

A photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a light blue wide-brimmed hat and a blue patterned dress, smiling and interacting with a large group of children. The children are mostly boys, many wearing blue or yellow shirts. They are gathered in a dry, open field with sparse vegetation and a few trees in the background. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Annual Report 2024/2025



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1834 WATER PROJECTS

Completed to
provide clean water

1323 SANITATION PROJECTS

Built to provide
sanitation, hygiene, and
dignity

17 COUNTRIES

Have benefitted from
the work of Ryan's
Well Foundation

What a special year for all of us at Ryan's Well Foundation.

Ryan's former first grade teacher and Board member Nancy Prest joined us on our monitoring trip early in the year. She played an integral part in beginning our work; it was through her class lesson to six-year-old Ryan Hreljac that got him thinking about ways to raise funds for clean water projects.

Nancy visited Ryan's very first well at Angolo Primary School in Uganda. It was a profound experience to see her interacting with the kids and seeing the results of the seed she planted as a teacher so many years ago. On pg. 27 you can read her story.

Also featured are updates from this year's projects; successes as well as challenges, and the many impacts and outcomes clean water and sanitation provide: all thanks to our donors and supporters.

1,617,615

People now have access to clean drinking water and sanitation



We are proud to remain one of Charity Intelligence Canada's
Top 100 Charities, with their highest 5-star rating.

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CORE VALUES

Mission

Ryan's Well Foundation, together with local partners, provides access to clean Water, Sanitation services, and Hygiene education to people most in need of WASH support. We educate and motivate people to share our passion and contribute to achieving positive change in the world.

Vision

To build a more equitable world through clean water and sanitation, leaving each community we work with empowered and self-sufficient.

WHAT WE DO

Build

Clean water, sanitation and hygiene projects



Educate/Motivate

To get involved and make a difference



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FROM RYAN

As I reflect on the 2024 /2025 fiscal year, I'm filled with gratitude and pride for what we've accomplished together. This year marked a significant milestone for the Ryan's Well Foundation: we surpassed **1.6 million people** who now have access to clean water and sanitation thanks to the unwavering support of our donors, volunteers, and partners.

From our humble beginnings in my family's basement to a global movement for water justice, our journey has always been rooted in compassion, community, and action. In 2024 alone, we completed 68 water projects across Ghana, Northern Uganda, and Western Uganda, reaching over **109,000** people. These projects included deep wells, protected springs, and rainwater harvesting systems making sure proper sustainable water infrastructure goes towards where it's most needed.

We also expanded our Educate program, delivering 53 presentations to more than **26,000** people; inspiring youth and communities to take action for clean water.

One of the highlights of the year was our monitoring trip to Uganda, where I had the joy and privilege of watching my first grade teacher, Nancy Prest, interact with the community and children of Angolo School and our very first well. Nancy continues to be an inspiration with her work on the Education Committee.

Financially, we remain committed to transparency and efficiency. In 2024, 83.4 cents of every dollar went directly to our charitable programs. Our small but mighty team continues to stretch every resource to maximize impact.

As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, we remain focused on building sustainable, community-led solutions. Clean water is not a luxury—it's a human right. And together, we're making that right a reality for more people every day.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your support means the world.

Ryan





FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

"Discovery Trip to Uganda"

In February of 2025, I embarked on a "discovery trip," along with some of our Board members, to support Ryan on his monitoring & evaluation work in Northern Uganda. We landed in Entebbe and began a journey that traced the historical impact of our donor projects along the way.

We were joined by DivineAID, one of our earliest and most experienced local partners. Led by Deleo Ocen, DivineAID has worked with RWF since 2004. As we know from experience, it is not enough to dig a well and hand over the keys. With DivineAID, we share a common understanding that it takes more than that to transform lives including well maintenance and management, water education, and community empowerment. It was a great opportunity to observe the results of this approach first-hand on the ground.

Notwithstanding the risks of the road and lengthy drives to Lira and Oromo to inspect wells located in the most remote sites, we took time to enjoy the local cuisine including some of the tastiest and diverse avocados I've ever had. Most importantly, we would experience such warm reception and hospitality from the people of this diverse region. The culture is one of traditional leadership, and it was not uncommon for us to receive live chickens as gifts of friendship and respect from the village elders!

One of the many highlights was returning to Angolo Primary School where Ryan helped to raise funds for his first well over 25 years ago. This initiative would grow into Ryan's Well Foundation as we know it today. The students were thrilled to greet us and to share their stories of appreciation for the educational advantage that access to clean water has given them.

