

## TWENTY YEARS IN THE MAKING

2018 marks the 20th anniversary since Ryan began fundraising for clean water, and it has been one crazy journey!

Each new year for Ryan's Well is almost like hitting a restart button. We set new goals and start planning, fundraising, and implementing brand new projects for the communities with whom we work. Yet our legacy isn't a short lived project; with all of our work focusing on sustainability and longevity, these projects persist long after our direct involvement. This really is our goal - helping to provide communities with the tools to build their own futures. This goes far beyond water, but for so many, that's where it starts. And we're privileged to be involved in igniting that spark.

This last year was remarkable. I was able to travel throughout the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Africa to spread our message and further the reach of our work. And being a part of almost a hundred Skypes and Google Hangouts with audiences around the world was unreal! We are growing; so many new and old volunteers and donors elevated our work to new heights. We have definitely been able to make a tangible difference!

This upcoming year, we are in for some awesome events and changes! We're very much looking forward to our November Open House, about which you'll read below - you'll have the opportunity to meet the whole Ryan's Well team on November 18th! We have a very small yet mighty team, but it is only through the incredibly hard work of our volunteers and donors around the world that we are able to continue the amazing work that we do, together with our indigenous partners.

So thank you, to everyone who has been a small or big part of a grade one school project that shouldn't have amounted to much twenty years ago, but ended up changing the world! This upcoming year, please continue to join us in making the world a little more equal.

*Ryan*

## SCHOOL CHALLENGE!



*Ryan, during a monitoring trip in Uganda*

The School Challenge offers an exciting and unique opportunity for young people to get involved and create positive change in the world. Schools from around the globe fundraise while we implement a project. Students receive updates, with pictures and stories from our local partners, in real time as the project progresses.

We are thrilled to announce that the 2018/2019 School Challenge will take place in Northern Uganda. Stay tuned for more information!



*Ryan, age 9, during his first trip to Africa*



*Ryan, age 15, returning to Ryan's Well*



*Ryan, age 26, presenting in Thailand*

## NOVEMBER 2018 OPEN HOUSE



830 Prescott Street, 40 Campus Drive  
Parish Building, 3rd Floor  
Kemptville, ON 613.258.6832

Ryan's Well will be hosting an Open House at our new location on the campus of the former Kemptville College. This is the perfect opportunity to come meet Ryan and the team, and ask any questions you might have about the work of the Foundation. If you are in the Kemptville area, please join us - we would love to see you!



*The Ryan's Well Staff*

## A Brief History of

# THE RYAN'S WELL FOUNDATION

It sure has been an eventful twenty years! From one little boy raising his hand in his Grade one classroom, to our 1,000th well, here's a look-back at many of the events that made our twenty years so memorable.



**1999**

After learning from his Grade one teacher, Ms. Prest, that many people in the world do not have access to **clean water**, six-year-old Ryan fundraised enough money to complete his first well at **Angolo Primary School in Uganda**.

**2001**

This year marked the release of the **50-minute documentary, "Ryan's Well,"** directed by Lalita Krishna, which depicts the beginnings of Ryan's philanthropic journey, and his visit to his first well in Uganda.



**2002**

Ryan was invited to lay a wreath at the Ottawa Cenotaph with **Prince Charles and World War II veteran, the late Colonel Ernest Côté**.



**2003**

It's an honour to be invited to speak on **Oprah** even once, but Ryan was invited TWICE - once in 2001, and again in 2003! Oprah told Ryan that he is "really living proof that **one person**, and it really doesn't matter how old you are, **can really make a difference**."



**2004**

In Orlando, Florida, Ryan was a keynote speaker at **Keller Williams Realty's** family reunion, which sparked friendships and partnerships that greatly help the Ryan's Well Foundation to this day.



**2006**

At just 15 years old, Ryan was one of only two youth delegates to accompany **Her Excellency, Governor General, Michaëlle Jean**, on a twenty-three day state visit to five African countries - Algeria, Mali, Ghana, South Africa, and Morocco.



**2000**

Ryan met the then-**Prime Minister of Canada, Jean Chretien**, in a meeting at his office on Parliament Hill. The Prime Minister commended the Ryan's Well project and made a \$100 donation right from his wallet to help support Ryan's dream!



**2001**

Community leaders and volunteers helped form the **Ryan's Well Foundation**, an NGO aimed to help alleviate water problems around the world!



**2002**

Ryan attended **World Water Forums** in 2003 and 2006, in Kyoto, Japan and Mexico City, as well as the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2002. There, he shared his expertise with like-minded individuals about the importance of water all across the globe. Ryan was invited to attend yet another World Water Forum in Sweden this past August.



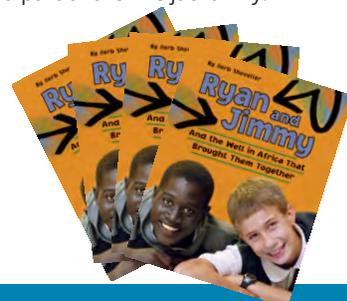
**2003**

At age 12, Ryan was the **youngest EVER** recipient of the **Order of Ontario!**



**2006**

Herb Shoveller wrote and published the award-winning children's story "**Ryan and Jimmy and the Well in Africa That Brought Them Together**," which tells the story of Ryan's journey, and Jimmy, Ryan's Ugandan pen pal who became a part of the Hreljac family.





