# CLEAR DATER FOR LIFE



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



One of the greatest joys of being a founder is watching our original company values continue to flow through every layer of this organization. What began 12 years ago as an idea and a copious amount of fortitude is now an incredible team committed to our mission and the high standards we have committed to embodying throughout our important work.

2021 provided obstacles and opportunities that tested these values, and I had the honor of watching the Well Aware team and supporters navigate every new development and transition with a dedication that has deeply humbled me, and every action and step of the way, Well Aware's focus on innovation, community, compassion, and integrity never wavered.

Those obstacles we have all tackled over the past many months have changed us as a community and as a world. For better or for worse, Well Aware and all international organizations are having to adapt to a new landscape, and the past year has emphasized the new risks in carrying out our work now – for our beneficiaries and for our team.



## ETTER FROM SARAH



There are also new opportunities, and, at Well Aware, we see each new challenge as an avenue that leads to a stronger organization and mission. And the team here is astounding to watch as they gracefully acknowledge friction and then almost immediately manage the change needed to redirect.

## We are ready for this year, and we look forward to increasing our water project capacity again and sharing our new digital tools for water system maintenance across even more communities in our regions of work.

We know that we have only made the progress we have so far because of your support. We know that you put your trust in us to have the greatest impact possible with your contributions. And, we know that, as we continue to grow this work and our teams that execute it, this trust will continue to fuel the ripple effect of our clean water work.

Thank you for choosing to improve the world with us. Your generosity is so deeply appreciated by so many people.

With Deep Gratitude,

- Sarah Evans, Well Aware Founder



#### OUR MISSION

To provide innovative and sustainable solutions to water scarcity and contamination in East Africa. We fund and implement life-saving water systems to drive economic development and empower communities.

#### **OUR VALUES**

INTEGRITY · COMPASSION · COMMUNITY · INNOVATION

OUR IMPACT



of Well Aware's wells and water systems work Industry average: 40% work



Lives transformed to date through clean water projects in East Africa

Projects completed across Kenya, Tanzania, Haiti\*, Puerto Rico\*, Texas\* \*disaster relief efforts



Provides one person with clean water

#### THE WELL AWARE RIPPLE EFFECT GOES WELL BEYOND THE WATER WELL:

Diseases Plummet • Education Increases • Gender Equality Increases • Agriculture and Commerce Grow Economic Reinvestments in Community • Peace, Stability and Growth Increase



Accomplishments have been recognized by USA Forbes Che New Hork Eimes TODAY THE CHRONICLE OF PHILANTHROPY The Washington Post LIVE τογοτα

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# 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Drilled our first water well after the onset of the pandemic
- Drilled our highest yielding water well to date in March 2021
- Broke \$1 million in cash raised for clean water systems for the first time
- Received the Recognize Good Ethics in Business Award
- Received Platinum Seal of Transparency on GuideStar for the fifth consecutive year (highest possible rating)
- Named top-rated nonprofit on GreatNonprofits for the eighth consecutive year
- Launched water system maintenance app with Well Beyond in our partner communities
- Grew full-time Well Aware Projects Team in Kenya by 50%
- Increased water project capacity by 90%. Actively working on 38 projects, up from 20 projects worked on in 2020 and 24 worked on in 2019.

## 2021 SPENDING CATEGORIES

# 300,000+



# WATER PROJECTS ACTIVELY WORKED ON IN 2021

## Completed 19 new projects

- New Wells: 4
- New Rainwater: 4
- Upgrades & Expansions: 11

#### FEATURED IN 2021



**Forbes** 





## changeN©₩ WATERWAYS



79% Projects

#### 8% Administration

13%

## Fundraising

## Worked on 19 additional projects

- Completed needed maintenance on 7 past projects
- Investigated 12 new projects for future implementation





Nearly 60% of water projects in Africa fail within the first year. <u>Ours don't.</u> To date, Well Aware has maintained a 100% success rate across all 90+ of our water systems.



This success is not easy to come by. It requires innovation, expertise, adaptability, conscientiousness, and a commitment to the longterm success of our partner communities. 100% success is only achievable through our robust sustainability model.



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# THE WELL AWARE DIFFERENCE



## HERE'S WHAT MAKES WELL AWARE'S APPROACH DIFFERENT:

- We have a team of technical experts including hydrogeologists, civil engineers and groundwater engineers who manage, plan, and design our projects from start to finish.
- We are community-driven. From the very beginning, we establish a true, collaborative partnership with each community. They present to us what their current water situation is, what their goals are, and how they plan to manage the project. From there, we work with the community to design a water system that will utilize their existing resources to kickstart long-term success.
- We maintain partnerships and support ongoing water system needs, ensuring the longevity of all of our water projects. While most of our communities are now self-sustaining, we regularly check in on our water systems to measure impact, and our local team is reachable for problems.

