



water for people

KENNETH J. MILLER

Founders' Award

CELEBRATION

HONORING OUR CHAMPIONS • JUNE 7, 2022



PRESENTED BY

Jacobs

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Water For People gratefully acknowledges our sponsors for supporting this year's Kenneth J. Miller Founders' Award Ceremony.

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Jacobs

"By applying simple and sustainable water and sanitation technologies, involving, and empowering local communities, and focusing on health and hygiene education, Water For People is living its vision. Since its founding in 1991, Jacobs has shared a very important vision with Water For People... a world where all people have access to safe drinking water and sanitation; a world where no one suffers or dies from a water or sanitation-related disease. With the help of individuals like you, Water For People has made tremendous strides. Thank you for your commitment to Water For People and congratulations on receiving the Kenneth J. Miller Founders' Award."

– Susan Moisio, Global Vice President and Water Director, Jacobs

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"Throughout our 75-year history, our mission has always been to make the world a better place. We've partnered with Water For People since its inception, and this year marks our 18th employee fundraising campaign to help raise funds for this life-sustaining organization. As Water For People celebrates its 31st anniversary in 2022, we are proud to have been by their side from the very beginning."

– Jeff Montera, Senior Vice President, Director of International Development, Water For People Program Chairperson at CDM Smith

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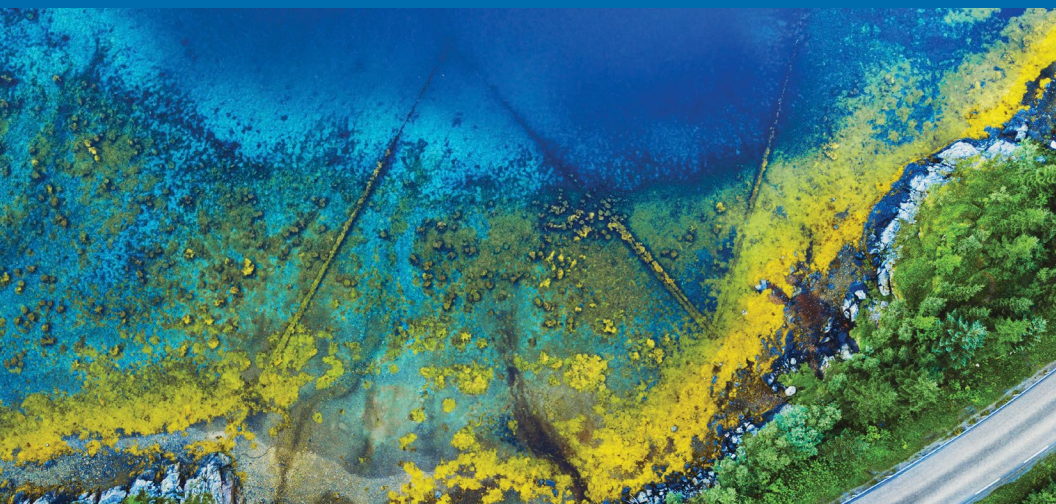
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At Jacobs, we think differently about water. We view all water as a valuable resource and work with clients to tackle the issues that impact communities: climate, safety, reliability, flooding and scarcity.

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KENNETH J. MILLER

Founders' Award

CELEBRATION PROGRAM

WELCOME
AND INTRODUCTIONS

Julie Kauffman and Daryl Schreiber

Water For People

Steve Meininger

Jacobs

Samson Hailu Bekele and Mark Duey

Water For People

KENNETH J. MILLER FOUNDERS'
AWARD PRESENTATION

CLOSING REMARKS

OPTIONAL:
AWARDEE BREAKOUT ROOMS

KENNETH J. MILLER

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2022 AWARDEES



Becky Andrus was instrumental in starting the Northeast Ohio Global Race for Water which currently raises over \$10,000 a year for Water For People for **Ohio Section AWWA and Ohio WEA**. She also was very helpful with continuing the race through the pandemic, when it became the Virtual Race for Global Water. She has been an advocate and leader for Water For People.

"Clean water is a basic human need. As a water professional, I appreciate Water For People's grassroots efforts to improve access to clean water and improve quality of life."



Arthur Frank Banks Jr. has been a dedicated member of the **Georgia Section AWWA** Water For People Committee for 10+ years. With his dedication and support of our largest fundraiser, Annual BBQ Cookoff Competition, we have been able to grow the event from two teams in the early 2000's to a capacity of 12 teams, and he has added other fun activities, such as corn hole tournaments. His utility was one of the first BBQ teams and they continue to support. He is always available to make sure everything is running smoothly, with ice trucks, generators, etc. As he prepared for his recent retirement, Frank continued to show his dedication to supporting Water For People by joining forces with the Water Buffalo's.

