

ANNUAL REPORT



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What a year this has been! In Rwanda, fall of 2022 meant that COVID restrictions really began to lift, and so much work got done. We saw a 50% increase in the number of household filters distributed from the year before. Community filters and Rain Water Harvest Systems started popping up all over the place. This, the second year of our 3 year partnership with World Relief, was all hands on deck.

2023 was also a significant year of transition. Chip and Amanda, the dedicated duo who had led 20 Liters for 7 years, set the table perfectly before moving on to other positions. As our new Executive Director, Dave VanOpstall, came on board, boxes upon boxes of filters were ready for the shipping container in October. A successful send off of roughly 2,500 filter systems and supplies meant the Water Project would thrive in 2024.

As work was happening in the U.S., our Rwandan partners were also training volunteers and starting health and hygiene clubs - a critical step in bringing holistic health and wellness to the most vulnerable populations.

By the numbers

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**2,672 Household Filters
Distributed**

Contributions
\$284,974

Program Revenue
\$553

Other Revenue
\$25,300

**FY23 Revenue
\$310,817**



**14 Community
Filters Installed**



**19 Rain Water Harvest
Systems Built**

Program
\$156,128

Management & General
\$46,355

Fundraising
\$44,529

**FY23 Expenses
\$247,012**



**1,764 U.S. Volunteer
Hours Contributed**

Bright Futures

Start With Clean Water

Karenge Primary School, located in the Kavumu village of Rwanda's Jarama sector, serves as the academic home of nearly 1,000 students and 30 teachers. Since its founding, Karenge has relied on three nearby lakes as its only sources of water for cooking meals, cleaning facilities, and hydrating staff and students. Due to a lack of proper hygiene and sanitation practices, however, students and teachers frequently fell ill from waterborne diseases.

Last fall, Karenge received several SAM II filters from 20 Liters, which aimed to help the school address many of the health and sanitation issues preventing it from fostering a safe and nurturing learning environment. Odette Mukashyaka, one of the teachers in charge of Karenge's hygiene protocols, shared in an interview with local 20 Liters partner World Relief how the school's new SAM II filters are making a difference both in and out of the classroom.

"Students and teachers, including myself, were always getting sick because of dirty water. Even though we knew we should be boiling our water, few of us had the time to do so," said Odette. "This meant that at any given time, students would either be sick or thirsty. But now they love drinking water!"

With Karenge's SAM II filters, Odette reports that students no longer miss class due to waterborne sickness. Additionally, while no longer thirsty or sick the majority of the time, students' attention in the classroom has skyrocketed. All of this brings a smile to the face of Odette, who has made it a long-term goal to raise attendance, test scores, and overall student satisfaction. Based on the success she's witnessed at Karenge, Odette hopes to see filter projects spread to every school in her village.





The Greatest Gift

As a widow raising two grandchildren in Rwanda's Uruhuha village, Beatrice Mukashaka has a difficult life. Despite her hardships, Beatrice has been a longtime active member of the church in her village and enjoys going every Sunday with her grandsons, Kevin and Fabrice, who are 6 and 3 years old.

When local 20 Liters partner World Relief began mobilizing churches in Uruhuha to serve the most vulnerable, leaders recognized Beatrice needed shelter and, with the support of volunteers, built her a house. Along with the house, the church was also able to provide items she needed to pursue a healthier lifestyle, including a SAM III filter. Right away, the filter began making a significant difference in the family's life. Prior to receiving the filter, Kevin and Fabrice would often reject Beatrice's attempts to serve them water she had boiled, complaining that it still tasted dirty. After the filter was installed, though, the boys began asking Beatrice to pour them a glass; requests which she gleefully obliged.

Like many who rely on natural water sources such as nearby lakes, Kevin was prone to waterborne illness from the water he used to drink. Since having access to the SAM III filter, Kevin says that he is happier and healthier than he has ever been! To ensure his continued health, Beatrice makes sure to fetch her water from her church's nearby RWHS (rainwater harvesting system), which was also provided by 20 Liters.

In an interview, Beatrice shares how grateful she feels toward her church and those like 20 Liters and World Relief who empower it to serve their village. As the recipient of these blessings, she has made a commitment to steward and share what she has received to the best of her ability. She plans to maintain her SAM III filter so that it can serve her family and those around her for years to come. Already, she is seeing how this commitment is radiating outward into her community as she offers visitors, neighbors, and passerby one of the greatest gifts she has to offer: a cup to drink.