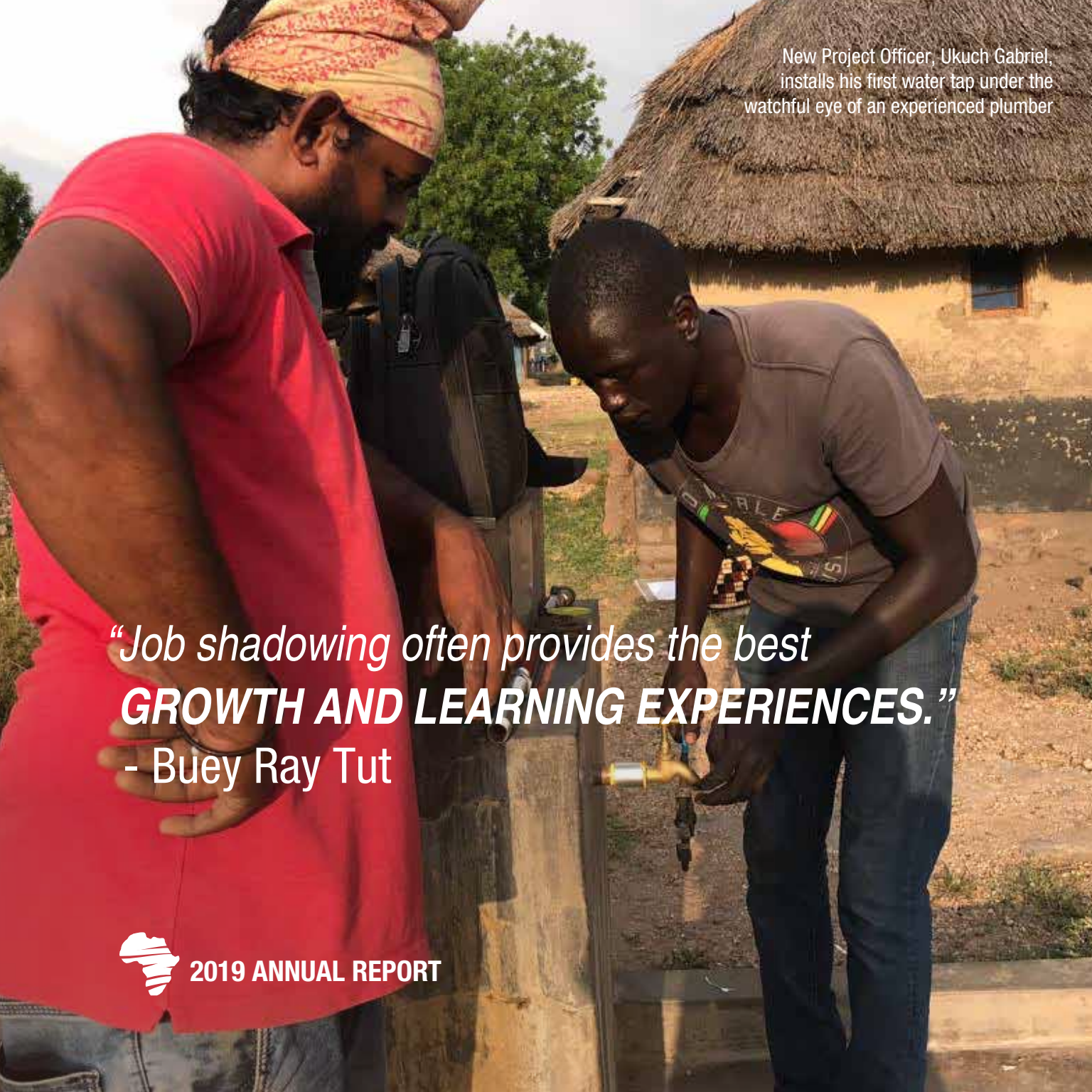




New Beginnings

AQUA  **AFRICA**
2019 ANNUAL REPORT



New Project Officer, Ukuch Gabriel, installs his first water tap under the watchful eye of an experienced plumber

*“Job shadowing often provides the best
GROWTH AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES.”*

- Buey Ray Tut



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Executive Director's Letter

Aqua-Africa, and myself personally, experienced very significant growth and learning experiences during 2019. During the year, we welcomed three new staff members! Each brings passion, enthusiasm, and much-needed talent to the team.

