



HEALING HANDS INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Issue 3, Fall 2021



On the Cover:

Clean Water Leads to Living Water

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CLEAN WATER LEADS TO LIVING WATER

The Story of the Denugu Well

The story of the Denugu well is one that only God could write. Denugu, a peaceful farming community in Northern Ghana, was once home to a church of Christ, but through the years, the congregation had stopped meeting. HHI trainer James Legend facilitated a Hunger to Harvest training in this village earlier this year. He saw the heart of the people and felt confident they would use what they had learned. James also knew that lack of access to water would be an issue, so he submitted a request to the water team at HHI to provide a water well to accompany the garden.

A few months later, James' request was fulfilled and he returned to this community to commission the well. During the ceremony the community began to chant, "We need the church of Christ!" Acting upon the community's wishes, James spent the next two days preparing for Sunday. He and others quickly constructed benches for the people to sit in, along with purchasing the emblems for the Lord's Supper. James conducted the first worship service in this area in years, just days after the well was commissioned!

Grateful for the gift of clean water, 39 people turned out that Sunday to hear about the Living Water...and eight people were baptized! When James left, he contacted a preacher in a nearby community to help oversee the newly restored congregation. Since that time, five more souls have been baptized. The chief of the village recognized the blessing the church is to the community and has allotted two acres of land to the congregation to erect a building when they are able, which will be extremely important once the rainy season starts.



Denugu
Northern Ghana



This story is made possible because a group of believers in Heath, Ohio decided to Walk 4 Water. Each person who walked or gave to that event was a part of meeting physical needs allowing hearts to be surrendered to the Gospel. God's hand is definitely in this story, and we are so grateful to you for being the mechanism by which He works.



October officially kicks off the 30th Anniversary of Healing Hands International. You have been an important part of this ministry and we look forward to celebrating with you all that God has done!

KENYA CHRISTIAN TRAINING INSTITUTE

How the people in Kenya have been trained to feed their families for life

Healing Hands International has the joy of supporting the Institute for Practical Christian Ministry (IPCM), a department of the Kenya Christian Industrial Training Institute (KCITI). KCITI focuses on developing students' intellectual and spiritual potential through high-quality technical training in a Christian environment. HHI works with KCITI by facilitating agricultural classes for the IPCM students including a field demonstration.

This year's demonstration took place in June and included 25 participants! The group learned how to compost using readily available materials and construct both raised plant beds and drip irrigation systems. They also learned basic garden management in addition to planting and transplanting skills.

Each of the participants will be graduating soon with plans to preach the word and teach agricultural practices around the country. At the end of the training, the participants received a t-shirt which read, "Minister of the Word; Minister of Agriculture" and a bible!

One of the student preachers from IPCM, Jacob Mwanzia, shared, **"I feel privileged to have this training, especially as a preacher and a farmer. All the scriptural passages used in this training makes**



agriculture more meaningful and enlightened us that God is concern[ed] with all we do and how we do them [it]." These change-agents equipped with the gospel and practical farming skills are powerful forces for the Kingdom! Entire communities are transformed by the good news of Jesus and food security.

Aiding, equipping, and empowering individuals with sustainable farming strategies has a ripple effect. Trainees are always eager to share their new knowledge so that others may benefit! Isn't that just like the gospel? When you have such Good News that transforms your life, you can't keep it to yourself!



Join our community of monthly givers and help transform communities in need!

hhi.org/changemakers



Volunteers

BLESSING OTHERS TOGETHER

How One Couple Spreads the Love of Jesus through the MAGI Project

Volunteers are the backbone of any nonprofit. HHI is beyond blessed to have an incredible team of volunteers that support us in so many ways. Today, we want to feature two wonderful people who have done so much for Healing Hands International.

Meet Paul and Dorothy. They both attended Lipscomb University where they met in 1961. They married two years later and had two children. Now, they enjoy spending time with their seven grandkids and 3 great-grandchildren! The couple attend Paragon Mills Church of Christ where Paul serves as an elder.

Dorothy first got involved with HHI packing MAGI boxes at her church. She once packed 75 boxes on her own! Dorothy's passion for the work at HHI grew and now she and Paul bring donations for MAGI boxes every week. Instead of giving each other traditional birthday and Christmas presents, the two shop together for the MAGI project. Dorothy said, "Instead of asking Paul for nice jewelry on holidays, I just ask that he lets me buy whatever I want for Healing Hands." The two drive around town and use their coupon-savvy skills to buy items like clothes, toys, and school supplies for the boxes. Paul said, "I know good and well every Saturday that we are going to the store." Because Dorothy and Paul are such frequent shoppers at their favorite stores, the staff know them by name.

Paul and Dorothy love partnering with Healing Hands because it's rewarding to know they are helping reach out to people who don't know Jesus. They love to serve others with the resources they have been given. Thank you Paul and Dorothy for supporting the MAGI project. Your commitment and passion for the work are such a blessing. We are grateful for you and all of our amazing volunteers!

