



Dear Friend,

We wish to express our deep gratitude for your continued support of WorldHope Corps during the second quarter of 2023. By your committed actions, regular contributions, wise advice and counsel, and volunteer efforts... you have touched the many lives.

In this issue, we dive into the second quarter of 2023 to share insights from our leadership, spotlight program successes, and outline upcoming engagements. From clean water initiatives to education and community welfare, your support is at the key of WHC achievements.

We're thrilled to have you walk beside us as we mobilize assets and connect resources with needs for sustainable change in our communities.

Sincerely,

The WorldHope Corps Team



## NEWSLETTER

Qtr. 2 issue | August 2023

### Message from Founder and Director, Michael Christensen, WorldHope Corps USA



In this mid-year newsletter we celebrate our mission outcomes in Uganda: the renovation and reopening of the Hope Tailoring School in Jinja; the success (and return of investment) of small business loans for women's economic empowerment in Sseese; a new round of SHALOM Skills Training with Shalom coffee farmers in Jinja and Mbale, the hand-over of our WHC/SARS Water Store in Katikara to a new owner, and the dedication of the plot of land purchased for the HQ of WorldHope Corps Uganda, as well as a preview of plans improvements to land for the mission.

In Malawi, we celebrate the birth of a new village well, support for two Hope Scholars now studying at the University of Livingstonia, launch of a new community health campaign in response to a cholera pandemic, and continued success of the micro loan program for women's empowerment.

An international team of professional volunteers—our WorldHope Corps Training Team—was able to witness first-hand the core programs and special projects of WHC Uganda, and to conduct specialized workshops, participate in community development training, and offer professional consultations over a 10-day period in June.

I invite you to behold and celebrate what the Spirit of God is doing through dedicated community leaders, international team members, and extraordinary citizens who learn how to work together to mobilize assets and connect resources with needs in Malawi and Uganda.

**Michael J. Christensen, Ph.D.**  
San Diego, California

### Message from Director, Dennis Singini, WorldHope Corps Malawi



I'm delighted to share an update on WorldHope Corps Malawi's remarkable journey over the past three months, from April 1 to June 30, 2023. Despite facing numerous challenges as a nation, including

economic difficulties and natural disasters, our commitment to promoting sustainable development and empowering marginalized communities has never wavered.

From combating the cholera outbreak to supporting education through our Hope Scholarship program, we've made significant strides. A highlight includes the successful drilling of *New Beginnings Well*, now in full operation, and the enrollment of a new young scholar, Nester Changala, now attending the University of Livingstonia.

Our resilience and dedication to adapt and grow continue to define our efforts. With partnerships both locally and internationally, we're expanding our reach, impact, and sustainability.

I'm incredibly proud of what WHC Malawi has accomplished this quarter, and profoundly grateful to our donors and partners for your unwavering support. Together, we're making a difference. Truly, we are *Believers without Borders*.

**Pastor Dennis Singini**  
Mzuzu, Malawi



*"Stop Cholera" Campaign by WHC Malawi*





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Please continue to partner with us to connect resources with needs.

You can support the work today by donating [here](#).

## Message from Director Baamu Moses, WorldHope Corps Uganda



I extend heartfelt gratitude for the WorldHope Corps recent mission trip to Uganda, led by Dr. Michael Christensen. Your timely arrival and generous efforts brought about Unity, Cooperation, Friendship and Love. Together, we've impacted health, economy, and skill enhancement in Uganda, a testament to God's grace.

Special recognition goes to those who dedicated time, resources, and love: from donating funds for the renovation of the tailoring school to uplifting the standards of living for our women, and enhancing the quality of our Shalom Coffee farmers. Our micro-loan program and scholarship initiative have seen great success, benefiting many.

We appreciate WHC USA's unwavering support and promise to

uphold a high level of integrity in managing WHC Uganda projects.

