

## **PROPOSAL FOR GRANTS OF USD\$85,000 FOR COMMUNITY WATER PROJECTS: BOREHOLES**

I am the Project Director of Garram Children's School and a Physics Lecturer, in the Department of Physics, College Of Education , Gindiri, Plateau State, Nigeria [ [www.coegindiri.net](http://www.coegindiri.net) ]

I am writing on behalf of Garram Children's School [Orphanage & Rehabilitation Centre] (hereinafter referred to as GCS) to request your contribution towards raising the sum of USD\$85000 to support our water and sanitation PROGRAM for the welfare of communities where our over 200 hundred children live and come to school. We would like to give a borehole each to the following communities: Puyam [ Pankshin LGA], Lepgang[Kangke LGA], Dungpopit[ Kangke LGA, Zam Gulung and Zam Kwalta [ Kangke LGA], Zampet Terminus, Zampet Angwan Mission [Kangke LGA], Kanning Dangkem [ Kangke LGA], Dimwai Rahama Hospital, Dimmwai Community [ Kangke LGA], Dungyel Mission and Dungyel Community [Kangke LGA].

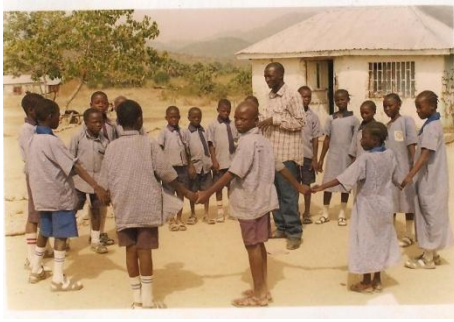
A total of 12 boreholes will be drilled for twelve communities who are hosting and accommodating our children. These are rural farming communities with a minimum distance of two kilometers apart. Children walk to and fro the school- Garram Children's School [Orphanage & Rehabilitation Centre] because we have no accommodation facilities for them.

**The objects our school includes among others:** *The advancement of education, the relief of the poor and the needy and to improve on the quality of life of the individual and family especially and the society at large [ This has taken care of the education of Adults and children who for some reasons cannot fit into the conventional system of education].*

*To bring hope to the poor, most neglected, helpless and needy children- orphans [Some orphaned by AIDS] and the physically handicapped, regardless of race, sex, and religion or/political views providing education for all children with the primary aim of educating needy children who otherwise would live abandoned without education in our community of Garram.*

**More Information on our school can be obtained at**  
**<http://www.garramchildrensschoolandorphanage.org>**

Your **support** grant will help us in our efforts to better the lives of the poor who live in the most remote rural areas. It will give direct help to the very poorest (mostly children – orphans and the handicapped) at the bottom of the ladder of our socio-economic life. **This project will help alleviate the suffering of** severely vulnerable children and will relieve people in need or hardship, aged or sick, and to relieve distress.



Life in GCS



The School



Children getting water from a deep and dirty well

#### THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY BOREHOLES

**In accessing the school and community water needs, it was found that the largest barrier to the health of the school and community children in all our communities is very poor due to lack of portable water and good sanitary conditions.**

**The school's latrines always collapse in the wet season because they are usually made of non-durable materials. Our communities have none or very few latrines. It is our desire that more durable pit latrines are constructed for us and boreholes are sunk to provide us and our immediate community with better portable water.**

**Only 1% of the 30,000 households in all these communities have an average sanitary facility- a simple pit latrine and only 5% of the 31 villages where our children live and walk to school have a good source of water supply-natural springs-from which they have their water. Majority of the community households take their water from the three rivers which run through the districts carrying along with it dirt's of all kinds resulting from the unsanitary conditions of the communities. In the dry season January to July, the rivers are completely dry and children have to queue up along "sand dug water holes" spending hours fetching water in turns. Sometimes they fight and most times they come late to school. Few hand dug wells are often dry and contaminated resulting in several infections.**

**The most common and deadly diseases in Garram are Diarrhea, Typhoid, Eye Infection, Skin and/Scalp Infection, Schistosomiasis and Malaria.**

**Every year there are many deaths in our communities related to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene, mainly through infectious diarrhea. The vast majority of these deaths are children under the age of 5. These cases of diarrhea annually mean that poor water; sanitation and hygiene are one of the leading causes of death and disability in or feeder communities. Almost 20% of the population in each community lack access to any form of improved water supply within 1 km of their homes. Waterborne disease is a major threat to our children and community affecting their poor economic base.**



The child needs good water to grow



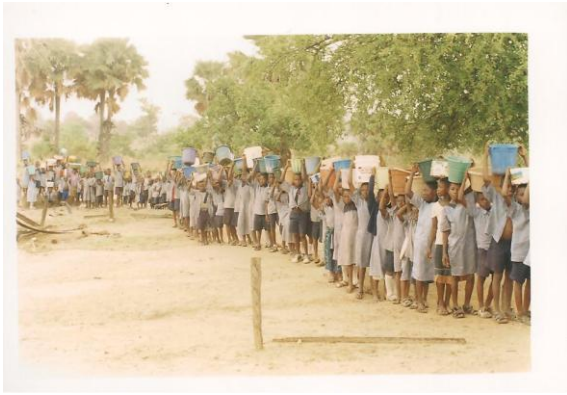
Children fetching water from a hand-dug well



Children fetching water from a hand-dug well



Water is used for general purposes and must be dirty unsuitable for drinking



Children and teachers carry water home from the school borehole 2-3 km away. This is a difficult task.



