

# The Vision



A newsletter of *A Vision for Clean Water*

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

Summer 2019

Vol. 8, Issue 2

## A Vision for Clean Water Takes Another Step In Aiding In-Need Communities

*Liz Tierney, a new volunteer with A Vision for Clean Water, attended the recent Latrine Workshop . Here are her impressions of her experience.*

In April A Vision for Clean Water sponsored a weekend Latrine Workshop that I had the pleasure of attending. I did so with the encouragement of my son Dustin who has participated with AVFCW on clean water projects but was a novice regarding latrine construction. We both learned a lot at the workshop. There was a full house at Colombiere Center in Clarkston. Local attendees were joined by people from across the United States and from Kenya, El Salvador, Ecuador and Haiti.

The workshop was put on by the instructors from CAWST (Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology) based in Calgary. Participants came with varying backgrounds and experiences with clean water and sanitation projects. Our interactions throughout the weekend were lively and easy with attendees and CAWST instructors sharing their experiences and assisting each other. The group included clean water advocates, drillers, civil engineers, teachers, students and implementers. Some, like myself, were novices with a desire to begin our journey of understanding. Some were very experienced and were given the technical information they sought. Everyone was most eager to learn how well-planned latrine sanitation systems can play a significant role in improving the health and wellbeing of in-need communities.

Our workshop sessions consisted of instruction on written material, group activities and also hands-on activities in which we constructed the concrete slabs that are used to separate the latrine structures from the collection pit or box. The CAWST instructors stressed



New friends Tammy Truong from Ecuador and Alice Mwaro from Kenya take a break at the Latrine Workshop.



CAWST instructor Peter Thomson (center) and workshop attendees agree cement latrine slab looks great.

the importance of planning the latrine as part of a larger sanitation system. The planning starts with the involvement of the local community members and leaders so that cultural preferences and other influences can be identified. Other things to be considered are the ease of getting available materials and labor to be used in construction and, very importantly, a plan for long-term maintenance of the system. Good maintenance of the project ensures its continued efficiency and cleanliness and encourages use by members of the community.

I am now a more knowledgeable member of our global community and plan to stay connected with the many people that I met. I hope to assist in implementing clean water and sanitation projects that serve to protect and promote good health for people around the world.

### We Welcome Rose Branstrom to the Vision for Clean Water Board



Combining a strong communications and science background, Rose Branstrom is a new addition to A Vision for Clean Water board as of March 2019. She joins the group as Treasurer. Her primary duties in this new position include financial record keeping, bank reconciliation and expense management. Rose was drawn to the organization by her interest in the betterment of public health, particularly in areas facing resource scarcity.

“I am so excited to be a part of AVFCW. It is a thriving and vibrant nonprofit and it is great to see how this organization's expertise can be expanded to make an impact globally,” said Rose. “The foundation Eileen and John Heasley have laid is really impressive, and I am happy to help follow in John’s footsteps keeping the group’s accounting on track.”

Through travel in developing nations Rose has witnessed the challenges of clean water management for communities and is excited to help contribute to solutions with the organization. With work experience in technical project management, toxicology, marketing, and customer training and communications Rose currently works for the Applied Research Center at the not-for-profit NSF International.

### Donate to AVFCW

Make a [donation](#): provide a workshop scholarship, help install water filters and sanitation in developing countries.

[avisionforcleanwater.org](http://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.

**Help us** save postage. Receive **The Vision** electronically by emailing: [subscribe@avisionforcleanwater.org](mailto:subscribe@avisionforcleanwater.org)

To unsubscribe please email: [unsubscribe@avisionforcleanwater.org](mailto:unsubscribe@avisionforcleanwater.org)

### OUR BOARD

**Eileen Heasley**  
**Scott Brills**  
**Nikki Beetsch**  
**Maureen Field**  
**Rose Branstrom**  
**Erica Gwynn, Advisor**  
**Jeannette Saquet, Ph.D., Advisor**

**Kay Ehrke, newsletter editor**

