DEAR DAVID AND FRIENDS AT FGI FINANCE,

Congratulations.

The water project you funded in Uganda has been completed. That means that because of your gift and sacrifice, the 270 people of Lwala Central Village now have access to clean and safe drinking water.

It's so hard to convey through a letter the significance of what you've done. The gift you've made will bring life, health, hope and dignity to people you've never met. Since starting charity: water, I've had the honor of traveling to hundreds of our completed projects around the world, and met those we're helping in the field.

The power is in the stories. They're true accounts of how clean water changes everything. I remember them all, but let me tell you a few:

An Ethiopian woman weeping with joy as she points towards heaven and declares, "The water, it's fallen from the sky..." A Ugandan woman named Helen, who serves on her village's water committee and now has enough water to bathe herself -- she tells us, "Now, I am beautiful." A grieving village elder, bursting out in anger and frustration after a well has been drilled in his village, "Do you mean to tell me that clean water was here... beneath our feet... this whole time, and we've been breaking our backs, walking for hours to get dirty water from a swamp?"

For many people, your gift was an answer to years -- sometimes decades -- of prayer. For others, it was a sudden realized and unexplained hope in a forgotten place where dreams of a better future had died long ago.

We're thankful for your patience over the last 18 months. Perhaps you forgot about this project. Maybe the thrill of the giving moment wore off, and you wondered later if your gift had the impact you'd intended.

Your patience has not been in vain. During the last 18 months, our local implementing partners obtained permits, worked with community leaders to form Water Committees, purchased hardware materials like cement and PVC piping and hand pumps. They involved ordinary men and women in the construction process, and people began to dream of change.

That change has now been realized, and thanks to you, the people of Lwala Central Village no longer have to drink water that makes them sick.

You've done an amazing thing, and I'm so truly grateful for your support.

Scott Harrison Founder