



THIS YEAR MARKS 1,000,000 BENEFICIARIES

AND GOING STRONG!

People ask me all the time: "how has the Ryan's Well project made it this far?" Funnily enough, it has little to do with me. From the second I started my first small school fundraiser 21 years ago, I wasn't some awe-inspiring activist super kid. I was a six-year-old who couldn't wait for recess, my palms got sweaty before spelling tests, and I dreamed about getting the next video game system. Yet, some values from kindergarten stuck with me, namely sharing and fairness. Upon hearing that there were kids my age who couldn't go to school and, instead, had to collect water for their families, made me feel sick and uneasy – I never had to worry about access to clean water. But maybe there was something I could do, even something seemingly small, to make things a little fairer.

By sharing that sincere feeling with my peers, family, and my town, people reciprocated; they thought, "If Ryan can do that, why can't I?" For the past twenty years, all over the world, schools, people in the Ryan's Well community, and "ordinary" people – young and old – achieved (and are still achieving) some amazing things. Now, as we approach almost one million beneficiaries, I feel as if my childhood dream of clean water for all is becoming actualized. We're making valuable contributions, and taking concrete steps, to help conquer the world water crisis with sustainable action. Even though the dream of Ryan's Well is still that of a six-year-old looking to make the world a little fairer, we're helping to change the world – one project at a time.

Thank you for being a part of that dream. Every year, we try to grow and reach more people through our efforts. Words can't express how thankful we are to everyone who, in big ways and in small, is helping us to achieve that goal. You are all a part of the Ryan's Well family. We can't wait to see what we can accomplish this upcoming year!

Ryan



"Having this tank has completely changed my life,
and gives me more time to spend with my daughter,
Martha"

Karina, Mexico



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Hello,

My name is Ryan Hreljac. I'm writing to you with regards to your generous support of clean water projects with Ok Clean Water Project. I would like to start off by saying thank you so much for dedicating your support to helping people gain access to safe water.

As you may not know, Ok Clean Water Projects will be closing its doors and transferring the charity to our charity; the Ryan's Well Foundation. With your help, Ok Clean Water has managed to make an incredible impact and has supported sixty villages in Cameroon with a population of approximately 210,000 people since starting in 2003. Sr. Cathy Molloy and the late Sr. Norma McCoy have built an incredible legacy that we are honored to continue.

Allow me to tell you the story about Ryan's Well.

We are a Canadian charitable organization based in Kemptville, Ontario providing effective and sustainable solutions to the water crisis in the poorest regions of the world's developing countries.

Like Sr. Cathy and Sr. Norma, I was inspired to take action when I learned about the devastating consequences for people without access to safe drinking water. I started fundraising for clean water projects when I was six years old. My community rallied behind me and I was able to raise enough money to build a well in Uganda, Africa.

Since our inception in 2001, we have improved the lives of close to one million vulnerable people through the construction of over 1,429 community-led clean water projects, and 1,255 latrines. These initiatives have reduced the risk of severe and debilitating diseases, leading to improved health, overall well-being, and a higher quality of life. We have worked in 17 countries and are currently funding projects in Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Mexico.

If you are interested in continuing to support clean water initiatives, please consider giving to Ryan's Well. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and thank you for advocating for those in need of safe drinking water.

Sincerely,



If you'd like to learn more about Ryan's Well, please visit our website www.ryanswell.ca or email me at ryan@ryanswell.ca



**"Having this tank has completely changed my life,
and gives me more time to spend with my daughter,
Martha"**

Karina, Mexico

BUILD A WELL WITH US!

EVER WONDER HOW WE GET THINGS DONE AROUND HERE? WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON TRANSPARENCY, SO HERE'S A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS OF HOW WE CARRY OUT OUR WATER PROJECTS.

1 RYAN'S WELL BEGINS FUNDRAISING!



3 COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

The communities are included in every step of the process, in order to ensure that they feel a sense of ownership of their well.



5 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Our expert partners assess what type of water access is sustainable (rainwater harvesting tank, deep or shallow well, or protected spring), and most suitable for the area, given its geographical factors (climate, terrain, etc).

2 VULNERABLE COMMUNITY IS IDENTIFIED

With the help of our partners, we locate the most vulnerable areas to help.

