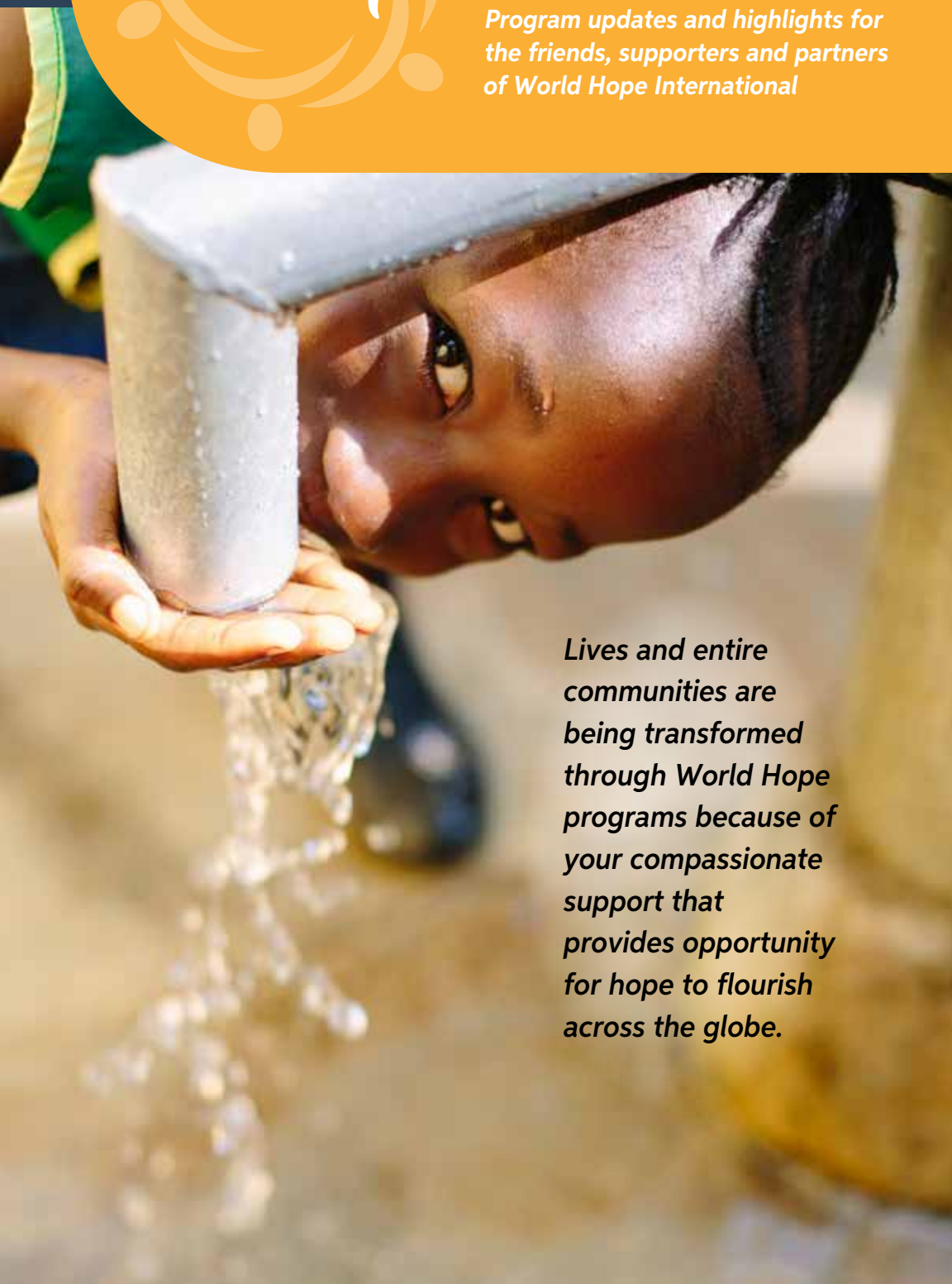


Hope Notes

*Program updates and highlights for
the friends, supporters and partners
of World Hope International*



*Lives and entire
communities are
being transformed
through World Hope
programs because of
your compassionate
support that
provides opportunity
for hope to flourish
across the globe.*

In each issue of *Hope Notes* you'll learn more about partners, supporters and friends like yourself that together have a life-giving impact on people and communities around the world.

