

NEWSLETTER 2022 issue | January 2023



Greetings Friend!

We want to take a moment to express our deep gratitude for your continued support of WorldHope Corps. Your generosity and commitment have helped make a real and lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

In this newsletter, we would like to share the highlights of 2022, including: a message from the Executive Director, messages from the Directors of WHC Malawi and WHC Uganda, Program reports from 2022, upcoming events and ways for you to get involved. We are grateful for the progress that has been made and excited to share it with you. From providing clean water and education opportunities to those in need, to organizing community development programs, we could not have done it without you! Your support is critical to our continued success and we are honored to have you on the team.

We look forward to continuing to work together and make a positive impact in our world, one community at a time.

Sincerely, The WorldHope Corps Team

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Message from the Founder and Director, WorldHope Corps Inc.



Happy New Year from WorldHope Corps! The end of 2022 marked the 15th anniversary of WorldHope Corps, Inc.a mission organization I started while teaching at Drew University. Since 2007, WHC has provided clean water, scholarships, educational and community development training in Malawi and Uganda. Fifteen years years later, WorldHope Corps continues to fund and facilitate village wells projects, Hope Scholarships, and Faith-Based Community Development Training. Today, we do our work primarily through our two in-country affiliate organizations: WorldHope Corps Malawi (led by Reverend Dennis Singini) and WorldHope Corps Uganda (led by Pastor Baamu Moses).

Additionally, through a donor-advisory provision, we sponsor special projects each year (such as the Shalom Coffee Cooperatives in Uganda, Shoes for the Community Nursery and Primary School in Katikara, Women's Empowerment workshops, and micro loans for small business development).

Thank you for your immense support and partnership with WorldHope Corps. I hope you will visit our <u>website</u> and review past program updates to take in all the good that has been done this past year—a year that also has been clouded with danger, chronic stress or trauma, and unmet needs for so many. I take this opportunity to humbly ask you to join us in mobilizing assets and raising hope in the world through compassionate ministry and community work. There are many ways to be part of the "corps" in WorldHope Corps. Please check out our <u>Giving Catalogue</u> to see if any of our projects for 2023 appeal to you for support or sponsorship in this New Year.

Please continue to help us keep the water flowing, coffee growing, children learning, and families thriving, by connecting resources with needs and mobilizing assets for the common good.

On behalf of our mission partners and volunteer corps, thank you again for participating in the good work of WorldHope Corps in 2022. I wish you a very blessed and a joyful New Year.

Michael J. Christensen, Ph.D.

Message from the Director, WorldHope Corps Malawi



This is to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you for donating to us resources to drill boreholes and sponsor students to stay in school. I have no words to fully express our gratitude on the behalf of the entire WorldHope Corps Malawi team. I can assure you that the money has been used and will always be used for the good of our beneficiaries. WHC Malawi promises you to be good stewards of the resources you provide us with.

Our communities lack many basic needs for a better quality of life such as access

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to potable water and quality education, but they are extremely blessed to have supporters like you.

We appreciate and are genuinely grateful to you for being there to support us. Thank you so much for being such an example to our team and for inspiring us to work harder to make a difference.

May God bless you

For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Matthew 25:35-36

Rev. Dennis Singini

Message from the Director, WorldHope Corps Uganda



Greetings! WorldHope Corps Uganda is grateful to you for your generosity to the Ugandan community! Thank you for supporting our goal of Organizing the congregation and entire community in the fight against poverty and disease. We believe that "Service to humanity is service to God" and thus dedicate these two Scriptures for your reading:

He who has a generous eye will be blessed, For he gives of his bread to the poor. **Proverbs 22:9**

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given. **Proverbs 19:17**



We are grateful for the generous gifts of the friends and partners of World Hope Corps. All the mentioned work and achievements would not have been achieved without your support through donations, prayers and in-kind contributions. We are blessed to have caught the attention of large-hearted people like you. With your support, we pledge to work tirelessly to fulfill the mission and vision of WorldHope Corps.

Shalom!

Pastor Moses Baamu

Special Projects in 2023

We have detailed our planned activities for 2023 in our <u>Giving Catalogue</u>. In this section, we elaborate on our special projects for the year and we are excited to have you partner with us.

Mission Trip to Uganda

After three years of COVID restrictions, a WorldHope Corps training team will return to Uganda to serve and train with Pastor Moses and his team in June 2023. Perhaps you would like to join us as a volunteer or help someone else go. You could also contribute to our community development training so that more students, teachers, coffee farmers, and community leaders can attend an empowerment workshop or training. Please remember to pray for good success and divine blessing.