In South Sudan, we successfully installed nine new hand-pump water wells to serve up to 4,500 people. We also had a disappointing encounter with a difficult community that prevented us from completing a planned Village Supplier implementation in Hiyala. That experience greatly enhanced our understanding of how to mobilize and engage a community, as well as learning on many other fronts.

As we enter 2020, we see the emergence of the Coronavirus and the likelihood for significant global travel and supply chain disruptions. Aqua-Africa's executive management and Board are closely monitoring these developments, and we are preparing contingency plans for various potential impacts. We are committed to the safety of our workers.

In 2020, we plan to engage more than 1,500 Omahans with Aqua-Africa's immigrant story. We also plan to complete a Village Supplier Utility System for the village of Maiwut, South Sudan over the next 2 years. This will be our first implementation of off-grid electrical power and lighting for a community, while also meeting their clean water needs.

We appreciate your past support and confidence in our work.

Enjoy the report!



Buey Ray Tut
Executive Director



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Announcement of Upcoming Elections
to Nakapo Village Residents.



Nakapo Election Commission and
Water Committee Graduation Ceremony.

Sustainable development
begins with
LOCAL GOVERNANCE.



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Nakapo Election Commission and
Water Committee Training.



Aqua-Africa provides access to clean water for communities in need — but lending this support is only the beginning. With the ultimate goal being long-term, sustainable development, our approach starts with access to clean water as the foundation. From there, we are able to implement micro-democracy and resource management training and mobilize entire communities to manage and govern their water supply. This type of infrastructure and grassroots democracy has the power to impact the future of the nation as a whole.

WITHOUT WATER NOTHING CAN GROW

WATER & POWER

Without water, nothing can grow. Yet 345 million people in Africa live without access to clean water. Additionally, nearly 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa do not have electric power for lighting after sundown. We are committed to changing this. We will continue to use hand-pump wells to deliver clean water in small communities of 250 – 500 people. However, increasingly, we will use solar-powered pumps and Village Supplier water towers capable of serving 5,000 to 10,000 people. Battery storage of excess solar energy will also allow us to provide much needed electrical power. We plan to serve 1% of South Sudan's population by 2025.

MICRODEMOCRACY

We view our water well projects as just one piece of the plan to help improve life in the communities we touch. Every time we drill a new well, we also facilitate the election of a water committee tasked with maintaining the well. We then train these autonomously-elected committee members to draft and enforce their own policies. Aqua-Africa's microdemocracy starts with governing water usage, but we expect this grass-roots effort to lead to more political participation and better governance overall.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Every time we drill a new well, we need residents to fully understand how best to employ and maintain their new resource to ensure it works properly. Similar to microdemocracy training, we use videos, pamphlets and lectures centered on water extraction and availability. This resource management training is administered community wide, introducing practical methods and environmental awareness that will carry over into other areas of everyday life.



Bridging Cultural Gaps

Aqua-Africa's founders shared the "African American" immigrant story with over 3,000 Omaha area youth during 2019. Presentations given included Elkhorn, Elkhorn South, & Boys Town student bodies and many others. Pictured here: Buey Tut with Wayne Elementary students.

Using their immigrant story, Aqua-Africa's founders visit local schools and youth organizations to provide a program called "African American". The goal of this program is to introduce youth to what it means to be an immigrant, black and a black immigrant. There are cultural challenges that immigrants face when settling in America, and again when returning to their country of origin. The talks highlight how compassion, understanding and humanity can transform the immigrant experience. Students gain increased appreciation of immigrant contributions to society and to the cultural fabric of the community. Using the mission in South Sudan as a foundation, the founders challenge youth to look beyond their front door to understand peoples' differences and embrace similarities of people in their classroom, neighborhood, nation and world. The program inspires hope for many youths who struggle with self-doubt, acceptance and the definition of a future role for themselves in society.