# BOUNTIFUL REWARDS FROM PROJECT WORK



The 2017-18 fiscal year saw Ryan's Well and our partners undertake the most work over the course of one year than at any other time in the Foundation's history. We saw the completion of 111 water projects in Burkina Faso, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, and Haiti, and implemented Community Organization Committees and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) training with each project. We were only able to do this amount of work because of the incredible financial support we received throughout the course of the year. During our current fiscal year, we hope to surpass project work completed in 2017-2018, placing a strong emphasis on helping schools, maternity wards, health clinics, and hospitals.

Our yearly audited financial reports are posted on our website, and so you, as a valued donor or potential donor, are better able to see exactly how we allocate our funds. We pride ourselves on total transparency, and ensure that you can see the work we accomplish easily on our website. Or, if you are unable to find what you are looking for, that we pick up our phones, and can answer any questions you may have for us.



This is a special year for us as we celebrate 20 years of Ryan being on this path. We have stayed focused on WASH, Motivation, and Education since the very beginning. We have chosen to stick to our strengths, and not stray from our mission simply to attract funds. At the age of six, Ryan was on a mission - one that has increased in intensity as time has passed. Over 925,000 people now have access to potable water as a result of people around the world who have walked step by step alongside Ryan since 1998.

## A DIVINE PARTNERSHIP



Our work would never be at the level of quality it is without our amazing partners. It's only by working together with indigenous partners, like Divine Waters, that we are able to help so many gain access to safe, clean water. Ryan was able to spend months on the ground with Divine Waters at the beginning of 2015, planning projects and collaborating with local communities to improve the longevity and reach of each project site. In January of 2018, Ryan visited Divine Waters to look back on last year's work and prepare for our upcoming year. Sustainability doesn't happen by accident; it takes hard labour, diligence, and a strong commitment. Our work with Divine from this last year was some of the most exemplary work we have achieved, and we couldn't be happier to showcase all the amazing work our partnership has accomplished!

## NEW NETWORKS

We are excited to welcome a new foundation partner this year in Sustain for Life, a UK-based private foundation. We can't wait to see this partnership flourish, to help provide long-lasting results.



Every year, our work is made possible thanks to generous donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations. We are also beyond thankful for KW Cares, who have been generously supporting us for many years.



## DELIGHTFUL DONORS

Hear, in their own words, how and why long-term donors Hugh and Sherri Faloon chose the Ryan's Well Foundation.



It was about five years ago that we were invited to an event for Ryan's Well by Ron Little. It was not the first time we had heard about the foundation; Sherri and I remembered hearing the story of a young boy from Kemptville who, on his initiative, funded a well because he could not believe everyone didn't have access to clean water. Listening to the evening's program, and through our discussions with Jane, the Executive Director at the time, we knew we wanted to find a way to get involved.

We had been involved in well projects through another organization and were aware that there were risks, and that they must have the right people and process in

place to ensure success. The Ryan's Well Foundation had the teams, contractors and village council control procedures in place to reduce the overall risk of our investment and, most importantly, ensure these communities could benefit from access to clean water for many years to come.

We were very pleased to see that, through the construction of three wells, we were able to exceed our goal of providing clean water to 1,000 people. But we have to thank the Ryan's Well Foundation and their teams for making this a reality. They did all the hard work and will continue to monitor these projects. All we did was attend a charitable event five years ago and write three cheques. I have often thanked Ron Little for inviting us to the event which turned out to provide us with the ongoing gift of allowing us to help more children than we ever thought possible. So thank you Ryan, Mark, and the whole team, for your help with these wells, and for the amazing work you do on a daily basis to make life so much better for so many deserving people.



Can't get enough of Ryan's Well? Follow us on any or all of our social media platforms! Or, you can visit us at [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)



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[www.youtube.com/RyansWellFoundation](http://www.youtube.com/RyansWellFoundation)

Please take the time to give. Detach the donation slip below and mail in the enclosed envelope.

Your generous contribution will make a difference in the lives of thousands of people.

For the **ONE-TIME ONLY** donation option, please see other side.

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

\$100/Month  \$75/Month  \$50/Month  \$20/Month  Other \$ \_\_\_\_/Month

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Prov./State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please find enclosed my VOID cheque payable to "Ryan's Well Foundation."

Please bill my credit card:  VISA  Exp: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV #\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Three-digit code on back of card

Card #: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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Or, you can make a secure online donation at [www.ryanswell.ca/donate](http://www.ryanswell.ca/donate)



I would like to receive Ryan's Well e-mail updates.

Your monthly donation will be processed each month on the day of your first donation. You may adjust the amount of your gift any time by contacting us at [info@ryanswell.ca](mailto:info@ryanswell.ca) or at 1-613-258-6832.

Canadian residents will receive a Canadian tax receipt for your annual contribution at the end of the year.

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