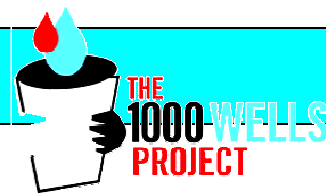


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Greetings,

Our names are Brenna Barsam and Catrina Hayes and we are excited to tell you about an amazing project that a group of college students at UC Davis, including ourselves, are participating in called the "1000 Wells Project". We are asking the entire community of Davis, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ, to join together and to demonstrate God's love to a part of the world that so desperately needs it by raising money to build clean water wells in Africa. We would like to invite your church to join us and help make a difference by showing God's love to those who need it.

The 1000 Wells Project was started by Dan Haseltine, lead singer of the band Jars of Clay, after he visited Africa in 2002. He came back with a vision for clean blood and water in Africa- blood free of the HIV virus and water free of parasites and bacteria that cause AIDS patients undue suffering. In order to make this vision a reality, Dan and the rest of the Jars of Clay members created a way for Americans to make a tangible impact in Africa, where lives would be transformed both here and there.

Their vision for the 1000 Wells Project is simple: eradicate AIDS and the injustice that perpetuates it through personal and communal transformation. Their mission: To tangibly reduce the impact of the African HIV/AIDS pandemic, to promote clean blood and clean water in Africa, and to build equitable, sustainable and personal community links. Clean water is such a vital part of any community development project. Nearly 1.8 million people die annually from water related diseases. 80% of all child mortality in developing nations is due to water-related diseases. As Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations, states,

*"We shall not finally defeat AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, or any of the other infectious diseases that plague the developing world until we have also won the battle for safe drinking water, sanitation and basic health care."*

The need is real. The response can be real as well. The Davis chapter of the 1000 Wells Project wants to partner with churches in creating a communal effort to show the love of Christ to those in need in a way that makes an impact both in Africa and here in our community.

Our group would love to work with your church to make a difference physically, emotionally, and spiritually in Africa. God Bless!

Sincerely,

Brenna Barsam & Catrina Hayes  
Church Coordinators  
1000 Wells Project- Davis Chapter  
churches.davis1000wells@gmail.com  
www.davis1000wells.org



## Sobering Statistics

- 1.1 billion people in the world do not have access to safe water. That equates to roughly one sixth of the world's population. (wateraid.org)
- 1.8 million children die every year as a result of diseases caused by unclean water and poor sanitation. This amounts to around 5,000 deaths a day from diseases such as diarrhea, intestinal worms, and cholera. (wateraid.org)
- Around 90% of incidences of water-related diseases are due to unsafe water supply. (WHO)
- Households in rural Africa spend an average of 26% of their time fetching water, and it is generally women who are burdened with the task (UK Department for International Development)



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## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **What is 1,000 Wells Project?**

The 1,000 Wells Project is building 1,000 Wells in 1,000 African communities. Businesses, churches, schools, artists, and individuals are collecting fund so they can sponsor the construction of wells in Africa. Blood:Water Mission, the parent organization of 1,000 Wells Project, is partnering with other non-profit groups that work specifically with community-based organizations that share a holistic, participatory approach to community health. By teaching the well drilling process and maintenance techniques, the water wells are operated and maintained by community members who are intimately aware of their communities' real needs and concerns, as well as their unique strengths and difficulties. The 1,000 Wells Project focuses on education, sanitation, and local leadership as necessary elements of each project to sustain health in African villages and to make the wells last.

### **How long will it take for the 1000 wells to be built?**

Our well partners have begun the preliminary work for community development and well construction so that much of the building was started as soon as April 2005. Every community will be a different case and will require a different amount of time. For the reason that we have partnered with organizations committed to sustainability, community ownership and health and sanitation training, we recognize that the process may take longer for the purposes of excellence and community involvement. The completion of 1000 wells may take three to five years or longer to complete.

### **How much does one well cost?**

The cost of a well in Africa varies greatly due to the environmental factors of each site. To repair a well costs around \$1000, a shallow hand pump well in Western Kenya is approximately \$3700, and a more difficult drilling location in Ethiopia may cost \$15,000 US.

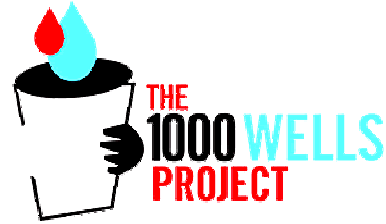
### **How can I know where my contribution went?**

As the communities receive the wells, Blood:Water Mission will post a profile of the community and the church, school, business, concert, or family that contributed to its construction.

