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DrinkLocalDrinkTap.org

ABOUT OUR CLEAN WATER WORK

How is it possible that we here in Northeast Ohio have an abundant freshwater supply, but 2.2 billion people still haul dirty water for miles by foot? In contrast, our own Lake Erie here in Cleveland, Ohio, is plagued with pollution. These are the issues that Drink Local Drink Tap grapples with every single day.

We discovered that the stark difference in realities exists because most people in the United States, especially the Great Lakes Region, have not witnessed water scarcity or stress. Even if people become aware of the world water crisis, they often lack the tools, knowledge, and avenues for action to change that reality. Therefore, we set ourselves on a mission.

“TO IMPROVE WATER EQUITY THROUGH PROJECTS, PROGRAMMING AND PARTNERSHIPS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE CLEAN WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT.”

We do this through three foundational pillars of programming; **Equity, Engagement and Education**

Equity: In Uganda, in the African Great Lakes Region, we solve water equity issues by providing holistic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) solutions in rural communities to keep kids in school and keep families healthy. We have provided 46,800+ people with clean water and 16,082 people with safe sanitation (Jul 2023). We have a 100% success rate in Uganda, meaning, all the projects are functioning. Locally, in Greater Cleveland, we also serve as founding members of the Greater Cleveland Water Equity Partners alongside our utilities, nonprofits and others.

Engagement: Drink Local Drink Tap hosts dozens of events annually to celebrate water and to take care of it. Our major events include:

- **Beach cleanups:** Since 2010, we have hosted 130+ cleanups in Cleveland totally more than 15,154 lbs of trash picked up through 2022.
- **4 Miles 4 Water:** An annual run and walk for clean water, hosting 500-1,000 people on the banks of the Cuyahoga River in the Flats of Cleveland. Save the Date: **11th Annual 4 Miles 4 Water - June 8th, 2024**
- **Annual Giving Splash Party:** Our largest fundraising event where we engage with our sponsors, partners and donors. Save the Date: **10th Annual Giving Splash Party September 21st, 2023**

Education: Through the Wavemaker Program, we engage both students and educators in water-related topics and sensitize them towards local and global water issues through this Program. The Program serves as a foundation-building space to understand environmental and social issues and inspire action in affecting change. We realize the power that our stories from Uganda hold, so we share them with students in Northeast Ohio through a carefully crafted curriculum and experiences. Our Wavemaker Program has reached 21,500 youth since 2010.

Domestically, we seek funding to support in-classroom teaching engagements for our Wavemaker Program, World Water Day, beach cleanups, project based learning activities, events, capacity building and operations.

Internationally, we require funds to implement clean water and sanitation projects in rural Uganda. Specifically, support is used to build water wells (boreholes), toilets and bathing facilities, or piped water systems, and supports ongoing monitoring and evaluations, community engagement and capacity building of our Ugandan team.

Our 13 years of impact are truly more than two pages can hold and I welcome the opportunity to discuss our mission and ways that we can work together.

Thank you,

Erin Huber

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EQUITY

ENGAGEMENT

EDUCATION

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