

PAPER F  R WATER

A close-up photograph of three young girls of South Asian descent smiling warmly at the camera. The girl in the center is the most prominent, wearing a light blue tank top. The girl to her left is wearing a white and pink striped shirt, and the girl to her right is wearing a pink floral shirt. The background is softly blurred, showing green foliage and bokeh light effects.

**2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**

PAPER FOR WATER



TURNS 10!

In 2021, we celebrated a momentous milestone: Paper for Water's 10 year anniversary! It was a year of celebration and remembrance, as we looked back at the life-changing impact Paper for Water has had around the world. What started as a one-month project has now raised over \$3 million, funded more than 300 water and sanitation projects in 20 countries and provided safe water to 100,000 people every day. During lockdown and virtual school we wrote and released our first book, *One Piece of Paper at a Time*, giving a behind-the-scenes look into the organization's transformation from an idea to what it is today.

During 2021, we built upon the virtual events started during the pandemic. Throughout the year, Paper for Water educated communities and companies on the global water crisis, all while teaching the art of origami. We hosted our most successful virtual event with Veritas. Their employee generosity and company match raised over \$42,000 for clean water projects in Peru and Mexico. During the summer we came full circle from launching Paper for Water at a local Starbucks to hosting a virtual event with Starbucks' corporate employees in Seattle. We began to organize in-person activities again, bringing our volunteers together locally to help make a global impact.

The year started with some challenges as the Texas snowstorm caused a flood in our office, damaging supplies and ornaments. We were amazed by the incredible response from Paper for Water's supporters who aided our recovery efforts. We are grateful for everyone who helped PFW continue to operate and serve others during this challenging time. The year ended more hopeful than ever that the next decade will bring more clean water to communities, more knowledge about the global water crisis, and more changed lives around the world!

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Isabelle and Katherine Adams
CO-FOUNDERS AND CEOS

GLOBAL IMPACT

This year, the pandemic continued to disproportionately impact the health and safety of communities without sufficient access to clean water and sanitation. Paper for Water was determined to address this vital need by funding latrines and increased access to clean water, both of which are critical to the health and safety of communities. Paper for Water funded nine latrines and eighteen water wells in Peru, India, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Mexico, Kenya, and Liberia.

Thanks to the generosity of Veritas, the Mexican community of Colonia El Tequio, with more than 800 people, now has running water in their homes. Previously, their water was expensive and access was unreliable. This neighborhood is now completely transformed by this large-scale project.

For the Kenyan community of Gbombehum, access to water was limited to a distant stream, requiring community members, usually women and children, to spend hours every day hauling water back home. The water, unsafe for drinking, caused waterborne illnesses to run rampant. It was a similar situation for the Estrella community in Peru, who previously collected water from a river that was difficult to reach safely. Children missed valuable school time collecting water at the river. With its steep and muddy banks, the river carried harmful contaminants and community members were susceptible to malaria from mosquitoes. Now, with the installation of water wells close to home, the Gbombehum community and the Estrella community save significant time and energy while physically benefiting from clean water.

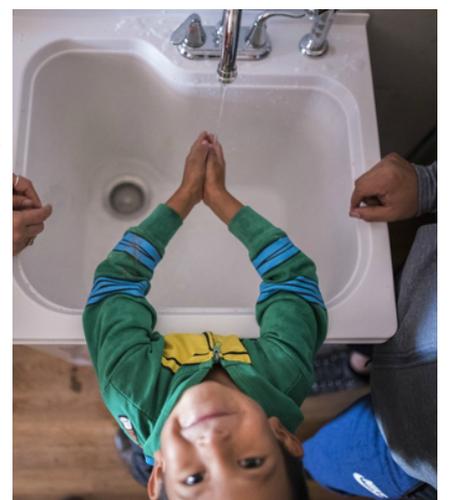
**"BEFORE THE WELL WAS CONSTRUCTED,
[WE HAD TO USE] WATER FROM THE
UNPROTECTED SPRING, AND IT WAS VERY
BAD. WE HAD TO SHARE THE WATER WITH
OUR ANIMALS. [NOW] THE COMMUNITY WILL
HAVE SAFE AND CLEAN WATER."**

FARMER IN THE PAMPU COMMUNITY IN ZAMBIA

These are just a few of the communities that received the gift of clean water in 2021. Their stories are a reminder of the life-changing impact clean water has on the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being for us all.

In the United States, two million Americans live without access to running water or plumbing and on the Navajo Nation, 30% of families still do not have running water in their homes. DigDeep's Navajo Water Project is a community-managed and indigenous-led utility alternative for homes without access to water or sewer lines. Paper for Water began supporting these projects in 2015 and has helped bring clean, running water to hundreds of Navajo families across New Mexico.

In 2021, Paper for Water raised \$55,000 to fund home water systems and water deliveries. Families can have continued access to safe water rather than driving several hours to buy expensive bottled water or depend on shallow uranium-contaminated wells. More Navajo families now have access to indoor plumbing and running water.





