

Celebrations usher in a summer of hope

At last month's Well:Done Celebration, Seeds of Hope helped Blood:Water Mission commemorate six years of collaborative work dedicated to one goal: bringing clean water to communities in Africa. More than 1,200 people attended the event to celebrate the successful

completion of the 1,000 Wells Project and the subsequent lives that have been changed among our African brothers and sisters.

Jars of Clay, along with musicians and Blood: Water Mission partners Derek Webb, Sandra McCracken, musical group Hanson and Kenyan artist Eric Wainaina filled the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville on May 10. With the help of these artists, the event raised more than \$100,000 and brought awareness to the issues surrounding clean water in Africa.

Seeds of Hope's Kirk Schauer and Evans Chiyenge were guests of honor, recognized for the integral role that Seeds of Hope played in the 1,000 Wells Project from day one. Evans had the opportunity to speak onstage, highlighting the work Seeds of Hope is currently doing with a Blood:Water Mission partner in Uganda.

Since the 1,000 Wells Project began in 2005, people from all walks of life have shown their support through creative fundraising (5Ks, Lemon:Aid stands, bake sales, and



more), volunteering and old fashioned, grassroots activism. Many volunteers were even able to visit Seeds of Hope in Zambia. Without the help of the individuals and groups who helped raise funds for Seeds of Hope projects through Blood: Water Mission, such as Christ in Youth, One Truth, Forever the Sickest Kids and Active: Water, our programs would not be thriving in the ways that they are now.

For communities that previously lived without it, clean water means better health and less disease, the ability to work or attend school, and a renewed sense of optimism when faced with any of life's other challenges. Safe water means freedom and hope and that is what 700,000 people have now as a result of 1,000 Wells Project.

Jars of Clay lead vocalist Dan Haseltine said it best when he described the "obtuse language and disconnected big numbers" used when we, as Westerners, discuss poverty.

"At some point in the conversation the numbers fell to the periphery and left standing a human face, or a family story that brought weight and meaning to what was once just information," Haseltine wrote in a blog post on one.org.

Driven by hope for that one human face and their individual story, Blood:Water Mission and Seeds of Hope started their work, but this mission and this goal is truly a group

effort. In order to continue making a positive impact, we need people helping people, communities helping communities and all of us working together to really change the world.

The completion of the 1,000 Wells Project is a milestone to be celebrated, but Blood: Water Mission and Seeds of Hope will not be slowing down. Both groups and partners are continuing on with clean water programs. Barak Bruerd, Blood: Water Mission's Africa Programs Director, said they will build upon the trust and relationships formed in the communities over the past few years to expand their footprint and address the hugely complex topic of HIV/AIDS, an issue that is strongly impacted by the availability of clean water. In fact, Seeds of Hope recently completed Blood:Water Mission's HIV/ AIDS training and is bringing the program to Zambia.

With clear passion and dedication, we will continue on this road, empowering local Africans to create access to clean water, opportunity and hope.

CHAMPION SPOTLIGHT: Young Philanthropists

It is often said that the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Recently, Seeds of Hope was reminded that sometimes, great things come in small packages. This month, we are highlighting some of our youngest champions who, despite their age, were moved by Seeds of Hope's mission and took action.

When Kaitlyn Cabiro's second grade class heard that her dad was going to Zambia with Seeds of Hope, they were interested and sought to learn more. Armed with their new knowledge, they challenged their peers in all 13 other classes at the Airline Park Academy for Advanced Studies in Louisiana to each raise enough money for one BioSand Filter — and they did. After this, Kaitlyn took it one step further, displaying selflessness, compassion and wisdom beyond her years. She gave up her own birthday presents to turn her party into a

donation drive.

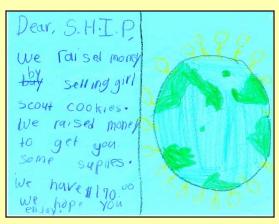
"The average American uses 50 gallons of water a day. The average person in a developing country struggles to find 5 gallons. I think this is a big problem," Kaitlyn wrote in an essay. To solve this problem, she asked that her guests bring their spare pennies, change and donations to go towards purchase a BioSand Filter, rather than bringing birthday presents.

Kaitlyn and her peers raised more than \$1,300, enough to purchase 16 BioSand Filters.

Other children in various parts of the country are equally as inspiring through their efforts to support our cause:

Girl Scouts Brownie troop 507 in Lakeland, Florida chose Seeds of Hope for their World Thinking Day fundraiser, selling cookies and raising \$170.





Seven youth accompanied by four adults from The Vineyard Church in Kenner, Louisiana are going to Zambia in July to help build BioSand Filters.

What's New:

SHIP U.S.

- Amber Kiwan and Eric Martin have joined the U.S. team as interns.
- Seeds of Hope had a booth at Farmers Market on June 16. At our booth, we hosted the Ride: Well

team, Blood: Water Mission's group of cyclists campaigning across the country on their bikes.

SHIP Zambia

- Now that we have completed our HIV/AIDS training in Kenya, which was sponsored by Blood: Water Mission, we are starting our HIV/AIDS education in the communities in Zambia.
- We are starting our own bicycle shop where we will sell and repair bicycles. Bicycles For Humanity, a Colorado-based non-profit organization, is helping to make this happen.
- We have Matt Ellis joining us as an Agriculture Intern for one year.