With your grant, our dream for our communities will be fulfilled. Water will flow into the people's buckets easily

**Your contribution to the implementation of this program will help the community to prevent the contamination in their water supply, thus helping to eliminate the possible spread of infection, and enable the school have healthy children. Thus, making people healthier so that they can lead more productive and fulfilling lives.**

This grant will go a long way in helping the school reach its goals. **While ,the Millennium Development Goal 7 Target 7c aims at Reducing by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, this and other goals may not be fulfilled for our school and communities in which our children live unless you donate part of your hard earn income to us to implement this Project.**

**With the water problem prevailing , we cannot : ensure that all our boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people in Garram, Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.**

**Furthermore,** at current rates of borehole drilling and population growth, our communities' sanitation sector the MDG for 2015 (30% coverage) will not be reached for more than 30 years, and full coverage will not be reached for more than 100 years unless you assist us to avoid the serious consequences in terms of health, economic opportunity, and human dignity. The impact on all these dimensions is felt particularly strongly by women, and poor households headed by women are among the most severely affected.

**Gender is central to water problem in all our communities because:**

1. Women, and to a lesser extent children are primarily the ones who draw water for household use, transport it home, store it until it is used, and use it for cooking, cleaning, washing, and watering household animals.
2. Women and children negotiate with their neighbors for access to water supply, evaluate water sources, analyze supply patterns, lobby relevant authorities, and launch protests when water availability reaches dire levels.
3. Women and children in Garram usually spend up to 6-8 hours a day collecting water; this often consume up to a third of daily caloric intake. Most of this water is fetched from outside their households. We have found out that women in rural communities spent over four hours a day gathering fire wood as fuel and water.
4. More than 50% of the primary school age girls in our communities are not in school Or go to school late because of fetching water.
- 5 .Many infectious diseases are associated with poor water quality. Women bear the primary burden of caring for the sick in our communities.

The project for which we are requesting funds will make a difference in the lives of children and women in the following ways:

**1. To make water safe for the school children and community,**

2. To make homes free from water related diseases.,

3. It will prevent the deaths of young children caused by unsanitary conditions and water-borne diseases,

4. Makes the people healthier so that they can lead more productive and fulfilling lives.

This will **contribute a lot to poverty reduction. Most of the meager resources of the people are often spent on the treatment of water related diseases.** This will reduce childhood mortality from diarrhea and will also improve basic economic and social conditions of over 12,000 inhabitants in general and the over 200 children in the Garram Children's School in particular.

In a male dominated cultural and rural setting, girls have no chance in life, especially access to functional education since their education is seen as a waste. Girls are usually overworked- they are responsible for fetching domestic water. In most cases this water source is diseased as it is shared with animals. Girls are first to wake up in morning and last to sleep at night. When girls

from Garram Community drop out of school, they are trafficked to the city as housemaids with no education or taken for marriage in their teenage. This has provided a cycle of illiterate mothers. These, along with series of other discriminatory practices have affected girl-child enrolment school attendance and performance in class. Lack of time for reading and doing class work and the possibility of continuing to higher level of education with confidence is none existent. This project seeks to address these challenges. This program intends to help girls in particular and other disadvantaged children with readily available water in their respective communities.



Future, ongoing support for the project will be supplied by each community through agreed contribution for the costs of maintaining the equipment. Every household has agreed to pay a monthly water rate of ₦ 200 [USD\$1.33] monthly per household for the cost of maintaining the equipment. With our average household of 300 the sum of ₦ 60,000 will be raised per months and ₦ 720,000 per annum [USD\$4800] for the maintenance and sustaining a borehole in each community a borehole is sunk.

Each community has agreed that the fetching of the water will be timed at the following times daily: 6-8 AM and 2-6 PM. This will ensure that water will not be wasted.

Garram children's school, agree to accept responsibility for the operation and technical conduct of this project and to keep our donors informed of the project's progress and completion. We will accomplish this by providing written reports [including the submission of receipts, invoices of purchases on the project's progress, photos].

**Thanks for your time, attention and the anticipated positive assistance to us.  
Sincerely,**

**For: GARRAM CHILDREN'S SCHOOL**

**By: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mr. Tonchin A G Guse**

**Project Director**

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