



# LIBERIA

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## THE PROJECT

**Project Location:** Kakata, Margibi County, Konola Via Town Site #2, Liberia

**GPS Coordinates:** Latitude 06 37.349 N Longitude 010 15.404 W

**Population:** 4,900

**Report Presented To:** Pathways Community Church. Seal Beach, California

## THE COUNTRY

According to the most recent UNDP report, Liberia is ranked 162nd out of 169 countries with comparable data in the United Nations Human Development Index. Hundreds of thousands were killed in Liberia's 14-year civil war, while hundreds of thousands more were internally displaced or fled the country altogether. The conflict left the country in social and economic ruin, partially due to the widespread destruction of homes, public health and education facilities, and administrative buildings. The process of rebuilding this war-torn country will take many years.

Liberia's infant and under-5 mortality rates remain among the five highest in the world. More than 15 percent of children die before reaching their first birthday. 45 percent of Liberian children under age five are chronically or acutely malnourished. Devastated health facilities and a diminished health care workforce hinder the Liberian government's ability to provide basic health services to a desperate population.

After the war, Liberia's infrastructure fell into severe disrepair, making it difficult for people to meet their own basic needs, including the need for water and sanitation. Four in five Liberians are without access to basic health and education services. 36 percent of the population lacks access to safe drinking water and 68 percent are without adequate sanitation services.

## OUR WORK IN LIBERIA

Living Water Liberia was established in May of 2004 and has successfully completed more than 690 water projects since inception. For the past five years, Living Water International has worked throughout Liberia, drilling shallow wells and repairing broken pumps with a trained national team. For the first four and a half years, the ministry concentrated around the Monrovia area, serving approximately 900,000 people with clean water and health and hygiene training. Over the next three years, Living Water International Liberia will focus on projects in and around Bomi, Montserrado, and Margibi counties as we transition into our new compound at Tower Hill. In 2011, Living Water is forecasted to rehabilitate 85 wells and drill 22 new borehole wells in Liberia.

## THE DATA

**Population:** 4.1 million

- 36% without access to an improved water source
- 68% without adequate sanitation services
- 83% living below the poverty line

**Life expectancy:** 59 years

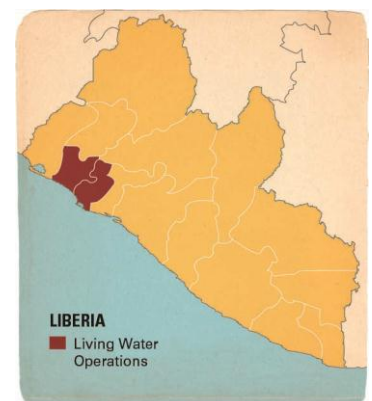
**Infant mortality rate:**

100 per 1000 live births

**GNI per capita:** \$319 USD

Sources: World Bank, UNICEF, USAID, UNDP, CIA World Factbook

Official statistics often understate the extent of water and sanitation problems, sometimes by a large margin. Insufficient resources for monitoring population and/or coverage as well as varying definitions of coverage and access contribute to statistical variability.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

A LWI Liberia team member commented, "The project was memorable due to the town people's participation and willingness to fence the apron." When the team arrived, community members were utilizing an unprotected spring located half of a kilometer away from the community to meet all of their water needs. Because of this and the community's practice of open defecation, families were suffering from cholera, typhoid and other preventable water related illnesses. During the team's stay, community members assembled a water committee consisting of two men and three women who assisted the team with the water project whenever possible and guarded the team's equipment during the night. This water committee is also responsible for collecting a monthly well maintenance fee of \$0.038 USD per family. Most community members earn a living by petty trading or subsistence farming. The nearest school is located half of a kilometer away from the community whose students, teachers and administrative personnel all have access to the new, safe water source. Before leaving the community, the team provided community member,

## TESTIMONY

The LWI Liberia team had an opportunity to meet with thirty-five year old community member and farmer, Prince Massaquoi, who stated, " It is God who directed LWI. During the dry season, the entire town fetched water from the creek. The well rehabilitated was abandoned and the children threw dirt in it. Today it has become useful because of the intervention. May God bless you all."

## CHARACTERISITICS OF THE WELL

### Project Details

Location Name	Kakata, Margibi County, Konola Via Town Site #2, Liberia	
Type of Location	Urban Area	
Region/Province/District	Margibi County	
GPS Coordinates	Latitude:06 37.349 N	Longitude: 010 15.404 W
Altitude	115 m	
Total depth	10 m	
Static level	7 m	
Casing material	Cement	
Pump Type	Afridev	
Depth of cylinder	9 m	
Well yield	15 liters per minute	
Gravel pack	Yes	
Sanitary seal depth from surface	1	
Community Population	4,900	

## WATER QUALITY TEST

Test Results are from

LWI test Kit

Total Dissolved Solids  
(as per T.D.S meter) : 236

Chlorination

Yes

(It is policy of Living Water International to shock chlorinate water wells at a minimum: after completion of drilling and installation of pump and before use by end users, After the well seal is broken during maintenance or rehabilitation and before use by end users.)

## HYGIENE EDUCATION

During the hygiene education, the LWI Liberia team addresses: Hand washing, how to properly transport and store water, disease transmission and prevention, how to maintain proper care of the pump, as well as signs and symptoms of dehydration and how to make Oral Rehydration Solution. All of these lessons are taught in a participatory method to help community members discover ways to improve their hygiene and sanitation choices, and implement community driven solutions. After the hygiene education, the community built a fence around the well site to better protect their water source.

## EVANGELISM

A LWI Liberia team member commented, "Evangelism was done at the project site and during the pump installation. We spoke with the town people sharing the love of God from the book of John 3:1-18. People's lives were touched by God's word and promised to be committed to the will of God." The team also shared oral bible stories with community families before leaving the area. Considering 80% of developing countries are oral preference learners, oral disciple making methods are Living Water International's core component of sharing the Gospel in areas of work. Living Water International provides pastoral care and discipleship of field staff, so pastors and LWI staff are better able to share the Gospel with spiritually thirsty communities. To make disciples of oral learners, LWI Liberia uses stories, proverbs, drama, songs, chants, and poetry to better engage communities. LWI Liberia tells Bible stories to community families and asks questions to help guide community members to interpret scripture into their own context.



Previous water source depended on by the entire community to meet all of their water needs. A LWI Liberia team member commented, "The town suffered from the problem of poor water quality from the previous water source. Which seriously affected the health of children as running stomach was rampant."



Close up of plaque.



Community member pumping clean, safe drinking water from the new and reliable water source.



Water committee members who are responsible for helping maintain the well and who were provided with a LWI Liberia contact number in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.



During the well rehabilitation, the team replaced the following parts: Pump Head, Pump Handle, Pump Base, Pump Rod-Sucker Rods, Rising Main-Drop Pipe and Cylinder.



Completed water project accessible by the entire community and will be used to meet their most immediate water needs.



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