

AQUA AFRICA

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

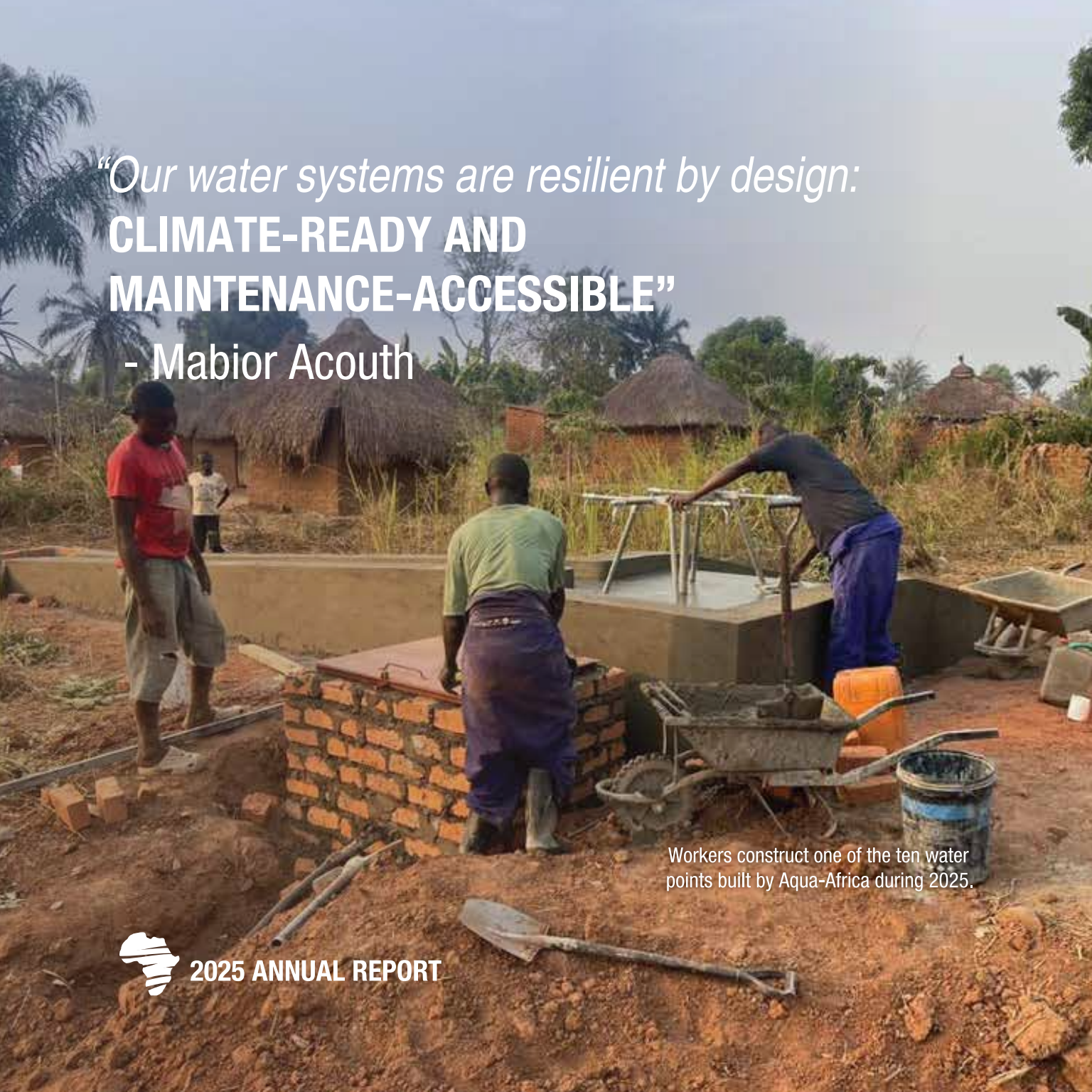


OMAHA
WE DON'T COAST®

“Our water systems are resilient by design:

**CLIMATE-READY AND
MAINTENANCE-ACCESSIBLE”**

- Mabior Acouth



Workers construct one of the ten water points built by Aqua-Africa during 2025.



Executive Director's Letter

As I reflect on 2025, I am filled with gratitude—for your partnership, for our dedicated team, and for the resilience of the communities we serve.

One of my personal highlights this year was the opportunity to spend six weeks in the United States working alongside our 4-H partners during the Build-A-Hut youth summer camp. It was a joy not only to assist with classroom instruction, but also to transport nearly twenty middle school youth each day to their field trips and programs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Weitz Community Engagement Center. Those daily van rides became sacred spaces—times of conversation about their interests, their struggles, their dreams, and their hopes for the future. Investing in young lives, whether in Nebraska or South Sudan, reminds us that development is ultimately about people.

