

Water for Nyanyara, Malawi: The Frank Edwards Well

August 1, 2003

For villagers in water starved Nyanyara, Malawi, our first water well project is now complete. The well is providing a source of clean drinking water to more than 60 people. Before this they (mostly women) carried water from a well about two miles from their settlement.

LifeNets took on this project with the help of the Akron, Ohio, United Church of God that provided the cost for drilling and the San Antonio, Texas church that paid for the pump. Total cost: \$3500. The project cost us 40% less than we originally thought because of trusted people on site who



Before



After

helped us work with the contractor who drilled the well.

This project is helping instill a sharing spirit in that the well was dug on the private property of Lawrence Chipendo, yet he gives access to the entire community to draw water.

This project was called the *Frank Edwards Well*. Why? Frank Edwards had worn a

beard for more than 25 years. He was challenged to shave it off if donations of \$200 were collected for the well. At the end of a

spaghetti dinner fundraiser \$1331 was collected! Frank's beard was shaved off to the music of *2001 Space Odyssey* before the delighted audience.

We are extending this program to build three new wells. Your support is appreciated.



Before



After

In this newsletter:

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- *Developing Nations Scholarship Fund* helps more than 50 students
- Helping 9-11 victims
- First calves born in Zambia
- Matching donations

Developing Nations Scholarship Fund Serves More Than 50 Students

The *Developing Nations Scholarship Fund* pays tuition for young people who otherwise would not be able to further their education. It gives our motivated recipients access to professional employment in countries where the unemployment rate can exceed 50%. While the DNSF is LifeNets' most expensive single project, it is an excellent value. It costs an average of about \$600 a year to send a student to school in these developing nations.

We get letter after letter expressing gratitude from students who let us know how this program is changing their lives:

"I am 22 years old and I am studying to be a dentist in a Peruvian university called "Inca Garcilazo de la Vega." I have just finished my first semester



LifeNets Charity Evening sponsored by Ambassador Bible

Center students in Cincinnati, Ohio raises \$2100 for the DNSF. Letters of appreciation are read, baked goods auctioned while hilarious skits entertained.

and getting ready for the second one. I wanted to thank all of you for the assistance you are giving me in paying for my education. Sometimes I see my friends who don't have this opportunity and have to work instead of pursuing further education and I feel very blessed." — Ana in Peru

"I wish to express profound appreciation for the help, the opportunity you made available toward my academic and career advancement that is so important to me. At the same time it will allow me in the future to be able to lend a helping hand to others in need." — José in Colombia

"I'm one of the fortunate students to get help from this program and to get a chance to study at the university". — Roberto in El Salvador

"I'm a single mother and I'm trying to improve my life through this help." — Inobel in El Salvador

Expanding the Program

Over the next 18 months we want (please go to "Scholarships")



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How to Effortlessly Double or Triple your LifeNets Donation

Many companies will match their employees' and retirees' charitable contributions. Check with your personnel office and they will provide the necessary forms and instructions. Then send LifeNets the completed form. Thank you very much!

Donations to LifeNets are tax-deductible in the United States. If you would like for us to put a friend on the mailing list, please let us know via email at: newsletter@lifenets.org or write us at the address above.

Helping 9-11 Victims

Joyce Grant's husband Winston (right) died on September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center. He was transferred from the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Staten Island Office two weeks earlier. He did get all the way down from the 30th floor to the ground, but he heard someone crying out for help and turned back to help. He was never seen again. His widow Joyce lives on Long Island. We have been humbled by her capacity to forgive those responsible for her husband's death. She was married to Winston a few days shy of 35 years. LifeNets volunteer JoAnn Hawker (left) with her son Denzel (right in blue shirt) and daughter Kayla (taking the photo) presented Joyce Grant a \$1000 check to help with her disability. Joyce's children, Winston Arthur II and Joya, are behind her. After 9-11 people donated to the LifeNets restricted *Manhattan Project* from which we continue to help victimized families.



First Calves Born in Zambia

In December 2001 LifeNets delivered 24 heifers and a bull to the interior Mumbwa region of Zambia. Several years before all the cattle perished due to Corridor Disease.

The rainy season that normally runs from November to April came to an unexpected halt in late January 2002 and a drought engulfed much of Zambia and Malawi. For the cattle to survive, they were herded 10 miles to the Kafue River where the village men stayed with the cattle on a rotating schedule as they weathered the drought. The entire maize and cotton crops were



Recent photo of the Mumbwa herd

lost. LifeNets provided some help for these people through a container that was sent to Malawi and some of the goods were then delivered to neighboring Zambia.

The cattle are doing fine as the rains have returned during the rainy season of 2002-2003. In May the first three calves were born, two female and one male, however, one of the females died. More heifers are pregnant and we are awaiting news of more calves! The benefits of LifeNets donations continue to expand. Along with training on proper care, new calves will be given to neighbors as a part of our philosophy of "passing on the gift."

Scholarships (con't.)

to expand this program to include more students. We are evaluating applications submitted by students who are recommended by LifeNets affiliates and local leaders.



El Salvadoran young lady students

In developing nations we feel that helping families who would otherwise not be able to afford to send deserving young people to advanced schooling is an investment.

We ask each student who received support to help other young people as they themselves become established in the workforce. This help can be through financial aid, mentoring and other appropriate means.



El Salvadoran young men students

We are working to enlarge awareness and funding for this program. Your contributions to LifeNets and assistance by sharing information with others will help us reach our 2004 goal of \$60,000 in annual support. Our special thanks goes to all who donate to this fund and for all the groups who have held fundraisers for the DNSF, particularly the Atlanta Young Adults who held car washes, Minneapolis Outreach that picked and sold strawberries, Lafayette, Indiana UCG that held a rummage sale, Ambassador Bible Center that held a silent and cake auction July 13th, and many others who are helping sustain this program.