"I believe that we are to serve others in life. Water For People benefits many people around the world who are without reliable resources to sustain health and life. The organization has grown into being the premier water and wastewater association that provides the most sustainable resources, making them available to everyone. I'm honored to have been chosen for such a prestigious award, it is truly a pleasure to be a member of this organization."



Elaine Connors has been a long-standing and committed member of the **British Columbia Water For People Committee**. For the past five years, she has led the Silent

Auction at the annual BCWWA Conference and spends her own resources generously to make sure the event runs smoothly. When the COVID-19 pandemic made the conference virtual, Elaine took up the challenge and set up an online auction. The two virtual auctions surpassed the fundraising of previous years. Elaine continues to help the Committee to be successful and she shows that desire through the time and effort she contributes to the Committee. We are very grateful for her support!

"Water For People is one of the charities I support because I feel it is an excellent way to empower women. Providing more accessible clean water frees women and girls from the tasks associated with obtaining clean water. Providing sanitary waste options, such as toilets, means more girls can stay in school and reach their full potential."



Jonathan D. Contag has done a great job with the **Iowa Section AWWA** silent auction, for which he assumed responsibility a few years ago. In addition to the normal duties of running two silent auctions annually, there were times he really went above and beyond. The first was assisting with the golf outing as we transitioned Committee chairs. There was an immediate need for someone to handle registration on short notice and Jonathan stepped up. The latter was in executing a great silent auction despite the 2020 conference being virtual. The virtual silent auction raised more money than any single silent auction in our records.

"All humans living on this earth have a right to clean and accessible drinking water and sanitation to enable families and individuals, to grow, to be healthy and to thrive in their environment. Water For People tackles tough water and wastewater problems around the world to fulfill this basic right. This is why Water For People is important to me."



John W. Crist has been Chair of the Golf Committee since 2019 for the **Indiana Section AWWA**. He has done an excellent job in streamlining the event. The event has raised roughly \$10,000 per year for Water For People since John began leading.

"I can't think of anything more essential to healthy living than clean potable water. It's an honor and privilege to work with my friends at INAWWA to help Water For People bring clean water to the underserved."



Nicholas D'Angelo Jr. was instrumental in starting the Northeast Ohio Global Race for Water which currently raises more than \$10,000 a year for Water For People, through the Ohio Section AWWA and Ohio WEA. He also helped the race continue in 2020 when it was held as the Ohio Virtual Race for Global Water. He spent numerous hours building a website for the virtual race and was instrumental in making it successful. He is an advocate for Water For People.

"Water For People provides countless opportunities to impact our international community, and I believe it is vital for engineers to volunteer for these communities. It has been a pleasure volunteering the past three years, fundraising to support Water For People's causes and initiatives. Clean water is a basic human right, and something we must strive to provide to Everyone Forever."



Jim Farrell was one of the original members and founders of the **North Carolina AWWA/WEA** Water For People Committee along with Don Knibb and Fred Hauchman. He was instrumental in setting the foundation for what the Committee is today. At that time, the NC Water For People Committee was sending groups to Bolivia annually and doing hands-on work, along with all of the fundraising and planning that went with those trips. Jim was instrumental in all those aspects of the Committee.



Lori J. Irvine's long-term dedication to Water For People through both **CH2M HILL** and **Jacobs** demonstrates her strong commitment to the mission. Through many leadership changes, she shines a light on the value for the organization and our employee giving program. Through her support and critical role leading Water For People communications, serving on the Jacobs Water For People Giving Campaign steering committee, and leading Jacobs' Water Market communications, Lori brings her passion and focus to spread the word about Water For People's mission of Everyone Forever. She has been a key pillar of our long-term partnership and year after year provides invaluable input and ideas for the workplace giving campaign. Her enthusiasm is palpable and her hard work on the campaign is immeasurable.

"I have had the great fortune to volunteer with Water For People for almost 20 years. The first Water For People Employee Giving campaign I ran was in 2005, and I remember us raising \$23,000, which seemed like a huge donation. Today that's less than 10% of what Jacobs' staff

gives each year. It's been really fun and rewarding to see our campaign grow and the tremendous impact it has allowed Water For People to make on the communities it serves. I'm proud to be part of an organization that does so much good, ensuring access to clean water and sanitation, which is life changing for so many."