Meanwhile, in South Sudan, our team accomplished two major infrastructure projects that will transform daily life for thousands. We successfully constructed two new solar-powered water towers—one in the village of Nazaragbie and another in Wenepai. Each system includes a 5,000-gallon galvanized steel elevated tank supplied by a drilled well equipped with a solar-powered submersible pump. Together, these systems have the capacity to meet the daily water needs of nearly 10,000 residents.

In each community, five flood-resistant tap stands were constructed and connected by nearly two miles of underground water lines. Families no longer need to walk long distances to collect water—often from contaminated surface sources. Instead, they now have reliable access to clean water drawn safely from the aquifer beneath their feet. The health, economic, and educational implications of this shift cannot be overstated.

All of this work was accomplished in the midst of civil unrest, inflation, and ongoing economic instability within South Sudan. The cost of materials continues to rise. Transportation is unpredictable and security concerns persist. Yet the need for clean water remains urgent—and the opportunity to make a lasting difference remains before us.

Because of your generosity and prayer support, children are drinking clean water. Mothers are walking shorter distances. Waterborne disease is reduced. Local leaders are equipped. And young people—both in the United States and in South Sudan—are being encouraged to dream about a future filled with purpose.

Thank you for standing with Aqua-Africa. Thank you for believing that access to clean water is foundational to human dignity and community flourishing. And thank you for walking with us in faith, even when the path is uncertain.

With deep gratitude,



Mabior Acouth
Executive Director



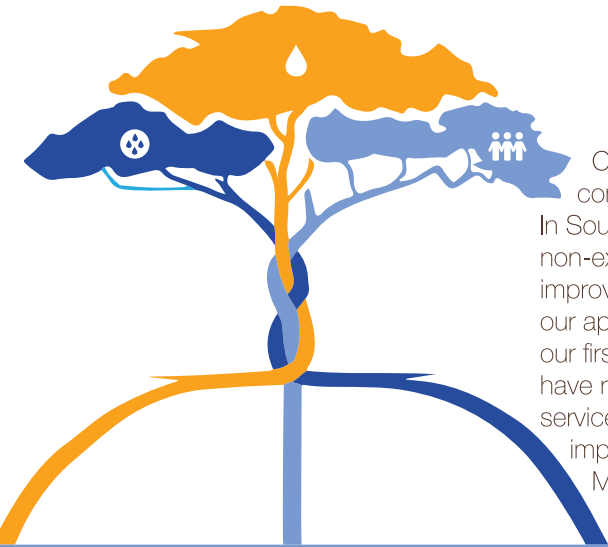
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During training, Nazaragbie Election Commissioners practice voter registration interviews and the identification of “candidates” for Water Management Committee offices through role playing exercises.





Clean, accessible water is essential for the development of healthy, thriving communities. The same can be said for access to adequate sanitation and energy. In South Sudan, one of the poorest countries in the world, these basic resources are non-existent in most communities. For over a decade, Aqua-Africa has worked to improve clean water access in South Sudanese communities. For the first several years our approach was responsive and geographically scattered. Since the introduction of our first solar-powered Village Supplier Utility System (VSUS) water towers in 2015, we have refined our development approach, recognizing the urgent need for other related services such as hygiene, sanitation, and energy to ensure maximum, sustainable impact. Our MicroDemocracy training program and processes for election of Water Management Committees continues to differentiate our approach to resource governance, and to empower women within these roles.

WITHOUT WATER NOTHING CAN GROW

CLEAN WATER

Aqua-Africa believes that providing reliable access to clean water, sanitation, hygiene, and energy to South Sudanese communities over a five-to-ten-year “adoption” period will lead residents to view them as a necessary part of their lives. We refer to these services as “WASH+E”. Improved community health and increased economic activity will, in turn, create demand for the services and a willingness to contribute financially towards their sustainability. Reliable access to clean water is the foundational service.

ENERGY

Nearly 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa do not have electric power for lighting after sundown. Only 1 percent of South Sudan’s population has access to an electrical grid. Aqua-Africa seeks to provide affordable lighting and power to the communities it serves by using excess solar energy and state-of-the-art battery technology.

