

The Vision



A newsletter of *A Vision for Clean Water*

Providing clean water and sanitation to those who need them through education and collaboration

Spring 2021

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A Vision for Clean Water Pilots a Special Project for Hand Washing Stations for Native American Communities

The prevalence of COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) has brought into focus many vulnerable populations in the U.S. who struggle to maintain their health. It became apparent during the early months of 2020 that the residents of the Navajo Nation in the western United States were more vulnerable to the virus than other populations.

In connecting with other non-profits that work in the Nation, we learned that Navajo residents typically live in multi-generational homes. Approximately 30% of residents do not have access to plumbed water inside their homes, and many use community wells to fulfill their household water needs. This sometimes requires them to travel more than 40 miles.

A Vision for Clean Water has made it our 2020-2021 mission to assist these vulnerable residents by reducing the potential for virus transmission at these water gathering locations.

Centralized water collection points are a potential place for the spread of Covid-19 and other infectious diseases and the Navajo residents will continue to gather water at these well locations even after the current crisis is over. For that reason, it was determined that a long-term solution was the best route. St. Bonaventure School and Mission in Thoreau, New Mexico was selected as the program's pilot location. St. Bonaventure's well is on the mission property, where it is monitored and maintained. The mission routinely tests the well for safe drinking water standards and provides the well water at no cost to the community.

In the interim of the cold weather months, donations to AVFCW were used to implement a commercial liquid hand sanitizing station and sufficient gallons of sanitizer

which were placed by the water collection point. Once the weather warms, a long lasting soap and water hand washing station will be installed there for this community.

If you would like to learn more about the St. Bonaventure community their website is at: ***stbonaventuremission.org***.

If you would like to help with this special project please see the opportunities to donate at our website ***avisionforcleanwater.org*** or you may send your donation to 190 Paragon, Troy, Mi. 48098.



Navajo residents filling their home water storage containers.

A Vision for Clean Water Welcomes New Board Member



A Vision for Clean Water welcomes **Liz Tierney** to its Board of Directors. She is well versed in the development and implementation of significant community and government initiatives as well as small private projects. She provides marketing and business development support for architecture, engineering and construction companies. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Lawrence Technological University. Liz is a valuable addition to AVFCW board with her marketing and other diverse skills.

Liz began her involvement with AVFCW as a workshop participant and then as a volunteer, becoming Social Media Coordinator. Liz recently participated in the CAWST online training for "WaSH Program Design" aimed at global project implementers. She has also attended the Clean Water for Living summit in Ontario and the AVFCW Latrine Workshop. All of these activities have helped to broaden her WaSH (Water Sanitation Hygiene) knowledge and network.

Liz and her husband Mike have been married for over 35 years. They have three married children who live locally, four very active grandchildren, and a dog named Daisy. She likes to spend time with her family, enjoying nature, reading, learning new skills, and traveling. In addition to traveling in the US and Canada, Liz recently visited Japan, Ireland and the Dominican Republic.

Save the Date for The Next AVFCW Workshop

**We are planning our next workshop on
Household Water Treatment and Storage and
Drinking Water Quality Testing
April 21-24, 2022
Columbiere Retreat Center in Clarkston, MI**

**We expect borders will be open and the virus
will be under control.**

Donate to AVFCW

Make a [donation](#): provide a workshop scholarship or help install hand washing stations in the Navajo Nation.

avisionforcleanwater.org

or

190 Paragon, Troy, MI 48098

Become a **sustaining member** via PayPal. Use the [DONATE](#) button on the AVFCW homepage and choose **Recurring**.

100% OF YOUR DONATION TO A **VISION FOR CLEAN WATER** GOES DIRECTLY TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION. WE HAVE NO PAID STAFF AND PAY OUR OWN TRAVEL EXPENSES.

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