BRIDGE CULTURAL GAPS THAT EXIST IN THE COMMUNITY

HELPING YOUTH WITH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH

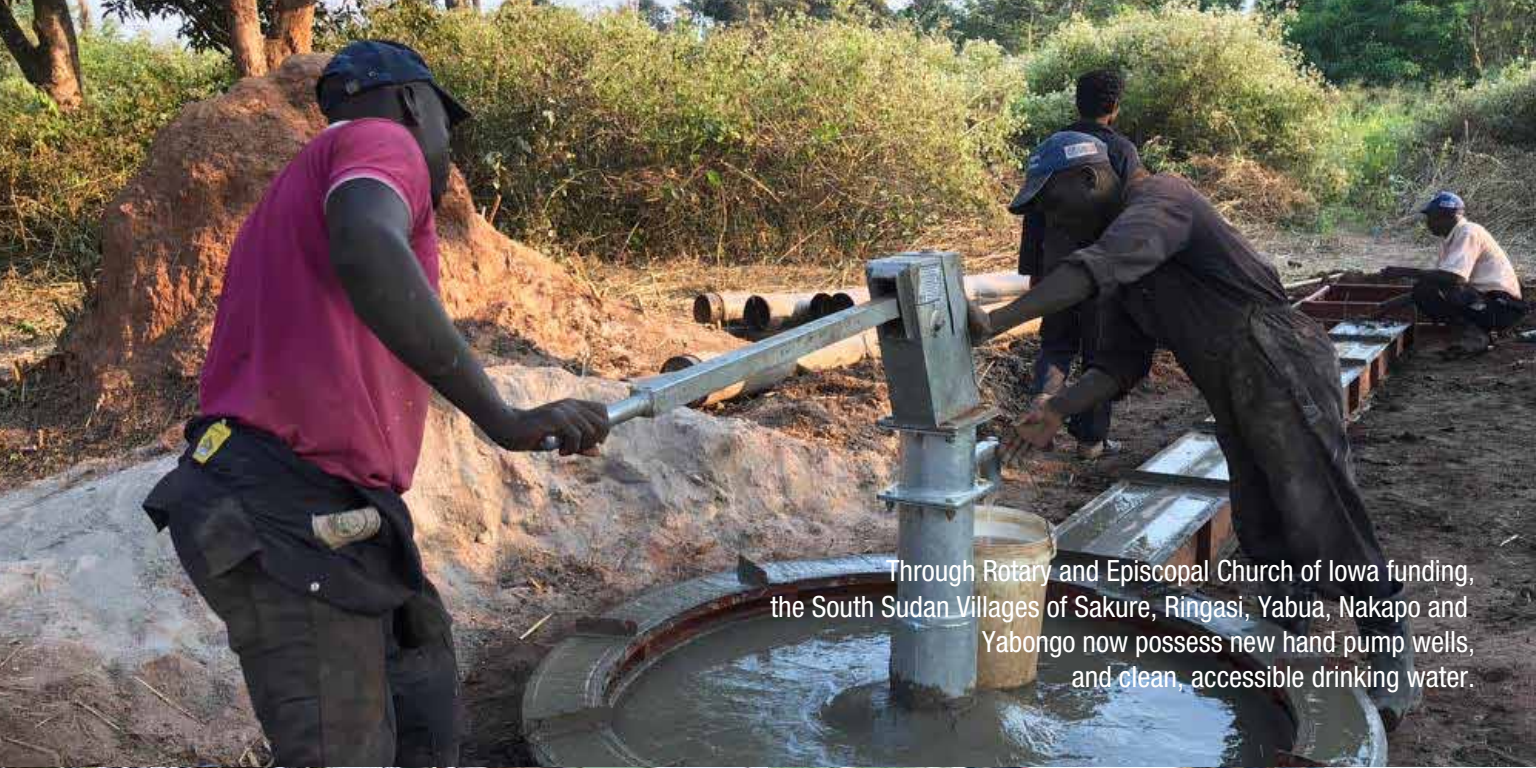
OBJECTIVE

Aqua-Africa seeks to present Buey's story as a young black entrepreneur to schools (elementary, middle, high), youth organizations and service clubs. It is believed that Buey's story as an immigrant and Aqua-Africa's mission can:

- Encourage disadvantaged youth to be hopeful about their future prospects and contributions.
- Expose youth to immigrants and immigrant contributions.
- Educate people about the needs of people outside America's borders.