'Friend raising' tour

In September 2023, Pastor Dennis Singini will visit the USA for a 'friendraising' tour of several cities where WorldHope Corps has found support. If you live in the Northeast (NY/NJ/PA), North Carolina, Atlanta, GA, San Francisco Bay Area, or Southern California, let us know and we'll make sure you get a personal invitation to meet Dennis by attending one of his small groups, larger church, or community meetings where he will share his story, profile his programs and special projects, and raise funds for WorldHope Malawi.

Highlights from 2022 WELLS IN MALAWI

a. Well-Drilling in Malawi – The process

Have you ever wondered what goes into drilling a well? It's a lot and we are blessed to have Reverend Dennis walk us through the process so that we can appreciate the work involved!

It starts with identifying a suitable location for the well based on the need in the area. As part of community mobilization, Rev Dennis meets the village chief, their advisors and the families in the community. He sensitizes them about what is required of them to make sure that the well is accepted and well taken care of. The people then ask their questions and receive answers.

During the community sensitization, the community agrees on where they want the village to be drilled. They ensure that the borehole is in the center of the village so that it better meets the needs of the community. They also elect a borehole committee which will be in charge of maintaining the well.

Rev Dennis then approaches the Department of Water to consult with hydrological surveyors who perform the hydrological surveys to assess how deep the well can be. They also consider water availability, the soil type, and accessibility. They often get three sites for the borehole to be performed after performing the survey.

The average depth of the WHC wells are about 45m. This is because if the well is less than 40m, it may not work during the dry season. The surveyors come up with a report. It is important to note that these people need to be facilitated for their accommodation, food and transport.

After performing their survey, the surveyors propose the course of action

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which is given to the drillers. After depositing the money into the account of the drillers, they mobilize the community to clear and prepare the site for drilling.

After drilling, civil works are performed and these include installation of the pump and slab construction which takes a maximum of 2 weeks and a minimum of 7 days depending on the work load of the contractor. The new well is then tested to check that it is producing water. After a waiting period of about 7 days, the borehole is surrendered to the community. For 6 months the borehole remains under the supervision of WHC for monitoring.

After handing over the well, the WHC team invites a trainer who teaches the community to do minor maintenance. Major maintenance is carried out by WHC Malawi and the community members are warned not to tamper with the major parts of the borehole.

The main challenge during the drilling of the borehole comes when the community members do not agree on where to drill the well. At this point, Rev Dennis talks to them about love and collaboration.

Rev Dennis also encourages community participation when drilling the wells to enhance community ownership of the borehole. He asks the community to contribute and deliver sand for the project, asks them to provide bricks, collect the stones and prepare food and accommodation for the drillers.

b. Why WorldHope Corps wells?

Approximately 20% of the population of Malawi (about 4 million people) does not have access to a safe source of safe drinking water. We are working to reduce that number in the hardest to reach regions of Malawi.

WordHope Corps installs well where it is very difficult to get water, and where cheaper, shallow wells would not work



during the dry season which runs for half of the year. WorldHope Corps water wells are generally between 50 to 100 meters deep to get below the groundwater contamination that pollutes shallow wells. Watch the video of the Dennis explaining how WorldHope Corps wells are different <u>here.</u>

c. Hope beyond the water

We learnt that the distance between the wells and the communities had become a domestic violence risk factor in homes in Malawi. In Rumphi, for example, a fight ensued after a man suspected that his wife was going out with another man because she delayed at the stream. As a result, the man divorced his wife with he had four children. whom Consequentially, a fourteen-year-old brilliant girl who was the first born had to drop out of school because her father told her to assume the domestic chores that were being done by her mother.

"The hardest part for me was drawing water for the whole family because I had to go to the borehole several times before going to school. I was walking about 5km to fetch water. With so much pressure at home, my performance at school dropped and I just decided to drop out of school and get married. I thank WHC Malawi for maintaining our village wells because it will solve the challenges that we have been facing since the borehole broke down.", said Leah (Name changed for anonymity).

d. Wells under construction

In 2022, we drilled, constructed and completed three village wells.

1. Jeff and Mardie Christensen well in Mzalangwe – Completed December 2022

This well was constructed as a solution to the water problems at Mzalangwe F.P.

School in Mzimba district. The teachers were walking for about 3km to access water from Kasito river, which was excruciating, and hampering quality service delivery. As a result, the school was closed for about year to construct facilities including a borehole and other facilities for the school community. The well is a huge relief to the school and the community at large as they now have access to safe drinking water. The community started using the well towards the end of November 2022 and it is benefitting six other villages in addition to the Mzalangwe F.P. School community. Thanks to the new well, the school has put up a school feeding program for the community to prepare porridge for the pupils since water is within reach.

