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RYAN HRELJAC, FOUNDER OF RYAN'S WELL, TO REVISIT SITE OF ORIGINAL WELL IN UGANDA

Historic journey marks 15 years since building of original well at Angolo School site

Ottawa, ON – May 14, 2014

The Ryan's Well Foundation announced today that Founder Ryan Hreljac will mark this significant milestone with a revisit to the site of the original well he helped build with little more than stubbornness and determination as a six-year-old boy. It promises to be an emotional and fascinating visit, where Ryan will come full circle and meet some of the hundreds of people whose lives have improved dramatically because of his childhood dream.

Fifteen years ago six-year-old Ryan inspired a community, a nation and the world by rallying support for a well to be built at Angolo School in Uganda; thus beginning an international charitable organization that has built over **822** water projects and **1025** latrines, bringing safe water and improved sanitation to more than **805,813** people. Ryan's face went from local newspapers to international media, and he soon got a call from a producer of "Oprah". He replied that he had something important at school (he was a student helper for the kindergarten class) and couldn't travel to Chicago. Ryan did eventually visit [Oprah](#) twice to tell his story, in his very best leather tie.

At 6'7", at 22 years of age, there is nothing little about Ryan now. He's finished university, and is a sought-after keynote speaker at many international events. He's received significant [honours](#), and is committed to continuing his volunteer work with the Foundation. Ryan still sees himself as that ordinary kid who loved video games, and just wanted to help make the world a little more fair. His key message? Anyone, no matter what age or circumstance, can make a difference in this world.

Significant Events

- Official celebration of 15year anniversary of Ryan's first clean water well at Angolo Primary School, Uganda
- Visit to original well and new latrines built with the help of worldwide donors
- Ryan will present messages of goodwill from people all over the world to Angolo community and school
- Interviews with people who remember Ryan as a child, and who have benefitted from his original well

Available for media after the event

- Professional video footage of celebrations and interactions with Ryan and local children/community members
- Still photographs capturing hundreds of emotional moments
- Footage of water projects

About the Ryan's Well Foundation: The Ryan's Well Foundation grew out of the commitment of six-year-old Ryan Hreljac, who learned of the great need for safe water in developing countries. The Ryan's Well Foundation is a family of people committed to delivering access to safe water and sanitation as an essential way to improve the lives of people in the developing world. We empower citizens of all ages to take action and effect change in the world. Founded in 2001, Ryan's Well is a registered Canadian charity (www.ryanswell.ca).

Ryan Hreljac is a graduate of King's College University (Nova Scotia) in International Development and Political Science. He has received many international [awards of distinction](#). He has been featured on international media such as the Oprah Winfrey Show and CNN, and his Foundation has received support from prominent individuals including the Prince of Wales, Craig Kielburger, Matt Damon and Dr. Jane Goodall.

Please note: Ryan Hreljac will be available for interviews May 14 - 15, and then upon his return from Uganda.

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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