



*Center for the Empowerment of Females
with Disabilities (CEFED)*
Bamenda, Cameroon, AFRICA

Drilled Well Project (Mud Rotary Technique)



CAMEROON PARTNER ORGANIZATION

Center for Empowerment of Females with Disabilities (CEFED)

PARTNER CONTACT

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PERFORMANCE PERIOD

Latter half of dry season 2011 or 2012 (January to March)

ESTIMATED PROJECT COST

\$19,888



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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

In partnership with a Cameroonian Non-Governmental Organization, the Center for the Empowerment of Females with Disabilities (CEFED), WTM has assisted with the drinking water needs of 37 children who have found refuge and love at CEFED, which provides for their special needs while seeking to empower them through education, vocational training and community outreach. WTM has partnered with this organization out of a desire to reach the Unreached and provide for the most basic of needs for the underprivileged – clean water.

CEFED strives to reach these individuals and communities to tear down the walls of exclusion of persons with disabilities and provide for their well-being and entire spectrum of human needs. Raising awareness in the community is also a primary goal of CEFED as they seek to positively alter and abolish the attitudes and stigmas they encounter in many remote villages.

WTM stands behind these worthy endeavors by providing their services in the area of water supply and distribution in order to promote our mission of meeting the needs of those who need it most in Africa. By providing clean, easily accessible drinking water to these children, WTM is able to promote and prolong life so that they may become adults who contribute to their society and overcome the barriers that have separated them from taking on meaningful roles in their communities.



THE CENTER LOCATED IN BAMEDA, CAMEROON

BACKGROUND

In Cameroon and many parts of Africa, those with disabilities are often outcast by the community. It is not uncommon to hear community members claim the disabled are possessed by animals or demons resulting in terrible neglect, abuse or abandonment of children that may not even be considered human by the community that has ostracized them. Even in places where a disabled individual is accepted, the opportunity for meaningful work and the means for that individual to support himself/herself is limited or non-existent.

A drilled well was installed at the Center by WTM in 2008. Prior to this, the children had no choice but to gather water approximately ½ mile from the school at a local river highly contaminated by runoff and pollutants. Illness, which is already common among many of the children due to their compromised immune systems, was only exacerbated by these conditions. The installation of the well provided groundwater as a safe drinking water source and eliminated the need for the trek to the river to meet their water needs.

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One of the challenges encountered during the drilled well installation was a bedrock layer that prevented installation of a deep well into the underlying aquifer. The rented equipment at the time lacked the ability to core through rock layers. Consequently, the well could only be installed in the shallow aquifer, which is highly dependent upon infiltration of rainwater during the wet season. It became apparent at the end of the dry season in 2009, when the water table is at its lowest point, that the well would not produce a sufficient quantity of water during this difficult time of year to meet all of the Center's water needs. Our goal is drill a deeper well through the bedrock layer to increase production and meet all of the Center's current and future water needs.

Installation

In order to accomplish the objective of producing a deeper well, a more robust drill rig with the required drilling bits is necessary. The first drilling attempt was halted at approximately 75 feet after encountering bedrock. A well several hundred feet deep would be possible with a rig capable of drilling through the rock layer into the underlying aquifer. Deeper aquifers have a more stable water supply and are typically of better quality than overlying aquifers. WTM has researched suitable drilling rigs that are mobile yet capable of reaching these depths under such conditions and found the Deeprook Hydra-Drill Model HD77 would meet the specifications for program. Information regarding this equipment can be found at:

<http://www.deeprook.com/HD/frmHD77.aspx>

Measurement of Project Progress

Progress of this project will be monitored by several parameters. Initially, the goal of reaching at least 150 feet and successful installation of the well will be considered the first milestone. The

second milestone will be production of enough water by the well to provide a minimum of 20 liters of water per student per day during the latter part of the dry season. This will be measured after the well has been properly developed and conditioned during the proper time of year. The third milestone will be improved health among the children. Although this parameter will be difficult to measure quantitatively, input from the Center's staff will be used to identify progress in this area. Growth of the school will also serve as a fourth long-term objective that is directly impacted by the ability of the school to provide clean water to its students.



WABILA IS ONE OF CEFED'S STUDENTS

Long-Term Partnering Opportunities

CEFED intends to construct a multi-purpose empowerment center comprised of additional housing units, a vocational training workshop, a special education teacher training college, a sporting ground and an orthopedic clinic/workshop. The empowerment center is in need of supporters and volunteers to take this great vision from a dream to reality. Providing clean water is only the first step to creating a sustainable environment for education, training and encouragement of these unreached children.