2. Nathan well in Yesaya Village, in Mzimba District – Completed December 2022



The Nathan well was a timely Christmas present to the community of Yesaya Village. It will serve a population of over 900 people including people from other villages namely Tionewone Village, Samuel Village and Yohane Jere village. The people were previously consuming water from an open stream that was 1.5km away. There had also been an outbreak of cholera in the community which made the need for a deep water well even more urgent.

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3. Holland Family well in Chakuwalo Nyirongo Village - Completed in October 2022

The well was constructed to provide access to clean water for over 900 people including the 5 surrounding villages. This was the 4th village well sponsored by the Holland family.



4. OB2 Well – Mobilisation ongoing

We are currently mobilizing funds and need a total of \$10,500 for the construction of the OB2 village well in Northern Malawi—which will be the second village well sponsored by the good people of Ocean Beach in San Diego. The OB1 well was completed in 2016.

e. Well maintenance

WorldHope Corps Malawi conducted borehole assessment visits to some of the boreholes which were drilled from 2008 to 2022 with funding from WHC Inc. USA. The activity was done to determine if these boreholes and piping were still functional due to time and the many challenges that communities face.

We were able to do maintenance work for eight boreholes. Msazi, Rumphi, Dunduzu, Zakeyo, Josiya (Thukutu), James Kaunda, Kankholi, and Sinjiliheni village wells were maintained and are now fully functional.

Ideally, once a borehole is drilled in a community, it is the responsibility of the community to perform its maintenance. However, we have witnessed drawbacks from the village well committees who



find it difficult to repair and maintain the wells due to lack of resources and expertise. As a result, some wells have not been in use for several months and need major maintenance. It is from this background that we have some reserves to facilitate the maintenance once the community is unable to mobilize the resources.

We are still in the process of raising funds to perform major maintenance works on Zowe borehole, Laird borehole at Njuyu mission, and Regan's well at Bwengu which are currently dysfunctional.



Martha pumping water after maintenance work at Kankholi

CHOLERA INTERVENTION IN MALAWI

A Cholera outbreak hit Malawi in 29 districts, with Blantyre and Lilongwe being the most severe. Mzuzu, where WHC Malawi has its offices, has not been spared. WorldHope Corps Malawi has been involved in finding out issues that are escalating the spread of the pandemic which has seen many suffering, and others dying. WHC Malawi has bought 150 hand-washing 20-liter buckets which will be distributed to households which are in danger of contracting the disease.

WORLDHOPE CORPS UGANDA 1. Training sessions

WHC Uganda conducted several community development trainings in 2022. These trainings include:

Shalom Coffee training which covered agriculture and crop husbandry. This training was conducted in two sessions for the purpose of providing the farmers with knowledge and skills that will enable them to maximize their quality and quantity of their yield, and eventually their profits through more improved methods.

Family and Community Sanitation Training was carried out with an aim of sensitizing communities to adopt safe hygiene both at personal and community level.

HIV/AIDS awareness was conducted for the purpose of providing information about the scourge of HIV/AIDS in order to avoid misconceptions, superstitions and stigma attached to it. Participants in the training were encouraged to test for the virus and counselling was provided for those who tested positive.

Asset based community development training was carried out to teach the principles of asset-based community development such as how to asset-map a community, what community building means among others. This was done to build self-reliance and independence in the future. The community is trained to meet their needs and generate wealth with what they have. This will break the dependence syndrome and eradicate poverty.

2. Women's Empowerment Program – Loans

WHC Uganda is running the Women's Empowerment Program, which supports a group of 26 women who are receiving loans from WHC Uganda, supported by WHC Inc. The Program has 156 indirect beneficiaries who include the families (husbands and children) of the women members. The project is being run in Bugolo Ssese Village, Buikwe district with enormous growth prospects. A total

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of \$ 1,100 was disbursed to the women in accordance with the approved loan manual. This project was meant to ensure that the beneficiaries of WHC Uganda are more self-sustainable. The women have so far paid back part of the money loaned (about USD 500) and the repayments are being done on monthly basis as per the loan manual. The Women Empowerment Program is promising because the reimbursements are going on as planned. This is what Solo Damalie, a member of WHC women group had to say,

"I joined the WHC women's group towards the end of 2019. I have been able to educate my children to complete school and even grow my businesses. When I get a loan from the saving group, I invest in my piggery, my farm and even educate my children. WHC has released me from poverty and I am grateful!"

