

THE PIPELINE

NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER FALL 2015

Registered Charity # 81907 0145 RR0001

NEWS FROM CAMEROON

In August 2014, Edwin Visi held a water caretaker workshop at Chiangka Village in the North West Region of Cameroon. Villagers from completed water schemes in Mbokov, Ntonghi, Sakir, Mboshong, and Chiangka were in attendance. They worked alongside plumbers during the laying of a lifeline in Chiangka for two days and the last three days included theory with the entire Chiangka community. On January 15th, 2015, the village of Chiangka celebrated having pipe-borne water in their village.

Excerpts from a welcome address to Cathy Molloy (on her visit January 5th, 2015) by Kejing Yvonne Bongheji, Chiangka village:

We the community members of Chiangka village in Oku Sub Division, Bui division in the North West Region of Cameroon are very happy to welcome you. The consultant, so clever, hard-working, just and loving, promised us that the project would be completed by August. He urged us to work in supplying the stones, digging the catchment and tank sites, the pipeline, and carrying of material to wherever the technicians needed them. On the 6th of August, 2014, we drank clean water from the taps. What a great day in the lives of the inhabitants of Chiangka. That very day, Mr. Edwin explained to us how to take care of this precious gift as to make it everlasting.(...) Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our young benefactors and benefactresses in Ottawa. May God bless and give them long lives.

In November 2014, a meeting was held with the OK Clean Water Advisory Committee in Sakir, with the majority of members from several villages in attendance, despite the difficult and long travels due to a heavy rainfall at the end of the rainy season. Members of the ADV Committee reported on their visits to the villages under their supervision. There was consensus on the need for on-going education for sustainability in the planning of water projects and follow-up with the villagers and those assigned

responsibilities in the caretaking and maintenance of the completed systems.

At this same meeting a proposal was drafted for submission to the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) at Cambridge University in England requesting a volunteer with engineering and administrative experience to assume the position of Water Development Manager beginning in August 2015. This person would collaborate with Cathy Molloy, our OK Coordinator in Kumbo, and Edwin Visi, our Consultant on all aspects of the projects. We have since received confirmation that EWB has accepted our proposal and that candidates have been selected. We look forward to learning about further developments in this area.

NEWS FROM OTTAWA

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Our Annual Fundraising Brunch held on October 19th, 2014 was once again a success. Our guest Alana Giustizia, who lives and works in Toronto, spoke highly of her visit to Kumbo in February 2014. She observed OK Clean Water Project's work and organized system during her visit. Our net proceeds from the brunch were \$7,206.



Edwin Visi, Alana, and a local Fon

Twenty-seven (27) local schools raised an amazing total of \$32,574.50 during the 2014–2015 school year. During our school visits, we were pleased to see the continued interest, support, and enthusiasm towards the need for clean water pipe-borne systems in the Kumbo region of Cameroon. BERI-WO! Following is the story of one Ottawa school and their fundraising activities in 2015, submitted by teacher, Michael Hamer. At St. Bernard's Catholic School the teachers at the junior level felt that to get greater participation from the older students (since often in the past the primary classes brought in the lion's share of donations), there should be a competition between the two divisions. Two pipelines of equal length were created, one making its way down the junior corridors and the other down the primary halls. As an added incentive, one of the junior teachers on staff, Mr. George D. offered to have his head shaved by the class that brought in the most donations per pupil! Adding to this excitement, the five student teachers from university preferred NOT to have their beautiful long hair shaved but rather opted to receive a pie of whipped cream in the face from the class with the second most funds per pupil. Well, the kids really responded and both pipelines were filled. The junior division reached their Kumbo destination on Day 7 of their "Eight Days to Kumbo" campaign and the primary division reached Kumbo on Day 8. Staff also held a Lenten Lunch and Raffle and raised funds from Friday Dress Down Days which were also added to the mix. Over a period of 8 years of support for OK Clean Water Project, this school achieved its second best fundraising total and with a lower student enrollment. They raised an amazing \$2,764.95 in only 8 days! Over the eight year period, they raised enough money to buy 10 kilometers of pipes. In addition, one grade 6 student was so moved to hear about the children in Kumbo that he asked his parents if he could donate all his allowance savings. The family added it up and his parents wrote a cheque for \$106. on his behalf, the total savings this young lad had amassed. Two young brothers also donated some allowance money. There are many more inspirational stories like this one that continue to build on the momentum of the phrase from Kumbo, "TOGETHER WE ARE ONE".

Our third annual Fashion Show held on April 27th was a fun-filled social evening with shopping and appetizers enjoyed by all at Shepherd's Fashions located at Ottawa's Train Yards. The eventful evening brought in a total of \$3,505 from ticket sales, donations including 10% of all purchases that evening.

On Sunday, June 14th "Friends of Kathy" gathered at her home to enjoy appetizers and friendship as they raised \$825 for OK Clean Water Project. Many thanks for everyone's generosity.



NEXT FUNDRAISING EVENT

ANNUAL BRUNCH

Sunday, October 25th at 11:00 am
Centurion Conference Centre

Tickets available: Adults **\$40**; Students **\$20**

Guest Speaker, Entertainment, Silent Auction, Raffle
(Cash or Check ONLY)

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