



Forming A Water Committee

The first step is to secure a location for the well; someone in the community should donate this land. Then we need to make sure it is protected from potential damage or vandalism, (a fence, possibly a lock, etc) if necessary.

We then organize a water committee, which is a group of 8-10 of most prominent people in the community. Whoever donated the land, should also be represented on this committee. Every member must agree to donate a small amount of money per month that will go towards maintenance and upkeep of the well (the water fund). Each member of the committee should have equal say, and be responsible to manage this fund. This is important because without this financial commitment the well could break and the community would not have the resources or ability to fix it. Not only would this be waste of time, money, and effort for everyone, but also the community would need to go back to their old unclean source for water.

Some examples of people who should be represented on this water committee are: members of the school board, a pastor, other community leader, a nurse, a doctor, and both men and women must be represented.

A strong water committee must be established before we will agree to fund and implement a well in the village. The committee needs to collect the first month's water fund prior to the construction of the well.

If the well does not require any repairs after the second year, the first years water fund can be spent however the water committee sees fit for the benefit of the community. We suggest mosquito nets, livestock or something that will help the village in the long run. This can happen every year, as long as the water committee saves at least one year's worth of money in the well fund.

The water committee should also be responsible for mobilizing the rest of the community to provide all of the clay bricks for the project and all of the unskilled labor and assistance to the drillers. It has been proven that projects with strong involvement will last far longer, because the community takes a whole new level of ownership over the project.

Once the well is completed and functional, it will become the complete responsibility of the water committee to maintain it, clean it, oil it and deal with any repairs that it might need.

The committee should also be trained on proper hygiene and sanitation practices and then is responsible to teach and train the rest of the community. This will significantly reduce the spreading of disease.

Generosity Water wants to empower villagers to take care of themselves, our goal is to unify the community and train them to become more more self-sufficient. We do not want to adopt a village.