Well Aware is committed to the continued, long-term success of all of our partner communities. As we continue to scale, we are dedicated to upholding the integrity of our water systems, maintaining collaborative community relationships, and ensuring lasting impact for generations.

# THE WELL BEYOND APP BY WELL AWARE

# Launched by Well Aware Founder and Lead Engineer, the Well Beyond App is the industry's first and only mobile app for ensuring lasting water projects.

The Well Beyond App is designed for community members to maintain and diagnose water systems, allowing them to prevent and solve issues on their own. In addition to keeping projects up and running, the new tool also aggregates valuable data on how the water systems are used, providing indicators of community-led success. It includes:



"We are thankful for showing us how to use the Well Beyond App here at Metta. The improvement in water supply in the past two months has greatly improved. This has been facilitated by the new water tanks you installed at Sururu Primary School and Metta Dispensary." - Samuel, Head teacher Sururu Primary

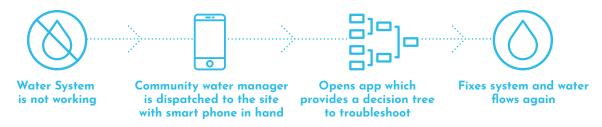




## THE WELL BEYOND APP BY WELL AWARE

## How It Works

Once initially downloaded, the app is fully functional offline, further ensuring accessibility for even the most remote populations in developing regions.



When local leaders can diagnose and resolve issues with their water systems and remotely chat with experts in real-time, it means communities don't have to wait days or weeks for repairs without their only source of water. It also lengthens the life of the water system and results in significant savings of both time and money.



3K+

People trained virtually on

WASH during the COVID-19

pandemic

"The app has really helped us to understand how our [water] system functions. We have been able to troubleshoot most of the minor problems we have experienced and keep the system serving us through the app. We are very grateful for the channel of communication we now have to air our needs when we have them. For example, through the app we were able to air the need of having an extra filter when the one they had was congested."

- Mrs. Stella, teacher at Kaliini Secondary School

## NONPROFIT PARTNERS





## **KG** FOUNDATION





Learn more at wellawareworld.org/app

Total communities using the

app, including both WASH

and maintenance



The "Faces of Water" media series features images and stories of individuals impacted by our clean water projects so that we may show you, our supporters, the incredible transformation your are affecting in communities in East Africa. We hope that through this series, you are able to directly see the people whose lives you are changing, as well as meet the people who are still in need of clean water. Through these stories, we hope to make the world a smaller place.

Mwangi - Mirera Primary School, Kenya

He works at Mirera Primary School, where we installed a rainwater catchment system in early 2021. Now, Mwangi and the school's 3,000+ students have access to plentiful clean water.

> "We used to walk far to search for water. Now, we have clean water for drinking. [The project] has enhanced cleanliness in our school and hygiene has improved."





Caroline - Mirera Primary School, Kenya

She is a student at Mirera Primary School in Kenya and dreams of becoming a lawyer. Before her school gained a rainwater system in early 2021, Caroline was always worried about how the dirty water they used affected people's health. Now that there is a reliable clean water project at her school, she is excited to see everyone she knows become stronger and healthier.

> "Water helps us by keeping our home tidy and in the development of our body because it quenches thirst. And, there will be no more time wasted because the time I used to fetch, I now use it to do more important things."

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# **FACES** OF WATER



## Catherine - Tututha Primary School, Kenya

She is a student at Tututha Primary School, who loves English and dreams of being a teacher. And, she is very excited about her school's brand new rainwater system! Before the project was implemented in December, Catherine and her classmates usually walked to collect water from a contaminated river nearby, negatively affecting their education and impacting their health due to frequent waterborne illnesses. Now, Catherine and all 350+ students have access to plentiful clean water right at their school.

> "I do not carry water to school anymore. Now I can wash my hands and drink!"

Grace - Merciful Redeemer, Kitengela, Kenya

Grace is a 12-year-old student at Merciful Redeemer in Kitengela, Kenya. She has such a strong passion for education, but oftentimes had to miss school in order to collect water with her dad from a source a mile away. But, Grace's worries are now a thing of the past. With the new water project Well Aware completed in 2021, her community will gain access to a reliable source of clean water which will enable Grace to focus again on her dreams of becoming a teacher.

