



Celebrate World Water Day

When we met Mary, we didn't tell her that we were giving her the power to escape disease. We didn't explain to her that we had exponentially increased the likelihood that she would be able to carry her babies to term, and we didn't tell her toddler that we were much more confident he would survive to see his fifth birthday. The teachers at Mary's daughter's school were not told that many of the girls who had been absent for so much of the year would be returning to the classroom. No one told Mary's husband that he was becoming a champion of his community by being trained as a pump caretaker.

We didn't say these things, because we didn't need to. Everywhere Seeds of Hope works, we hear the phrase "Water is life." People know that having access to safe water, means that

everything in their lives can be transformed by the health and hope that clean water brings.

We celebrate often the privilege of bringing this life to so many here in Zambia. In just a few weeks we will join with hundreds of thousands of people to celebrate that clean water is changing lives, not just in Africa, but in nations across the globe. March 22 is World Water Day, a day to remember why water projects are so important and to commemorate the work being done to bring safe water to people living without it.

Last year, Seeds of Hope celebrated by hosting informational booths at World Water Day events in Lusaka and Ndola. This year, we will be inviting students from schools throughout the Ndola region to tour our resource center and learn about the benefits of having safe water, hygiene, and sanitation. For ideas on how you can be part of this year's international World Water Day celebrations, and advocate for people around the world visit the event's official website at <http://www.worldwaterday2011.org/>. Stay tuned to see highlights from Seeds of Hope's World Water Day celebrations, and be sure to share with us on our Facebook page what you're doing to mark this exciting day!



"You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days." Exodus 23:25-26

Champion Spotlight

This month, we would like to highlight Seeds of Hope Champion Jake Sherley. Jake is a fulltime firefighter in Kern County, California. He founded Thorn Clthing in 1999 as a means of using fashion to raise money for Christian organizations working in developing countries. Jake's goal is that by selling "one item at a time, we will quench the thirst of one person at a time."

Jake first heard about Seeds of Hope in 2008 during the Christian music event "Spirit West Coast". That summer he began donating the proceeds of Thorn merchandise sold at events and festivals, to water projects in Zambia. He has since designed shirts specifically aimed at raising awareness of the need for water projects in Africa, as well as gaining the support of participants from ABC's "The Bachelor" in fundraising events and promotional appearances.

In September 2010, Jake led a team of five firefighters to Zambia, eager to learn more about our work and help in any way he could. The highlight for Jake was installing BioSand filters in people's homes: "It was overwhelming,



Jake and his family

the sense that as I packed the sand into the filter, I literally had my hands in someone else's life, bringing them health and a better life." Through his work in creating a new clothing line for widespread distribution, and organizing creative fundraising events, Jake continues to be part of bringing hope and transformation to communities in Africa.



Ndola area pump caretakers wearing shirts designed for SHIP by Thorn Clthing



What's New at Seeds of Hope

- For World Water Day, we will be conducting tours of our Ndola resource center for kids from schools throughout the region, teaching them the importance of safe water and good hygiene and sanitation.
- Our Ndola staff is getting ready to host a Learning Exchange, with participants from nations all over Africa and the world, including the Philippines, India, and Nepal.
- We started a demonstration FAITH (Food Always In the Home) garden at our Ndola resource center, and we are growing tomatoes, eggplant, onions, and cabbage.
- Baby announcements! Two of our incredible SHIP U.S. volunteers are proud new moms. Michelle Ellings's baby, Eli, was born in December, and Carlene Miller's baby, Callen, was born in February. Congratulations and blessings from all of us at Seeds of Hope!

(805) 439-1489
www.sohip.org

1023 Nipomo Street, Suite 110
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401