff

\$500 – \$999

Whit Alexander and Shelly Sundberg
Carla Allbee
Howard Sam Anderson
Kristin Anderson

Rick Arthur
Marc and Dawn Austin
Erin and Matt Baebler
Eric Baldwin and Penelope West
Adam Berliant and Martha Brockenbrough
Denise Bevacqua and Doug Bryers
Robert and Emily Bingham
Mary Fran Burkhalter
Ann Burkhart
Mark Busto and Maureen Lee
Bill and Jenny Cadwallader
Amy and Noah Carlson
Ron and Barbara Carucci
David and Michelle Chamberlain
Maria Christofilis and Jim Burgett
Brian Clark and Liz Banse
Hugh and Suzanne Clark
Conner and Byrne Family Fund
Don and Ann Connolly
Louise and Terry Cooke
Chris and Linda Curran
Ben Danielson and Kim Graves-Danielson
Jeff and Beth Day
Martin and Mary Dicker
Charley Dickey and Sheila Wyckoff-Dickey
Paul Dzedzic
Matthew and Alison Ehrlichman
Judy Ellis and Gary Mattison
Dwight Elving
Ronald and Belle Elving
Jon Engle and Cathy Michalec
Jeff and Marylynn Finn
Andrew and Deb Fitzpatrick
Kevin and Colleen Flanigan
Hugh and Jayne Foy
Kristina Frantz
Cathy Gibson and Aleksei Krasnokutsky

Arpana and Anu Goel
Sharon Goldberg
Sheryl Greco and Steve Deem
Fred and Gale Hagen
Janine Hanson
David Hartley and Helen Weagruff
Jim and Tracey Hawk
Teresa and Tom Healy
Mary Hjelm
Randy Honnette
Angele and Mark Hunskor
Bernie and Jan Jacobs
Tyler Jantzen and Maggie Mednikoff
Kim and Brian Kelly
Wiley and Marianne Kitchell
Stephen and Mariyah Klepper
William and Judy Lambert
Ken Lederman and Meredith Dorrance
Brian Lenz and Grace Schlitt
Gene and Nancy Leonardson
Charles and Deloires Lind
Alexis Maclean
Mike and Nancy Maggart
Rob and Brooke Magnusson
Jack and Peggy Mc Clintock
Mark and Jan Medford
C. Irving and Katharine Meeker
Barbara Merrifield
Keith Merrifield
Stephen Metzler and Almudena De Llaguno
Gerald and Wendy Mickle
Dick and Dora Moxon
Arthur and Laurel Nelson
Sandy Nelson and Christopher Brown
Alaine Nijenhuis and Gary Jeweler
Larry and Betty Nilson
Mark and Robin Nilson

Don and Gail Nogueira
David and Priscilla Norling
Katie and Rafe Ohtake
Steve Orser and Ann Hollar
Marjorie Osterhout
Sam Perry and Alisa Bieber
Julie Pickering
Karen Porterfield
Brian Povolny
Eric and Kim Prestbo
Chris and Beth Purcell
Katherine Randolph
Owen and Amy Reese
Patricia Reynolds
John and K Robinson
Kirsten Rooks and Hunter Williams
Charles Roosen
Keith Rosema and Anee Brar
Larry Schick
George Schneider
Nancy Sensenbrenner
Ethan Sherrard
Steven and Andrea Sholl
Jim and Jolanne Stanton
Matt and Nelle Steele
Cynthia Stross and Jeff Johnson
Erik and Kerry Sundholm
Ernest and Lynnel Swanson
John and Jacquelyn Sykes
Eric and Erika Thompson
Scott and Stacey Thompson
Linda Venczel
Liann Venegas
Don and Carolyn Wahlquist
Mark Wener and Corinne Fligner
Richard and Arlene Woo



\$100 – \$499

Eduardo Accame
Mary Ann Ahlgren
Kevin Alexander and Ann Muno
Joan Allsberry
April and Rene Ancinas
Keith Anderson
Victor Araya and Carolyn Bain
Ali Arjomand and Mariam Naini
Henry Aronson and Anne Traver
Cathie Bachy
Bradley and Sally Bagshaw
Cheryl Bailey
Carol Baker
Saffa Bardaro and Tim Wanek
Cheryl Bauermeister
Thomas Beavers and Cheryl Robinson
Rebecca Benfield
David Bennett and Kim Lavacot
Mearl and Connie Bergeson
Kristin Bergman and Michael Dougherty
Hans-Erik Blomgren and
Stephanie Johnson Blomgren
Peter Blomquist and Ann Meyrich
Susan Bolinder
Nancy Bonner
Larry and Rose Bortles
John Branch
Brenda Bratton and Damon Williams

