

TANZANIA
LIFE
PROJECT

**First Trip Report
June 2005**

(Prior to becoming a 501(c)(3) charitable organization)

We are operating in central Tanzania to benefit the poor communities by arranging for life's necessities for them and with them. We have already had one trip to this area, which was very successful. We negotiated contracts with agencies in the local government, to restore an old non-working well and its pump and motor. The well shaft was full of mud and needed to be cleaned. The pump was also no longer able to pump the water because of many broken or worn-out parts, and the diesel engine needed servicing as well. Also, a new main distribution line had to be laid, as well as additional feeder lines off of that main. Distribution points were installed on the end of these feeder lines, so people could go to them, and get needed water. The villagers assisted by doing the entire trench digging themselves. More work is still needed in this area, but we got a good start, and the people are ecstatic about the water. They had been getting water from a "surface well" which was green and slimy and snake infested.

We also brought 24 solar ovens with us to give to these people as an alternative to cooking food using fires. The ladies had to walk 25 kilometers one way, to cut firewood – then bundle on their heads and walk back. Many die young due to eye diseases and smoke inhalation from these fires – said to be equivalent to smoking 10 – 20 packs of cigarettes a day. (Average life span = 44 yrs.) They really liked the solar ovens, were quick to learn about them, and are already using them – noting a big difference in many ways.

We plan to go back and finish the water work and start on an electricity program to bring electricity to the schools, dispensaries, and some small businesses. There is no electricity there now at all. Eventually we want to get electricity to all of the villagers.

We will also assist with repairing and upgrading of the schools and dispensary. Also, these facilities need some benches for people to sit on, and some other basic necessities.

When we have moved things along in this village of Mtumba, we will move on to many more poor villages in the area. There are at least 8 or 10 other ones without water and electricity. As we finish them also, we expect to move on to other parts of Tanzania.

We raised and spent \$23,000 on this first trip – all of it going for the improvements discussed – none to our mission team for travel or personal expenses (they each covered their own).