We capped off the end of the mission with a visit to Murchison Falls National Park to experience one of nature's greatest water sources, the River Nile. To see it up close is to witness one of the world's most powerful flows of natural water. It attracts wildlife biodiversity with an astonishing number of species of mammals and birds reminding us that "water is life."

On behalf of the Board, I would like to congratulate the team on another outstanding year. I would also like to thank our donors, project partners, and volunteers, for their commitment to improving the lives of those affected by the global water scarcity crisis. It was evident from this trip that our beneficiaries in Uganda continue to thrive as a result.

Apwoyo matek.

Rosemina Z. Nathoo, Board Chair

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WHERE WE WORKED

Western Uganda

Northern Uganda

- **13 water projects**



- **29 water projects**
- **1 sanitation project**

Ghana

- **25 water projects**



PROJECT REPORT

As we look back on our 2024 WASH projects, our hearts are full of gratitude. Together with our incredible partners in Eastern and Western Africa, we successfully completed 67 water and 1 sanitation projects — all on time and within budget! Every borehole drilled, every spring protected, and rainwater collected represents hope, dignity, and a healthier future for those who once walked hours for water.

While we may not be able to change the whole world at once, in 2024, we changed the world for 109,704 people; women, children, and entire communities — who now have access to safe water and improved sanitation. These projects reached schools, remote villages, and health centres, transforming daily life in lasting ways.

From late January to mid-February 2025, we conducted our sole Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) exercise in Uganda, beginning in the north and later to the Western region. Due to Ghana's election season, no visit was made there.

In Northern Uganda, our partner DivineAID completed 13 deep wells, each reinforced with plastered concrete walls for safety and environmental sustainability. In Western Uganda, RWIDF delivered 30 projects (including three 30,000L rainwater harvesting tanks and 26 protected springs) and one sanitation facility. These eco-friendly solutions, built with local materials, are already making a visible impact. In Ghana's Ashanti Region, DONA constructed 25 deep wells, 20 equipped with electric pumps, handwashing, and water collection points, and five with hand pumps.



Yoram Ndyamuleki



PROJECT CHALLENGES

In Northern Uganda, some wells we constructed are experiencing heavy demand, serving far more users than intended. This puts the facilities at risk of mechanical breakdown or even water depletion. The most effective solution is to construct additional wells to meet the growing community needs. In Western Uganda, we construct protected springs — a technology that relies on the consistent availability of groundwater. However, in a few areas, due to climate change and human activities, water flow rates have been reported to reduce during the dry season. To address this, we have strongly advised our partners to conduct comprehensive hydrological surveys in collaboration with local communities before implementation to ensure a permanent and reliable water source. Across all regions, our partners continue to face the persistent challenge of inflation, which directly impacts project budgets. Rising prices for construction materials, tools, and other inputs make it increasingly difficult to plan and execute projects within the original financial estimates.

SUSTAINABILITY LOGISTICAL SOLUTIONS

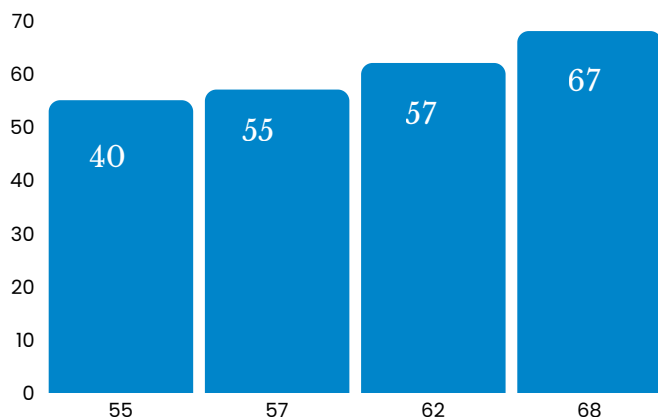
As reported last year, our partners have continued to face logistical challenges that cause project delays, cost inefficiencies, and reduced effectiveness. For example, RWIDF experienced frequent mechanical breakdowns of its construction material delivery tipper truck, while DONA and DivineAID have struggled with rising drilling costs and delays from relying on hired drilling rigs.

To address some of these issues, RWF funded the purchase of a transportation truck for our Western Uganda partner, RWIDF — a step aimed at boosting operational efficiency and reliability. A similar solution is being explored for our Ghana partner, DONA. In addition, the Foundation is actively fundraising to purchase a new drilling rig for our Northern Uganda partner, DivineAID. These strategic investments will not only streamline operations and reduce project costs but also expand our capacity, enabling us to support peer NGOs by providing more accessible and timely drilling and transportation services.