MAGI COMES FULL CIRCLE

MAGI Arrives In Paraguay

Introducing our new MAGI partners, Brittnea and Ale Yegros, and their two children, Alejandro and Gabriela! They live in Asunción, Paraguay serving as missionaries at the Sacramento Avenue Church of Christ. Soon, they will be receiving their first shipment of MAGI for their ministry that extends out from their church to local schools and a nearby orphanage.

Brittnea has a unique MAGI story that God has been weaving together for many years. Growing up in Tennessee, she first heard about the MAGI project when she was in middle school. In 2009, Brittnea served on an HHI MAGI trip to Honduras as a translator. Now, nearly two decades since she first heard about the project, she will be on the receiving end and distributing MAGI to kids and their families in Asunción (like the boys pictured above).

The MAGI Project



"The trip in 2009 put a desire in my heart to one day bring MAGI to Paraguay," says Brittnea. "Jesus' love can be shared in many ways and MAGI is just one sweet, yet powerful way, to share His love."

Brittnea credits her former Asunción Mission teammates, Enoch and Laura Rinks, for this new partnership. In 2020, the Rinks were packing MAGI boxes with their church when one of their daughters said, "We should send some MAGI to our friends in Paraguay!" The Rinks didn't know that HHI was already looking to expand its MAGI reach. With a phone call from the Rinks, God aligned the right people at the right time to launch this new location. Like is often the case, it took a village to bring it all together.

To all those who help make MAGI possible, Brittnea says, "Thanks to all of those who so lovingly and sacrificially prepare a MAGI box. We are excited to be on the receiving end of MAGI. Know that you are helping us share the love of Jesus with the children and their families here in Paraguay!"





Women of Hope

WOMEN IN BUSINESS

New Women of Hope Coordinator in Tanzania

If you have been following the Women of Hope ministry this year, you have likely heard about our newest country partners in Tanzania, East Africa. After connecting with a group of women at the Andrew Connally School of Preaching and facilitating a virtual Christian Business Women's Conference in January, it became clear that we had a great partnership in these women. From that conference rose our relationship with **Paulina**, our newest Women of Hope Coordinator and the **Umoja Group**, our newest group business partner. At least eight other female-run businesses have launched with the support of ongoing training from Paulina - who in just three months has provided basic business skills training to nearly 200 female entrepreneurs. Needless to say, there is much to celebrate about what God is doing through these women.

And last month we got to visit with them in person!

Women of Hope Coordinator, Jessica Markwood, was blessed to attend a **Christian Business Women's Conference** where 70 women from the Maji ya Chai village came together to gain skills in finding markets, keeping records, developing business plans, and running godly businesses. It was truly a joy to watch Paulina teach these women with conviction and charisma, and an inspiration to hear stories from the participants who have already started businesses or women who have dreams to get started.

Jessica also got to meet with several women who have started businesses since the January conference, including the **Umoja Group**, who started a batik-dyeing business with a small grant from HHI's Women of Hope ministry. Time was spent building relationships, troubleshooting issues they face, and planning for future growth. And their big plan for the future?

"We want to keep learning and keep growing so that we can help other women to be strong too."

This is the true spirit of the Women of Hope ministry...to empower women who will then exponentially bless others! There are two ways you can be a part of empowering women like Paulina: by shopping in the HHI store at hhi.org/store and by becoming a monthly sponsor at hhi.org/women.

WOMEN OF HOPE ON THE ROAD

Kicking off in Hendersonville

When the *Women of Hope Weekend* team realized that it would not be possible for us to all be together in Murfreesboro this year, we decided to bring the experience to your door...and the response has been exciting!

The *Women of Hope On The Road* tour kicked off in Hendersonville, TN in August. Since then, we have been blessed to share a day of hope with women in Lewisburg, Columbia and Nashville, TN and we still have four more events to go!

The theme for the tour comes from Revelation 21: 5-6: *He is making all things new!* Each event includes an inspiring lesson, uplifting worship, table discussions, encouraging breakout sessions, and of course...time to shop the beautiful products made by Women of Hope around the world.

We are thankful for this opportunity to spend time with so many of you and look forward to a hope-filled reunion this spring. **Save the date and make plans to join us for the 2022 Women of Hope Weekend on March 25-26. Registration will open soon!**



FINDING BEAUTY IN DISASTER

Haiti Earthquake Relief



On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake lasting a full 60 seconds rocked southwest Haiti. The earthquake devastated several communities, taking the lives of over 2,200 people, injuring 12,000, and leaving over 650,000 people in need of assistance. The situation worsened as Tropical Depression Grace brought significant rain causing flooding and landslides, blocking major roads leading to the areas most impacted by the earthquake. Church leaders in the region reported that many church buildings, schools, and homes of local church members collapsed or experienced structural damage. With thousands of people displaced and without shelter, the need was overwhelming. Many Haitians found themselves asking, “God, why us again?”

