



**Dear Partners and Friends**

Without question, 2020 will be a year that we will not soon be forgotten. A worldwide pandemic followed by the most divisive political season in recent memory. Many businesses and non-profits like Hope Springs saw things slow down and some grind to a halt with visions of an uncertain future.

Our well drilling efforts in Nigeria and Chad came to a halt in March. This was followed by the early arrival and a late departure of the annual rainy season, this year lasting for almost 5 months. Our work was especially affected by the rains as most of the communities we are trying to assist are in extremely rural areas with access through open fields and cart paths. This is especially challenging for large well drilling machines and trucks hauling materials.

When the COVID-19 lockdown finally loosened its grip on our drilling operation in Gombe State, Nigeria, drilling got off to a slow start but now the long dry season has begun, and it should be clear sailing from now until June or July of 2021.

We want to close this year on a much more positive note. The pandemic kept us from doing a special event this year. This event is a major source of funding for our operations for the coming year. What we can accomplish in 2021 will be to a great degree dependent on yearend gifts to this work. I know it has been a challenging year financially for many people, but if God has blessed you this year, please consider a gift to Hope Springs. Large or small, every gift will be a blessing and enable us to continue to change the lives of those who desperately need clean water and the Gospel of Christ.



**December 2020**

**PRESSING NEED FOR UNIFORMS FOR OUR STUDENTS.**

The Chadian government requires all students in school throughout Chad to wear uniforms. We have been operating “under the wire” so to speak since we began. The government recently sent a representative to visit our schools and made us aware of the requirements. To their credit, they are very impressed with what has been accomplished and are now providing much-needed school supplies.

Each uniform will cost \$12. This would be a great project for your Bible Class, or Small Group. Each class or group family could provide one uniform and provide multiple uniforms from the class or group. Uniforms for our orphans will be provided through the money that sponsors send each month.

The challenge is only a handful of families can afford the \$12 to purchase a uniform. If they have more than one child in school, it becomes an insur-



**SO FAR THIS YEAR**

- 1. More than 18,000 people now have clean water, in spite of an 8 month shutdown.**
- 2. Our 125 Orphans have been provided food, clothing, shelter, medical care and an education.**
- 3. More than 4,000 people have been treated at our Jordan Health Center.**
- 4. Our Primary and Secondary Schools opened with 1,134 students, 40% were girls.**
- 5. We are thankful for each of you who have supported Hope Springs and prayed for its success during this most challenging year.**



mountable obstacle. Remember these children do not have closets. This uniform will become the only other article of clothing they own.

Receiving an education is the only hope these children have of improving their lives and escaping a life of poverty. Our present enrollment for the Primary School is 884 and the Secondary School 250, for a total enrollment of 1134. Of those enrolled 432 are girls. Pierre tells me that you will not find that percentage in any other school in all of Chad.

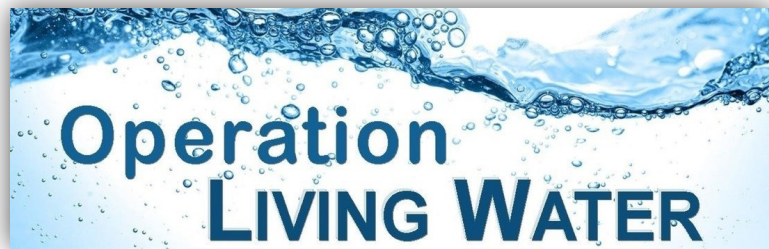


In 2010 a young girl named Mahelta Mokolo rode a bicycle more than 9 miles one way to attend our primary school. She was an excellent student, and her teachers were amazed at how quickly she was learning. She did this for six years six days a week to finish Primary School. She went through the sixth grade two more years in hopes there would be a Secondary School.

During a visit to Chad in 2017, I told Pierre, I wanted to meet Mahelta. He told me that because we did not have a secondary school, she got married and her days of school were over. That broke his heart and was a driving reason behind Pierre's push to establish a secondary school. It broke my heart too, but thanks be to God Pierre pushed forward with his dream and we were there to help.

We need a minimum of 1000 uniforms. In other areas of Chad and throughout Africa, the price of a uniform can make the difference of being able to attend school or not. Would you be willing to add one or more uniforms to your Christmas list this year?

**This two-year training program we told you about in our last issue has been fully funded!**



Six trainees have been selected. These men under the direction of Yusuf Buba a seasoned evangelist will learn to take the message of Christ to those who do not know Him. Those we seek to reach are Muslims and others who have no religious understanding at all.

One of these young men is Yusuf's son. One of the other young men is a school teacher. Another has said when trained he is ready to go anywhere to preacher the Gospel. The oldest of the students has already helped to reach four drug addicts and baptize them into Christ. One other young man was wounded during an attack by Boko Haram in 2014 and still has the scars from his injury. We are so excited about this new team.

For the protection of our trainees, we will only share limited information here, but we have established a private, members-only Facebook site for approved members. If you would like to receive an invitation to this group send your request to [hopespringsintl@gmail.com](mailto:hopespringsintl@gmail.com). Join us in praying daily for this mission that will begin this month.



**WE ARE DRILLING AGAIN!**

We are so thankful that despite an eight-month shutdown we have been able to bring safe water to more than 18,000 people and we still have the rest of December to go.

It is so good to be drilling again, but the shutdown caused an increase in cost for what we can drill a well for. Supply cost for distributors, inflation, and a slight devaluation in the Nigerian currency were all factors to cause us to raise our cost from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for a well. With the going price of \$6,000+ commercially, this is still a bargain price to provide people with life-saving and sustaining clean water. In fact, \$3,000 was a special price we had negotiated years ago with a company to drill wells for us.

Check us out on Facebook for videos and other information about all that is happening. It is an exciting time despite the crazy happenings of 2020.



*"What a huge blessing your ministry is to so many people!... Keep up the amazing work and we are grateful to be a small part."* Tennessee



*"It is a real blessing to partner with Hope Springs in this work. Thanks for all you do to make this possible."*

*"Thank you... we are thrilled!"* Texas