Caitlin Breen
Jeff Brinker
Andreas and Amy Brockhaus
Michael and Catherine Bronsdon
Embrey Bronstad and Joe Cook
Lois Brorson
Ben Bryan and Krista Lynn
Joe and Nancy Burford
Suzanne and Dwayne Burnell
Brian and Rebecca Butler
Erin and Clark Campbell
Cynthia Carreri
Clark Casebolt and Mary Schlater
Laura Chadwick
Michael Chamberlain
Dan and Laura Chang
Naomi Chechowitz and Clayton Antieau
Carl Cheever and Gail Gillenwater
Genevieve and Steven Cole
Martha Comfort
Jill Conner
Phil Converse and Karen Dluhosh
William and Susan Cornelius
Jack and Susan Cortis
Laszlo and Kinga Csepregy
Peter and Linda Dahl
Paul Dahmer and Laura Dahmer-White
Dorothy Danielson
Russell and Terry Danielson
Doreen Davis
Susan Davis
Susan De Witt
Jeffrey and Anita Degen
Jacqueline Demeranville
Tom Demlow and Linda O'Shaughnessy
Frank Di Biase

Les and Mary Dicks
Ziya Dikman
Gladys Dodd
Gonzalo Domingo-Villegas
Mark and Stacey Donahue
Arthur and Carolyn Donovan
Carl and Trude Donovan
Laura and James Dooley
Paul Dorpat
Jim and Mary Dunnam
Suzy Dutton
Bob and Denise Elliot
Kristi England
Gary Fallon and Leona De Rocco
Jane Faulkner
Alex and Thea Fefer
Pat Flanagan and Emily Larson
Sarah Ford and Bharat Shyam
Kent and Jodi Forschmiedt
Emily Forster and Joe Tappan
Douglas and Ellen Frick
Jan Garcia
Mike and Ann Garnsey-Harter
Stephanie Giamatteo
Tim and Wendy Gibbons
Michael and Teresa Gillett
Jonathan and Kelly Glanville
Susan Goubert
Peter Graff and Tami Tolpa
David Greene
Phil and Jody Greger
Tom Gruber
Michael Hallett and Melinda Friedman
Ian and Jen Hamilton
Nancy Hansen
Douglas Harkness

Katharine Harmon and John Fulford
Mark and Shelly Harpring
Sandra Harrison
Margaret and Christopher Hebblethwaite
Janet Heitsmith
Anne Helmholz
Lou and Dave Herman
Darlene Hermes
Mike and Nichol Herzog
Rosita Hinrichs
Ann Marie Hitchcock
Arthur and Mary Hodgins
Lance and Marci Hood
Chris Houck and Lynne Kalina
Doug Howell and Nancy Hirsch
Mark Hungerford
Henry and Debbie Izumizaki
Jill and James Jago
Daron and Kristin Jagodzinske
Katharine Janney
Doug and Alison Jennings
Harold Johnson
Jeff and Andrea Johnson
Joan Johnson
Nicolas Johnson and Meliza Afafe
William and Marianne Johnson
Tom Jones and Leslie Tregillus
Fred Julian
Robert Julin
Nancy Junes
Tanja Kabel and Eric Kungl
Steve Kaplan and Sandra Saffle
Catherine Karr and Steve De Broux
Toana Kawashima and Terry Slosson
Richard and Dinie Kemkers
Andrew and Polly Kenefick

Margot Kenly
Surender Kenue
Karl and Ruth Knollmueller
James and Suzanne Kolenski
Jennifer and Marc Kropack
Casey Krub and David Secor
Pierre Kwan
Kelly La Forte
Kristin Lamson
Tom Lapaze
Leiv and Nancy Lea
Lynda Leathers
Jerry and Judy Lee
Scott and Joan Lee
Terry and Nancy Lee
Marc Lenburg
Opal and John Liljegren
Ann and John Livengood
Donald and Joellen Loeb
William Loghry
Sharon London
Ray Looney and Maryanne Vandervelde
Andrew Lowe
Bob and Joyce Lucas
Jay Lurie
Erin Mac Dougall
Patricia Maccorquodale
Kelly Maddox and Steven Kuhn
Rose Anna Marti
Carolyn Mc Cleod
Eve Mc Clure
Mary and Rex Mc Farlin
Patrick Mc Gillivray
Michael and Ellen Mc Grath
Carol Merrifield
Michael Merrifield

Heather Miller
Peter Minden
Peter Mitchell and Kim Dodd
Julie Morris
Ed Moscovi
John and Tracy Mulligan
Corky Muzzy
Tamara Nack
Camille Ndia
Betty Nelson
Bryce and Bonnie Nelson
LeRoy and Eloise Nelson
Martha Neuman
Brian Neville and Phebe O'Neill
Martha Nichols
Scott Nichols
William and Barbara Nichols
Asa Noriega and Michael Skoglund
Kathy Obermeyer
Douglas and Barbara O'Brien
John O'Donnell
Mary O'Leary
Dennis Olson
Carrie Oltendorf
Linda Orantes
Phil and Vicky Oxley
Tara Paccagnini
Elaine Packard
Johanna Padie
Brian Palmberg
Jabez and Ann Phyfe Palmer
Cindy Passannante
Peter and Lynn Pearson
Tom and Mary Bridget Pehl
Alfred and Sharon Perry
Steve and Rebecca Petersen

