

# Drop by Drop

A Newsletter from the Non-Profit Organization

## Clean Water for the World

### Visit from José Lopez

Clean Water for the World (CW4W) is a non-profit organization based in Kalamazoo, Michigan committed to distributing water purification systems to villages and communities in developing countries that do not have a source of clean water. The systems cost about \$800 to build and equip. The purification units are built by volunteers. They are delivered and set up in villages in developing countries at no cost to the receiving community. More info about Clean Water for the World can be found at: [cleanwaterfortheworld.org](http://cleanwaterfortheworld.org)

At April's Clean Water for the World Board Meeting, the team was blessed with a visit from José Lopez, a Water Leader from El Salvador. José manages dozens of units in El Salvador and installs new units in various communities. José is one of several Water Leaders that work with CW4W around the world to make sure the purification units stay in good working order. Having a local water leader is an essential part of the application process for a new community to receive a purification unit; making sure a responsible person is maintaining the unit ensures it continues to provide clean water to the entire community.



CW4W Team with José Lopez (middle) at April Board Meeting.

José answered many questions presented by the Team, with Anne Bohl, CW4W Board President, translating. It was great to be able to talk directly with a Water Leader to communicate any improvements that can be made to the units and their maintenance, as well as hear of wonderful, up-lifting reports of purification units' success.

### UT Delegation to El Salvador

This past May, students Kylee Kramer, Lisa Young, Alison Haas and Kayla Piezer, along with Dr. Lipscomb from the University of Toledo, were accompanied by long-time CW4W volunteer, Janet Ray, on a delegation to El Salvador. The group had a wonderful and busy trip. They installed a unit in San Pablo Tacachico that they had built at the University of Toledo during the previous fall semester. The students, who are currently in school at the University of Toledo for chemical engineering, met with engineering professors at a college in El Salvador and also evaluated units that are currently in use for any possible maintenance needs. In addition to their involvement with Clean Water for the World activities, the group visited the Church of Divine Providence, the place of the 1980 assassination of martyr Archbishop Oscar Romero, and dyed clothing with a women's cooperative using locally-produced indigo dye. They also visited with students who receive educational scholarships from generous Toledo-area residents. The students and Dr. Glenn Lipscomb, UT Chemical Engineering Department Chair, were very inspired by the trip and plan to take two delegations next year, as well as incorporate CW4W research into the fall semester curriculum.



Students in front of clean water source from newly installed unit.



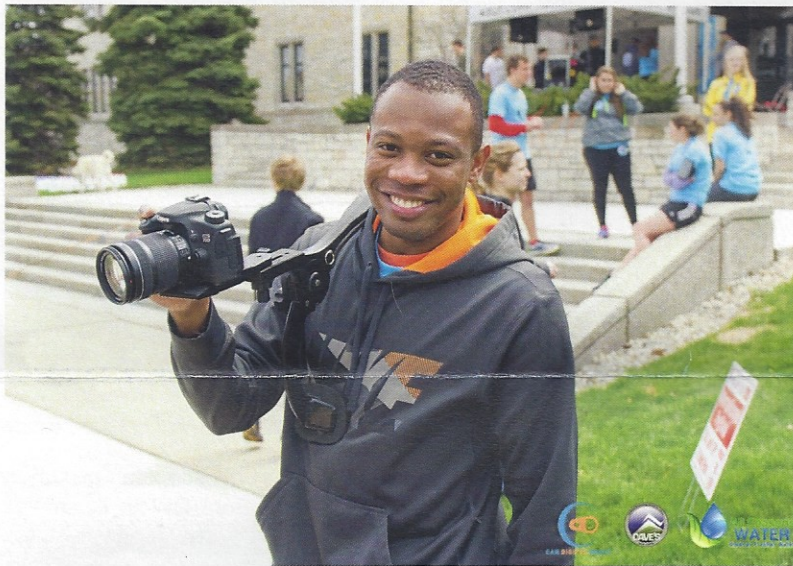
## CW4W Volunteer Spotlight

*"Be the change you wish  
to see in the world."*

*Mahatma Gandhi,  
inspiration for*

*Gétro Jean-Claude, founder  
of CAN Digital Group and  
active CW4W volunteer*

Gétro Jean-Claude is a active volunteer for Clean Water for the World. With his business CAN Digital Group, he creates the advertising for the Walk for Water (WFW) fundraisers in both Toledo and Kalamazoo. Gétro, employed full time as a Financial Analyst for the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, took on two part-time jobs to raise money to start CAN (Change A Need) Digital Group. CAN's for-profit work offsets the cost of the pro-bono work he does for nonprofit organization partners. Gétro says, "I wanted to create a business that would instead of always asking for donations, provide service and donate a portion of that revenue to a non-profit organization." A UT graduate, Gétro started working with the Toledo Walk for Water about four years ago after he overheard a



Gétro Jean-Claude taking pictures and filming Walk for Water Toledo 2015.

WFW planning conversation in the UT Student Union. He immediately asked to get involved and was so excited to help out that he couldn't focus in class! He has helped with every WFW in Toledo since then and in 2016 continued his support of CW4W by providing advertising for the Kalamazoo WFW. A CWFW purification unit was installed in a community near his hometown in Haiti and his father maintains it. He loves the connection this has created between his life in the U.S. and his life in Haiti.

## Walk for Water Kalamazoo

Despite the bitter cold, the 6th annual WFW Kalamazoo was a success! A group of students, Racquel Harrouk, Carmen Wittkopp, Callan Chamberlain, and Mary Ann Comiskey, led by devoted CW4W volunteer Dan Bushouse, roused the Western Michigan and Kalamazoo community to raise \$2,982 as a total donation to Clean Water for the World. Groups involved in the Walk included More at Midweek from St. Thomas Moore Catholic Student Parish and Alpha Lambda Delta from Western Michigan. This was a first year the event was spearheaded by a group of students, and we are all excited to see the future of the Walk for Water in Kalamazoo!



Participants in action at Walk for Water Kalamazoo 2016



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### CW4W Team

Judy and Jerry Bohl

Paul Flickinger

Janet Ray

Anne Bohl

Lucy Hosenfeld

Whitney Ehresman

Dan Bushouse

Bruce Meles

Tony Romano

Ben Ciuffa

Chuck Dombrowski

Mary Frances Ross

To receive this newsletter by email instead of a paper copy, please send your email address to [cleanwaterinfo@gmail.com](mailto:cleanwaterinfo@gmail.com)

## How you can help:

Each purification system costs \$800 for a 110 or 240 volt electrical unit and \$1300 for a solar powered unit. Approximately ninety cents of every dollar collected goes to the assembly and installation of these units in communities in developing countries. The units are provided to the communities at no cost thanks to the generosity of our donors! Please help us continue to meet this challenge by giving of yourself and donating what you can.

Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering your time or talents. Send your contact information to: [cleanwaterinfo@gmail.com](mailto:cleanwaterinfo@gmail.com).

If you would like to donate to CW4W, please send your tax-deductible donation to:



[www.CleanWaterForTheWorld.org](http://www.CleanWaterForTheWorld.org)

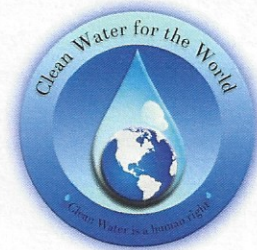
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Or donate online at [firstgiving.com/cw4w](http://firstgiving.com/cw4w)



[www.CleanWaterForTheWorld.org](http://www.CleanWaterForTheWorld.org)