**The Hand Washing Save Lives Project**

**Implementing Location**: Kabala Township

**Project Duration**: Projects start immediately when funds are available. We propose that for every 30 days, 26 sinks and supplies are provided starting from September 2016. Other communities are targeted when more funds are available.

**Project needs**: USD 10,000. For every donation that is raised, will be used immediately to reach our goal.

**Mode of support**: Either through Global Giving or through any other medium of money transfer.

**Project Title: Handwashing Saves Lives!**

**Project Summary:**

Let's put sinks in the classrooms and teach the proper technique with soap. So many illnesses start with poor hand hygiene. Salmonella, campylobacter (cause of food poisoning, stomach and intestine inflammation), MRSA, flu, diarrhea and sickness, the common cold, and impetigo are just some of the viruses and infections passed between people who do not wash their hands properly with soap.  A UNICEF study reports that the simple act of washing your hands with soap and water can cut diarrheal disease by one-third. The Center for Disease control reports that handwashing education and access to soap in schools can help improve attendance.

Project objective: Provision of Handwashing stations that save lives in community schools and Evaluate impact on student knowledge and practices.

**Disease prevention** is paramount to this organisation.  This program seeks to reach 1,600 children with access to 28 new sinks and sanitation supplies, starting from October 2016 in the classrooms of four partner schools. Water fall in the area is not abundant and wells are located near the schools.  This project is expected to take 30 days to complete, and then move to other schools with more new sinks and hygiene awareness exercises.

**The project’s goal** is to reduce disease prevention in underdeveloped, poor and unsanitary community schools in danger of contracting diseases and sicknesses by implementing resources for children and teachers to practice handwashing and to share vital information and dialogue about proper hygiene. These transformative results will not only have direct effects on the health of these school children and teachers, but through effective hand hygiene education and outreach, they will continue to share knowledge about the importance of handwashing with their peers and families.

**The issue, problem, or challenges:**

All the village schools identified and devastated by poverty have limited access to running water and soap continues to be in health danger. From assessment conducted, teachers send their pupils to fetch a bucket of water, where multiple kids dip their hands into the same bucket with dirty hands. This same bucket with water is used in school for the day. Lack of hand hygiene education and supplies, leads to disease, which can create lifelong effects for children including school dropout. 80% of all diseases are environmental and related to water and sanitation due to poor water governance, water knowledge and technology.

**Consequences:**

Risk of health facility-acquired infections is 2-20 times higher than in developed countries, Inability to administer oral medicines safely, Lack of teaching platform for school students to model good hygiene practices.

**Our Challenges are Logistical:**

Delivering water stations to remote sites - Long distances, Poor quality road, Inaccessible during rainy season, obtaining transport for monitoring, Financial and although intervention is inexpensive, resources are scarce and donor support is required.

**How to solve this problem:**

This Project will work with stakeholders and school managements to target 12,600 children with access to 128 new sinks. The project will provide water stations with hygiene facilities, water handling and hand washing knowledge and practices. The project will mobilize and sensitize students, teachers, parents on participatory Handwashing that saves Lives in schools and communities, hand hygiene practices, hand washing technique and provision of Chlorine to schools. This initiative is linked with SDGs 3, ‘’ Ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages’’.

**Key Players:**

Our key players will be ChildLine/LifeLine, Ministry of Health (MOH), District Councils, Ministry of local government, Tropical Diseases Research Centre, Churches Health Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships and village development committees in Kabala City.

In response to these problems, we need funds to implement an inexpensive, simple intervention designed for short to medium term to provide these schools with the following items:

1. For Water Stations: Plastic containers with lids and taps, Metal stand and Basin for catching water;
2. For Hand washing: Starter supply of soap;
3. For Hygiene training: Develop, test, produce and distribute schools Training and IEC material about improve water, gender, hygiene and environmental sanitation based on existing methods/tools making use of illustrations and comics.

**Project Cost: The total cost of this initial project is $5,029.  The project budget includes:**

10 sinks and building supplies for 1 school in Chawama community = $2,000
\*supplies include awareness kits, soap, pipes, sand, gravel, cement, and paint.

16 sinks and building supplies for 3 schools in [Kabwata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kabwata_%28Zambia_Parliament_constituency%29) community = $3,029

**The following is a detailed action plan for carrying out this project:**

***Phase 1: Education***
Trainings both for the project committee members, students and teachers take place.  Posters are hung and pamphlets are passed out to the schools and parents.

***Phase 2: Construction and Procurement of Supplies***
Employ a mason, a painter, and a plumber.  Purchase building supplies and begin construction. Purchase a soap supply from the mothers who are fabricating soap with a donation.  The "soap project" will also supply future soap.

***Phase 3: Project Evaluation and Oversight***
The project committees will continue to manage the installations and provide reports according to Action Plan for this project. The teachers will provide weekly reports on the usage and functioning of the sinks, while the principal will communicate with project management committee on challenges and successes.

Cleaning and maintaining the sinks and towels on a regular basis will be required with the cooperation of the principal and teachers and monitored by the committees.  The schools will continue to receive clean towels through a village funding program.

**FUTURE ACTIVITY;**

**Participation in the Global hand washing day**

**ChildHelp Sierra Leone** will participate in the Global Hand washing Day that will be commemorated annually on 15th October 2016. This year’s commemoration will be held in Kabala city and its community schools which is in the North. The objective of the commemoration is to highlight the importance of hand washing and hygiene in the prevention of water and sanitation related diseases like diarrhoea. A total of 900 children and 100 adults will attend the commemoration. Of these 700 were schools going children whereas 200 were non-school going children. Thirty seven (37) government workers from different departments and 5 staff were among those present during the commemoration. We will invite a Guest of Honour that will demonstrate the correct way of washing hands with soap and will be followed by the children, government staff and community members present. **ChildHelp Sierra Leone** will provide hand washing facilities and soap whereas the District Health Office will be asked to provide chlorine. (Sponsors are needed for this project).

**Potential Long Term Impact**: This handwashing project will be sustainable not only because the sinks and supplies are a long-term investment for the community, but also because the schools and parents are committed to a healthier lifestyle and have pledged their commitment to support any future repairs.  Our future goal is to install sinks in all the regional schools. From our point of view, this project will be useful as schools and their communities will be less prone to preventable diseases related to water and sanitation. Knowledge about hygiene and environmental sanitation in schools and households among pupils, parents and teachers Improved. Increased capacity of school management committees, Local Government Agencies and other stakeholders to maintain, manage and scale up the project model in the district and beyond.

Access to water supply, hygiene facilities and sanitation for 12,600 children with access to new sinks and sanitation supplies Improved. The proposed activities will contribute positively to: hygiene behavior and reduce health related costs; less illness less lost schooling days and time; time savings as facilities are in schools; and also translates into higher productivity, greater school attendance etc.

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**REQUEST:**

The management kindly requests your kindly donation or funding of this project which will start in September 2016. Every month we promised to target more school children communities with more new sinks for handwashing.

***Within one year, we plan to reach 200,000 school children with over 500 new sinks in 85 schools with hand hygiene and education in Kabala City, Koinadugu district.***

Any contribution or donation from US$ 5 and above toward this project through Global Giving crowd-funding site or directly into our Charity’s bank account or any other medium you will prefer will make this project come to reality. Reports with photos and ‘Thank You’ letters from Schools will be sent to you during the exercise and when completed. You are also welcomed to visit the communities to see how your donation was really spent.

Thank you very much for believing and being part in our project to make it happen. We will be glad to work together and hope to hear from you,

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