**Pastor Moses Baamu**  
Ssese, Jinja, Uganda

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL – JUNE 2023 (QUARTER 2)

### WORLDHOPE CORPS MALAWI

#### 1. New Beginnings Well, Nkosi

We are thrilled to announce the construction and successful completion of the *New Beginnings Well in Nkosi village and surrounding villages*. Despite initial delays due to heavy rains and road conditions, our team completed the hydrological survey, identified optimal drilling points to ensure a sufficient water table to provide water even during the dry season.

New Beginnings Well was drilled to a depth of 46 meters on May 21<sup>st</sup> and commissioned on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. More than 900 villagers already are benefitting from this needed well, a critical lifeline that ends years of hardship.

Chief Nkosi's heartfelt testimony during the commissioning underscores the significance of this project. From losing a man to battling stomach diseases due to unclean water, the community's struggles were many. But the joy and gratitude were evident as women, girls, and even a 6-year-old boy named John, celebrated the Well's commissioning.

Prior to the installation of New Beginnings Well, families in Nkosi village depended on harvesting

rainwater, walking long distances, or using an open, shallow, hand-dug well shared with animals.



*John, a 6-year-old boy, pumping water during the commissioning of the well*

We extend our profound thanks to the sponsors—*Darryl A. Vasko, Dean Selhay and Candis Selhay*. And to all who have supported this endeavor. Your generosity has not only quenched a village's thirst but sparked hope and health in Nkosi and neighboring villages in Malawi.



*Women and girls from Nkosi village and surrounding villages pause for a photo during the commissioning of the borehole on June 8, 2023.*

#### 2. Cholera Pandemic Campaign

WHC Malawi successfully concluded a 4-month Cholera Pandemic Mitigation Campaign, funded by *United Methodist Global AIDS Mission* in the USA. Spanning from March 1 to June 30, 2023, this vital

initiative reached an astounding 12,000 people, far exceeding our initial target of 5,000.



*Matrilder (WHC Mw, secretary to the Board) in a white golf shirt graced these campaigns*

Key Highlights of Campaign:

- **Hygiene Promotion:** Extensive health education and awareness campaigns were conducted to promote best hygiene practices, including frequent personal handwashing and public sanitation.
- **Providing Essential Supplies:** 20-liter handwashing buckets, water-guard (chlorine-based), and soaps were distributed to the elderly, physically challenged, and lactating mothers.

Significant Outcomes:

- No new cholera cases were recorded since its inception.
- Notably improved hygiene and sanitation practices, including digging pit latrines in the community.

The collective efforts were lauded by 22 local chiefs, contributing greatly to reducing cholera cases in the area. Yet, we acknowledge that continued vigilance is necessary to prevent a resurgence of the disease.



*Odinga Saka (WHC Mw staff) during the distribution of water buckets and soap to the elderly in one of the targeted villages*

## WORLDHOPE CORPS UGANDA

The second quarter of 2023 was marked by both anticipation and committed action for WorldHope Corps Uganda. As we prepared to welcome our esteemed visitors from WorldHope Corps USA, we continued to drive forward key initiatives that empower and uplift our communities.

### 1. WorldHope Corps USA Mission Trip to Uganda (June 2023)

In June, WorldHope Corps (WHC USA) embarked on a transformative 10-day mission to Uganda. The training team of eight professionals were thrilled to return for the first time since the COVID pandemic and reengage with the community development projects initiated during previous trips in 2017 and 2019.

Here are highlights of major activities they carried out:

- **Women's Empowerment and Skill Building:** The mission training focused on women's

empowerment workshops, small business development, and community economic training. Workshops in antimalarial soap-making empowered participants towards self-reliance and improved community health.

- **Coffee Farming & SHALOM Training:** Over 130 farmers across seven communities gathered in Sseese to learn or review the SHALOM principles and skills (*Sustainability, Health, ABCD, Love, Organizing, and Multifaith cooperation*). The graduation ceremony marked the successful end of their training program, a clear symbol of WHC's commitment to community empowerment.
- **Hope Tailoring School:** The team visited the Hope Tailoring School to meet the instructor and see the sewing machines previously provided, assessing the need for further repairs and support.
- **Engagement with Shalom Coffee Cooperative:** Near the mountains in Mbale, a long-awaited consultation on organizational development with the Shalom Coffee cooperative underscored the potential of arabica shade coffee for export to support local economic growth. About 60 farmers, local leaders and the organic fair trade coffee certifier were in attendance. The team toured the coffee gardens and encouraged the farmers.
- **Children's Outreach and Women's Health:** A special visit to over 300 children at the Community Boarding School in Katikara was accompanied by



workshops on making feminine hygiene pads and anti-malaria soap. And culminated in a grand culmination hosted by Pastor Mukiga.



