



From Humiliated to Hope-Filled

Tainakura Community, Ghana

Tainakura's residents faced an ongoing water crisis that affected every part of daily life. A stream served as their only water source. The stream was shared with cattle and animals and was contaminated and muddy. The long walks to the stream were exhausting and time-consuming, leaving little room for school, work, or family responsibilities. The physical toll and emotional stress of this task only added to the burden on families already struggling to meet basic needs.

One community member shared, "I remember one afternoon during the dry season, the stream we always fetched from had become so dirty that we couldn't use it for cooking. The water was full of mud and animal waste, and I didn't want my family to fall sick, so I went with a neighbor to a man's private well near our community. We only wanted a small bucket of water to cook food for our families. When we got there, the man came out shouting angrily, asking why we had entered his land. We begged him to allow us to fetch just one bucket, but he refused. He became more furious and suddenly pulled out a gun, threatening to shoot if we didn't leave. We were terrified—we dropped our containers and ran away. That day, we couldn't cook, and everyone slept hungry. I felt so humiliated and helpless. I never imagined that one day, we would be treated like criminals just because we wanted water to cook."

The constant presence of thirst, poor health, hunger, and stress left residents stuck in survival mode. Recognizing the urgency, local leaders reached out to Living Water International as soon as they heard about the organization's work in the area. In response, experts at Living Water Ghana drilled a new borehole and installed a hand pump just a short walk from residents' homes.

Adwoa, a 36-year-old farmer in Tainakura shared her excitement about the new safe water source, "Stomach pains were common in this community. We spent the little money we had on medicine instead of food. There were days we had to choose whether to cook or bathe. That's how bad it was. Now, this safe water source will change our lives in so many ways. We will have safe water to drink, cook, and bathe!"



Residents used to collect water from this stream, which is also used by livestock and animals such as pigs and cattle. It is the only option for water in the area.



With the new hand pump, safe water is available anytime, giving residents better health and peace of mind.