Community Water Systems in Andhra Pradesh, India

WaterHealth International’s (WHI) community water systems (CWS) are being installed in 10 villages in the Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh (AP) in 2005. The villages selected for the pilot projects have agreed to pay a nominal fee for the treated water. These fees cover operation and maintenance costs, and allow recovery of the initial equipment costs over 10 years.

WHI is partnered with a local NGO – Naandi – who will act as a distributor for the systems in AP. WHI is building the systems and training community members to manage their daily operations and maintenance. Naandi is mobilizing community interest in the program with education programs focused on safe water handling, sanitation, and hygiene to help communities fully realize the benefits of safe drinking water.

Our first CWS opened in February 2005 and is providing 15,000 liters of water per day with an adoption rate of 60% after one month. Once completed, the pilot program will be able to provide clean drinking water for up to 20,000 people per day. In addition, WaterHealth will use the lessons learned from these systems to implement future CWS throughout India and other countries.

“Involve communities, bring solutions down to the village level, and the people will rise to the occasion and make a success of them any day”

- Dr. K. Anji Reddy, Chairman of the Naandi Foundation.

WaterHealth Mission:

WHI’s mission is to be a technology innovator and provider of high performance, affordable distributed water disinfection/purification systems and support services that address health-related needs worldwide.

WaterHealth Technology:

WHI utilizes an award-winning UV technology developed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to disinfect raw water; a typical CWS can provide up to 10 liters of safe drinking water per person per day, at a cost of less than $2.00 US per person per year.

Water Facts in Andhra Pradesh

- Over 380,000 habitations do not have reliable access to safe drinking water
- Pathogen-contaminated drinking water causes a variety of water-borne diseases such as cholera, dysentery, and diarrhea
- Diarrhea alone causes about 70,000 deaths annually in the region