Todd and Sue Peterson
Lori Poliski
Paula Prewett and Stan Mark
Drake and Charlotte Pruitt
Arlene Ragozin
Joan Rasken and Myles Bradley
Ryan Ray
Lucia Regan
Staci Reidinger and Brad Lackey
John Riess
Doris Rios
Bill and Carol Roach
Rick Robertson and Jo Vanderlee
Donna Rooke
Fred Rowley and Peggy Peterson
Dennis and Meg Ryan
David Sandberg
Jane and James Sanders
Mark Sandifer and Douglas Petrie
David Sarr
Muriel Saunders
Friedemann Schaub and Danielle Hoffman
Michael Schlitt and Josephine Cheng
Judith Schoen
Patty Schuchart
Penny Scordas and Fred Gurney
Janet Selby
Lauren Selig and Kyril Faenov
Amy and C.B. Shamah
Suzanne Sikma and Michael Tucker
James and Mary Simon
Chris Simon
David Simpson
Ellen Skugstad
Tim Smedberg
Martin and Barbara Snoey

Thomas Soderberg
Melvin and Joanne Soderstrom
Tim Soerens
Tom Spors and Cheryl Kerfeld
Barbara Staley
Jim and Sue Steen
James Steward and Nancy Manzo
Blake and Becky Stromberg
Derek Stuart and Marie Tsiang
Carol Stuckey and Pat Burke
Neil Swanson
Peter and Mary Tammetta
Deana Taylor
Stephen Taylor and Tracy Orcutt
Priscilla Trush
Dan and Virginia Turner
Marian Valentine and Peter Dewey
Jeffrey Veber
Craig Vierling and Jennifer Durrie
Thomas Voss
Laetitia Ward
Alex and Erika Washburn
Kjersti Weisenberg
Frank Weiss
Mary Westburg
Dave and Jean White
Lee Wierdsma and Adam La Vasseur
Wendy and Bob Wiley
Rod and Cheryl Williams
Brooke Williamson
Paul and Colleen Wirries
Victoria Wright
Jenny Yoo and Greg Moen
Andrew Yuhasz
Joan Zetterlund
Sonya Ziika

\$99 AND UNDER

Travis and Katherine Abbott
Ulrike Allmendinger
Connie Aragon
Jennifer Arnett Musson
Leigh Arredondo
Vincent Autier
Cass Avery and Paloma Martinez
Andre Ball and Theresa Hoy
Stephen and Patricia Beckham
Joe Bisignano
Carl and Marcia Blomgren
Steven Blum
Ranganathan Boovaraghavan
Adam Both
Kate Bradford
Bruce Brink
Ingrid and Jim Brommers Bergquist
Teresa Buchholz
Jim and Molly Bullard
Pier Buscaglia
Harish Chand and Rebecca Benfield
Richard and Virginia Chappelle
Kristen and Tim Clark
James Clemson
Karen Cornell
Dorothy and David Crean
Janice Creason
Ashley Dahl
Peter Davenport and Cynthia Livak
Anne Davis
Jerrod Davis
Stephen De Forest
Elizabeth De Lyria
Anna Dede-Panken
Christina Dixon
Joseph Donnell
Debbie Dreis
Lisa Du Charme
Louise Dumont

Claire Dyckman
Daniel and Karen Erlander
Lisa Etter
Wendy Ewbank
Deborah Ferguson
Sheri Flies
Dana Freeman
Edson and Julie Gallaudet
Pat Gemperline and Jan Dwight
Lloyd Giberson
Sarah Gibson
Rochelle Goldberg
Meg Goldman
Donald and Mary Ann Gorski
Michael Guthrie
James and Gia Haigh
Paige Hatcher
Rex and Cynthia Hohlbein
Melissa Horn
Richard and Christine Horner
John Hubers
Steven and Rita Hulsman
Eric Hungerford
Judy Kalb
Erin and Marc Keys
Jill Killen
David and Thea Kleiber
Shannon Korzetz
Joseph Kramis and Joan Walker
Philip Krider
Elizabeth Labadie and R David Frum
Jennifer Lamson
Anne Lancaster
Jay Lazerwitz and Diane Haroutunian
Dave Le Compte
Alice Leach
Margaret Leahey
Becky and Kevin Lederman
Eric Liljegren and Scott Shiebler
Corina Linden