SANITATION & HYGIENE

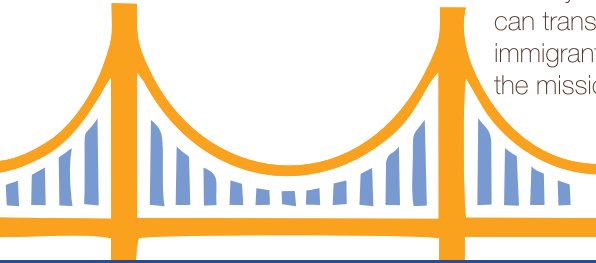
Just 10% of South Sudan’s people have access to improved sanitation, such as a latrine. Open defecation is common practice. Aqua-Africa envisions a country where latrines or septic systems are available and maintained, and communities sensitized to the importance of a sanitation plan. Hygiene promotion across the country will prevent the transmission of diseases and provide a healthy future for all.

Bridging Cultural Gaps

Aqua-Africa Executive Director, Mabior Acouth, spent June and July in Omaha helping lead the 2025 Build-A-Hut summer camp and competition. The learning opportunities were great! At the Weitz Community Engagement Center on UNO's campus, Mabior enjoyed meeting with campers and sharing details of Aqua-Africa's clean water work in East Africa.



Using their immigrant story, Aqua-Africa's founders visit local schools and youth organizations to provide a program that exposes youth to African culture, global issues, and international development. The goal of this program is to introduce youth to what it means to be an immigrant, black and a black immigrant. There are cultural challenges that immigrants face when settling in America, and again when returning to their country of origin. The talks highlight how compassion, understanding and humanity can transform the immigrant experience. Students gain increased appreciation of immigrant contributions to society and to the cultural fabric of the community. Using the mission in Outh Sudan as a foundation, the founders challenge youth to look beyond their front door to understand peoples' differences and embrace similarities of people in their classroom, neighborhood, nation and world. The program inspires hope for many youths who struggle with self-doubt, acceptance and the definition of a future role for themselves in society.



BRIDGE CULTURAL GAPS THAT EXIST IN THE COMMUNITY

HELPING YOUTH WITH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH

OBJECTIVE

Aqua-Africa seeks to present Mabior's story as a young black entrepreneur to schools (elementary, middle, high), youth organizations and service clubs. It is believed that Mabior's story as an immigrant and Aqua-Africa's mission can:

- Encourage disadvantaged youth to be hopeful about their future prospects and contributions.
- Expose youth to immigrants and immigrant contributions.
- Educate people about the needs of people outside America's borders.
- Encourage middle schoolers to continue math and science academic studies in high school.

DESIRED RESULTS

- Help youth think about what they can do to make an impact.
- Help youth to better understand immigrants.
- Help youth understand the collective impact we can have on the rest of the world.
- Presentation to 1,000 students each year.
- Use the organization's water, energy, and sanitation development work to inform youth how science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) techniques are being applied.



Aqua-Africa's vendor, Ruaha Drilling Company, constructs the manhole for the Wenepai Village Supplier borehole.



Workers begin erecting the steel structure that will support a 40-foot elevated water tank in Wenepai village.



Workers pour concrete footings for the Wenepai village water tower.



Workers prepare protective fencing around the perimeter of the Nazaragbie village water tower.

Aqua-Africa provides temporary employment to day-laborers in the communities it serves. This work provides economic benefits to the community while building pride and ownership in their new water system. In the villages of Wenepai and Nazaragbie, nearly two miles of trenching was required to install the new systems' water lines. This trenching was accomplished through rough, rocky terrain with shovels, pick axes, and great human effort.



