



# ANNUAL REPORT

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2020/21



# VISION

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Clean, fresh water - one village at a time.

# VALUES

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## **BRAVERY**

Our bravery emboldens us to go where others don't, challenge stereotypes, be unwavering in our convictions and hold true to our mission.

## **TRUST AND TO BE TRUSTED**

Our consistent transparency, respectful storytelling and honest/genuine approach to our work enable us to develop trust and be trusted by our benefactors, donors and stakeholders.

## **WHOLEHEARTED**

Acting with heart, we are kind, generous in spirit, support justice, and the responsibility of shared humanity.



## WHO WE ARE

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Water for a Village (WFAV) is an Australian-based charity that provides clean fresh water to villages in the Simien Mountains of Ethiopia. We are a human rights-based organisation that works in a consultative manner with each community we assist.

Each improved water source is built completely by hand by the local people under the supervision of a local contractor and while everyone in-country is paid, all Australian members of WFAV are voluntary, ensuring that all of our donations go directly to completing projects.

## OUR PURPOSE

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Our sole aim is to install water facilities that deliver a plentiful supply of clean, fresh water throughout the year to each village.



## FROM THE CEO

The 2020/2021 has been a frustrating year for everyone, including those of us who work overseas and were unable to get there due to travel restrictions but everyone at WFAV has been busy, making the best of the enforced change to our activities.

There have been a number of changes to the make-up of the Board. I would like to sincerely thank the founding Board members for their work to date that has seen WFAV develop from a good idea to what it is today – an organisation that punches well above its weight and has installed 58 water sources in the last five years to serve almost 20 thousand people. And I welcome our new Board members with the hope that we can continue to make life a little better for a lot more people in the future.

Our hope is that in 2022, the way will be clear for us to re-enter the country and continue our work and with this in mind, fund-raising and activities have quietly continued at home. Many thanks to all of our supporters, sharers, donors and friends for your continued confidence in what we do and the way we do it. And to all the charities that work tirelessly at home or abroad to bring some dignity to others, we wish you only the best for the upcoming year in the sincere hope that you can continue your work unabated.

# OUR ACTIVITIES

## AUSTRALIA

Due to Covid restrictions, the CEO was unable to travel to Ethiopia for the building season. The CEO remained in contact with Yalew to ensure he and the crew were safe and that when they were working for WFAV, they were doing so in a safe manner.

The incumbent Board and the CEO took advantage of the time to recruit additional Board members during the last half of the 19/20 financial year and 20/21 has seen them settle into their roles.

The restrictions of the 20/21 year gave the Board time to completely review WFAV documentation and revise our policies to make them and other aspects of our governance more contemporary.

## ETHIOPIA

Yalew Tafete, WFAV's In-country Manager, was able to continue our work in the absence of the CEO due to Covid restrictions.

After being mentored by the CEO over the past few building seasons in assigning and overseeing contracts, Yalew organised routine repairs and maintenance to 10 of the wells and tankers we installed previously to ensure they continue to provide clean and fresh water to the villages that own them. Several delays were experienced due to Covid and travel restrictions inside the country.



# FUNDRAISING

Given the current world climate, fund-raising has not been our priority, particularly as we have been unable to take part in speaking engagements due to restrictions. However, we have continued to receive donations accompanied by some verbal commitments from regular donors in case we can leave the country at the beginning of 2022.

# EVALUATIONS & LESSONS LEARNED

Yalew was effective in using his skills and his mentee experience to conduct a repair and maintenance programme on existing wells and tankers. He wants to continue to work with WFAV and the intention is that with further mentoring, he will gain the confidence and skills required to run a building programme himself.

The review of all documentation was highly valuable and necessary and an enormous amount of work. Future reviews will be better planned in a staged process to avoid the overwhelming nature of the project



# STATEMENTS OF COMMITMENT TO ADHERE TO ACFID'S CODE OF CONDUCT

WFAV is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and is a member of the Australian Council For International Development (ACFID). As a signatory, we are committed to and abide by, ACFID's Code of Conduct and as such, we work with complete transparency and integrity and strive to take all opportunities to reflect and improve on our practice.

Compliments, enquiries or complaints may be made to the [president@waterforavillage.net](mailto:president@waterforavillage.net)

Complaints about non-compliance with ACFID's Code of Conduct Committee at [complaints@acfid.asn.au](mailto:complaints@acfid.asn.au)

WFAV has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) so all contributions over AUD2 are tax-deductible for Australian citizens.

