

ADDRESSING WATER IN TANZANIA: A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ORLANDO MAGIC

The Health Tanzania Foundation is honored to be partnering with the Orlando Magic Basketball team and other Tanzanian organizations in a fundraiser that will occur February 28, 2020 as part of the basketball game between the Orlando Magic and the Minnesota Timberwolves. The fundraiser is to raise money to address water in Tanzania. While you are in our website www.healthtanzania.org, please donate whatever you can to help. Even a few dollars will help. We will also be creating a “Go Fund Me” site as part of the fundraiser where you can donate.

Tanzania has nearly 60 million people-3 times the population of California. 12 million of them earn less than 60 cents a day. Only 57 % of Tanzania has access to an improved source of water and only 30% have access to an improved source of sanitation. Many women and children spend hours a day walking to a source of water for drinking cooking and washing. Frequently, the water from the source is not safe. In our cities, most of the poor are not hooked up to running water and have to walk to a source. The water from the city supply is frequently not safe. Diarrheal disease which comes from dirty water and food represents the eighth leading cause of death in Tanzania. It is a particular killer for the young children and those who are already sick.

Health Tanzania Foundation will work with its local communities and multifaith partners to address the water needs of the 230,000 people in the poor Buguruni –Vingunguti neighborhoods of Dar es Salaam and 120,000 people in the very rural, poor Rufiji district of the coast region. With whatever the money is raised, our Tanzanian partners SEET, a Tanzanian multifaith local community nonprofit, and the Health Program of the Anglican Diocese of Dar es Salaam will provide more accessible water and ensure that the water is safe.

The team and other local partners will provide wells which serve the most people. In the urban area, where there is city water, they will hook churches, mosques, and community sites to the city water where they can then provide water to the poor who cannot afford the hookups. In the rural areas, the team will place wells in the villages without a nearby water source. Special attention will be placed on siting wells at health centers, schools, and community centers who can then provide a water source for the surrounding area as well as running water for handwashing at the sites. The water will be tested at the various sites and filters introduced at sites where the water is not safe. We are working closely with local, district, and regional government as well as the multifaith religious communities and local community leaders in order to have the greatest impact and ensure that the program is maintained. Wherever possible, we will be leveraging matching resources from the government and community entities to further the impact.

These efforts, at a comprehensive solution, are possible because of our close multifaith – government – local community partnerships in the two areas. It is hoped that these urban and rural comprehensive partnership models can be replicated elsewhere in Tanzania.

Below are some pictures that I took in a rural coast region village where we were able to provide some wells and in our urban area of Dar es Salaam. In one rural village, the women and children had to walk up and down hills and down into a valley where the water was located and then carry the water up the steep hill and back to their homes. As you can see, the water was clearly contaminated. The source also went dry shortly after these pictures. We have also included other pictures of water needs to help you further understand the problems.

Please donate. Thank you.

Dr. Henry Ziegler, President, Health Tanzania Foundation



A woman getting water from the rural source which subsequently dried up and children carrying water from this and another water source. We were able to put a well in both of these villages. Lower right: Our team checking a rural well that needed replacing since it no longer functioned. Education and maintenance are needed in addition to wells. We replaced this well.

Below: One of our urban water sources in Buguruni and a local toilet. Pay attention to the drain pipe going directly into the nearby stream, another of the water sources for drinking and cooking. A woman carrying water.