Chris Lipka
Joshua and Laura Lipsky
Laurel Lisez
Knoll and Barbara Lowney
Dennis and Dawn Macray
Mary Maier
Lori Martin
Catherine Maxson
William Mc Cauley
Rob Mc Cormack
Terrence and Hisako Mc Donald
Celine Mc Lean
Carolyn Mc Mullin
Kathryn Mc Reynolds
Amanda Menendez
Paul Meyer and Roxane Broadhead
Eugene Mezo
David Montgomery and Anne Bikle
Brian Mount
Shirish and Anne Mulherkar
Alazar Neway Aaron Nilson
Carol Nilson
Ann Marie Nolan
Alan Nordell
Aubyn Nutting
Jeff and Wendy Nyborg
James O'Brien
Heather Ogawa
Cheryl Oliver
Derek Ormerod
Anthony Paulson and Joan Benderson
Karen Pavlidis
David Preston
Elizabeth Pringle
Kelly Prudek
Anita Quinton
Martha Radabaugh
Bruce Reed
Greg Rice
Margot Richardson and Mark Willson

Amy Robertson
Mina Sam
Elizabeth Sanders and Melinda Moree
Randy Schmitz
Kelly Scott
Cor and Velma Segers
Jeffrey and Mary Seifred
Dan Siemann and Mary Kay Gugerty
Manal Simonsen
Joelle Skaga Nausin and Tim Nausin
Winnie Sperry
Paul Springer
Straton Spyropoulos
Bryan and Jennifer Stallings
State of Washington Employees
Christine Stepherson
Peter Stewart
Eric Stowe
Ted Sullivan
Anne Sundy
Mary Tammetta Mamary
Mary Taylor
Erin Thatcher
Mary Thorne
George Truett
Luis and Sara Tupac
David Turrill and
Mary Carmen Garcia Izquierdo
Ellen Valade
Yvonne and Maynard Van Noord
Bernice Vlahakos
Benjamin Wadsworth
Jon Wahlquist
Chris and Kristina Waldorf
Kelly Anne Walker
Brian Ward
Stephanie Warrington
Erik and Renee Westlund
Trudi White
Corey Williams

Sharon Wilson and Van Bobbitt
Charles Wischman
Donna Wolter
Fred and Cheryl Wood
Cynthia Young
Laura Zielinski and Charles Shoemaker



Honor Gifts

The following donors made gifts to Water 1st in honor or memory of a loved one.

Mary Ann Ahlgren in honor of Art and Laurel Nelson's 50th Anniversary
Ted and Carol Anderson in memory of LaVone Anderson
Cathie Bachy in honor of Kristin Anderson and World Water Day
Adam Berliant and Martha Brockenbrough in honor of Susan, Frank and Family;
the Berliant family; the Tumen family
Susan Bolinder in memory of Carl and Helen Norling
Caitlin Breen in honor of Donald and Camille Breen
Bruce Brink in honor of Chuck and Jane Frasier
Joe and Nancy Burford in honor of Jim Nilson and Marla Smith-Nilson;
Sam and Sandy Burford; Hap and Sharon Perry; Ken and Mary Jo Smith;
Kevin and Vickie Perry
Harriet Burgess in honor of Marcel De Vlas
Piero Buscaglio in honor of Josh Leung
Laura Chadwick in honor of Marjorie Chadwick
Linda and Martin Cheever in honor of Julie and Warren Ogden
Mark Donahue in honor of Stacey Donahue
Lisa DuCharme in honor of Paige Campbell; Lauren Campbell
Deborah Ferguson in honor of Ian Ferguson
Jon, Sheri, Anna, and Sophie Flies in honor of John Hierholzer
Sarah Gibson in honor of Michael Leitz
Arpana and Anu Goel in honor of Kiera Ohtake and Sophia Copeland's birthdays
Rush Green in honor of the Atchely-Green Family
Michael Guthrie in honor of Sarah Guthrie
Eric Hungerford in honor of Hadiza Hamani
Jones Soda Team in honor of Peter Van Stolk
Ruth and Karl Knollmueller in honor of
Eloise and LeRoy Nelson's 50th Anniversary
Reed Krider in honor of Patricia Maccorquodale
Diane and Brian Langstraat in honor of Ava and Beck
Rose Anna Marti in honor of Corky Muzzy
Lori Martin in honor of Sue Barnett
C. Irving and Katharine Meeker in honor of grandchildren
and young people in their lives