Immediately, partners and friends of HHI began responding and making financial gifts. The heartfelt response to the crisis in Haiti has been inspiring and encouraging to our colleagues on the ground. HHI is partnering with Haitian Christian Development Project, local church leaders, and Hope for Haiti’s Children to assess the need and provide immediate relief.

Because of the generous outpouring of support, our staff on the ground headed to the disaster site and created a staging point for on-going relief work. HHI has been able to buy and distribute food, water, tarps, solar lights, and propane stoves to address urgent survival needs. Buying supplies locally gets materials into the hands of survivors quickly and helps boost the Haitian economy.

Our team has constructed temporary shelters that can later be used to build permanent homes for residents. HHI also partnered with a sister organization to provide transportation and supplies for 20 Haitian doctors to treat the immediate medical needs of those injured by the earthquake.

While the earthquake and its consequences are tragic, it has been beautiful to watch as Haitians rally together and help one another through the crisis. Together, they are working tirelessly to take care of each other and are empowered by the financial support of donors like you! When we respond to disasters like this one as the hands and feet of Jesus, we have the opportunity to shine a light in the darkness and demonstrate God’s love. Thank you to all who have given financial gifts or prayed for our team and people in Haiti. You all are helping to rebuild and heal communities in Haiti in the name of Christ!



>6,200
meals distributed



20
Haitian doctors sent



>40
emergency family shelters built



14
congregations surveyed and assisted



WALK4WATER

Upcoming Walks

OCTOBER

2 Leitchfield, KY
Mckenzie, TN

3 Bellevue, TN

9 Pleasanton, CA

10 Austin, TX
Nashville, TN

16 Lodi, CA

23 Austin, TX

30 Lebanon, TN

NOVEMBER

6 Tullahoma, TN

7 Smyrna, TN

14 Birmingham, AL
Moulton, AL

20 Burleson, TX

WALKERS REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN 2021

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

-Romans 10:15

Truly it is the feet of every walker who participates in the Walk4Water program that are making a beautiful impact and bringing good news to thousands of precious souls. It is easy to be overwhelmed by the needs of our world. Individually, we can start to feel helpless: *“What can I do? I’m just one person.”* BUT, when God’s people come together, we can make a tremendous impact!

This year, thousands of feet (from nine different states) have walked tens of thousands of miles to bring clean water to a record-breaking number of villages...and the year isn’t over yet. *“Prior to 2021, the record number of wells sponsored in one year through the W4W program was forty four. We have already passed that number and it’s only September,”* says W4W Director, Sean Judge, *“I can’t wait to see what God has planned for the rest of the year!”*

Judge credits some of this growth to the 12 new walks that have happened this year, *“The excitement of this ministry is contagious. We are blessed to have coordinators who share with others and new walks are born.”* Of course, some of the growth also comes from the walks who continue to build momentum each year. Many of our walks have faithfully grown over the course of 3, 4, 5 or even 10 years!

Whether it’s your first walk or you have been walking for years, every step is beautiful. If you have never participated in a walk and you want to learn more, visit walk4water.org or email Sean at w4w@hhi.org for more information.

Walk4Water



New Albany, IN



Old Washington, OH



Huntsville, AL

“It Takes A Village” is a new podcast series by HHI that gives you an exclusive look behind-the-scenes of who we are and the work that is being accomplished. We also highlight the good works of our international partners, local non-profits, and the church. Listen and subscribe today!

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MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts were given in memory of the following from June 2, 2021 – September 1, 2021. Donors are in light-faced type.

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James and Linda Adams

Albright, Bill

Sherry and Neva Craig

Allen, Dr. Sid

Jenetta Allen

Alsup, Ruby

Maxine Morton

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Ted and Carol Poe

Atnip, Bill

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Baggott, Rachel

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Jacquelyn Alston

Beaton, Dorothy

Jacquelyn Alston

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Pat Jackson

Benedict, Clara May

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Bennie, Donald

Nancy Bennie

Bitrus, Markus

Ted and Carol Poe

Blackwell, Bonnie Akins

Becky Mulvey

Boehman Sr., William M.

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Brabant, Ada

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Bradley, Bessie

Gary and Hollye Clardy

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Buchannon, Cyndi

Michele Breeden

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Burton Nowers

Oliver, Dean

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Frances Briggs

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Alice Poole

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Andy and Laura Flatt

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Emily Hastings

Stephen and Cilla Speck

Art and Kim Woods

Williams, Wallace and Mary

Bruce and Mary Castleman

Yearwood, Al

Beverly Crawford

Yinger, Sam

Doug and Twyla Balthaser

HONOR GIFTS

Gifts were given in honor of the following June 2, 2021 – September 1, 2021. Donors are in light-face type.

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Bailey, Jerry and Patricia

Brian Bailey

Boucher, Grace

Elizabeth Madden

Brantley, Dr. Kent

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Women of Hope Weekend



Save the Date!

March 25-26, 2022
Murfreesboro, TN