Thanks to your support, last year we helped more than 45,000 people provide their children clean water and healthy homes. In the process, we supported 120 communities to develop self-help groups that not only finance critical well maintenance to keep water flowing, but also provide a safe place to save and take out loans in rural unbanked communities.

We also developed critical partnerships in the US and Uganda to help us scale our impact in the year ahead. Together with two Ugandan district governments and our community of supporters in the US we will help 100,000 people in 2020 enjoy sustainable water.

In addition, our research and evaluation has uncovered new opportunities for impact and innovation. In this report you can learn more about our first grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and how it will help us discover new ways to help children grow up healthy.

Sincerely,

Chris Prottas
Executive Director
Fetching water from an open source was one of the problems we had suffered with for years despite our efforts to inform the local leaders. We would not send children alone to the water source because even the wild animals would come to drink, especially the monkeys. This looked like a situation that would not change for ages.

In addition to the water point we have also benefited from education on sanitation. We have come to learn that everyone that talks about [the importance of] a latrine is not your enemy but one that wishes for a healthy and developed community.

- Joseph Kyoterengereire -
**CLEAN SUSTAINABLE WATER**

From borehole wells to shallow-hand dug wells to protected springs, our team works to find the right technological solution for the rural villages and schools we serve. In communities where there is a broken down well, we will replace the parts and rehabilitate the well so it is functional again. We also train a self-help group to manage the rehabilitated well, reducing the likelihood it ends up broken and abandoned again. We monitor all of our water points on an annual basis to ensure water points built up to ten years ago are still functioning and providing the clean water families need.

**HEALTHY EMPowered COMMUNITIES**

Self-help groups are savings and credit unions we train in each community. They are critical to the sustainability of our water points because they allow the community to save for the future repairs that will inevitably be needed. In addition, they provide community members with access to personal savings and loans to pay for school fees, medical emergencies, and invest in agriculture.

We also educate communities on how they can build and use critical hygiene and sanitation facilities to ensure clean water results in healthy children and families.
INNOVATION THAT MATTERS

Last year we found that children living in households that owned more chickens had an >80% higher risk of diarrheal disease. Typically, chickens wander freely in and around homes, and their poop is a hidden health risk for infant children. Exposure not only leads to sickness, but can inhibit cognitive development.

This critical health risk is not limited to Uganda, as chickens are common in most poor rural communities across Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. We are publishing our findings in a leading academic journal in partnership with faculty at North Carolina State University.

In addition, this year we began training rural communities to better manage their chickens. If we can convince households to confine and clean up after their chickens, we hope to see improvements in child health as well as the productivity of the chickens.

This work received critical seed funding from Pace Family Foundation, and now United States Agency for International Development is funding a randomized controlled trial of the program’s impact. We expect to report on preliminary results in Summer 2020.

"Fecal contamination from animal sources is increasingly recognized as a risk factor for infections in children in low-income countries, and failure to address animal feces could be one reason why recent large trials of water, sanitation and hygiene interventions have achieved limited health impact. Few studies have evaluated whether improved management of domestic animals can improve child health. The Water Trust’s randomized controlled trial of poultry management will generate critical evidence on this question."

- Dr. Ayse Ercumen -
North Carolina State University
A year ago The Water Trust built a water point in Devious’ home village of Pakanyi. That water point today provides access to clean water for Devious, her family, and more than 250 people in her neighborhood, as well as a neighboring primary school and nursery. In addition to clean water, the community received hygiene education that increased the coverage of simple bathrooms from just 41% of households to more than 80%. These bathrooms weren’t provided by The Water Trust, but were built by community members themselves.

“This water point has helped reduce the cost of paying for other water,” said Devious. “Our parents used to pay for water, and we went to fetch from other water points, spending a long time queuing for water. I have also noticed that since the water point was constructed, my parents were educated [on sanitation] and now many households have constructed latrines, a kitchen, dish racks and rubbish pits.

“[Also now] this water point helps us at school. Water from this water point helps our school prepare food and provides water for the handwashing facility to allow us to wash hands after using the latrine, before eating, and after eating.”

Devious’ home village also benefits from a self-help group trained by The Water Trust. This group is a savings and credit union based in the village itself that offers community members a safe place to save and take out loans. Importantly, it also maintains a reserve fund to pay for well repairs to keep water flowing.

With 45% of wells in this area broken, sustainable management is critical. The self-help group already has 42 members and saved more than $2,500 in its first year of operations. So far it has spent $12 on basic maintenance of the well and has a special reserve fund of $88 set aside in case a more expensive repair is needed. In the meantime, Devious’ family and others can enjoy access to savings and loans to pay for education and invest in their future.
Having a safe and protected water point next to me was just in my imagination in the past. I thank The Water Trust. My family did not have options other than drinking from the open source in the nearby pond. I almost lost one of my children in the pond when she followed her elder siblings to collect water. I now have safe water accessible even for my children. I don’t have worries that my daughter will risk drowning in the pond, and I can also move to the water point at any time.

- Beatrice Mumsie - mother of eight children
### ANNUAL EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, taxes and benefits</td>
<td>$346,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and training costs</td>
<td>$287,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract and professional services</td>
<td>$55,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent, office, phone</td>
<td>$41,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and conferences</td>
<td>$31,984</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$29,004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicular expenses</td>
<td>$18,211</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$15,920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>$6,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$834,917</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COST PER PROGRAM**

- **HEALTHY EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES**
  - **$218K**
  - **$6 per person**

- **CLEAN SUSTAINABLE WATER**
  - **$617K**
  - **$29 per person**

- **TOTAL EXPENDITURES**
  - **$835K**

*These calculations include all direct program and indirect expenses (such as administration and fundraising).

The figures above are unaudited 2019 financials. This report will be updated with audited figures when the audit is completed.
In the next five years, we aim to scale our self-help group program to benefit one million people in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2020, we aim to help 100,000 people improve their access to sustainable clean water and sanitation, of which half will be in new communities that have never received any support from The Water Trust.

We also plan to secure our first partnership outside of Uganda in order to begin expanding the self-help group approach across the region.
We suffered collecting water from an open source called Kaborogota stream. My children consistently suffered diarrhea and bloody stool because of the open well. I am hopeful that this clean water source will enhance our capacity to keep improved hygiene in our homes.

- Monica Alituha -
THE WATER TRUST STAFF

Mary Kevin Akisa  Finance and Logistics Officer
Susan Alobo  Construction and Maintenance Supervisor
Stella Amage  WASH Assistant
James Angumi  Community Development Officer
Harriet Atugonza  Office Attendant
Angelique Dioguardi  Program Director
Abu Evaline  Community Development Officer
Daniel Ica  Program Manager
Moses Isingoma  WASH Assistant
Scovia Kaahwa  Finance Assistant
Scovia Kajabahowe  Financial Administrator
Olive Karimuni  Community Development Officer
Edwin Kusiima  Driver
Stephen Kiwiriza  Community Development Officer
Simon Mugume  Senior Community Development Officer
Benavilie Nagudi  Project assistant
Scovia Namande  Senior Community Development Officer
Maurice Ndahura  Construction and Maintenance Supervisor
Gloria Nyakatiki  Office Attendant
Peter Osire Okot  Community Development Officer
David Okuhal  Program Manager
Scovia Oyenbath  Community Development Officer
Chris Pratts  Executive Director
Benard Sunday  Community Development Officer
Sarah Zikusooka  Evaluation Officer
Ann Akiteng*  Finance and Operations Manager
Geoffrey Kusemererwa*  M&E Assistant
Kumakech Stephen*  Procurement and Logistics Officer

*Recent alumni

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92%