Jim Moore and Kristi Branch in memory of John R. Moore
Corky Muzzy in honor of CSJP Provincial Staff
LeRoy and Eloise Nelson in honor of Rollie Carlson; Cal Katter
Sandy Nelson and Chris Brown in memory of Jake Anderson
Betty J. Nelson in honor of Art and Laurel Nelson's 50th Anniversary;
Lois Harper; Charles Nelson
Martha Nichols in honor of Eric and Bill Nichols/Avery
Karen Nilson and Chris Pamp in honor of Mark and Robin Nilson
David and Priscilla Norling in honor of Jennifer Norling and Kirk Anderson
Aubyn Nutting in honor of Jarred Freese
Heather Ogawa in honor of Jessica and Jay Beattie
Mary O'Leary in honor of Jerry O'Leary
Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects in honor of Jim Olson,
Rick Sundberg, Tom Kundig, and Scott Allen
Mary Pigott in honor of Darryl Swenson
Kelly Prudek in honor of Eugene Andreuccetti; Terry Lawson;
Olga Andreuccetti
Drake Pruitt in honor of Jack and Pat Pruitt
Owen Reese in honor of Sarah Feldman and Darcy Fredrickson
Staci Reidinger in honor of Mike and Jay Ditch
Will and Manal Simonsen in honor of the marriage of
Paloma and Cass Avery
David Simpson in honor of Janet Simpson
J.P. Snow, Jr. USMC, an employee of Aqualine, Inc.,
in honor of Sgt. Bryan J. Tutten
C.W. Sperry in honor of Jack Overland
Sue and Jim Steen in honor of Marla Smith-Nilson, Jim, Calvin and
Melina Nilson; the Brunn family; the Smith family
Alayne Sulkin in memory of John R. Moore
Carolyn Tester, an employee of Aqualine, Inc., in honor of her son,
Kevin K. Tester
Trinity Lutheran Church in memory of Emil Jensen
Maryanne Vandervelde in honor of Linda Cheever
Trudi White in honor of Judy and Sandy Smith-Schwedes
Corey Williams in honor of Vikki Williams
Rod and Cheryl Williams in honor of Bill and Dani Bolton; Harvey Bolton
Cynthia Young in honor of Kirk Anderson



Water 1st Goes to School

Water 1st gives a heartfelt thanks to the following school communities for their support of Water 1st in 2007 and important role in making safe water a reality:

Adams Elementary School, Seattle, Washington
Arcadia Montessori School, Tacoma, Washington
Chief Sealth High School, Seattle, Washington
Daniel Bagley Elementary School, Seattle, Washington
Kent Phoenix Academy, Kent, Washington
Lake Washington Girls School, Seattle, Washington
Lakeside School, Seattle, Washington
Meridian School, Seattle, Washington
Salmon Bay School, Seattle, Washington
Seattle Girls School, Seattle, Washington
St. Joseph School, Seattle, Washington
University of Washington, Water 1st Global Health Club



ARCADIA MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Arcadia Montessori School in Tacoma, Washington decided that instead of giving gifts for the holidays, they would give to others less fortunate. The school hosted a Winter Festival to raise money for Water 1st, where students performed, sold treats, and gave a presentation about the need for clean water. "We believe it is extremely important for the children to feel that it is their duty and responsibility as caring members of this planet to help others in need," said Arcadia teacher Carmela Micheli.



DANIEL BAGLEY SCHOOL

Kindergarten students at Seattle's Daniel Bagley Elementary School learned about the global water crisis and made and sold greeting cards in support of Water 1st.



MERIDIAN SCHOOL

Students at Seattle's Meridian School made block prints about water, which were showcased in an art show at the University of Washington to raise awareness of the water crisis. They also created beautiful cards, which were hand-delivered to two Water 1st communities in Ethiopia, and sold their own uniquely decorated bottled water to raise money for Water 1st projects in Ethiopia.

Corporations, Foundations, and Civic and Religious Organizations

The following donors made outright gifts to Water 1st.

CORPORATIONS

8 Limbs Yoga, Inc.
Allbee Romein
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
CEH, Inc.
CH2M Hill
Classical Wines from Spain
Coldwell Banker Bain Associates
Construx Software
Cortiva Institute
Costco Wholesale
Gilbert & Associates
Good Search
Hach
Harris Electric
J.A.S. Design-Build, Inc.
King & Oliason, P.S.
Kompan Inc.
Laird Norton Tyee
M. A. Mortenson Company
Mango Imports
Mercury
Microsoft Giving Campaign
Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Inc.
Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects
Pacific Continental Bank
Raz Public Relations, LLC
REI, Inc.
Romio's Pizza & Pasta, Greenwood
Saranjan Tours
Seabrook Land Company
Starbucks Matching Gifts Program
SurveyMonkey.Com
The Mosaic Company

FOUNDATIONS

Amgen Foundation
The Atticus Trust
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Matching
Gifts Program
Covenant World Relief
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Johnson Haefling Foundation
Laird Norton Family Foundation
LandAmerica Foundation
The Landegger Charitable Foundation
Review Foundation
The Seattle Foundation
Thomas and William Gilbane Foundation
Wyco, Inc.

CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Covenant Church of Trailer Estates
Edmonds-Lynnwood Lutheran Parish—
Living Water Program
The Giving Circle
Green Bean Coffee House
First United Methodist Church
Harambee Church
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Washington State Environmental Health
Association



Water 1st Receives \$11,000 from SurveyMonkey.com

SurveyMonkey.com, a Portland-based company that provides its customers with online survey tools, contributed \$11,000 to Water 1st in 2007 to support our work in Bishikiltu, Ethiopia. The company donates a portion of its profits to important charitable causes.

An article in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* featuring the work of Water 1st caught the eye of SurveyMonkey Senior Vice President Chris Finley. “At the same time that I was learning about Water 1st, my daughter was studying Ethiopia and some of its development challenges at school, including the need for clean water,” said Chris Finley. That connection persuaded SurveyMonkey to earmark their contribution to the community of Bishikiltu, Ethiopia.

Covenant World Relief Continues Support for Ethiopia

Covenant World Relief (CWR) supported Water 1st International in 2007 with a \$35,000 grant for construction of the Bishikiltu project in Ethiopia. In the previous two years, Water 1st received funding from CWR for the recently completed Ilamu Muja project. Covenant World Relief is the humanitarian assistance program of the Evangelical Covenant Church of America, based in Chicago, Illinois. Water 1st is grateful for the generous support that has allowed us to implement life-saving and life-changing projects in poor, rural communities in Ethiopia.

Laird Norton Family Foundation Awards \$50,000 Grant

In 2007, the Laird Norton Family Foundation Global Fundamentals Fund awarded Water 1st a \$50,000 grant to help support work in Honduras and Ethiopia. “When the Global Fundamentals group first formed, we wanted to improve the lives of people in the developing world, and decided our first focus would be water. We believe that clean water is the essential cornerstone of life,” said Margie Berger, Global Fundamentals Co-chair.

“We’re very, very pleased that we found Water 1st,” added Global Fundamentals Co-chair Wendy Mickle. “We love their approach. We like that they work with partners, and we are incredibly impressed with the execution, follow through, and organization of these projects.”

Edmonds-Lynnwood Lutheran Parish Donates \$40,000

Each month during their worship services, members of Lynnwood’s Trinity Lutheran Church and Edmonds Lutheran Church in Washington, donate money to their Living Water Fund to support safe drinking water projects around the world. The Living Water Team chose to partner with Water 1st and generously contributed a total of \$40,000 in 2007.

“Living Water contributes to Water 1st because we share common values about addressing international health and equity issues through the root cause, lack of a healthy, sanitary, reliable water sources,” said John Hammar, a Living Water committee member. “Water 1st has an efficient and developed in-country network to install water points that are enduring and reliable. We are blessed to be able to work with Water 1st to see dreams realized in communities in Honduras, India, Bangladesh, and Ethiopia.”



IN-KIND DONORS

The following individuals and companies made in-kind donations to Water 1st.

Meliza Afable
Birgit and Philip Ages
Alaska Airlines
Whit Alexander, Cranium
Deirdre and Dave Anderson
Ernestine Anderson
Howard S. Anderson
Kristin Anderson
Ted and Carol Anderson
Argosy Cruises
Backdoor Kitchen
Laura Baker and Suzanne Craft
Sarah Banks and Malcolm Harker
Banya 5
Tracy Barnum, Fly Fitness
Bitters Co.
Billy O Wines
Matthew Black
Martha Brockenbrough
Christopher Brown
The Butchart Gardens
Cafe Flora
Bruce D. Cameron, MD, Northwest Eye Surgeons
Michelle and David Chamberlain
Dale Chihuly, Chihuly Studio
Russell D. Cole, Sage Advisors
Jim and Pamela Copeland
Cortiva Institute/Brenneke School of Massage
Corus Estates & Vineyards
Coupage
Ty Cramer and Steve Romein
Crush

Crystal Mountain Inc.
Kinga and Laszlo Csepreghy
Cupcake Royale and Vérité Coffee
Dahlia Lounge
Janet Dann
Kathy Deraitus
Sara DeRuyck and Chris Hansot
Dick's Drive-in Restaurants
Dimitriou's Jazz Alley
8 Limbs Yoga Centers, Anne Phyfe Palmer
Jane and Walt Enterline
The Fairmont San Francisco Hotel
Mary Freidburger
Frenchy's Day Spa
Greg Frugé-Brown
Kathleen Frugé-Brown
FUEL Coffee
Gene Juarez Salons & Spas, Jay Jeffries
Gene Juarez Salons & Spas, Tony Kim
Glassy Baby
Peter Glick, The Pacific Institute
Darcy Greely
Greenlake, Eastlake, Southlake Bar & Grills
Mary Kay Gugerty and Dan Siemann
Carl Haefling and Pam Johnson
Hale's Ales Brewery and Pub
Harbor Properties, Inc.
Linda Hodges
Impact Coaching Services, Erin Baebler
Kitty Harmon
JAMTOWN, John Hayden
Headspout, Inc.
Hi Spot Cafe
Ann Marie Hitchcock
Holland America Line
Ann Hollar and Steve Orser