In this issue you will read about:

- ▶ How your end of year giving saves lives
- ▶ 1,000 wells drilled in Sierra Leone
- ▶ From loss to a job at Haiti's La Gonâve Hospital
- ▶ Cervical cancer screenings up 18%
- ▶ WHI trains 71 Cambodians to combat child trafficking
- ▶ Young people in the Philippines advocate against child exploitation
- ▶ A child sacrifice survivor
- ▶ What partner Cornerstone Financial Solutions is doing to help children with disabilities
- ▶ Nov. 3 Sierra Leone water event celebration



LET'S BUILD BETTER

with clean water,
energy solutions and
disaster response



LET'S HEAL TOGETHER

through medical
and health care
services

“After 30 yrs of paying tuition for my kids and grandkids, I know that it can be a sacrifice to provide solid education with a Christian emphasis for our children. This education [through child sponsorship] gives these children opportunities as adults that their parents never had.”

— Marlys Nelson, Child Sponsor

Thank you for helping World Hope International (WHI) restore opportunity, dignity and hope to vulnerable people across the globe. As you read the stories in this issue of *Hope Notes* — how half a million more people in West Africa have access to clean water, how a child in Haiti endured loss and found professional success as a young woman, and how WHI is combating human trafficking in Cambodia, the Philippines and Sierra Leone — you’ll probably feel the same sense of accomplishment and hope that we do. And you should. Saving and protecting lives and witnessing transformation feels good and right.

For every child, woman, individual and community whose burdens we have lessened, many more still need our help. We can only support them as you support us.

As 2023 draws to a close, please remember the ways you can help create more stories whose impact reverberates across communities and countries through your tax deductible giving. Our major fundraising efforts through Dec. 31 are GivingTuesday on Nov. 28 and our end of year appeal. Flip to the back page of this issue to learn about the ways you can support World Hope’s work around the world.



LET’S
STAND
WITH EACH OTHER



to educate and
protect the most
vulnerable



1,000 Wells Drilled in Sierra Leone

By Elijah Kihara, WASH Director West Africa, World Hope International

Editor's Note: This story has been updated from the original blog post on worldhope.org.

World Hope International (WHI) is celebrating 1,000 wells drilled in Sierra Leone, where 90% of people lack access to clean water, according to the World Health Organization. The borehole wells, which reduce health and safety concerns, are installed in communities, public health clinics and schools.

"This is the best gift we have ever received," said Mr. Kamara, head teacher

at Murray Town School. "Thank you for this gift. We will guard it graciously and protect it."

Each well has a hand or motorized pump. A local water user committee helps with each well's pump usage and maintenance and creates sustainable ownership of the well.

For women and children, having a well nearby means relief from daily walks through miles of unsafe conditions while balancing jugs, often on their heads.



MILESTONE EVENT

People with access to clean water also have better sanitation and hygiene resources. That means less sickness and death.

Since 2004, WHI has moved communities from hand digging wells that quickly ran dry to accessing safe, sustainable drinking water with mechanized drilling equipment. World Hope's early equipment bore 6-inch-wide holes as deep as 80 meters. World Hope's new equipment — a PAT-Drill model 501 and V900 compressor mounted on a Zetros 2236 four-wheel-drive chassis — can bore holes twice as wide and 2 ½ times deeper: 200 meters.

The equipment also extends World Hope's reach to hard-to-reach areas. The new truck can navigate waterlogged and rough, rural roads to drill wells in small, off-road communities. More people are getting clean water.

FAST FACTS

- **Lack of clean water contributes to infections in clinics, which often lead to sickness and death of children younger than 5.**
- **Only 10% of people in Sierra Leone have access to clean water.**



WHI President and CEO John Clause meets with supporters during the Nov. 3 Water Celebration in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

WHI Wins Thanks at Water Celebration in Sierra Leone

By Kristen Wright, Special Guest Contributor

Sierra Leone officials joined World Hope International President and CEO John Clause and others for a Water Celebration Event on Nov. 3 at the Bintumani Hotel in Freetown.

Attendees, including the mayor of Freetown, celebrated 16 years of collaboration with supporters, international partners and governments to deliver clean water in Sierra Leone.

Officials praised WHI as a key partner in the country's vision to expand water resources and access. They highlighted efforts to protect vulnerable water systems, mitigate the impacts of water-related hazards, ensure access to essential water services, and manage water resources in an integrated and equitable manner.

