



WATER CHANGES EVERYTHING.





[charitywater.org](http://charitywater.org)

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES:

mediarequests@charitywater.org

 [@charitywater](#)

 [@charitywater](#)

 [@charitywater](#)

---

charity: water is a nonprofit organization bringing clean and safe drinking water to people in developing countries.

With a radically transparent model that sends 100% of public donations straight to the field, charity: water funds sustainable water projects in areas of greatest need and works with local partners to implement them. The organization proves every project, using innovative technology and powerful storytelling to connect donors with their impact.

Since 2006, charity: water has funded 79,136 water projects around the world to help more than 13.2 million people get access to clean water, hygiene, and improved sanitation.

#### AS OF OCTOBER 2021

MORE THAN

**\$598 M**

raised for water & operations

MORE THAN

**13.2 M**

people served

**79,136**

water projects

MORE THAN

**1 M**

supporters worldwide



## Our Founder's Story

Scott Harrison spent almost 10 years as a nightclub promoter in New York City, living decadently and extravagantly. But at age 28, he had a crisis of conscience and found himself lost and unfulfilled, desperate to rediscover his sense of purpose. He decided it was time for a drastic change, and left NYC to spend a year volunteering as a photojournalist aboard a hospital ship off the coast of Liberia, West Africa.

During this time, Scott witnessed and photographed levels of poverty and illness he never knew existed. As one year turned into two, Scott came to understand that many of the infections and diseases their group was treating were waterborne, and could have been prevented if people had access to clean drinking water. He noticed a lot of existing organizations treating the effects of dirty

drinking water, but he was determined to do something about the cause.

Upon returning to NYC in 2006, Scott turned his full attention to the global water crisis and the (then) 1.1 billion people living without access to clean water. He established a small core support team in a tiny Manhattan apartment to develop the foundation of charity: water. Starting with the simple idea of charging admission to his birthday party, Scott raised enough to get charity: water off the ground.

Since then, charity: water has come a long way in the fight for clean drinking water. We've raised more than \$598 million and provided over 13.2 million people with clean water. But there's a long way to go. 785 million people still lack access to life's most basic need and we're just getting started.



# Why Water?

785 million people in the world live without clean water. That's nearly 1 in 10 people worldwide, or, twice the population of the United States. The majority live in isolated rural areas and spend hours every day walking to collect water for their family. Not only does walking for water keep kids out of school or take up time that parents could be using to earn money, but the water often carries diseases that can make everyone sick.

But when a community gets access to clean water, it can change just about everything. It can improve health, increase access to food, grow local economies, and help kids spend more time in school.

## Health

Diseases from dirty water kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war.

43% of those deaths are children under five years old. Access to clean water and basic sanitation can save around 16,000 lives every week.

## Time

Women in Sub-Saharan Africa spend an estimated combined total of 16 million hours per day collecting water.

Access to clean water gives communities more time to grow food, earn an income, and go to school -- all of which fight poverty.

## Education

Clean water helps keep kids in school, especially girls.

Less time collecting water means more time in class. Clean water and proper toilets at school means teenage girls don't have to stay home for a week out of every month.

## Women's Empowerment

Women are responsible for 72% of the water collected in Sub-Saharan Africa.

When a community gets water, women and girls get their lives back. They start businesses, improve their homes, and take charge of their own futures.



READ THE STORIES OF WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND COMMUNITIES WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN CHANGED BY CLEAN WATER [HERE](#).



## Two Bold Promises

When we started charity: water, we made two bold promises: 100% of public donations would go directly to the field to fund clean water projects and we would prove every dollar through a radically transparent model.



### Our 100% Model

We use 100% of public donations for clean water projects. This is made possible by a dedicated group of private donors, known as The Well, who fund our overhead costs, staff salaries, trips to the field and more.

This enables us to use 100% of public donations for clean water projects. With two completely separate bank accounts, audited independently and never touched for other reasons, we are able to guarantee that every public dollar donated is sent directly to the field. We even pay back credit card fees.

**READ MORE ABOUT OUR 100% MODEL [HERE](#).**



### Proving It

We map every completed project on Google Maps with GPS coordinates, photos and information about the community served.

Our supporters can see exactly where we work, the types of projects we fund and how many people have received clean water. Through meticulous reporting, transparent communication and powerful storytelling, we constantly strive to deepen the connection between our supporters and the impact they're making around the world.

**SEE OUR COMPLETED PROJECTS [HERE](#).**



# Our Approach



## Local Partners and Solutions

We have funded experienced local partners in 27 countries to build and implement clean water projects for communities, schools, and health clinics. Our partners carefully select water point locations based on geography, assessments of need, and other local factors.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PARTNERS [HERE](#).**

Bringing people clean water looks different in every area, and we employ a diverse range of solutions - including drilled wells, rainwater catchments, BioSand filters and more - to meet the needs of each community we serve. To determine the right water technology for a given area, our partners consider physical factors (such as terrain and water sources), as well as cultural ones (like a community's comfort level with the technology design).

**READ ABOUT OUR DIFFERENT TYPES OF SOLUTIONS [HERE](#).**



## Sustainability and Accountability

Our goal isn't just to build water projects, but to keep clean water flowing for years to come. To do this, we invest in forming strong water committees, partnering with local governments, and training mechanics to perform repairs. Partners also help implement sanitation solutions and provide hygiene training to ensure communities are getting the full benefits of a water project. We don't consider our projects "complete" until there is local ownership with communities engaged and empowered to care for their own water projects.

While these methods have proven successful, we wanted a way to raise the bar of accountability even higher. Through a partnership with Google, we developed remote sensor technology to monitor the water flow and functionality of our water points in the field and report data in real time. This enables us to quickly detect irregularities and dispatch mechanics to make repairs, minimizing the time a community is without clean water. The sensors also provide another level of transparency, letting donors see exactly how much water is being pumped every hour on a given day.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS [HERE](#).**



## Brand Partnerships

We work with our brand partners and corporate sponsors to develop unique fundraising campaigns and experiences that have an incredible impact on the world.



SAINT LAURENT



J.CREW

Google

K E R I N G



# Thank you

FOR PRESS INQUIRIES:

[mediarequests@charitywater.org](mailto:mediarequests@charitywater.org)

 charity: water  
40 Worth Street, Suite 330  
New York, NY 10013  
  
t: 646-688-2323  
f: 646-883-3456

 [@charitywater](#)  
 [@charitywater](#)  
 [@charitywater](#)





IF YOU WANT TO CHANGE  
EVERYTHING, START WITH ONE THING.

