

wine to water[®]



THE POWER OF WATER



A note from Founder and President, Doc Hendley

One of the downsides of my work is having to witness first hand the terrible effects of disasters and wars. When I look back at the really hard ones though, like the genocide in Sudan or the earthquake in Haiti, I choose not to remember the worst parts. Instead, in my mind I see the breathtaking African sun setting behind a row of thatched roof huts or the light slowly dancing on top of the water as the same sun slowly rises from the clear blue waters of the Caribbean.

Many years from today, when I look back at this terrible storm and its aftermath, it won't be the flooding or the destroyed homes and livelihoods I choose to remember. Here too, it will be the light I remember most. I've seen countless sunsets and rises in these ancient blue mountains, but none of them will I remember more than the light shining in the hearts of these mighty people as they rallied around each other to bless their neighbors in this historic time of need. The Light was here long before these great mountains were formed. It is good and pure and can heal all wounds caused by even the darkest storms of life.



*Support clean water
and dignity for all*

Wine To Water
is committed
to supporting
life and dignity
FOR ALL
through the
power of
clean water.



Dominican Republic: Sharing Innovation

In Rafael Rodriguez's community of La Colorada, rainfall is abundant, but water sources are often unprotected. The people there have struggled with waterborne illness for years, but Rafael is also plagued by health issues that left him wheelchair bound.

When Wine To Water came to La Colorada to pilot our Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) system, we asked each household to construct the base of the system using cement block and rebar.

Rafael was determined to participate despite his disability and lack of resources. He put his ingenuity to work, using an old tractor tire to construct the base rather than cement blocks. Rafael's neighbors helped

him move the tire into place, filling it with rocks and topping it with cement.

When our team arrived at Rafael's home, they were thrilled to find that he had not only completed the base, but had improved on the design! Rafael's resourcefulness and motivation inspired the new RWH system base that WTW now uses throughout the Dominican Republic.

Rafael's story illustrates how **WTW works hand in hand with people and communities to develop context-appropriate solutions.** Each individual matters and has something to contribute to their own society and to the world.



Our teams have partnered with 8 communities across the Dominican Republic to install 72 Rainwater Harvesting systems.





WTW has reached more than 150,000 people in Tanzania with safe water by providing ceramic filters, drilling community wells, and installing comprehensive water systems for schools and communities.

Tanzania: Sharing a Resource

For women like Fatuma, the lack of clean water is a life-long burden. The 63-year-old has lived her entire life without a safe source of water. In Tanzania alone, women and girls spend 16 million hours each day collecting water that is often contaminated.

Fatuma's community of Nambala partnered with Wine To Water to assess their water needs and distribute ceramic filters. Fatuma and her family were among the first of 720 households that received filters.

Fatuma and her husband were taught how to use and maintain their filter, and underwent sanitation and hygiene training, which will help prevent the spread of dangerous disease.

When our team visited Fatuma and her husband in their home, we were touched by their eagerness to use their filter to provide clean water for their neighbors, who were awaiting the second round of distributions from WTW. **"I plan to share the filter with my neighbors until they get their own," Fatuma told us.**

To further expand water access in Nambala, WTW drilled a community well that supplies water to the school facilities and to a centrally-located water kiosk where families can come for an ongoing source of safe water.



Nepal: Sharing Knowledge

Children in the cliffside community of Katheswora, Nepal, are eager to learn, but their education was hindered by the lack of safe water and sanitation facilities at Shree Rastriya Adharbhut School.

Students often fell ill with waterborne disease and were unable to attend school. Girls had to stay home during their menstrual cycles because there were not proper bathrooms or hand washing stations.

Wine To Water partnered with the school to provide the water access needed for students to thrive. Our team built hand washing stations and sanitation facilities, and installed tap stands that allowed clean water to flow.

But WTW goes beyond construction of water and sanitation facilities, investing in the education of the students in Katheswora. We taught students to make hygiene practices part of their daily lives and worked with teachers to weave water and sanitation lessons into their curriculum, school clubs, and community events.

