

# Save The Rain

SAVE A RAINDROP. SAVE A LIFE.

## WOMEN, WATER AND THE WORLD

In the developed world, people do not have to carry the water we use on a daily basis. If we did, it's safe to assume we'd use a lot less than we do. The average American uses 176 gallons of water at home each day. The weight of that water is about 836 to 1400 pounds. Imagine if your family had to work together every day to transport over 800 pounds of water into your home!



For people living in many developing countries, distance to a clean water source is a critical factor. In particular, it affects the lives of women. Collecting water in developing countries is rarely a family activity. It is a task largely designated to women and young girls. Because women are also responsible for the care of young infants and children, girls begin carrying a small water jug as early as 2 years old. In some places

in Sub-Saharan Africa, for instance, women can spend between 4 to 6 hours each day collecting water. In times of drought, it can sometimes take even longer. Access to clean water and good health are tightly linked, and the need to carry water very long distances limits the amount women can bring to their families. The dangers are not over even once water has been brought back home to the family. Water is often contaminated with microorganisms that cause diarrhea, typhoid, and cholera. These diseases are responsible for approximately 80 percent of all illnesses and deaths in the developing world, many of them children. Women and female children who have to travel to collect water pay a high cost. Less time is available for caring for children, preparing food, receiving an education, or pursuing income-generating activities. In some regions women and girls must travel through unsafe areas and are vulnerable to attack. Families, in many cases, must forgo sending their daughters to school, perpetuating the vicious cycle of illiteracy and poverty.

# HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS!

Save the Rain has been successfully harvesting the rain in water starved communities since 2005!

Save the Rain is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching water starved communities in East Africa to use rain as a sustainable water supply, stopping the needless deaths caused by the global water crisis. To achieve their mission they educate communities to harvest the rain through roof water collection and passive irrigation.

## **Why Harvest the Rain? Because..**

- When school aged children get access to clean water, they continue their education into secondary school. Every extra year of secondary school increases earning potential by 15% to 25%.
- After 6 months of having clean water, on average there is a 45% decrease of kids suffering from water borne illnesses. After 5 years of having access to clean water, 96% of children will show drastic improvements in their health.
- The 1st school system ever done by Save the Rain initiated latrine pit construction, enabling girls to stay in school. Each additional year of female education reduces child mortality by 18per thousand births. Through Save the Rain's Women's Water Initiative, access to clean water is provided right at home. Empowering girls and women with the gift of time to flourish by removing the need for them to walk for water for their families.
- When rain water harvesting projects are complete, students no longer need to walk for water for their school's needs. Prior to clean water access, a small number of students were continuing school past 13 years old. Within the first year of access to clean water, Save the Rain saw 99% of students pass their national exam to be able to continue on to high school and more than 50% of them were girls.

Take a minute to imagine what the world would look like if we all worked together.

Would there still be war? Hunger? A global water crisis?

There is no doubt these problems can feel overwhelming, no matter how old you are.

If governments are failing to solve a giant issue like the global water crisis, how can we be expected to make an impact? The answer is easy: stop imaging and make it happen.

Choose to make a difference. We all have the power to help end one of the greatest crises facing humanity. All it takes is the time and energy to find \$15.

Why \$15? Because that is all it takes to bring a child clean water for the rest of their life and the lives of their future offspring. You have the power to change the life of another, and that changes the world because it changes their world. It is so easy to act on your compassion, to come together and solve problems. Most importantly, like raindrops, imagine how much we can do if we each do our small part. Like a storm of goodness, things will indeed get better for everyone.

# TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

## How to Get Involved..

To raise awareness and funds for those living in water scarcity, our community will be hosting a Miles for Maji event! Maji is the Swahili word for water. There are 3 ways we can take steps for water so women and children in Sub-Saharan Africa never have to again.

- 1) You can join the Online Movement. We are asking those interested in participating to create a custom fundraising page and to share with their network through email and social media channels. This option to join is great if you can't make it to either our school or community event but would like to help.  
Participants will commit to taking 15 steps for every \$15 they raise while holding a bucket of water (extra challenge is to carry it on your head!). Set a date to take your steps, record some or all, and share the video or pictures with your donors.  
Templates for fundraising pages will be provided by Save the Rain.
- 2) Change for change. Classrooms will collect change leading up to the designated day for our Miles for Maji event. On the day of the event, students, teachers and administrators interested in participating will carry jugs of water with them through out the school day. Online fundraising can also be partnered with this event. Customizable templates will be provided by Save the Rain for you to share with your network and ask for sponsorship for your efforts.
- 3) Community walk for water. Community members will be asked to gather at a designated location for a Miles for Maji group walk along a predetermined path. Containers full of water will be carried along the walk, participants may pass along containers of water or chose to carry their own for the entire duration of the walk. To raise funds participants will be asked to create a customized fundraising page Online, or to collect donations with a pledge sheet, asking their network to sponsor their efforts.

## Join us for 1 or all of these events!

The method to get people access to clean water is interdependent. We see everyone involved with Save the Rain as a unified force. The working team of Save the Rain is the hands and feet; the recipients are the heart and soul, and the donors are the wings that give the mission its flight. Please join us in a collective effort to correct the imbalance that leaves so many of the global family without the basic resources needed to sustain life.

On behalf of those who will benefit from your efforts, we are deeply grateful.