



## The Day that Almost Changed Everything

Ochat Community, Kenya

Aunty, as she's known by people in her community, lives in Ochat, Kenya, next to Lake Victoria. The lake gives the appearance of plentiful water for the residents of Ochat, but was a source of fear.

She recalled, "We had to collect water from the open lake where waste was thrown, animals lived, and people bathed. The lake was also the home to many crocodiles. It was a risk, but what else could we do?"

As a result, collecting water was a constant source of worry for Aunty.

Especially when her nephew, Evans, whom she adopted, was bitten by a crocodile while fetching water.

"Evans was only 10 when I sent him to wash utensils at the lake shore. While he was getting water for washing, a crocodile was waiting on the shores and almost ate him whole. He struggled and managed to barely escape with his life and come find me. One of his legs was badly bitten, and he had to stay in the hospital for three months to heal."

After Evans' accident, Aunty decided to fetch water by herself from the lake so that Evans would not be in danger. She declared, "Evans' life is more precious than mine. I'd rather take that risk than let him go through that ordeal again."

Concerned community leaders came together to find a solution for Aunty, Evans, and their loved ones. They reached out to several organizations for help, and Living Water Kenya answered the call. They came and treated the water from the lake and distributed it throughout the community via a piped water system so that Aunty and her neighbors wouldn't need to go to the lake to gather water anymore.

"The days of relying on unreliable and unsafe sources of water are over," Aunty gratefully shared. "I don't have to worry anymore. I no longer have to go to the lake or buy water expensively. Life is easier in many ways. Everything has improved a lot, 100%! Look at Evans today! He gets up to go to school, goes to the bathroom ... and there is water."



This is Lake Victoria, where residents of Ochat regularly collected water for their needs.



This new piped water filtration system delivers safe water throughout the community.