DESIRED RESULTS

- Help youth think about what they can do to make an impact.
- Help youth to better understand immigrants.
- Help youth understand the collective impact we can have on the rest of the world.
- Presentation to 1,500 students each year.



Through Rotary and Episcopal Church of Iowa funding, the South Sudan Villages of Sakure, Ringasi, Yabua, Nakapo and Yabongo now possess new hand pump wells, and clean, accessible drinking water.



Drilling of the Borehole in Sakure, South Sudan.

Receipt of Solar Panels for Future Village Supplier Installations.



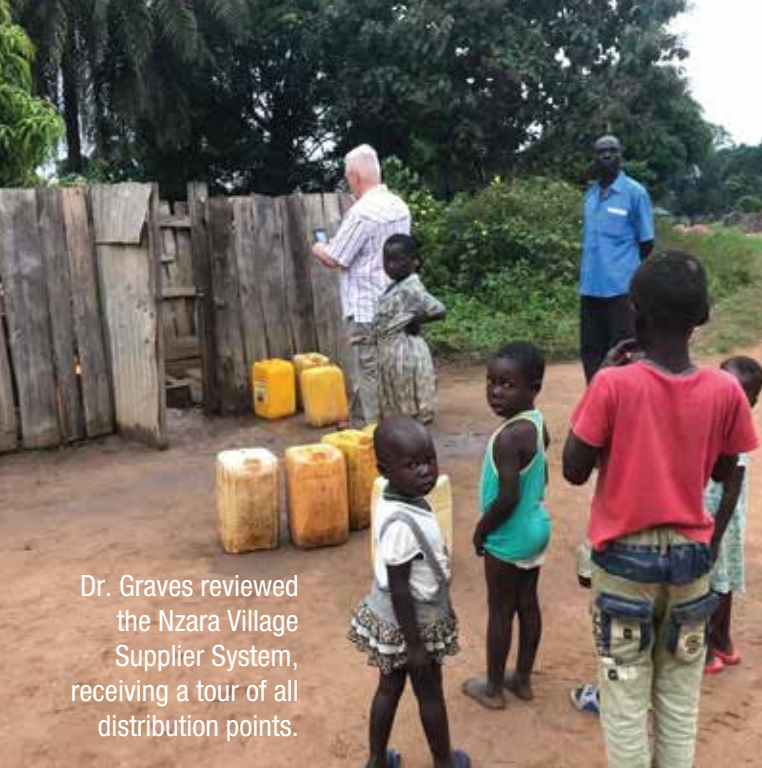
DEVELOPMENT SNAPSHOTS

For four years, the Juba Rotary and the country of South Sudan were unable to receive global grants from Rotary International. Aqua-Africa was asked to intervene by the Wausau, Wisconsin Rotary chapter. In July, Aqua-Africa's Executive Director traveled to Nairobi, Kenya to meet with East Africa's Rotary District Governor to discuss the situation. And later, In August, Aqua-Africa's Country Director, Beatrice Safari, and the Juba Rotary welcomed the District Governor to Juba to discuss actions and performance requirements for restoring International Grant support. In December, Beatrice led a water drilling and construction team that installed five new hand-pump wells, in Western Equatoria State, South Sudan. This was accomplished with the funds previously authorized by Rotary International, the Wausau Rotary and Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. Juba Rotary is now in good standing and is now able to accept future Global Grants!!

