OUR VISION

Water is fundamental

Each day, 800 million people wake up without access to clean water for their basic needs like cooking, bathing, and drinking.

With our invention, the Village Drill, we’re solving the problem of water scarcity and contamination that plagues these vulnerable families. Our innovative technology completes water wells at a fraction of the cost of traditional drilling methods.

Access to clean water not only improves health and safety but also empowers vulnerable girls and women. We then create economic opportunities for all by prioritizing sustainability and self-reliance.

Women & children carry the burden

More than 80% of water-deprived households rely on women and children for collecting water.

The time spent walking the average 3.7 miles for water deprives young women of opportunities to earn income, care for family, and attend school. This often results in:

- Dangerous infections and bouts of malaria
- Physical harm, such as rape or animal bites
- Dropping out of school
- Pregnancy at a young age

Nearly 6,000 children die from water-related diseases each day.

It’s time to end the world’s water crisis.
Introducing the Village Drill Hybrid—a major advancement that expands the versatility and performance of the original Village Drill by adding an electric option.

It’s the first-ever deep water drilling machine that empowers choice with human and electric power.

Engineered to be carried by hand. Powerful enough to get the job done.
We’re fundraising to retrofit Village Drill crews with this new technology, and we’re also reaching out to others who may want to deploy the hybrid model, like NGOs and emergency preparedness officials.

Rock is no match for the Village Drill Hybrid. The new motor boosts the power and speed, resulting in even more successful wells.

PROJECT REPORTS

- Nakulabye, Uganda
- Mtepeni, Kenya
- Rwampanga, Uganda
- St. Scholastica Orphanage
- Impact Mission
- Nalubabwe, Uganda
- Kiteje, Kenya
- Lusanja, Uganda
- Nkonge, Uganda
- Bukera B, Uganda
- Ngogomire, Uganda

*These highlighted projects showcase only a portion of our first-quarter impact.

NEW MILESTONES

- 14,000 water wells
- 13 million people helped
- 42 countries
NAKULABYE, UGANDA

- 2 schools with 250 students each
- 100 families
- Mostly street vendors & farm workers

Despite the availability of piped water, many can’t afford it. Children—mostly girls—collect water from ponds filled with runoff.

The community raised money for a subsidized Community-Funded Well, which a crew completed in January. They’ve committed to selling water at an affordable price so that they can repay their loan.

Sandra, 17

With no money for school fees, Sandra dropped out.

She could’ve gone to a free school 3 miles away, but collecting water for her family took up too much of her time and energy.

Now that her community has a new well, she can go to school again and enjoy the opportunity that follows access to clean water.
Their first shower—ever

MTEPENI, KENYA

- 500 people
- Mostly farm workers

The few hand-dug wells dry up after the rainy season.

People share a nearby dam with livestock, and water-related illnesses are common.

Now, this community is enjoying a new well, completed in February.
7 school
150 families
Mostly farm workers

The nearest wells are more than 3 miles away, so people often depend on ponds and streams.

Many girls drop out of school because of the walk to water.

Pesticide danger
To protect their green bananas, farmers use pesticides, which make their way into the water—a serious health problem.

This village celebrated their new well in February.
ST. SCHOLASTICA ORPHANAGE
Rubaare, Uganda

- 150 children
- Most children return home each day after getting education, food, & other support
- Founded by a monastery

The children walk 2 miles to a pond of stagnant, dirty water that animals use. It’s so deep and dangerous that some kids have drowned while collecting water.

A leader at the orphanage reached out to our local drilling team, which completed a successful well in January.
IMPACT MISSION
Kosogo & Kakinda, Kenya

On our February trip, we visited two drill sites where communities are now enjoying access to clean water for the first time in their lives, thanks to the revolutionary Village Drill, which WHOlives founder John Renouard invented in 2011.
Experiencing the walk to water
Our friends from Ulterra—a major corporate sponsor of WHOlives—got an up close look at their diamond drill bit, which allows the Village Drill to penetrate rock.

Work, serve, learn, play

We always visit schools and go on safari during our humanitarian adventures. This time, we also visited an elephant rescue.
NALUBABWE, UGANDA

- 2 schools
- 160 families
- Mostly farm workers

Typhoid fever is a life-threatening disease that’s common here because of contaminated water. Not only do children miss school due to this infection, but it also causes a huge financial burden on families.

In addition, a couple of children have even drowned while collecting water.

This community will be happier and healthier, thanks to their new well, completed in February.
KITEJE, KENYA

- 700 people
- Mostly farm workers

A Village Drill crew completed a well here in March, freeing up time for Amina and her community. They’ll save money on medical bills, and more kids can stay in school.

Tracking progress

Drill teams pull a sample from the borehole every meter and keep a log showing their progress.

This is one way they know when they’re getting close to the aquifer.
LUSANJA, UGANDA

- 250 families
- 2-mile walk to closest school

Most people in this village have latrines at home, but no source of safe water, so they rely on runoff or buying water.

The community raised a $300 down payment, and generous donors are subsidizing the well, which started providing water in March.

Typical housing
A family of 6 lives here.

Carol, 12
and grandma fetch water twice a day. Each trip takes 2 hours.
NKONGE, UGANDA

- 1 school
- 1,500 people
- Mostly farm workers

Cases of typhoid should drop now, since this community started pumping clean water in March.
Clean water is scarce, leading to health and hygiene issues, as well as disputes over access. Limited water points force many to use unsafe sources, increasing the risk of gender-based violence for women and children who must travel long distances.

Charity's dream of becoming a doctor was cut short.

Her single mom, a refugee, asked her to drop out of school because water was more important than her education. Charity didn’t have the time or energy to fetch water, then walk 4 miles to school.
1,500 people
Mostly refugees from DRC

This community near Bukera B is also facing a surge of Congolese refugees fleeing violence in their country.

The influx since 2022 is straining limited resources, including clean water, which hits vulnerable groups like people with disabilities the hardest.
These siblings are responsible for collecting all the water needed at home—water that often makes them sick.

A Village Drill crew developed the well in Ngogomire in February, alleviating the burden on hundreds of families seeking a new, safe home.
I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something, and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

—Edward Everett Hale