



Life  
Giving  
Water  
International

Enabling communities  
to improve spiritual and  
physical health through  
Life-Giving Water

# NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

"If you are thirsty, come to me and drink! ... and you will have life-giving water flowing from deep inside you."

*Jesus—Gospel of John 7:37-38 (CEV)*



## PRODUCING HIGH QUALITY WATER FOR COMMUNITIES

Life Giving Water International collaborated with students and professors at the **Clean Water Institute of Calvin University** to produce a technical paper documenting the innovative water intake design developed for spring water sources to optimize water quality. The design developed and used by this ministry for more than 30 years, provides a sustaining clean water supply for scores of communities.

The paper details practical steps to protect springs, which can benefit rural communities around the world. An earlier technical paper produced last year highlighted the significant advantages of this spring protection method over traditional spring protection methods, which include reduced coliform counts and increased water quality.

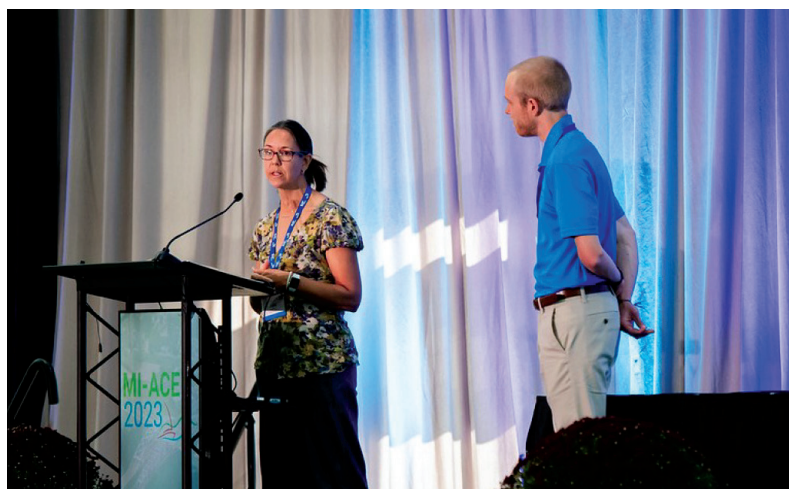
LGWI engineer, Mark De Haan, along with civil engineering professor, Julie Wildschut, presented the paper to water professionals at the annual Michigan Section conference of **American Water Works Association**. The presentation was well-received by engineers and water quality scientists alike.



*Community members in **Pull San Jose** work to protect one of the community springs. Hundreds of spring water sources in Ecuador have been improved using this innovative method.*



*(above) **Calvin University's** water quality testing research, completed in the summer of 2021, was foundational to producing the technical paper.*



*(left) **Professor Julie Wildschut** explains the benefit of the innovative spring water intake design method used by this ministry for hundreds of springs in Ecuador and Peru.*



## SAN ANTONIO DE QUITO CELEBRATES

The community of **San Antonio de Quito** celebrated completion of its water system in September, conquering seven years of political roadblocks and a lengthy government approval process. The perseverance of community leaders and our Ecuador staff finally paid off, providing a reliable supply of clean water to more than 200 homes. The all-day celebration included a spirited worship service giving thanks to the Lord for reaching this milestone.

*A local band led the community in worship and praise during the inauguration in **San Antonio de Quito**.*



## R-ATHLETICS SERVES IN ATAPO



In early September, **LGWI** board members, John & Rachel Rydbeck, brought a ministry team to Ecuador from their gymnastics gym, **R-Athletics**, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to serve and encourage the **Atapo** community. The team worked alongside the community to protect their spring water source, hiking difficult mountain trails nearly four miles round trip in cold, blustery, windy conditions. The team also provided three days of Bible lessons and activities for community children. We are grateful for the commitment of **R-Athletics** to help rural Ecuadorian communities receive clean water!

*The **R-Athletics** team helped the community dig trench to protect the Atapo spring at an elevation of 12,700 feet.*

## ONGOING PROJECTS AND MINISTRY

- The community of **Guaslán Grande** completed eight weeks of health and hygiene classes, led by Samantha Visscher. The community took well to the classes and asked Samantha to return to teach additional classes on health and hygiene or nutrition.
- Construction of the distribution system in the community of **Guayllabama** nears completion. The 282 families worked tirelessly to complete the digging of 8.5 miles of trench for pipe installation and construction of one new water storage tank.
- A team from the non-profit ministry **Hydro Mission** will join the **LGWI** team in the community of **San Martin Bajo** in mid-November. The **Hydro Mission** team will drill a well as a training opportunity for **LGWI** and **CODEINSE** staff.
- Design continues for water systems in the communities of **Sacahuan Tiocajas**, **Atapo**, and **Guaslán Grande**.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

- **Engineer volunteers** needed to design community water systems and manage projects.
- **Communications Director** needed for written and visual media communications.

*For further information: [www.lgwi.org](http://www.lgwi.org) or write to [mail@lifegivingwaterinternational.org](mailto:mail@lifegivingwaterinternational.org)*

- \$300 per home needed for the **Guaslán Grande** community water system to serve 334 families.

**Send Donations to:**  
Life Giving Water International  
154 Temple Road • Waltham, MA 02452-7809

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