



### *\$20 Per Person Provides Clean Water Access for Life*

The Ledia Water project is a new initiative to bring clean water to all residents of the Ledia community, where the Covenant Kids Congo program is located. The aim of this project is to save lives and improve health, particularly among children, by reducing the prevalence of waterborne and water related diseases such as cholera and dysentery.

Though water is seasonally abundant in the community because of rainfall and rivers, drinking unclean water from exposed sources leads to infection with parasites and diseases. Improper sanitation and hygiene compound these illnesses leading to prolonged illness, chronic malnutrition, and even death.

A lack of access to clean water also affects the community in other powerful ways. Women and children spend much of their day carrying unclean water from sources far away, exhausting their energy and preventing them from pursuing necessities like attending school and conducting business that helps them feed their families.

A recent study of more than 4,000 households in the community found that less than 6 percent had access to clean water and sanitation facilities were almost non-existent. The community themselves, confirmed by this study, has identified that solving the clean water situation has to be the first intervention in this new Area Development Program. To that end, the community is pursuing a multi-tiered approach.

In the first tier, a portion of funds from child sponsorship are being dedicated to repairing and improving existing water sources, creating sanitation committees, and implementing hygiene education programs. These early actions will result in about a third of the population gaining access to clean water.

Although we can celebrate an improved life for this third, a large majority of the people are still lacking consistent access to clean water. The second tier for addressing water needs will be a deep water extraction and delivery systems. A mechanized deep water extraction system can provide water to 12,000 people per day at a total cost of \$200,000.



*Access to clean water makes a tangible difference in a child's life, reducing illness, malnutrition, and child mortality.*



*World Vision workers operate a portable drilling rig. Deep wells can be drilled to hundreds of feet to provide consistent water all year.*

*A deep water extraction and distribution system includes:*

- ▶ Borehole accessing the water table up to 425 feet deep
- ▶ Submersible pump set with solar power/battery system. This will enable the pump to operate continuously during daylight hours.
- ▶ Storage tanks to store a full day's supply of water. This would be approximately 80,000 gallons of storage.
- ▶ Piping to cover a distribution network with a 3 mile radius.
- ▶ 40, six-spigot water access points including drainage areas and standpipes.

Altogether, each water system can produce 80,000 gallons per day. This year, we are fundraising towards a goal of building the first three such systems, providing clean water access for an additional 36,000 people. The project goal is to raise \$600,000 by the end of 2013.

This project represents a tangible opportunity to dramatically improve the quality of life for people in the Ledia community. Will you come alongside our brothers and sisters in the Congo to extend this life-giving help? For less than \$20 per person you can help provide clean water access for life.



*A community celebrates the successful tapping of a new borehole. Events like these bring hope for a future free of water-borne illnesses.*



*Elevated storage tanks, like the one shown here, help to bring water to a broad network of water access points.*