



RWANDA

Musenyi Community

10 Days 2014

WATER

Community Details

Without a safe and accessible water source, the 80 families of Musenyi faced challenges no family should have to face. Diseases, such as malaria and respiratory infections, created difficulties that resulted in a domino effect of negatively impacting the education of the children and the employment opportunities of the adults. With local surface water and springs as their only options for water, their ability to escape these challenges were greatly limited. However, half a world away, a community of individuals decided to call the people of Musenyi their neighbors, and sacrificed in their daily lives to bring their neighbors in Rwanda safe drinking water. Because of this great act of kindness and sacrificial love, the lives of those living in Musenyi have been changed and their hopes finally realized. The field staff shared their experience of working with this community that is grateful and overjoyed to have access to safe water:

We visited Musenyi community upon a request from village leaders as one of the communities that needed a clean water source. We visited this community with the village leaders. After a meeting with community members, they proposed to us different locations we could visit and select a drilling site. After several visits to several sites, we came to propose a location where we thought we would be able to drill and get water and within easy reach of the community members. The village members agreed that they [would] provide free land for drilling wherever we proposed. We proposed our potential site and the community members started paving the site so that our drilling trucks could access the site easily. We drilled our first well in this community and it became unsuccessful, but we never gave up and neither did the community members. Our drilling rig broke down and it stayed [in the community during] the whole repair period (one week), and the community members provided security to our trucks [during] this period.

The community was able to benefit from safe hygiene and sanitation lessons shared during the team's time with them. The residents were very attentive and careful in learning the lessons taught. These lessons are one of the stepping-stones necessary to bring about the full benefit of safe water and create a community free of its burden of disease. These efforts will greatly complement the work of other organizations in the area, Compassion, Care International and SNV, which work to better education and social assistance in the area.

To ensure the new Afridev hand pump mounted on the 25-meter-deep borehole remains usable for the community members, the people created a five-person water committee consisting of three men and two women. These individuals will ensure the people of Musenyi continue to experience safe water in their community by maintaining the pump and spearheading and repairs.

The local church was encouraged to be a part of the water committee and to be actively involved in the care of the new water source. The church was present in the sharing of the gospel through oral Bible story telling and will continue to be a part of the evangelism efforts during the showing of the JESUS film and future oral Bible story telling opportunities. The Living Water team worked closely with the church to provide them the opportunity to share Christ with their neighbors, and through these efforts, 17 came to Christ!

Across borders and beyond oceans, the love of a community of people in the United States has had a real, lasting, even eternal impact on a community half a world away in Rwanda. This act of love has proven that we are all neighbors and we are all capable of changing the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

Project Details

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Product | New |
| Location of water point | Musenyi, South, Ruhango, Rwanda |
| Type of Institution Served | Village |
| GPS Coordinates | Latitude: 02 07.188 S Longitude: 029 53.536 E |

Construction

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Altitude | 1458 m |
| Total depth drilled | 25 m |
| Static level | 3 m |
| Total depth of casing | 25 m |
| External Diameter of casing | 100 mm |
| Casing material | PVC |
| Screen | Start: 14 m Stop: 24 m |
| Pump Type | Afridev |
| Depth of cylinder | 21 m |
| Gravel Pack | Yes |
| Gravel Pack Depth | 12 m |
| Well yield | 10.83 Liters/minute |
| Sanitary seal depth from surface | 3 m |
| Shock Chlorination | Yes |

Well Platform

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Platform is concrete with reinforcing steel | Yes |
| Dimension of Platform (H*W*L) | 2*2*6 |
| Drainage Channel or soak pit installed | Yes |
| Anything else constructed | Protective Fencing |

Water Quality Results

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Water Purity Test | LWI Test Kit |
| Total Dissolved Solids (as per T.D.S meter) : | 285 |
| pH: | 6.5 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------|
| | Total Hardness: | 0 Ppm |
| | Nitrate/Nitrites: | 0.4 Ppm |
| Bacteria Test | Coliform Bacteria NOT detected (Colorless or Light Yellow color) | |
| | Arsenic: | 0 Ppm |
| | Iron: | 0 Ppm |
| | Fluoride: | 0.09 Ppm |
| Other Comments on Water Quality | Musenyi well water quality was analyzed using Wagtech Potalab and LWI Field Test Kit. The water meets all the parameters tested for. | |

FOR LIFE

Hygiene Promotion

To fully protect communities from disease, the Living Water team shared essential hygiene and sanitation lessons with 55 community members. The Living Water team used the LWI Traditional Method, which provides the greatest opportunity for interaction and engagement while learning how to prevent common diseases in the area. The team shared:

We conducted the Hygiene and Sanitation training of Musenyi community members with the help from community local leaders who mobilized the members. We shared with them a number of lessons including keeping the water clean, proper care of the pump, tippy tap, HIV/AIDS, good-bad hygiene behaviors, latrine perception, healthy and unhealthy communities, hand washing-proper techniques, germs, disease transmission. After the training, the members had identified with a number of practices to consider improving mostly hand washing at five critical times, safe water chain and improving their latrines.

The community also built a tippy tap so that they could participate in hand washing and protect themselves against disease transmission. By implementing simple, but powerful, practices such as this, the people of Musenyi can move past common disease and enjoy the health and benefits of safe water.

Community Member Interview

“Our water was from that stream over there,” explained 28-year-old subsistence farmer and beneficiary, Umuranga Christine. “I grew up here and I never expected to have clean water so soon. This water is near and is very clean.”

IN JESUS' NAME

Christian Witness

Water brings life to the body and Christ brings life to the soul. To keep both body and soul from thirst, the Living Water team shared the gospel of Jesus Christ to 110 individuals (25 men, 32 women and 53 children) while bringing safe water to Musenyi, Rwanda.

We shared the gospel via oral [Bible] storytelling. Our drill team, while getting all set to begin work, welcomed the community and explained to them our mission in their community. Taking over from [the drill team] we shared the story of Jesus calming the storm. Close to 17 people accepted to follow Jesus as their Savior, and the rest were prayed for and blessed. A local church pastor from the area came and participated.

The team will continue to work with the community by showing the JESUS film and working with the local church through the Involvement Model. The Involvement Model allows the Living Water team to incorporate the local church members into the gospel presentation at the well and in future ministry opportunities. The field staff stated:

The local church will help in mobilizing the community for evangelism and also in taking care of the well by getting involved with the water committees. Living Water will also train the local pastors on orality strategy and how to use it both for discipleship and evangelism.

The local pastor, Nseyinde Isidor, will stay in communication with the Living Water team. He will be able to inform the team of the spiritual state of the community and the work of the local church.

PHOTOS



The previous water source for the community of Musenyi.



The water source compromised the health and time of the people of Musenyi.



The Living Water team works hard to bring the community safe water.



A close-up of the plaque attached to the new hand pump that testifies of the selfless sacrifice of many in the United States through the 10 Days program of 2014 to bring safe water to their neighbors in Rwanda.



“Our water was from that stream over there,” explained 28-year-old subsistence farmer and beneficiary, Umuranga Christine. “I grew up here and I never expected to have clean water so soon. This water is near and is very clean.”



This gentleman has volunteered to take leadership in caring for the pump by ensuring its regular maintenance and care.



Community members retrieve safe water from the pump.



Community members are reviewing hygiene lessons in the Musenyi Village.



Because of the gift of safe water, the community members were able to hear the oral Bible story of Jesus calming the storm.