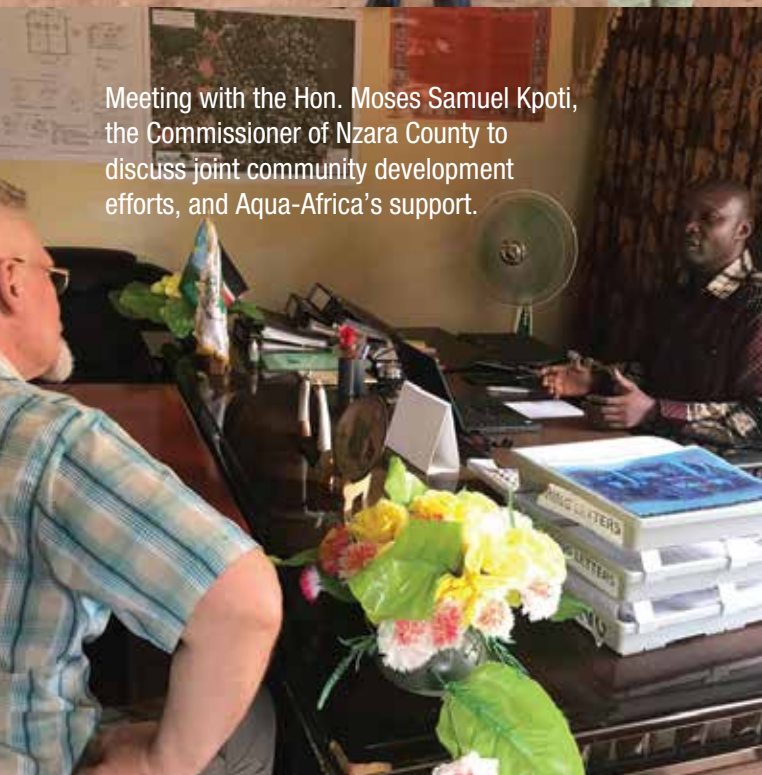


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Juba Rotary Club



Dr. Graves reviewed the Nzara Village Supplier System, receiving a tour of all distribution points.



Meeting with the Hon. Moses Samuel Kpoti, the Commissioner of Nzara County to discuss joint community development efforts, and Aqua-Africa's support.



Meeting with Mr. Manohar Reddy, President of The Great Ruaha Water Drilling Company, a close partner in South Sudan.



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DR. LYNDON GRAVES

In early December, Aqua-Africa Board President, Dr. Lyndon Graves traveled to South Sudan to meet with South Sudan staff members, key suppliers, public officials and church leaders. His visit included the capitol city of Juba, a trip to Yambio, and also Aqua-Africa's compound in Nzara. Wherever he went, he was warmly greeted and thanked for the development work the organization is doing.

Aqua-Africa's team met with community leader and Greater Omaha Chamber CEO, David Brown, in early September. We discussed the chamber's "Greater Omaha 2040" goals and the role Aqua-Africa can perform in furtherance of them. It was an extremely helpful discussion.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA AND OMAHA



Maiwut Community Needs Assessment

In mid-May, Aqua-Africa's Executive Director, Buey Tut, traveled to Maiwut Town, South Sudan to perform a community needs assessment and geophysical survey. A team of residents was hired and trained to conduct the interviews. Maiwut Town's water, sanitation, health, education and power needs were evaluated. Later, in mid-July, additional assessment of market activity was performed.



Faith Community Conference

In August, the American Friends of the Episcopal Church of Sudan (AFRECS) hosted a conference in Lexington, Virginia that was attended by Aqua-Africa Program Director, Mabior Acouth and Board President, Dr. Lyndon Graves. The South Sudan Diaspora Network for Reconciliation and Peace (SSDNRP) Conference provided opportunities for learning and dialog on approaches to peace and the healing of divisions in South Sudan. Dr. Graves and Mabior were thrilled to connect with long-time friend and Water for South Sudan President, Bob Shea, during the conference.



ICAN – Transforming Communities

In October, the Institute for Career Advancement Needs (ICAN) invited Buey Tut to be one of seven featured speakers at their annual "7x7x7" event. Tut was one of 7 speakers talking about 7 different topics – in just 7 minutes each. He chose the topic "Functioning in Disfunction – My insights." ICAN is a nonprofit organization that develops inspired business leaders who transform the communities they serve. Aqua-Africa was pleased to participate.