### **I thought you were an organization focused on the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. What do wells have to do with that?**

Eighty percent of all deaths in developing countries are caused by water-borne illnesses. A significant amount of diseases, including illnesses that affect HIV, can be nearly eliminated with the provision of clean water. Our commitment to addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis requires action on the problem of unsafe water in Africa.

It is difficult to separate AIDS from the problem of unsafe water. Lack of access to clean water creates vulnerable communities with little hope for survival. As the pandemic distresses various parts of a community, there are several ways to promote a positive shift in the problem of AIDS. Providing wells is an important step to building stronger, healthier communities.



## Ways Your Church Can Help

*One of our greatest assets in the fight to bring clean water to African communities is our creativity. The most successful fundraising drives involve building on your community's own strength. In addition, it's not just about raising money. We desire to bring awareness to the community about the staggering effects of not having access to clean water. Spreading the word about our brothers and sisters' struggle is vital to ending the atrocity.*

A few suggestions...

- ❖ Take a special offering during worship services
  - A 1,000 Wells representative would be more than glad to come speak during a service
  
- ❖ Encourage Small Groups or other specific ministries to participate in Two Weeks of Sacrifice
  - For two weeks, make water your only beverage. Then, donate all the money that you would have spent on other beverages (such as tea, coffee, juice, milk, etc.) to the 1,000 Wells Project.
  
- ❖ Get your children's ministries involved.
  - This is a great opportunity to teach our children about blessing others with what God has blessed us with. It's also a chance to show our children our compassion for God's people.
  
- ❖ Hold a church wide dinner where the proceeds go to 1,000 Wells.

*We look forward to helping you embark on a journey of faith as we share God's compassion with those in need. We are here to help you plan as well as supply you with information to help your church get started on your creative plans!*



## **Ways Your Youth Group Can Help**

*One of our greatest assets in the fight to bring clean water to African communities is our creativity. The most successful fundraising drives involve building on your community's own strength. In addition, it's not just about raising money. We desire to bring awareness to the community about the staggering effects of not having access to clean water. Spreading the word about our brothers and sisters' struggle is vital to ending the atrocity.*

A few suggestions...

- ❖ Have a 1,000 Wells coordinator come in to inform your students about the crisis
- ❖ Encourage your students to get involved with the Two Weeks of Sacrifice
  - For two weeks, make water your only beverage. Then, donate all the money that you would have spent on other beverages (such as tea, coffee, juice, milk, etc.) to the 1,000 Wells Project.
- ❖ Have a car wash and donate the proceeds to 1,000 Wells
- ❖ Sell baked goods after church services and donate the proceeds to 1,000 Wells
- ❖ Take an offering during your weekly meeting
- ❖ Encourage your students to inform their families and the larger church body

*We look forward to helping you embark on a journey of faith as we share God's compassion with those in need. We are here to help you brainstorm ideas as well as supply you with information to help your group get started!*

## How **You** Can Be Involved in the 1000 Wells Project

### **Donations:**

- You can donate directly to Davis 1000 Wells or you can write a tax deductible check to Blood: Water Mission

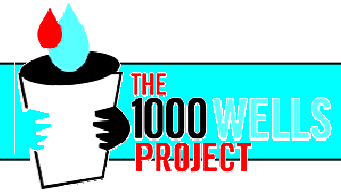
### **Prayer:** Please pray for...

- the villages in Africa that are in need of clean water
- the Davis 1000 Wells Project: That it reaches into the community and beyond, inspiring people to get involved
- Blood: Water Mission's continued impact in the world and the continuous motivation of others to love the needy in practical ways
- that hearts of community members would break with God's when they hear of this dire situation in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Please e-mail prayer requests or your prayers to [prayer.davis1000wells@gmail.com](mailto:prayer.davis1000wells@gmail.com)

### **Events to be a part of:**

- Two-weeks of Sacrifice: April 19<sup>th</sup> - May 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - be in solidarity with the villages in Africa by giving up all liquids except water for two weeks and donating the money you save to building a well in an African village
- If you are interested in volunteering please e-mail: [volunteer.davis1000wells@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.davis1000wells@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your support!**



Greetings,

Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to learn about the 1,000 Wells Project.

With staggering statistics such as a child dying every fifteen seconds due to preventable water related diseases, it is important that we educate and spur into action our brothers and sisters' in Christ. We, as well as the rest of the 1,000 Wells Project leadership team, look forward to working with you and your church as you embark along this journey of faith to tangibly impact lives in Africa.

Please feel free to contact us at [churches.davis1000wells@gmail.com](mailto:churches.davis1000wells@gmail.com) with any questions or visit [www.davis1000wells.org](http://www.davis1000wells.org) for more information.

Sincerely,

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