*The children at Community Boarding School with shoes donated by WHC*

## 2. 'Water is Life' Project

The team also visited the SARS/WHC co-sponsored Water Store, **borehole** and community utility in Katikara initiated in 2015. Despite managerial and operational challenges, the borehole continues to pump clean water for the community, under new ownership and management.

## 3. Micro-loans Repayments:

Following the disbursement of a 4,500,000 UGX (\$1,200 US) group loan in March 2023 to the WHC women's group, we are thrilled to report positive results. 95% of expected repayments were brought back on time and a total of 2,185,900 UGX (\$600 US) has been reimbursed over the last three months. Several small businesses have been started and more loan reimbursements are forthcoming.



*Some of the women who received the loans*

## 4. Women Empowerment at the Forefront:

WHC Uganda is committed to the sustainable personal and community empowerment of women for shared prosperity. We believe this is crucial for community growth and development. This quarter, we organized several key meetings to strategize and improve our women empowerment activities.

Beyond vibrant discussions and workshops, we conducted a needs assessment to better understand the specific training that would most benefit the women, considering their unique locations and circumstances. Participants offered valuable suggestions that promise to enhance daily operations and the impact of our training programs.

This year, we are committed to making our women empowerment initiatives even more successful than before. The enthusiasm and participation of the women who received micro-loans, along with the insights gained from our meetings, have laid a strong foundation for impactful, future-oriented programs.

## 5. Shalom Coffee Training

In our commitment to fostering sustainable income and strengthening local communities, WHC Uganda recognizes the significant role of coffee as a cash crop for export. With an eye on high quality and international market competition, we're focusing on how every household can have a coffee garden to grow the best coffee beans for the fair-trade international market.

This quarter, we conducted an essential training session dedicated to coffee cultivation. We were privileged to have not only our committed members but also an agricultural officer from the division in attendance. The training focused on best practices, techniques, and strategies to yield coffee that stands tall in the global market.



*Shalom Coffee Training in session*

## Meetings, Decisions, and Monitoring for Growth in Uganda

Our mission in Uganda is driven by a commitment to efficiency, impact, and improvement. In this past quarter, we have worked hard to ensure that our activities align with these goals.



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*Staff Meetings:* Regular staff meetings have been instrumental in our success. We discuss challenges and solutions, strengthening our daily operations. These interactions fuel creativity and ensure a unified approach to our work.

*Board Meetings:* Vital decision-making took place in several board meetings. These high-level discussions have shaped strategic directions and allowed us to pursue new opportunities for the betterment of our organization.

*Monitoring:* We continue to closely monitor the WHC women's activities, focusing on the proper utilization of loans. This critical oversight allows us to assess the impact on households and gather valuable feedback. Through this process, we are able to continually refine our service delivery and ensure that our support is effectively reaching those who need it most.

**WorldHope Corps Uganda, WorldHope Corps Malawi, and WorldHope Corps USA** work together in a spirit of Shalom. We are committed to local and international partnerships to mobilize assets for the common good.

Please continue to partner with us to connect resources with needs.

You can support the work today by donating [here](#).

Or send your contribution by check to the address below:

**WorldHope Corps, Inc.**

**P. O. Box 6241**

**San Diego, CA 92166**



[www.worldHopeCorps.org](http://www.worldHopeCorps.org)

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### Closing remarks

Thank you for reading this issue of our newsletter. We hope you have found it informative and useful. Please check out the previous issue of our newsletter [here](#).

We value your feedback and suggestions, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any thoughts or questions [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to connecting with you.