An official with the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation said the agency is improving sanitation and that safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene enhance human health, well-being and community resilience.



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Childhood Earthquake Shapes Hospital Accountant

*By Dan Irvine, Country Director Haiti, and
Natalie Gidney, Engagement and Experience
Coordinator, World Hope International*

*Editor's Note: This story has been updated
from the original blog post on worldhope.org.*

A Haitian couple who lost three of their four college-age children in the nation's 2010 earthquake later sent their daughter to the university in Port-au-Prince — the only higher education institution in Haiti.

"Papa always said he realized what he could have done with the opportunity for more education, so he offered all of us that opportunity," said Loridona, who goes by Lori. "He was willing to suffer so that we could have an education."

The fifth of the couple's six children, Lori said her parents worked multiple jobs. At one point, her father sought work outside the country so all their children could obtain a quality education.

When it was her turn, Lori studied accounting at Port-au-Prince University. She graduated after her fourth year, a feat fewer than 17% of students in Haiti achieve.

Lori knew that as one of two remaining siblings living in Haiti, she was responsible to provide for more than herself. Haiti offers no social security or support system to its aging population. Children understand they must care for their aging parents.

In a culture where young women can encounter difficulties finding safe, secure jobs, Lori found both. La Gonâve Hospital hired her to support the accounting needs of collaborations between World Hope International and the hospital.

FAST FACTS

- **Women and girls are the backbone of Haiti's economy.**
- **Nearly half of Haitian households are led by women.**
- **Women also fill most street vendor and agricultural supply chain jobs in Haiti.**

“WHI gave me a chance to develop my capacity,” Lori said. “When I started work at the hospital, I found the American accounting system vastly different. I have done a lot of reading and research and have developed my competence in accounting.”

World Hope International is committed to empowering women like Lori. Her

resilience and perseverance in difficult circumstances allowed her to develop her education and skills. She is making a difference in the hospital, her community, her family and her country.



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Cervical Cancer Screening in Sierra Leone

By Dr. Hannah Ashley

Editor's Note: This story has been updated from the original blog post on worldhope.org.

World Hope International (WHI) recently screened 52 women for cervical cancer in Makaiba, Sierra Leone. The number represents an 18% increase in screenings over nine months ago, when 44 women arrived, even in the midst of farming challenges and the rainy season.

Increased cervical cancer screenings reflect growing public awareness and interest in women's health in Sierra Leone.

The screening project began in 2022. By the end of 2022, the WHI team screened more than 2,000 women. Up to 10% of the women required treatment, and of those, 90% received same-day treatment.

FAST FACTS

- **Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women in Sierra Leone.**
- **About 500 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer in Sierra Leone each year.**
- **More than 70% will die the same year due to lack of treatment.**





STAND WITH

Each Other



Education and protection programs

House Members Hear Story of Child Sacrifice Survivor in Sierra Leone

By Kristen Wright, Special Guest Contributor

Editor's Note: This story has been updated from the original blog post on worldhope.org.

“I am speaking out today because I am a mother, and I fear for the safety of my children,” Miriam Fullah told members of the U.S. Congress on Sept. 19.

Fullah oversees the only specialized shelter for human trafficking survivors in Sierra Leone. She and “Marie,” an 18-year-old who survived child sacrifice, traveled to Washington, D.C., to tell



FAST FACT

To watch the recorded Sept. 19 hearing and learn more about organ trafficking and child sacrifice in Africa, visit StopChildSacrifice.org.

Marie's story during a hearing with the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Global Health and Global Human Rights and International Organizations.

Their goal? To change current U.S. law to classify illegal organ harvesting as human trafficking.

Fullah said the number of reported ritualistic child sacrifices in parts of Africa increase during October, November and December: election and festive seasons. Many Africans, she said, believe child sacrifice helps politicians win elections. The trend extends beyond politics.

Children, especially girls, are most vulnerable because native doctors prescribe spilling virgin blood, Fullah said. It happened to Marie when she was 8.

“This was how Marie and her mother came to meet World Hope International after her case was referred (by the police) for care and protection,” Fullah said.

Marie’s attacker was convicted and sentenced to 15 years in prison. “This is not the case for many others,” Fullah said. WHI believes global awareness is a step toward change.