Not only did this promote healthier practices among students—it rippled outward to have a positive impact on the entire community. Boys and girls took the lessons they learned at school back home to their families and, as a result, Nepali families are experiencing the power of water to improve health and wellbeing.



We have partnered with 150 schools across Nepal to reach students with clean water access and crucial hygiene and sanitation education.



As of October 2024, WTW provided 190,000 gallons of water, 1.2 million pounds of emergency supplies, and distributed membrane filters that impacted over 9,200 individuals.

Churches, community centers, fire stations, breweries and warehouses made their facilities available for WTW to use as distribution sites where families could find what they needed to make it through the hardest days after the storm.

More than 1,000 volunteers have powered Wine To Water's work across Western North Carolina and will continue to mobilize throughout the next phase of recovery. Danette Greene, a registered nurse at Mission Hospital in Asheville, came to a WTW supply hub for water and other supplies after the hurricane.

When she overheard someone talking about volunteering, she decided to sign up. Danette used her empathy as a nurse to listen to the stories of hurting people as she filled up 5 gallon water bags and buckets. "Anything I can do to help, I'm there," she said.

From day one of our response to Hurricane Helene, the Wine To Water team witnessed the spirit of community at work: neighbors helping neighbors, even in the midst of their own struggles and grief. Everyone here was affected by the storm, but hope was ignited as hands and feet worked together, side by side without labels or judgement.

It is this same spirit of community that Fatuma showed by sharing her ceramic water filter with her neighbors; that urged school children in Nepal to bring the excitement of their hygiene lessons home to their family; and the motivation and ingenuity that led Rafael to reimagine the design for the Rainwater Harvesting system.

Wine To Water, our volunteers, and our supporters are all a part of this global community that is working together to preserve life and dignity through the power of clean water.

Western North Carolina: Inspiring Hope

When category-4 Hurricane Helene barreled through Western North Carolina (WNC), mountain rivers turned into raging currents, ripping houses off their foundations, causing landslides, and sweeping away roads and bridges. Lives were lost and hundreds of communities were entirely cut off, left without power and water, and unsure when—or if—help would arrive.

"It was like we were on a little island up here. We couldn't get a hold of anyone," said Elizabeth Turbo. Elizabeth lives in Elk Park—a small community about an hour west of Boone, NC, where Wine To Water is headquartered. "This area is all bridges, and they were gone. Nobody could go anywhere. We were just stuck."

Elizabeth's home uses electricity to power a springwater box—however, power won't be restored for several more months. Wine To Water brought ATVs loaded with filters, generators, food, and volunteers to assist with clean up. WTW reached dozens of communities that were cut off, using off road vehicles to navigate crumbling roads—and even hauling supplies in on foot—to reach families with water and essential supplies.

We set up supply hubs in central locations throughout WNC where families could come for essentials.

These supply hubs were stocked with donations of bottled water, food, hygiene items, and emergency relief supplies—including flashlights, batteries, gas and propane canisters, and plastic tarps.

The Grant Center in Asheville was one of the first sites to open with Highland Christian Church and WTW. A few weeks after working tirelessly to serve neighbors Jason Garris asked a resident, "You good?" "How could we not be," the man said, "Ya'll have taken such good care of us." Then he hugged Jason.

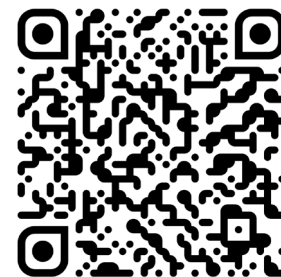
In Asheville, our team quickly identified a need for water to flush toilets and prevent the spread of disease. "People were desperate," said Tina Owen, Vice President of WTW and Asheville resident. "Hundreds of families had no drinking water, and no access to water to flush toilets. I knew we had to launch a 'WTW Flush Team' within 24 hours - health and dignity were at risk."

We mobilized 9,000 gallon tanker trucks to deliver flush water, prioritizing public housing and low-income, vulnerable neighborhoods. WTW also installed large scale water filtration units to minimize a dependency on single use plastics for drinking water.



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