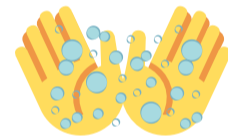
4 SITE SELECTION FOR WATER SOURCE

Many factors are considered in this selection, including proximity to a school, distance from older residents, and distance from latrines and human waste areas.



6 WELL CONSTRUCTION AND WASH

(The following steps happen simultaneously)



DRILLING

The crew sets up the drilling rig and begins drilling to a pre-set depth.



CASING

Once the drillers reach the pre-set depth, they must place casing-pipe sections, normally made from PVC, into the hole to prevent it from collapsing in on itself.



SCREENING

A screen is nearly always needed in the casing to prevent particles from reaching the pump.



ACCESSING THE WATER

Once the cement hardens and passes inspection, a drill bit is used to complete the well and allows water to flow into the casing in a controlled manner.



SENSITIZATION

WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) training is introduced. Clean water is crucial to good health, but it is nothing without clean hygiene practices as well.

WASH TRAINING

WASH teaches the beneficiaries on the importance of washing hands with soap, using clean containers to transport water from the source to their homes, keeping animals blocked from the water source to prevent contamination, locking the source when not in use to avoid water waste, etc.



FORMATION OF WATER COMMITTEE

The community selects leaders from the village, and parents or teachers from schools, to form a Water Committee that is in charge of the management and maintenance of the well. Our programs encourage 50% female representation for all of our Water Committees because it is usually women who use the source most.

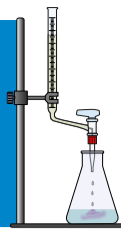


HAND PUMP MECHANIC TRAINING

Some of our partners include skill training for local community members in order to have local hand pump mechanics for when a well becomes non-functional.

WATER QUALITY TESTING

Ensures that water is safe, and meets local and national water standards.



EXPERIENCE-SHARING WORKSHOP

Benefiting communities and the Water Committees share experiences and insights. It also gives the community members a chance to ask the team any remaining questions.

INSTALLATION OF PUMP

This manual pump will activate the well and make it functional.



MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING

Specific training is facilitated to the Water Committee, such as what to do and who to call if the pump breaks, to ensure sustainability of the infrastructure and self-sustainability of the benefiting community.

WELL COMMISSIONING

The process of assuring that all systems and components of the well are designed, installed, tested, operated, and maintained according to national standards.



OPENING CEREMONIES

After the well is commissioned, there is typically an official hand-off of the well from the implementing partner to the benefiting community, representing full ownership of the infrastructure.



7 FINAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Along with local monitoring during the construction and training phases, all of our projects include a final evaluation by the implementing partner and the Project Coordinator for Ryan's Well Foundation. This guarantees that our donors' money is allocated towards the right materials, and identifies any gaps in the project to improve future work.

8 IDENTIFY THE NEXT COMMUNITY IN NEED, AND BEGIN FUNDRAISING AGAIN!



2018/19 PROJECT WORK REPORT

Although this timeline can differ slightly from the actual project implementation due to a combination of factors (the type of infrastructure, area/terrain, climate, WASH programs, etc.), this timeline is an accurate representation of how we, and our partners in the field, conduct our work. All of our projects start with the fundraising efforts of our incredible donors, and end with a vulnerable community having access to clean water, WASH education, and feeling empowered to remain self-sustainable.

It was a very exciting year for Ryan's Well, as we embarked upon the most project work ever completed in one year for the Foundation! With your help, we were able to fund 152 water projects and 10 latrines in 6 countries, providing 72,118 vulnerable people with access to safe water and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) training. This year was a bit experimental, as we completed two pilot projects, including building rainwater harvesting tanks with a new partner in Mexico, and connecting a hospital in Ethiopia to a municipal water source with a well-established partner of ours, CPAR (Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief). Finally, we had a very successful School Challenge project; 47 schools from around the world participated in the challenge, and raised funds to provide 5 schools with safe water and the appropriate WASH and menstrual health training in Northern Uganda. We had a tremendous undertaking last year, and we hope to match or exceed the amount of project work during the 2019-2020 fiscal year! Together, with yourselves and other international donors, we will reach a remarkable 1 million beneficiaries this year since Ryan's Well Foundation began in 2001. Be sure to check out our active projects on our website to learn more about where we are working this fiscal, and stay tuned for the announcement of 1 million beneficiaries!