Buey Tut reviews plans for a solar-powered Village Supplier Utility System with Maiwut, South Sudan community leaders. The system could provide clean water as well as electric power and lighting for the village.



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CLEAN WATER IS **JUST THE BEGINNING**



In the next two years, Aqua-Africa plans to pilot a Village Supplier Utility System (VSUS) in the village of Maiwut, South Sudan that can serve 10,000 people with clean drinking water, as well as limited electric power and lighting capabilities.

Similarly, Aqua-Africa seeks to align its work with the local Omaha community to bridge cultural gaps that exist in the community. We plan to engage at least 1,500 metropolitan area residents each year, with an emphasis on youth engagement through schools and youth organizations.

Strategies

- Partner with the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and other regional stakeholders to further Omaha's reputation as a community that is welcoming to immigrants, minority-owned and led businesses, and an incubator for innovation.
- Work with Nebraska and Iowa regional stakeholders who are developing water, energy, and soil conservation innovations that have both global and local applicability. Jointly develop educational content that will capture the imagination and interest of local youth, and encourage their pursuit of science, technology or engineering career studies.
- Continue to develop and strengthen collaboration with Republic of South Sudan government ministers, local leaders, and NGOs. Understand their development objectives and seek to understand how Aqua-Africa can help in furtherance of those.
- Maximize the productive use of Aqua-Africa's compound and facilities in Nzara, South Sudan as a base for development teams, local women's groups, and short-term medical mission. Invite American visitors who have interest in our development work.
- Invest in additional technical training for Aqua-Africa, to include solar systems design and project management.

Left to Right: Therman Statom, Scott Brockett, Buey Tut, Jeff Ullrich
Mediocre golfers... but great friends!!



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OUTREACH EVENTS



2019 Amy Stroh Memorial Golf Outing

Jacob Stroh of Farm Bureau Financial Services hosted a fundraiser in memory of his deceased mother, Amy Stroh. Nearly 50 golfers gathered at Ashland Country Club on Friday, August 29th. The weather was perfect and the competition great. Buey Tut presented Aqua-Africa's story over dinner, following the event. Proceeds from the event benefited Aqua-Africa. \$3,300 in donations were raised for the organization. Aqua-Africa is extremely thankful for Jacob and his team's leadership, and for the support of Center Sphere Chapter 05 for the support and volunteers they provided for the event. The tournament was a great success and incredibly fun!



2019 Castlepalooza Festival

Aqua-Africa is pleased to have its headquarters in the Joslyn Castle neighborhood. The staff at Joslyn Castle invited Aqua-Africa to participate in their June 1st "Castlepalooza" event to bring awareness to Aqua-Africa's work in Omaha, and its clean water mission in South Sudan. Dozens of attendees purchased t-shirts or registered to receive Aqua-Africa's quarterly newsletter.



Nebraska Water Project

Aqua-Africa and Lyons-Decatur Northeast High School agreed to partner on a cross national learning partnership focused on ecology. The objectives of this partnership included discovery of water testing methods that can be used in remote areas, as well as the comparison and contrasting of the ecology of South Sudan and Nebraska as a learning tool. As part of this partnership, the Aqua-Africa team traveled to Lyons, Nebraska to participate in a BioBlitz and Water Testing Day with Lyons-Decatur Northeast instructor, Paul Timm, and his students. Four different science and agriculture classes performed a variety of collections, observations, and analyses. Mabior and Buey were given an opportunity to share their immigrant stories with the students and answer their questions.

