

## **Totoquelleh Town, Liberia**

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Residents of Totoquelleh Town faced a complex water crisis that marked every aspect of their daily lives with anxiety, loss, and disease. Musu S. Andrew, a 35-year-old farmer, described her community's challenges: "We struggled to access safe water after our hand pump broke down. Women and children walked long distances to collect water, often from unprotected wells." These wells were exposed to contamination from dirt, rain, insects, animal feces, and other harmful bacteria.

"These conditions led to widespread waterborne diseases, forcing families to spend more money on hospital visits. Some parents couldn't afford school fees because their resources went to medical expenses," said Musu. The ripple impacts of this water crisis fueled a decline in residents' mental and emotional well-being. Still, despair was met daily with unwavering resilience, as community members refused to give in to hopelessness.

Community leaders sought a sustainable solution, reaching out for help as soon as they heard about Living Water International's work in the area. Living Water Liberia responded by drilling a borehole and installing a hand pump. At last, sustainable safe water flows freely in Totoquelleh Town! Residents were also equipped with life-changing sanitation and hygiene skills, empowering them to care for themselves and their new water point.

"This new hand pump is a blessing. It will protect our community from waterborne diseases, reduce hospital expenses, and shorten the distance to access safe water," Musu shared with a smile.



Knowing she is no longer at risk of contracting waterborne diseases, Musu rejoices as she pumps safe water.



These residents were elected by their peers to form the local water committee. They will collect small, voluntary use fees for future repairs.