



LUTHERAN HEALTH CARE BANGLADESH

January 2005

Dear Friends in Christ,

I would like to express a very special thank you for the generous gift you gave to support the Lutheran Health Care: Bangladesh (LHCB), "Deep Well and Arsenic Mitigation Project". Your gift will make a tremendous difference in the lives of many people in the areas where LHCB serves. To help you understand our work, I am going to explain how we select sites for digging the wells.

Initially the LHCB project staff conducts a survey of program areas with the help of local leaders to see where there is a need for clean, healthy water. The following criteria are used in the selection process:

1. The area selected must have people who are very poor and do not have access to clean water.
2. There are no deep wells in the area.
3. The location is suitable for digging a deep well.
4. The location is easily accessible for all the people in the area.
5. The people in the area can provide necessary security for the well.

Once the site for a new well is decided upon, the following procedures are used:

1. A contractor submits a bid for the material and labor costs of digging the well.
2. The contractor hires the 15 to 20 people it will take to manually dig the well.
3. The well will require 5 to 7 days to complete.

Upon completion of the well, 20 to 25 families (usually over 150 people) will be able to make use of safe water from the deep well.

Again, thank you so much for your life-giving, generous gift for the well project in Bangladesh at the LHCB. Included in this mailing are stories and photographs of what a deep well means to one family.

Please convey my best wishes and thanks to all VBS students and your congregation's members.

His servant,

Benedict Bijoy Baroi, Executive Director
Lutheran Health Care: Bangladesh

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