Mike Holmgren, Seattle Seahawks
J.A.S. Design-Build, Inc.
Jones Soda Company
Kanchan Kaye
Patrick Kennedy and Melissa Ries
Ketu Shah Law Offices
Kids Club
Paul Kreemer
Kelly LaForte
Diane and Brian Langstraat
Donna and Todd Larson
Tom Lee
Hal Lepoff
Laurie Levy, LMP, MA, Doula
Eric Liljegren and Scott Shiebler
Lindblad Expeditions
Ryan Loghry
Chris Luquette
Mac & Jack's Brewing Co. Inc.
Madrona Eatery & Alehouse
Main St. Alehouse
Mango Imports
Marco Two Union Square Salon
Congressman Jim McDermott
Metropolitan Market
Officer BJ Moore, Seattle Police Department
Jim Moore and Kristi Branch
Robert Morris
Museum Quality Framing-Issaquah
Museum Quality Framing-Kirkland
Museum Quality Framing-Queen Anne
Naficy Plastic Surgery & Rejuvenation Center,
Bellevue
Eloise Nelson
Sandy Nelson
Stephanie Nelson and Kendall Magnuson

Jim Nilson
Jennifer Norling and Kirk Anderson
James K. O'Brien, MD
John Oldfield
Olympic Lights Bed & Breakfast
The Orchard Garden Hotel
Marjorie Osterhout
Pacific Science Center
Pagliacci Pizza
Paint the Town
The Paramount Club
Derek Pell
Ruth Petzold
Pike Brewing Company
The Pink Door
Dave Praeger
Rendezvous
Salon Chemistry, Inc.
The Santa Fe Cafe
Friedemann Schaub, Cellular Wisdom
Grace Schlitt and Brian Lenz
Seattle Public Utilities
Security Press
See's Candies
Georgie Selfridge, Windermere Real Estate/NW
Marla Smith-Nilson and Jim Nilson
Spa Scotta
Spectrum Dance Theater
St. Clouds Restaurant and Catering
Starbucks Coffee Company
Rick Steves' Europe Through the Back Door
Christine and Jay Stickler
Fay Stross
Sunset Publishing Corporation
Susan Peterson Design
Darryl Swenson

Talking Rain Beverage Company
Ten Mercer
Thrive Art School
Tom Douglas Restaurants
Trader Joe's—Capitol Hill
The Triple Door
Katherine Urbon, Lifetime Television
Angela Van der Meulen
Venik Lounge
W Seattle Hotel
Water 1st International
Waterbrook Winery
Waterway Cruises
Judy Webster
Sheryl Westergreen
Wild Ginger
Wilridge Winery
Salon Wilson
Woodland Park Zoo
Yarrow Bay Grill



2007 GIVE WATER • GIVE LIFE BENEFIT

More than 600 guests gathered at Benaroya Hall's Grand Lobby in Seattle, Washington, on November 16, 2007 to support the work of Water 1st. Over \$440,000 was raised for communities in need of clean water, bringing life and hope to thousands of people in India, Bangladesh, Honduras, and Ethiopia.

Guests enjoyed a silent auction and dinner reception, a film featuring our beneficiaries and the work of Water 1st, and an inspiring talk from Executive Director Marla Smith-Nilson. Water 1st was pleased to present the 2nd annual Water Ambassador award to Ty Cramer and Steve Romein. This award recognizes outstanding supporters who have played a critical role in making the work of Water 1st possible. Ty and Steve are members of the Water 1st Founders' Circle, a group of donors who contributed generously in Water 1st's inaugural year. They joined Water 1st on the first Ethiopia Water Tour, and established a \$45,000 matching fund to challenge supporters to provide the funds needed to implement the Ilamu Muja, Ethiopia project. Water 1st and our beneficiaries are extremely grateful to Ty and Steve for their support.

We extend a special thanks to our corporate sponsors, table sponsors, table captains, silent auction donors, volunteers, and guests for their generous support in making the event such a success.

HOW YOUR \$1 WAS SPENT IN 2007

INCOME:

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, Water 1st continued to grow in 2007. Our total annual income rose by more than 200% in 2007 to \$1,007,186 (including multi-year pledges made in 2007 totaling \$104,000), making strong headway toward our strategic goal to raise \$2 million a year by 2011. Two-thirds of our funding comes from individual donors, giving us a sustainable fundraising base.

