



Ripple Effect

Update for friends and supporters Vol. 1, No. 5

“Nurturing the human spirit through the gift of clean water.”



A message from Elena

Much has happened since our last newsletter. My trip to Haiti (December 2016) following Hurricane Matthew confirmed the overwhelming impact of this monstrous storm. The goal of the trip was to determine whether to establish a community-wide clean water project in the city of Jeremie, the hardest hit community in Grand’Anse Province. After lengthy discussion and review of my report, the Executive Board determined it was beyond our financial and administrative ability to do so. Our advisors were greatly discouraged and hurt by this decision. We are committed to continue our work in the communities where our Water = Life advisors live.



A year after Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico on Sept. 17 last year, many of our fellow citizens remain without access to clean water. Water=Life is establishing a relationship with the Presbytery of the North to bring clean water to the devastated community of Lares. I will be traveling to the community in February to begin a new Water = Life journey, the **PUERTO RICO INITIATIVE**.

The need for clean water both in our country and around the world continues. Your commitment to support the mission of Water=Life to bring clean water, health and hope to children and their families has never been more critical. Your support of this goal strengthens our commitment to serve communities one drop at a time. Won't you join us?

Rev. Elena Delgado, *President, Water = Life*

Don't forget to participate! Giving Tuesday is November 27

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving, celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Please consider donating to Water=Life.

Visit waterequallife.org to donate via PayPal, or mail your check to **Water = Life, P.O. Box 295, Alden NY 14004.**

Water=Life is a registered 501-C3 non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.





Water filters delivered to a new orphanage in Haiti

In May, Water=Life president Elena Delgado met with SUNY nursing student **Grace Mattle** to explain the use of the Sawyer water filters. Grace delivered the filters to the newly opened orphanage **Home of Matthew 25** in Les Cayes. Thank you Grace for successfully installing two filters, bringing clean water to eight children and their caregivers. Filter by filter, lives are changing through the gift of clean water.



Thank You to the counselors and students from Dover, DE

After a long week of teaching and playing with kids at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Vacation Bible School (VBS), youth counselors chose to support Water=Life as their annual summer service project. Led by youth leaders **Cecilia Field** and **Alexi Leonard**, the team of 20 middle school students held two bake sales at the Dover Market in the village of Dover raising **\$815.46**. This is the most generous youth support Water=Life has yet received. Thank you St. Dunstan's youth! Your vision and action are changing the lives of other children and youth with the gift of pure water. Thank you church members and the people of Dover for your generosity.

W=L assists students in Tanzania

In November, Elena Delgado met **Rev. Godrick Lyimo**, headmaster of Agape Lutheran Junior Seminary, a middle school in Moshi (Kilimanjaro), Tanzania. Rev. Lyimo was in Buffalo as a guest of Canisius College and University Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, NY.

She shared with him the commitment of Water=Life to bring health and hope to children and their families through the gift of clean water and of its work in Kenya and in Haiti. Always seeking new opportunities to extend the outreach of W=L, Elena offered 6 Sawyer SP180 filters which Headmaster Lyimo wants to place in the school kitchen and on each floor of the girls and boys dormitories.

Your generous support of Water=Life is now offering the 500 students a brighter future of health as they learn, play and grow in the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro!



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