WATER WELL PROPOSAL

to help bring life to others through providing fresh, clean, drinking water for remote villages in Western Zambia where waterborne illnesses are a major contributory factor to death, especially children younger than five years old.

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Thank You
Thank you so much for your interest in giving financially towards our water wells project. We trust that this proposal will provide you with the necessary information you may need.

Project Background and Vision
The Zambia Project was started in 2003 when Paul & Marinette van Coller from Cape Town moved to Mongu, the main centre in Western Zambia to reach the people in Western Zambia with a message of hope, truth and love. Our vision is to see every community in the Western Province of Zambia uplifted through strong Christ-centred churches. And to have a church within walking distance (one hour each way) of each person in the Western Province. We aim to uplift the rural communities we work in and try to improve their lives, so, by starting with their primary needs such as water will be a huge step towards this goal.

The Water Wells Project started in 2009 and to date we have established 10 wells, providing safe and clean drinking water to roughly 10 000 people. The area is vast, about 250 000 square km, with roughly a million people spread out in small villages. In order to achieve of vision for every person in Western Zambia to have access to safe drinking water around 12 000 more water wells are needed! The task is enormous and we will appreciate your assistance.

The need
One of the major challenges the people in Western Zambia face is the lack of a good clean water source. Without clean, safe drinking water diseases, dehydration and even premature death constantly plague the people. Their babies and children are especially vulnerable. Thousands of mothers have to make a daily choice to watch their children die of dehydration, or give them water that is polluted and full of deadly bacteria.

Contaminated water causes 80% of all sickness and disease, and kills more people every year than all forms of violence, including war.
During the dry months many communities are forced to walk for up to four hours to access water and even then the water they access is unclean. Young children are often responsible for the collection and the family’s water. Collecting water is not only physically stressful but extremely time consuming. One of the most serious effects is that the children are often not able to attend school.

How we establish a water well
Initially a research team starts by establishing a relationship with the village elders before the actual work begins. Once we have dug the well, we sink reinforced concrete rings to make it last for many years and then cast a concrete slab to seal it. A MKII hand pump is then installed on top of this slab ensuring the well is not contaminated, does not silt up and more importantly, even children can safely access the water. The whole well installation is done together with help and labour from both our professional team and the community themselves. By participating and becoming part of the process the community then understands the benefits of a clean water and how to maintain their new well. It takes approximately 8 days to install a well.
What happens after the well is built?
The positive change in the communities is phenomenal and so encouraging. The people’s delighted faces, especially of the children, drinking water without having to spit out soil or other particles is a joy that is difficult to express. Where there was once the stress of no guarantee in drinking water, there is a sudden change and lives improve dramatically as their health steadily improves. The daily drudge of always looking for water is now dealt with, mothers are able to feed their babies and children can attend school and concentrate. Once communities have a reliable water source other possibilities are available, such as growing vegetables, planting fruit trees and better personal hygiene.

The local community is engaged in the well building process, carrying out small tasks for free to reduce labour costs. This also encourages community participation and ensures ownership after the well is complete. Each community forms a water committee. These committees are educated about the importance of hand washing and proper sanitation, and are responsible for ensuring that the well stays clean and maintained.

Water changes everything!
Cost
The average cost of each well is approximately $4,000 USD. This might seem like a lot of money, but it is a small price to pay when we see the hope that it brings to people. Each well provides water for an average of 1,000 people. This means that a child can receive a lifetime of clean water for as little as $4!

(average cost)
Drilling Well including casing $2,900
Pump Purchase $ installation $700
Concrete Work $400

Conclusion
You can help us give clean water and save lives by donating financially towards our community wells. 100% of your funds will go directly to our water wells project. Your generosity will save and change many lives!

Please contact me if you would like any further information.

Warmest regards
Marinette van Coller
ASSISTANT LEADER, ZAMBIA PROJECT

A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty; an optimist sees the same glass as half full. But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts to look for someone that might be thirsty.