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YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PHILIPPINES LEARN TO ADVOCATE AGAINST CHILD EXPLOITATION

by World Hope International

WHI Philippines conducted its Peace Program: Peer-Advocates Empowered Against Child Exploitation (PEACE) in October.

Young people from partner organizations in Region 4A participated in the two-day program that examined Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children and equipped them to increase awareness about online sexual abuse and exploitation within their communities.

FAST FACT

80% of Filipino children are vulnerable to online sexual abuse, some facilitated by their parents (UNICEF, 2016).

FAST FACT

Human trafficking occurs in all of Cambodia’s 25 provinces. In 2022, the government prosecuted 292 suspected traffickers in connection with 88 cases under an anti-trafficking law (U.S. Embassy in Cambodia).

WHI TRAINS 71 CAMBODIANS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING

by World Hope International

During 2023, WHI trained 71 people from Kampong Cham and Tboung Khmum provinces in Cambodia to prevent and respond to sexual abuse, unsafe migration and human trafficking.

The training was in partnership with Chab Dai Coalition and the National Police Commissionerate.

“After participating in the trainings, I shared what I had learned to 17 of my co-workers,” said a representative of the Department of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation of Kampong Cham.

Cornerstone Funds Therapy for Children With Disabilities

by Cornerstone Financial Solutions



New School Partnership Launches in Haiti

We are celebrating a new school partnership in Haiti. Amid continually deteriorating economic circumstances and extreme gang violence, it is challenging to find hope. World Hope's Child Sponsorship program brings safety, hope and quality education to children — the future of Haiti. Thank you to Shady Grove Wesleyan Church for helping launch this new school partnership. Bring hope to Haiti by sponsoring a child today: worldhope.org/sponsor-a-child.



In a world of challenges, we act and make transformative differences. One of our guiding principles is "Invest in People." This belief isn't merely a sentiment but a driving force that inspires us to connect deeply with people and make their lives better.

Our collaboration with World Hope and our involvement with Enable the Children (ETC) in Sierra Leone are examples of this belief. Investing in people, especially vulnerable ones, changes lives. World Hope's mission to alleviate poverty, deliver health care and empower communities aligns with our core values. It's not only about financial aid but joining hands to create a tomorrow that's better than today.

Sierra Leone grapples with big challenges, especially in health care and in supporting children with disabilities. That's why we stepped in. We are privileged and honored to fund physical and occupational therapy services for these children. Such services amplify the children's physical well-being and enhance their overall quality of life. They can become active community members, gain independence and chase their aspirations with proper support.

The ripple effect of our collaboration goes further. When children with disabilities get the right tools and assistance, they defy the odds and redefine



Cornerstone Financial Solutions Staff

their potential. They become beacons of hope, challenge preconceived notions and demonstrate that abilities have paths around disabilities.

Our work with World Hope and ETC underlines the belief that uplifting people, especially the vulnerable, paves a brighter, more inclusive future. By dedicating our resources and expertise to children with disabilities in Sierra Leone, we are sowing the seeds of enduring change.

Our alliance with World Hope, ETC and the wider community illustrates the remarkable outcomes when like-minded people unite. Our dedication to uplifting others goes beyond words; it's a relentless pursuit to make the world better, one person at a time.

FAST FACTS

- **Since World Hope started ETC in 2016, the team has provided physiotherapy and occupational therapy, care and support to 1,000+ children with disabilities in Sierra Leone.**
- **More than half of the children in ETC have cerebral palsy, others have brain injuries, muscular dystrophy, orthopedic challenges, Down syndrome or autism.**
- **Sponsor a child with special needs at worldhope.org/project/enable-the-children.**



As we empower children with disabilities in Sierra Leone, we hope to motivate others to uplift and inspire. Our work reminds us of hope's potency and of collective action's transformative power. By investing in people, we can shape a future filled with light, hope and endless possibilities.

280 Dakota Ave. S., Huron, SD 57350
7408 S. Bitterroot Pl., Sioux Falls, SD 57108
605-357-8553

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It is only by working together and partnering with you that we can *keep hope alive.*

Because of your compassion we can help protect the vulnerable, diminish poverty, and alleviate suffering.

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Planned Giving

We welcome a discussion with you on planned giving and stock donations. Contact Chief Development Officer Nancy Green: nancy.green@worldhope.org or 703-923-9414 x 131.

Gifts to The Hope Fund are unrestricted and tax deductible. Receipts are provided. World Hope International is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



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