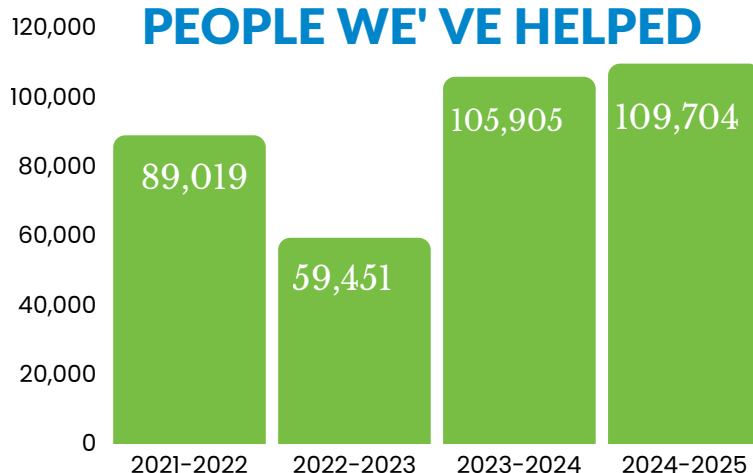


IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

WATER SOURCES



PEOPLE WE'VE HELPED



RIPPLE EFFECT AND SUCCESS STORIES

Our WASH projects have brought profound and lasting benefits, as shared by beneficiaries during our M&E exercise. Time and again, water has proven to be a catalyst for peace, health, and development.

"The protected spring has transformed our school and the entire community around it. It provides safe drinking water for school children and supports proper hygiene for the girls,"
- Headmistress, Kyeibare Girls' Secondary School (Rukungiri District, Western Uganda).

Across all beneficiary communities, there has been a significant decline in waterborne diseases. In schools, access to safe water and improved sanitation facilities has boosted enrollment and enhanced academic performance. For women and girls, the burden of walking long distances for water has been lifted, giving them more time to focus on education, work, and personal development — unlocking opportunities for personal and professional growth.



Juliet Esther Nabweteme, Liveliness Officer of our partner Divine Agency for Integrated Development (Uganda) received her postgraduate diploma in Project Planning and Management!

Juliet says, "Through this program, I have acquired invaluable knowledge and skills that will not only enhance my professional performance but also contribute to meaningful improvements in the communities we serve."