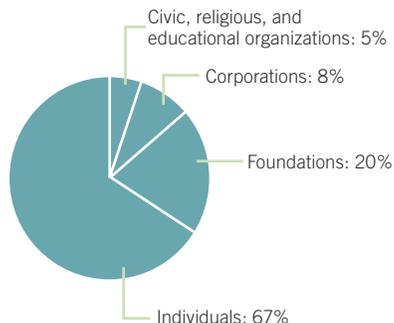
EXPENSE:

Total expenditures in 2007 were \$673,196, of which \$449,492 supported our program activities. Our program activities include the funds awarded by contract to our partner organizations to implement water, sanitation, and hygiene education components, the costs to monitor the implementation and long-term sustainability of those projects, and our work in advocacy and education about the world water and sanitation crisis.

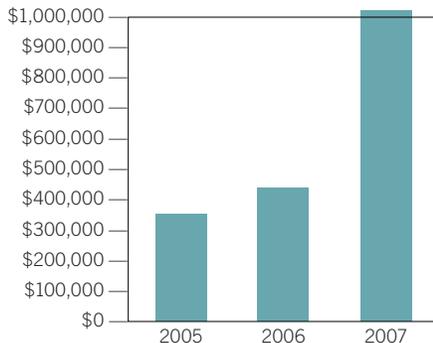
We spent \$223,703 (administrative plus fundraising expenses) to raise \$1,007,186, a ratio of 22%.

Over half of our revenue was raised in the last quarter of our fiscal year ending December 31, 2007. Because of the effort we devote to project selection, there is a lag time of several months before contributions can be converted into projects benefiting people. Therefore, because our income doubled, exceeding our revenue goals by over \$200,000, our expenses in 2007 were significantly lower than our income. The surplus allowed us to commit to an initial round of 2008 water, sanitation, and hygiene education projects totaling \$283,613 in December 2007. Additional 2008 project commitments are being signed over the course of the year.

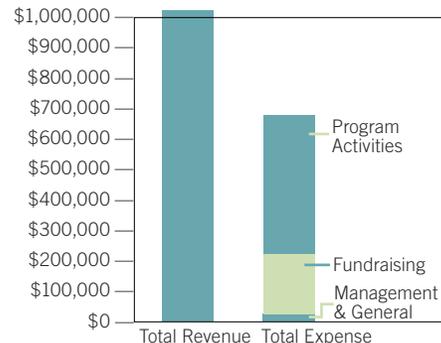
REVENUE SOURCES BY DONOR TYPE:



GROWTH IN REVENUE (2005-2007)



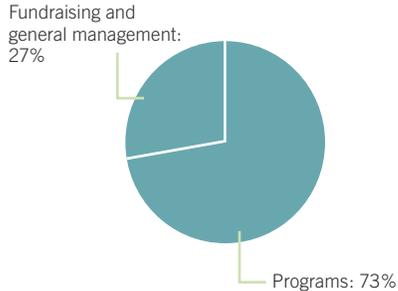
REVENUE AND EXPENSE COMPARISON



Our water, sanitation, and hygiene education services to our beneficiaries are provided at a total cost of just \$70 per person. By working through local partner organizations, Water 1st is able to operate more sustainably and more cost-effectively than if we tried to implement projects ourselves. As we grow in revenue, we will become even more efficient in our work to bring safe water to the world's poorest because of our commitment to fund the same partners until they reach their capacity for implementing projects.

This deliberate effort to provide predictable and consistent support to our partner organizations takes discipline. After all, this is a huge problem affecting more than 1 billion people in countries worldwide. However, we are dedicated to this approach because it allows us to reach more people than if we moved into new partnerships too quickly.

EXPENSE ALLOCATIONS:
(Based on Form 990)



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year Ended December 31, 2007

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Contributions	\$ 697,820	\$104,000	\$801,820
Grants	50,384	\$122,616	173,000
Other income	26,688		26,688
Investment income	5,678		5,678
Net assets released from restrictions	63,894	(63,894)	
Total support and revenue	<u>844,464</u>	<u>162,722</u>	<u>1,007,186</u>
EXPENSES			
Program services	449,492		449,492
Support services			
Management and general	32,368		32,368
Fundraising	191,336		191,336
Total expenses	<u>673,196</u>		<u>673,196</u>
Change in net assets (deficit)	171,268	162,722	333,990
Net assets, beginning of year	(172,869)	63,894	(108,975)
Net assets (deficit), end of year	<u>\$ (1,601)</u>	<u>\$226,616</u>	<u>\$225,015</u>

Copies of our 2007 Form 990 and audited financial statements are available at Water 1st International's website, www.water1st.org, or call us at 206.297.3024.

For just \$70 per beneficiary, we provide water, sanitation, and hygiene education services that are designed to last a lifetime.

WATER 1ST INTERNATIONAL

1904 3rd Avenue, Suite 1012

Seattle, WA 98101

(206) 297-3024

info@water1st.org

www.water1st.org