> "We have good teachers here. I want to become one, too."



# COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

## SWEETWATERS SECONDARY SCHOOL

PROJECT COMPLETED: 2021

POPULATION IMPACTED: 350

PROJECT LOCATION: Laikipia County, Kenya



## "There will be no more leaving classes to go fetch water! There will be proper hygiene. We can wash our hands. Water is life!"

Kantai is an advocate for human rights, enjoys history and politics, and is working towards becoming a lawyer when she's older. Her studies, however, used to be interrupted when she would miss class to gather water. Now, Kantai is able to fully focus on her schoolwork again with the reliable clean water well we drilled at her school in March 2021.





For a long time, the all-girls Sweetwaters Secondary School fully depended on the community for their consumable water. The school was only able to retrieve water from the community tank when it overflowed. But, when water was not in excess and the tanks did not overflow, the students had no water.

The unreliability of clean drinking water led to the school buying water from the county, resulting in exorbitant costs for the school, having to purchase it every few days. Due to the high costs, hygiene was not a luxury the girls could afford, as the water had to be rationed.

With their new well, Sweetwaters will no longer pay for water, ration it, or worry about where it will come from. This project will provide the plentiful clean water the students need to stay in school, stay healthy, maintain hygiene, and focus on their studies.



# 2021 REFLECTIONS FROM MIKE

The year 2021, I can say, was a year of encouragement as we had started to learn how to cope in a world with COVID-19. Well Aware as an organization was very alert to kick off as things were normalizing. We drilled two deep wells in the first quarter of 2021 hitting so much water - more than what those communities required. Thanks to our founder, Sarah, and our lead engineer, Kathryn, for taking the courage to board connecting flights all the way to Kenya when many people did not want to go out, let alone being enclosed in a plane for hours with strangers! These are the kind of selfless leaders we have in Well Aware.

To our donors and partners, in 2021 we managed to do more water systems than any other year before and all this is credited to your good will and love for what Well Aware is doing. Thank you for putting your trust in us. We feel so encouraged as you build our confidence and assurance that the direction we choose to provide clean water to those in need is right. As you have never let us down, we will never lose focus on doing good.

As the team leader here in Kenya, I have amazing young people with knowledge and the will to see things are done right and on time.

# To our community partners, we will not slow down any time, but we will do all it takes to provide as many communities with clean water as we can.

Thank you,

- Mike Mutuku, Well Aware Project Manager







Started in 2019 through 1% for the Planet, Well Aware's partnership with PCNA has provided a staggering 12,000 PEOPLE WITH LASTING CLEAN WATER.



"When we learned about an opportunity to partner with Well Aware, we jumped at the chance! Not only did it align perfectly with our social impact goals at PCNA, but the organization's commitment to its 100% Success Model was a real eye-opener for us. We realized that nonprofits need to do more than just initiate a project; It's equally important for them to remain a dedicated partner to the communities they serve. We couldn't be more excited about this partnership and to see the impact we can make on future communities and individuals."

- Kyle Boronky, PCNA

# THANK YOU TO OUR BRAND PARTNERS





## WHAT PEOPLE SAID ABOUT US IN 2021

"Well Aware is a great organization to donate to – not only are they an industry leader in clean water technology, helping to bring clean water to thousands of individuals in East Africa, but they truly care about their supporters!"

- Sam, Donor

"I love the work that Well Aware does. The people of the organization are very passionate about their work and it shows through the organization."

- Fatoumata, Donor

"There are so many positive things to say about Well Aware I do not know where to begin. Well Aware has truly done some amazing work and has improved so many lives. They have a realistic and sustainable approach of providing clean water in East Africa."

- Sophie, Volunteer

"Well Aware has been such an amazing organization to work with. While working with this nonprofit, all of the employees have been so welcoming and organized. This is a nonprofit I trust very much and believe the work being done is crucial to helping with sustainable solutions for clean water. I have only experienced positive outcomes with the people who work here and the impact Well Aware has on other communities."

- Georgia, Volunteer

## In loving memory of *Geoffrey Ryder* Well Aware Board Member 2015 -2021

A cherished Board Member and friend. Read a beautiful tribute written by Sarah Evans, along with a video created by Brad Feeser of Hearty Films to celebrate Geoffrey's life: wellawareworld.org/Geoffrey



Thank you for the integral role you play in clean water for life. Here's to more impact in 2022 and beyond!



www.wellawareworld.org



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