EDUCATE/MOTIVATE



26,115

*people educated
through presentations*

53

*presentations given by
Ryan's Well team
members worldwide*

11

*countries given
presentations*



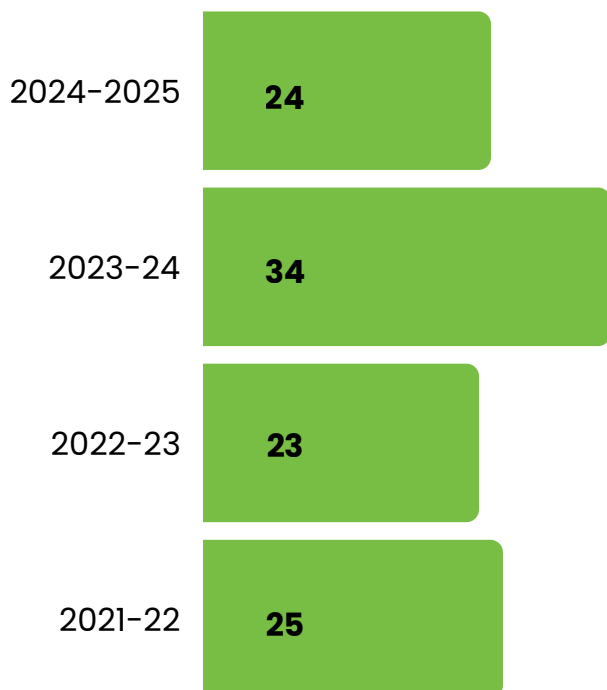
SCHOOL CHALLENGE



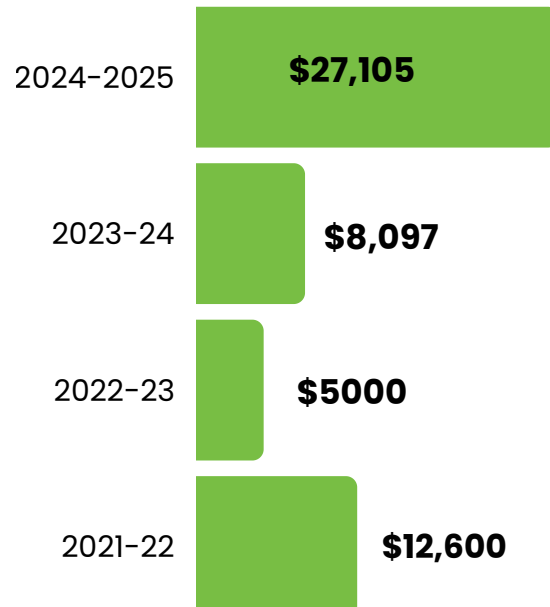
Once again, we were amazed at the incredible fundraising efforts from students around the world. The 2024/25 School Challenge for Ghana saw impressive support from 24 schools in 3 countries! This fundraising enabled the completion of 16 deep wells (one for each school!) as well as the construction of 16 overhead tanks. Included was the installation of hand washing and water collection stations, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) training as well as ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the projects. This will improve the lives of over 6500 people - plus ensure that students can spend more time learning rather than collecting water. (Typically, children were walking an hour a day to collect water!)



TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



DONATIONS BY SCHOOL



BOARD OF DIRECTORS (VOLUNTEER)



CHAIR - Rosemina Nathoo

VICE CHAIR - Nancy Prest

SECRETARY - Kevin Rogers

INTERIM TREASURER - Devan Pennell

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Mark Nowell

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Susan Hreljac

Michael Glofcheskie, Spencer Mulvaney

Sarah Gore, Kerry Lamming,

Megan Underwood

BUILD PROJECT COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Kevin Rogers

Jane Baird

Spencer Mulvaney

Barry Westby



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Nancy Prest

Graphic Designer: Kerry Lamming

Spencer Mulvaney

AMBASSADOR

Kellylee Evans

OUR TEAM

VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Build Program
Committee

Education
Committee

STAFF

Ryan Hreljac
FOUNDER &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Connie Jensen
Administrative Officer