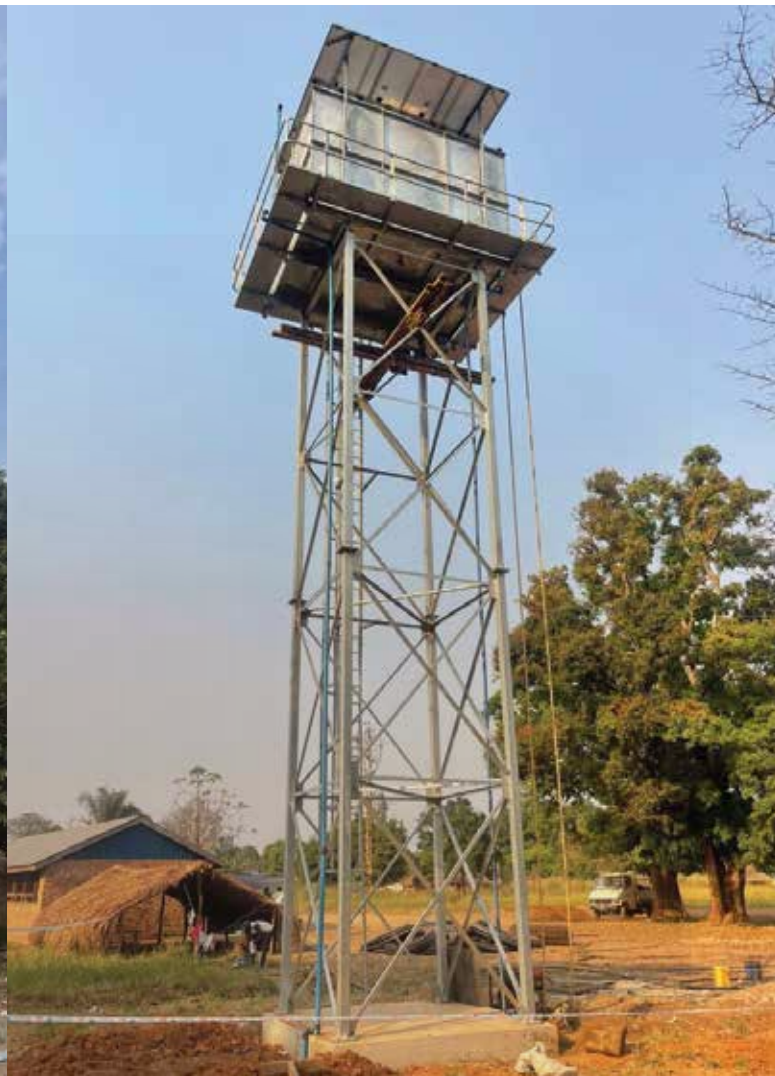


AQUA-AFRICA SPOTLIGHT MICRODEMOCRACY

Teaching grass roots democracy to communities is in Aqua-Africa's DNA and has been the element that distinguishes it from other organizations whose mission is similar. In this photograph, Aqua-Africa Executive Director Mabior Acouth provides instruction to Wenepai village Election Commissioners. Electing community WASH representatives who will manage and maintain their water resources, and serve the public with honor, leads to sustainable development.

OUR 9TH AND 10TH VILLAGE SUPPLIER WATER TOWER INSTALLATIONS

In early May 2025, Aqua-Africa erected its 9th Village Supplier Utility System (VSUS) water tower in the community of Nazaragbie, South Sudan (left photo). Later, in December 2025 a second VSUS system (our 10th) was installed in Wenepai (right photo). The solar arrays, plumbing, and electrical work for both systems was completed during first quarter 2026 and turned over to the communities. These systems will supply the clean drinking water needs for nearly 10,000 residents.



BRINGING THE NAZARAGBIE AND WENEPAI PROJECTS TO COMPLETION



Elevated Water Storage Tanks

Two solar-powered Village Supplier Utility Systems were constructed during 2025; one at the village of Nazaragbie and one at the village of Wenepai. These towers are constructed of durable and long-lasting galvanized steel. Using solar energy, water is pumped to the elevated tank from a borehole drilled to aquifer. Pumping continues throughout the daylight hours. Because these 5,000 gallon tanks are nearly 40-foot high, there is plenty of water pressure and storage capacity to deliver clean drinking water throughout the day.



Underground Water Lines

Nearly 2 miles of PVC piping was placed as a part of the Nazaragbie and Wenepai Projects. Because there is no automated trenching equipment, local laborers completed the digging of the water line trenches using pickaxes and shovels. It was a remarkable accomplishment.



Strategically Placed Tap Stands

Ten tap stands were constructed. Each tap stand has four spigots from which water can be drawn. The tap stand locations were selected by community leadership based upon proximity to residences and important institutions, with the overall goal of reducing water transport time. The community will save thousands of hours each year through reduced water collection times.

“BUILD-A-HUT” STEM SUMMER CAMP & COMPETITION

In partnership with Imagine Science, the Douglas-Sarpy County 4-H/UNL Extension Office, Aqua-Africa hosted a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) youth summer camp for middle school youth. This was our fourth year for the summer camp and competition. The competition was hosted by Aqua-Africa on UNO's campus on July 17th. Eight teams competed from the following organizations: Girls Inc., Partnership 4 Kids, ROSS Leaders, New Life Family Alliance, as well as 4-H clubs from Douglas-Sarpy, Dodge, and Madison Counties. A \$1,000 prize was awarded to the winning team from Douglas-Sarpy 4-H to advance their math and science programming. A photograph of the winning team is shown below. All competitors got to keep their hard hats!