Donate Now

2018-2019 SCHOOL CHALLENGE

When students do not have a clean water source to drink from, or washroom to use, their education suffers. They can spend hours a day collecting water for drinking and washing, which is time they are unable to spend learning to read and write, or playing with other students. This could make it extremely difficult for them to stay on track with their education, and may result in them having to drop out of school entirely. However, thanks to the fundraising efforts of students from all over the world, more than 2,250 students and staff now have access to clean water and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) education in Northern Uganda. This year's project costed a total of \$43,534 CAD to implement, and rehabilitated a deep well for Alworo Central Primary School; constructed a new deep well for Awiirao Primary School; built two 5-stance drainable pit latrines, one for male students at Barlela Primary School and one for female students at Abutoadi Primary School, both of which were accompanied with 2500L rainwater harvesting jars for handwashing; and trained students at Ateri Primary School on good menstrual hygiene habits and how to make reusable menstruation pads (RUMPs). Community members were also taught how to properly manage and maintain their new water sources.

Thank you to all the students and teachers who took part in this year's School Challenge; we could not help these students without your support. Visit our website to be a part of next year's School Challenge project, which will provide more than 1,500 students with access to safe water and improved sanitation services in Western Uganda!



"There used to be many cases of Typhoid at this school, but there have been no cases since the new tank. We are very grateful to you, and very happy you persisted with us."

Patrick, science teacher and caretaker of rainwater harvesting tank in Southwest Kenya



ISSA'S STORY

Issa is a member of the Adyaka Banya community in Uganda. He completed his senior four class in 2018, and has been accepted into primary teachers' college, but was unable to attend, as his family could not raise the funds required. However, with the help of the new well constructed in his community, Issa was able to build and sell enough bricks to attend teachers' college!

"The well has presented me an opportunity to study, and I will employ some of my friends to continue producing more bricks even if I join the training college in August."



MEET THE TEAM

When Ryan's Well first began, we were a small group of volunteers working out of a room in Ryan's childhood home. Now, we are fortunate enough to have a team of specialized professionals, maximizing the impact of the Ryan's Well Foundation, making our work around the world sustainable. However, we retain our humble beginnings by being a team of only three full-time, and two part-time, employees, working out of a modest office in Kemptville, Ontario. Ryan Hreljac has stepped into the role of Executive Director, and continues to spread the story of Ryan's Well, fundraise, and inspire others to make a difference in their own way. Keely Noiles, our Project Coordinator, works with our on-the-ground partners in the field to sustain and improve our project work. Brina Whitley has joined the team this year, in the role of Communications and Fund Development Officer. Brina works to consistently improve our website and communications, and grow the Foundation's reach through new partnerships and opportunities. Connie Jensen continues her role as Administrative Officer. Connie maintains day-to-day operations, and is always willing to offer a warm smile and a friendly chat to those who want to engage with Ryan's Well. We are fortunate to have two summer students this year, Virginia and Jenna, who provide fresh ideas and energy; we wish them both the best with their continued studies!



Pictured, from left to right, Jenna, Connie, Ryan, Brina, Virginia, and Keely.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE WAYS TO GIVE?

Over the years, our work has benefitted tremendously from thoughtful gifts arranged during the lifetime of a donor, but not realized until the future. These "planned gifts" have a positive and enduring impact on the work of Ryan's Well Foundation. Consider legacy giving as a way of continuing to make an impact in the lives of others.

To learn more, visit our website at <https://www.ryanswell.ca/ways-to-donate/>



Ryan's Well Foundation has offered the option of monthly giving since its beginning in 2001. This consistent support enables us to better plan for the future. The benefit to you, the donor, is knowing that you continue to make an impact on many lives. You can choose to have your donations deducted from your credit card or your bank account - whichever is easiest and most convenient for you. And, should situations arise that you need to stop your monthly support, you can do so at any time. If you wish to learn more, please contact us at info@ryanswell.ca.



Yes, I would like to give a **MONTHLY** gift of clean water and sanitation!

Donate Now