**"PAPER FOR
WATER GIVES ME
THE UNIQUE
OPPORTUNITY
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TALENT OF
ORIGAMI TO
HELP OTHERS IN
A MEANINGFUL
WAY."**

**TRAVIS NOLAN,
CHANGE MAKER LEADER**

Youth volunteers have always been at the heart of Paper for Water's mission and we are lucky to be supported by a group of motivated and talented youth volunteers. From folding origami, organizing fundraisers, or educating groups about origami and the global water crisis, we are proud to train and empower our youth volunteers as they demonstrate Christlike servant leadership.

Paper for Water hosted a mixture of virtual and in-person events in 2021 and our youth volunteers stepped up at gift fairs and our community and corporate events.

Paper for Water expanded its youth development efforts by creating an internship for college-age students. We are grateful to our first intern, Makayla Kovar, who helped create our recent youth report and build our virtual opportunities.



YOUTH IMPACT

Formed to support the creative ideas and volunteer efforts of our youth leaders, Paper for Water's Change Makers Council continued to be a champion of our mission in 2021. Six Change Makers received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for their exceptional work in 2020 with Paper for Water. This national award recognizes volunteers for their service and positive impact within their community. Congratulations to Ace, Andrew, Cathryn, Maia, Travis, and William!

Katherine and Isabelle were the youngest people ever to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteering a combined total of 8,547 hours. That's equivalent to working a full-time job for four years!

Paper for Water continues to be in awe of the commitment shown by our youth leaders to make the world a better place.

2021

BY THE NUMBERS

519

DONORS SUPPORTED
PAPER FOR WATER

\$286,500

RAISED TO FUND WATER
AND SANITATION
PROJECTS

18

WATER WELL
PROJECTS BUILT

9

LATRINES AND SANITATION
STATIONS BUILT

\$55,000

RAISED TO FUND U.S.
WATER PROJECTS

8,300

PEOPLE RECEIVED THE GIFT
OF CLEAN WATER AND
SANITATION



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY

Makayla Kovar joined Paper for Water as our first intern, sponsored by Carolyn Dennis and Samuel Watters.

FEBRUARY

The Texas winter storm flooded our offices, damaging supplies and origami. Thank you to everyone who helped us by volunteering and donating during this difficult time.

MARCH

Easter egg hunt, crafts, and stories hosted by Mockingbird NCL, Paper for Water Change Makers, and North Park Presbyterian Church was a big success and lots of fun.

APRIL

Veritas hosted 2021's most successful virtual event for Paper for Water. Employee generosity and a company match raised over \$42,000 for clean water projects in Peru and Mexico.

MAY

Isabelle and Katherine were awarded the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award becoming the youngest recipients ever.

JUNE

Back where it all started! Isabelle and Katherine virtually hosted a corporate Starbucks event and take a trip down memory lane.

JULY

Pre-orders began for Isabelle and Katherine's book, *One Piece of Paper at a Time*, celebrating Paper for Water's first ten years.

AUGUST

Paper for Water volunteers participated in the annual Ghost Ranch community camp, visited our friends at FUMC Los Alamos, and were featured in an episode of Planet 911 Youth Reports.

SEPTEMBER

Paper for Water Change Makers had the most successful North Texas Giving Day fundraiser ever.

OCTOBER

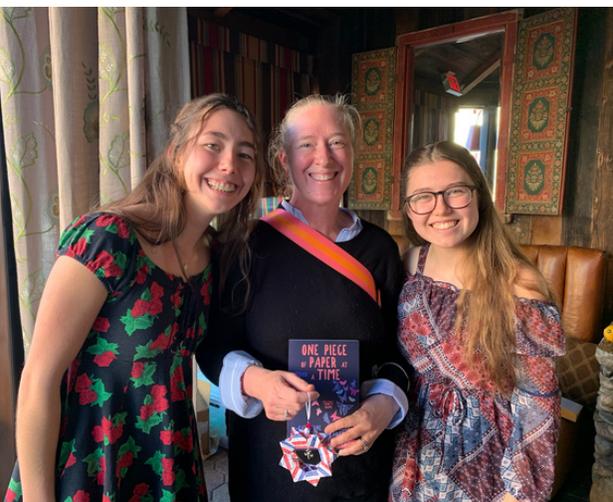
Paper for Water celebrated 10 years of Bringing water and the Word to the Thirsty, one piece of paper at a time.

NOVEMBER

Thank you to Hedda Dowd and the entire rise no. 1 staff for hosting a fun and successful book signing.

DECEMBER

Paper for Water hosted the first annual Cookies and Cocoa event at our office and, for the second time, we decorated the Neiman Marcus Court Christmas trees at North Park Center.



**WE USE THE ART OF
ORIGAMI TO PROVIDE
MEANINGFUL VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES THAT
CHANGE THE WORLD.**

PAPERFORWATER.ORG

INFO@PAPERFORWATER.ORG