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STEM INSTRUCTION & FIELD TRIPS



Electronic Math Exercise at Peter Kiewit Institute



Hand Pump Well Operations



Water Transport Using Archimedes Screw



Architecture & Construction

At the Omaha Highlander Accelerator Venue (75 North Re-development), Build-A-Hut competitors received expert instruction in building safety and the use of hand tools from Brester Construction Company professionals. Instruction was provided in the proper use of electric screwdrivers, staple guns, and many other hand tools.





Meet the Professor



Framing the Walls



Decorating the Hut



Executive Debriefing

STAFF & SUPPORTERS

Staff

Executive Director: Mabior Wantok Acouth
Operations Director: Dana Bradfield
Office Manager: Emelda Ifere John
Nzara Compound Supervisor: Taban Beneai Ruba
Nzara Guard: Kinako Paul
Nzara Guard: Gibson Abisai Agrab
Contractor PM: Opini Gerald

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Treasurer: Dana Bradfield
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Advisor: Mike McMeekin
Advisor: Eric Gautschi
Advisor: Cynthia Schroeder
Executive Director: Mabior Wantok Acouth

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Finance Committee: Cynthia Schroeder
Operations Committee: Mike McMeekin
Events Committee: Dana Bradfield
Legal Committee: Dan Reeker
Strategic Committee: Leah Tirpak Waters

In Kind Donors

Craig Hoekstra
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Joseph Tirpak
Lily Landskroener
Linda and Terry Gadwood
Matthew Petty
Molly and John Campbell
Nathan Hoekstra
Paul and Cherri Cronen
Sara Larkins
Sheila Patel
Silva Raker



Financial Stability for Challenges Ahead

During 2025, Aqua-Africa saw a decrease in donor support as well as service revenue. USAID grant funding for clean water projects in South Sudan was halted. Because of the declining revenue, expense realignment efforts were undertaken by management. Aqua-Africa's U.S. office was closed, the organization's Juba, South Sudan team relocated to a smaller office, and South Sudan staffing was reduced. Aqua-Africa's strategic focus for new development was also narrowed to Nzara County in Eastern Equatoria State.

Despite the challenges, 2025 was still one of Aqua-Africa's most productive years. Two new village supplier water towers were installed with the combined capacity to serve 10,000 people/day clean drinking water. Additionally, nearly 100 residents received MicroDemocracy training and instructions for the maintenance of their new water systems.

2025 expenses of \$350,659 exceeded revenues of \$268,863 by \$81,800 as shown in the table below. A portion of these expenses, \$40,200 resulted from a December 2025 transfer of South Sudan land and building assets owned by Aqua-Africa U.S. to its South Sudan partner organization. This Board-directed asset transfer provides increased flexibility when dealing with Republic of South Sudan government authorities.

Aqua-Africa had \$200,173 in its financial accounts at year-end. As we enter 2026, Aqua-Africa is in a stable financial position.

South Sudan's journey toward peace has been long and difficult. The country continues to suffer from civil unrest, inflation, and ongoing economic instability. Operating in such an environment requires flexibility, courage, and wise stewardship. We truly appreciate your prayers and support as we confront these challenges.

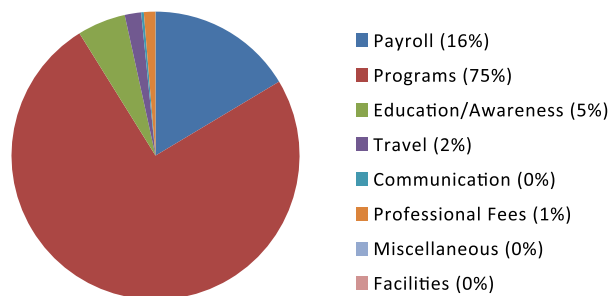
2025 Expenses

Programs	\$287,415
Overhead	\$63,244
Total Expenses	\$350,659

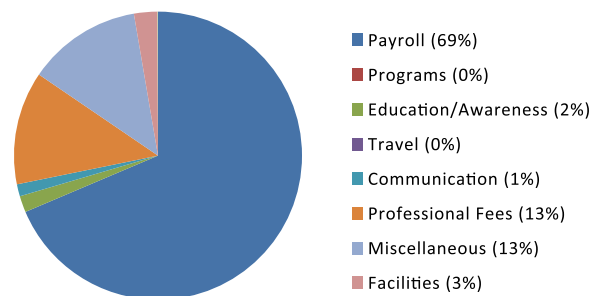
2025 Revenue

Cash Gifts	\$260,863
In-Kind Prof Svcs	\$8,000
Total Income	\$268,863

Programs



Overhead



Build-A-Hut competitors take a photo break



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1111 N 13th St, Ste 311, Omaha, NE 68102 / 402.490.7800 / info@aqua-africa.org

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