**Yessey
Ndyamuhaki**
Project Manager

Susan Mackie
Communications
Coordinator

OUR PARTNERS



RWIDF
WESTERN UGANDA



DIVINEAID
NORTHERN UGANDA

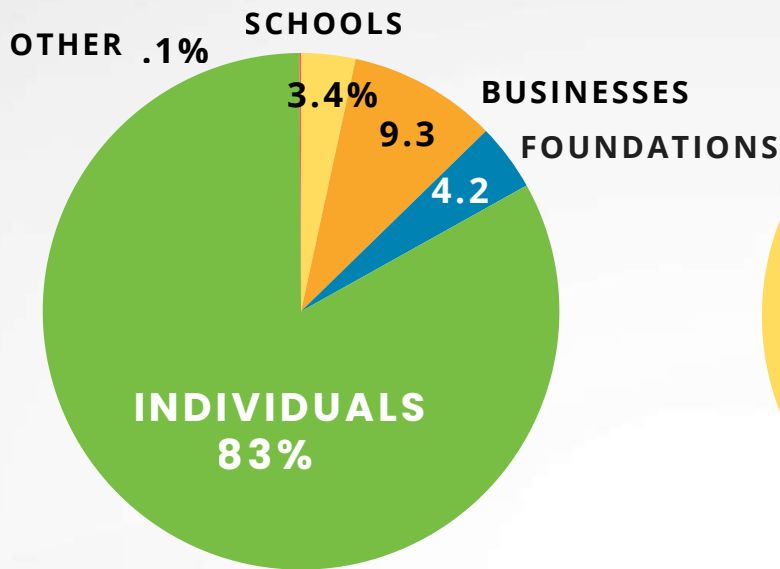


DONA
GHANA

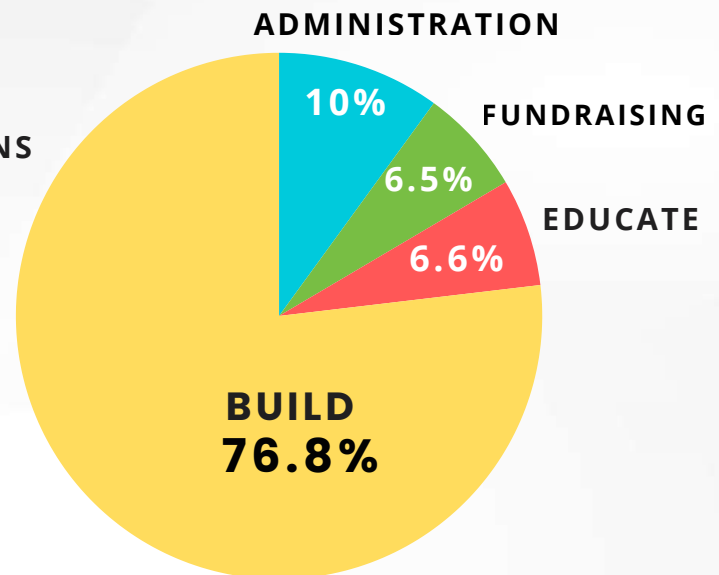


FINANCIALS

FUNDING SOURCES



FUNDS DISTRIBUTION



This year, **83.4 cents of every donation dollar** spent has directly supported our charitable programs (Build - Educate - Motivate). As we continue to examine ways to grow and diversify our revenue stream, we are deeply committed to ensuring donations are directed towards our mission of improving lives and effecting change in the world. Our small and efficient team is critical to keeping our overall fundraising costs at 6.5%, and our average administration costs remain nearly unchanged over the past four years at 10%. The Foundation's fiscal year runs from April 1st to March 31st. Our annual audit and financial statements were completed this year (2025) by the firm of HW Partners LLP. This audit can be found under 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements on the Ryan's Well Foundation website at www.ryanswell.ca.

FUNDRAISING: Internal fundraising efforts within Ryan's Well Foundation maximize our donor reach and potential impact (i.e., printing costs to mail our annual general reports and newsletters).

ADMINISTRATION: We strive to keep our administrative fees as low as possible to ensure that funds go towards our charitable programs.

BUILD: Build clean water, sanitation, and hygiene projects, facilitate the accompanying WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) training, and monitor the project upon completion to evaluate the level of sustainability.

EDUCATE/MOTIVATE: Educate on the importance of access to safe water and sanitation to raise awareness about the global water crisis. Includes the Foundation's conference and travel expenses.

AFRICA 2025

FROM NANCY PREST

It was an extreme honour when Ryan asked me to go to Africa to visit the very first well that was built at Angolo Primary School 1999 in Northern Uganda. It was the well that he worked so hard to save for, the well that everyone worked so hard to build with their donations because they trusted in a little boy who believed he could bring clean water to the world!

I was excited to see what had become of the dream that was borne in my first Grade 1 class at Holy Cross School so many years ago. The trip was 10 days, flown across the world to a place I never ever thought of going. The itinerary was carefully scripted to allow me, the teacher (now 70 years old) to experience the reality of this little boy's dream: access to clean water for the world!

As we were arriving at the school about 2 hours from Lira, Ryan and I got out of the land cruiser and walked together up the road. Two little kids (not from the school) were following us up the road keeping a safe distance, curious to see what all the excitement was about.

We passed the well as we headed toward the school itself and the gathering that had been prepared for us! The school had grown from 700 students to 2300.

I was invited into one of the classroom buildings (P1 Grade 1). Very different, approx. 45 children age 6 on a cement floor in a square room, only one window perhaps, a huge well used black board covering the whole wall across the front of the room. The children were seated on the floor with their cahiers and pencils poised. I introduced myself and wrote my name on the board. The teacher translated for me. I drew a picture of our flag with the Maple leaf for Canada. There were no other props or equipment or resources in the room besides the well- used blackboard.

Then we went out to go to the well. To see the mass of children following Ryan who is at least twice the height of everyone was amazing! Like a Pied Piper, or the Friendly Giant towering over all of them yet enveloped in their midst, he raced them to the well! At the well it was chaotic in a happy way! They all were so full of joy, so proud to show us the water, the pump, the cans to be filled, the water bottles, the protective gates. The water fresh, clear, clean, cool; plentiful and easily accessible.

From the school we got back into our truck quietly, contemplatively, imbued with the thoughts, the feelings and nothing needed to be said. Our two little gate crashers followed the truck back down the road to where we had begun, then disappeared into the dusty landscape.

For the teacher, she made a difference in the life of a child.
For the child, he made a difference in the world.

A simple lesson became profound...
an ordinary child became extraordinary!

Thank you seems so small.

Mrs. Nancy Prest



OUR SUPPORTERS



Mohammad
Kanwal Family
Foundation



Kemptonville Physiotherapy Centre



Newtown Presbyterian Church



"Over 15 years of leading edge internet software and hosting solutions."



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

We would also like to thank all of our generous individual donors - We couldn't do what we do without the help of many.

Ryan's Well has been the recipient of many donations from event fundraisers over the years. Examples of these are: birthday and wedding celebrations, corporate and specialty groups, walks for water challenges, raffles, book sales, women's groups initiatives, as well as many sporting events such as volleyball and golf tournaments. It's incredible how these have all added up - almost **\$2 million** in donations! What a HUGE impact these events made over the years - and will continue to make for many years to come.



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