Katie Kelleher took a much more active role as a Workplace Giving Co-champion for **Brenntag** in 2021. With her drive and support, we greatly increased our contribution level, not just financially but also with time. Katie helped to spur the growth of our local champion teams, made many internal presentations about Water For People, and increased interest. She also led Brenntag's efforts to raise \$21,000 during the 2021 World Water Classic, including raising \$3,345 through her individual fundraiser. Most recently, Katie volunteered on the Water For People WASH assessment of Canada. Her passion shines through every time she talks about Water For People. We could not be more grateful to have Katie be part of our Brenntag team.

"I believe that access to clean and reliable drinking water and adequate sanitation is a basic human right. The work that Water For People is doing makes it possible for people who have not had these basic human rights afforded to them up to now possible. The thing that I find inspiring is that we have the knowledge and resources to put an end to it within my lifetime, and most definitely within my child's lifetime. Brenntag's partnership with Water For People has offered me an opportunity to learn about Water For People and allowed me to get involved in a real way, and this involvement gives me a greater sense of purpose in my job and in my life. It provides me an opportunity to teach my daughter from a young age how privileged we are but also how important it is to find ways to incorporate service and giving into our lives at every stage."



Jerry Kodopidis has been a **New Jersey Section AWWA** Committee member since 2016 and since the beginning, has helped with every event we host. In 2019, he took over our Trenton Thunder Family Night at the Ballpark event and the Drop in the Bucket Silent Auction events and increased both events net profits significantly. Jerry brought the Drop in the Bucket event back in the Fall of 2021, after having to cancel it in 2020, and was able to raise more than \$6,000 with only half of the normal attendance at the AWWA NJ Annual Conference. It speaks volumes of his dedication

and passion. At the recent Annual Conference, he led the team in raising \$7,000. Jerry never wavered, despite the challenges of the past few years.

"I started as a system operator right out of college in 2009 and my first exposure to Water For People was my boss asking me to go buy ice for a 5k run fundraiser. I had no idea what Water For People was, I just saw "water" in the name and thought it made sense. This however led me to dig more into and learn about this charity. In my 13 years I've held many titles which has led me to understand the complexities of how difficult it is to sustain safe and quality drinking water. I respect and appreciate the vision and mission Water For People has to not just build a well and move on, but to ensure the communities have the resources to maintain the system. I am proud to be on the NJ Committee and a chair of multiple events throughout my tenure."



Since 2007, **Alexa La Plante** has volunteered with local Water For People Committees in Northern California. From 2008-2011, she was Chair of the Sacramento Committee. Then, Alexa started volunteering with the **Bay Area Water Works Association Committee** and served as chair from 2016 through 2022. In San Francisco, she led numerous fundraising and outreach activities, including seven annual film fundraiser events. In addition, Alexa was a World Water Corps volunteer for the 2014 India Groundwater Sustainability Project in West Bengal. Thanks to Alexa's leadership and vision over the years, we have been able to fundraise and inspire others in our community to advocate for Water For People.

"I've been so proud to be a Water For People volunteer. I really believe in the model, and I did a World Water Corps trip in 2014 that even deepened my appreciation for Water For People's work. I love that we work with local non-profits and empower the people to build and maintain their own systems and processes so that it works for them. I really believe in the cause and will continue to volunteer and support Water For People!"



Nirmala Mahadevan has provided her expertise and connections in organizing coordination with diaspora communities and has provided invaluable organization of large-scale fundraising events for **California/Nevada Section AWWA**.

"I have lived in and visited three of the countries Water For People works in and so I know, first-hand, the importance of their water, sewer, and health and hygiene projects. Also, working in the water industry, and having been surrounded by friends and family involved in international development my whole life, makes supporting Everyone Forever a no-brainer. The awesome, friendly staff at Water For People in Denver - who are ever ready to support our efforts - makes fundraising a pleasure!"



David E. McNeil has been the **Arizona Water's** Wine Into Water event champion for a second year and expanded fundraising for both the wine and beer events through the creation of a Double Fisted Sponsorship structure. He also is the glue that keeps the Wine and Pints planning meetings going. Since joining the Committee in 2019, David has brought in new volunteers and keeps the Committee and event attendees inspired with his enthusiasm and positivity. While 2020 may have seemed stagnant, David brought forth numerous creative ideas for continuing events in a virtual capacity. His investment has been significant and noteworthy.

"As a retired water professional with 27 years of water management and public/private water utility leadership experience, I understand that water is the critical foundation of civilization, and of all life. Like most of my industry colleagues, I entered this profession out of a passion for the wellbeing of all people, whether within my community or beyond it. I also understand that safe water and sanitation, which are given services in the Western world, are not universally accessible across the globe. Water For People is important to me because it harnesses the energy of industry leaders in our modern communities, to move closer to the ultimate goal of global and universal access to safe water and sanitation."