STAFF & SUPPORTERS

Staff

Executive Director: Buey Ray Tut
In-Country Director: Beatrice Safari Karlo
Program Director: Mabior Acouth
Operations Director: Dana Bradfield
Project Officer: Ukuch Gabriel
PT Public Relations Intern: Leana Dappen

Board of Directors

President: Dr. Lyn Graves
Vice President: Lindsey Rai Kortan
Treasurer: Dana Bradfield
Secretary: Don Royer
Advisor: Mike McMeekin
Executive Director: Buey Ray Tut

Committee Leaders

Public Relations Committee: Dave Campbell
Finance Committee: Craig Hoekstra
Operations Committee: Mike McMeekin
Events Committee: Mabior Acouth
Legal Committee: Dan Reeker
Strategic Committee: Lance Graves

In Kind Donors

Craig Hoekstra
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William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation

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Aaron Hoekstra
Achok Akuar
Alex Rock
Alexis Seader
Allison Seyler
Alvin and Suzanne Townley
Barbara and Bill Engebretsen
Bery Tut
Brand Morgan
Brittney Therese Dawson
Brooks Lumpkin
Browyn King
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Claudia and Tony Deeb
Constance Garro
Craig and Katherine Hoekstra
Dan and Kyle Rose
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Shana Martinez
Stephen and Stephanie Orloski
Steve Lloyd
Steven Jerina
Ted and Cindy Menzel
Todd and Jessica West
Todd Nichols
Tom and Barbara McCusker
Vanessa Campan-Thornburg
Wesley Siebert



Increasing Operational Capacity

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and volunteers, Aqua-Africa was able to complete nine hand-pump water wells in 2019. Four of these wells were completed with our United Peace and Development Program (UPDP) partner, Water for South Sudan and five were completed with support from Wausau Rotary and the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. This new infrastructure has the capacity to serve more than 4,500 people clean drinking water. Organizational capacity was increased through hiring of an experienced Program Director and a Project Officer in South Sudan who recently graduated from college with a degree in electrical engineering. 2019 Expenditures, including accounts payable, were \$387K vs. \$334K in 2018; an increase of 16%. Program costs associated with well-drilling, project travel, water system installation and South Sudanese community education, accounted for nearly 78% of all organization expenditures. Aqua-Africa had \$315K in its financial accounts at year-end, in part, due to a \$50K December gift for 2020 planned activity. As we enter 2020, we're incredibly excited by the opportunities that our work provides to bring unity and healing to South Sudan, and we ask that you join us in this mission.

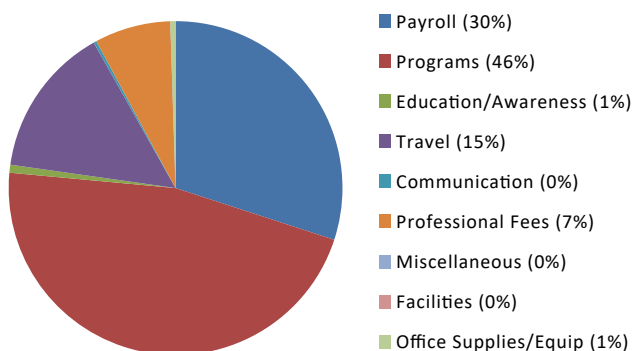
2019 Expenses

Programs	\$239,128
Drilling - Payable	\$62,000
Overhead	\$55,347
Fundraising	\$30,188
Total Expenses	\$386,663

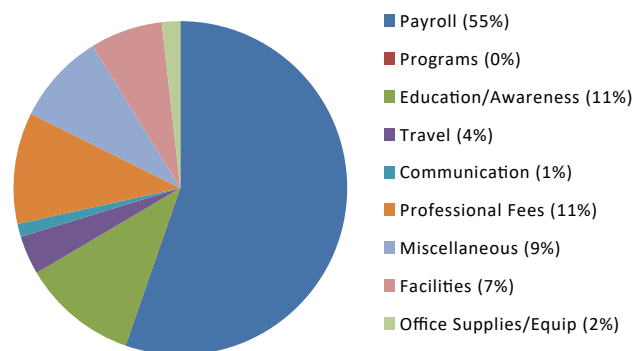
2019 Donations

Cash Gifts	\$407,673
Rotary Restricted Grant	\$30,000
In-Kind Contributions	\$15,800
Other Revenue	\$1,094
Total Income	\$454,567

Programs



Overhead





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