



## OFS Canada JPIC Communiqué JPIC

### A Call for Canadian Secular Franciscans

“Well4Africa” was born in 2018 at the 3rd European OFS and YouFra Congress, which took place in Lithuania. They united for a common cause: **to guarantee a fundamental human right to safe drinking water and to install wells in Africa, starting with specific communities in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Malawi.**



They responded to the encouragement of Pope Francis: “...access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights. Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water...” (LS, 30).

After the Congress, seeing the great support from other National fraternities, the CIOFS Presidency decided that “Well4Africa” became a permanent project for the entire Secular Franciscan Order entrusting its management to the National Council of Lithuania.

See the [video message](#) from Tibor Kausar OFS, the General Minister of the Secular Franciscan Order.



Your **National JPIC Committee is calling on all Secular Franciscans across Canada to join in on this life-saving initiative** that saves lives in African communities who can only dream of having clean water the essential gift of creation. Here in Canada, we take it for granted the vast quantities of fresh clean water we have.

[Read 3 Stories That Will Forever Change the Way You Look at Water](#)

Here's a short [video](#) (1:33) with Fr. Harvey Chikumbu OFM Cap describing the plight of these African communities living without access to clean water.

So let us **Canadian Secular Franciscans** and our friends who live in this wonderful country work together to collect funds to see another well built in Africa.

#### Benefits of the project:

- Reduced stress of the people;
- Alleviated and reduced diseases;
- Development of the locality;

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*Women going to fetch water*

- Improved hygiene;
- Saving time of women;
- Reduced rate of women fatigue as they travel long distance to fetch water;
- Source of employment;
- Alleviation of poverty;
- Secular Franciscans could start small farming gardens through irrigation.

**Celebration:** See this [video](#) to get a sense of the appreciation and importance of such a project for its community.

In the near future, your **National JPIC Committee** will follow up with further instructions on the process to follow for the transfer of monies. This is a wonderful opportunity and the amazing extension of community to join in the effort of "WELL4AFRICA" helping our extended families in Africa. The achievements to date are heart-warming! Through prayer and helping hands may we bring some joy to our African sisters and brothers.

[Learn More](#) at [Well4Africa](#)

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