

MADAGASCAR HEALTH & WATER



Global
Health
Ministries

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

WATER & FOOD



Water has always been precious in southern Madagascar but today, consecutive years of drought and the encroaching lean season have brought the Ambovombe-Androy district to the brink of famine. Live-stock, crops and people perish without water. Global Health Ministries and SALFA, the health department of the Malagasy Lutheran Church, are partnering in a pilot project to help meet the urgent need for water in this region. Community-based organizing for deep wells, with training and drip irrigation, will empower local farmers to grow up to 3 crops a year where today there are none. This is a small-scale project relative to the massive need in the region, designed as a pilot whose results can encourage others to follow.

HEALTH PROMOTION

More than water is needed for sustainable health development. Maternal and child health are particularly at risk. Acute malnutrition rates are approaching 30% for children under 5. Only 40% of pregnant women come for prenatal consultation, and just 2 out of 5 children are vaccinated. Staff from SALFA's existing program for Community Health Nurses will begin the first phase of the project by training trainers who will then train others at the village level in Community-Based Primary Health Care (CBPHC) methods, creating a network of Community Health Workers (CHWs) to bring health education to villages. This community-based approach to primary health care is paired with access to urgent care. Trainers will be empowered to refer people who are sick or injured to a local clinic for immunizations, diagnosis and treatment, including for severe malnutrition. A mobile clinic will further enhance their services.

THE NEED IS URGENT

The situation in southern Madagascar is already dire - people are dying for lack of water and lack of food - and the season when food is most scarce is just beginning. But you can be a partner in this crucial initiative. GHM is seeking \$180,000 in gifts or pledges to launch this project. Your gifts, of any size, will bring life-giving water, health education, medical services and conservation agriculture to some of the world's most desperate people. Your gifts will be a catalyst for sustainable health improvement as the results of this pilot inspire others to follow or partner with GHM and SALFA to expand these efforts.

GIVE

ONLINE
at ghm.org

MAIL
Global Health Ministries
7831 Hickory Street NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432



Training

A technique using technology which fits into a simple backpack has been developed to find water at profound depths. A missionary in Madagascar and his Malagasy team will be provided the tools and training to utilize this Primary Water technology to locate water and identify where to drill. This will be the first step in collaborating with communities to access sustainable water.

In addition, existing Health Workers, Community Health Workers and local community leaders will be provided training to further empower them as Community-Based Primary Health Care trainers. The expanded network will be able to reach more people with health education for prevention, diagnosis and timely treatment.



3 Deep Wells

Three deep well sites will be identified in the Ambovombe-Androy district of southern Madagascar, where drought's impact on health has been felt most keenly and acute malnutrition rates are heartbreakingly high. Primary water technology will be used to pinpoint locations for precision drilling. This method of groundwater exploration represents a breakthrough for some of the world's most desperate people. "Primary Water," created from the synthesis of oxygen and hydrogen deep in the Earth, is a renewable non-aquifer source of water. Unlike shallow wells, which can fail during dry seasons, these deep wells provide clean water unaffected by drought, bringing sustainable access to life-giving water for drinking, livestock and farming.



Conservation Agriculture

Traditional agricultural practices that have fed families here for generations can no longer sustain them. Adapting their agricultural practices to be able to grow sufficient food despite drought conditions is critical for sustainable health improvement. Once water is accessed, each community will be provided with a water tank and simple gravity-fed drip irrigation system. Drip irrigation conserves precious water (less is lost to evaporation and wind) and nurtures plants that are less stressed and grow stronger and faster, increasing yield. Farmers will also be provided seeds for varieties that are more drought-resistant and can yield multiple crops in a growing season, as well as information for optimal planting methods.



Heart for Mission

Dame Ombosoa has a heart for mission - his Christian faith and knack for finding water are very important to him. After successfully sourcing water for his own village, Dame wanted to help his neighbors find water. For the past two years he's proven to be an invaluable community organizer. In partnership with Global Health Ministries, Dame has been mobilizing villages to hire young local men, experienced in mining sapphire, to dig wells. Already, 29 communities have organized to build or improve 29 shallow wells. The shallow wells are a blessing to their communities, some of which have also begun utilizing drip irrigation methods to improve their

community vegetable gardens. Dame's role has been vital and will continue as deep wells provide local communities with sustainable access to life-giving water - more precious than sapphire.