HOPE SCHOLARSHIPS

believes WorldHope Corps that education is a key weapon in transforming the communities that we support. This year we had 6 scholars in Malawi and 9 scholars in Uganda who received both full and partial scholarships to support their studies in primary, secondary higher and education.

Meet some of our Hope Scholars 1. Davie





Davie is a form 4 student from Malawi. He is excited to study and become a model in his family of 5 children. He will be writing the Malawi National Examination in 2023.

2. Nester Mnyenyembe



Nester is a firstborn in a family of four with a single mother. Her mother is studying community development with Northwind Institute through a Scholarship program by WHC Inc. Nester successfully wrote her form 4 Malawi National Examination in 2022 and has been selected to undergo a bridging course at the University of Livingstonia. She has a passion for women's empowerment projects and will be pursuing her BSc degree in Education.

3. Precious Mvula



Precious is in College in her third year in Malawi. She is pursuing a BSc in Education and wants to improve rural education so that she can emphasize the importance of education to the rural communities.

4. Memory Thawi



Memory is a Technical College student studying Administrative Studies. She volunteers at WHC Malawi during holidays.

5. Wanangwa Moyo



Wanangwa is a first year student of Food and Nutrition at Bunda College in Malawi. He volunteers at WHC Malawi during holidays and was part of the PMTC and nutrition projects to support malnourished children's diets.

6. Tumaini Singini



Tumaini is studying BSc in Social Science Development Studies at the University of Livingstonia in Malawi.

7. Anastasia Naisanga



Anastasia is a student of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kampala University Jinja branch in Uganda. She wants to help people who have no access to media.

8. Angella Nakiyuka



Angella is student Mass а of Communication (Journalism) at Kampala International University in Uganda. In future, she wants to open up an institution which trains children who have failed to attain higher education due to unplanned pregnancies and drug abuse. Before getting the Hope Scholarship opportunity, Angella was not attending school because she did not have money for tuition.

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9. Purity Magoba Baamu

Purity is a Senior 3 student at Namiryango Senior Secondary School in Uganda. She wants to become a doctor in future to treat people so that they can be well. She dreams of setting up an orphanage in her community because it has many orphans.

10. Shakira Nakamanya

Shakira is a student of accounting and finance at YMCA College of Business Studies Jinja in Uganda. She wants to become an auditor in future.

11. Margret Ikete

Margaret is a Bachelor of Public Administration student at Kampala International University in Uganda

12. Solomon Yolisigira

Solomon is a second year Automotive Engineering student at Jinja Vocational Training Institute in Uganda. He wants to earn a lot of money so that he solves the problem of unemployment by transfering his skills to his fellow youth in the community.

In his words;

"From a young age, I have always struggled with getting fees and scholastic materials but now my life has changed."

13. Mirenda Nalunkuma

Mirenda is a primary 7 candidate from Uganda studying at Graceland Junior School – Butema. Mirenda wants to become a teacher, build a school in her community so that people can attend school.

She says that she had difficulty with paying her school fees and would be sent home but now she is free from financial worries and her performance in school has immensely improved.

14. Petronia Musenero



Petronia is a student at Lugazi Homeland College

15. Shamim Zalwango

Shamim is a Senior 3 student at Kololo Senior Secondary School in Uganda. She wants to become an Electrical Engineer in future so that she solves the issue of electricity shortages in her community. She feels that the disabled people are terribly affected by electricity shortages since they cannot safely handle candles. She is grateful for the opportunity to study without worrying about being chased from school for fees.

SPECIAL PROJECTS – UGANDA

In May 2022, WorldHope Corps started a shoe drive to collect money to buy new school shoes and socks for the children in Community Nursery and Primary School – Katikara who were going to school with either plastic shoes or barefoot.

On 6 September 2022, the school leadership and the teachers distributed 280 pairs of new shoes and socks to the children. It was so heartwarming to watch the celebration at Katikara as the children received their new shoes and socks. Parents attended the celebration and classes participated by composing songs, dances, and speeches. It was heartwarming to see the happiness and gratitude of these wonderful children. Watch the video here.

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You can continue to support our work by donating here.

Or send your contribution by check to the address below:

WorldHope Corps, Inc. P. O. Box 6241 San Diego, CA 92166

Closing remarks

Thank you for reading this issue of our newsletter. We hope you have found it informative and useful. We strive to provide you with the latest updates and valuable information relating to our global work.

We value your feedback and suggestions, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any thoughts or questions <u>here</u>. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to connecting with you again.