Walter Migdal is a long-time supporter of Water For People through **EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC's** workplace giving program. He combines his passion for endurance cycling with his personal commitment to giving back to raise money and awareness for Water For People. Since 2018, Walt has supported Cycling For Water (CFW), a non-profit joint effort between Water For People and EA, created to help through endurance cycling events. In 2019, Walt was part of a four-person EA and Water For People team that completed the Race Across America and

earned the Jim Pitre Corporate Cup, which is awarded to the fastest team with 75% of members associated with a single company. This year, he and teammate Jeff Boltz will be tackling the Race Across the West. In 2021, Walt also participated in EA's 2nd annual move-a-thon company-wide event and raised approximately \$2,400 through pledges.

"Water For People is important because they are making a major impact in the communities they serve. Not only do they provide drinking water and sanitation, they provide hope for the people touched by these services and long term sustainability of the infrastructure through partnering and training local resources to run and maintain the systems."



Candice Padilla is **Carollo Engineers'** longest-serving workplace giving office coordinator, having been in the role for our Fresno office since 2014. Not only is she longest serving, she is also a very consistent and reliable coordinator, always encouraging her coworkers to give - and they do at more than \$70 per person annually! She joined when Carollo was growing our campaign and started our quest for nationwide participation. Seasoned coordinators like Candice who have a positive attitude and willingness to volunteer year after year are the cornerstone for our campaign. Plus, her Water For People snack drawer is an office staple!

"Water For People is important to me because it includes users in bringing water and sanitation to all, plus teaches them to maintain the installed infrastructure. It is so important to bring it to Everyone Forever so they can all concentrate on the next steps to making their lives better. I cannot imagine not having clean, running, warm water for my shower and cool water to drink, and I want everyone to know this pleasure."



Ra'ad Rihani was very active in the planning and execution of **TYLin's** first Employee Giving Campaign in June 2021, which raised more than \$2,000 from employees and an additional match of \$2,000. Ra'ad worked to prepare materials to promote the events planned during the week-long campaign including guest speaker presentations and a trivia event. He also created the trivia questions which were enjoyed by everyone. He worked very closely with our Human Resources Team to post information on the campaign on the Intranet to help promote event activities.

"I believe that access to reliable clean water and safe sanitation services are a basic human right, which is not currently the case for all people. Water For People continues to prove its success in providing sustainable access to water and sanitation to those who need it the most. I'm proud to be playing a part in helping raise funds for Water For People to achieve their goals."



In addition to her role as an Executive Assistant at Tennessee American Water, **Kathryn Robinson** supports **American Water's** Water For People Annual Workplace Giving Campaign as a local coordinator. In 2021, she helped lead a strong virtual campaign, resulting in a 90% increase in donations from the prior year. Kathryn is extremely passionate about Water For People and traveled to Peru on a Water For People Impact Tour to experience first-hand Water For People's work. She shared her inspirational story through a video and blog so employees could also experience what she did. She also volunteered her time in Honduras, a place that holds a special place in her heart, where she has traveled four times on mission trips and is a sponsor for two girls.

"Water For People is important to me because everyone should have access to clean drinking water for their health and everyday lives. I love that Water For People instills ownership and pride by training the locals to operate and maintain their water systems. It's easy for us to take for granted the availability of our drinking water and it is amazing to see what we take for granted greatly improves the lives in these communities."



Martha Silks has been a longtime active volunteer and past Chair for Water For People through the **Missouri Section AWWA**. She has championed Water For People within Missouri AWWA assisting with fundraising and spreading Water For People's message at association events. Throughout her tenure, she partnered with the Missouri Water Environment Association to organize and run one of the organization's largest fundraisers held at the Joint Annual Conference. Her dedication and leadership have made fundraising efforts successful.

"I strongly believe it is everyone's duty to help others. I believe a safe source of potable water and sanitary living conditions should be available to all. We should not take these things for granted and we should do what is in our power to help others have these necessary resources."



Marcela Tuñón Sion, PE has been involved in Water For People both in Texas and several other states, most recently serving as a key member of the Texas Water silent auction planning committee, jointly hosted by **Texas Section AWWA and WEA of Texas**. She recognizes the importance of not only raising funds but also growing awareness and contributes to both. Marcela also voices her support by leveraging social media to shine a light on issues that matter to her. Marcela uses both her personal and professional network to advance the message of Water For People and water and sanitation issues in developing countries in general. Marcela is that rare combination of advocate who can engage, inspire, and deliver.

"I grew up in the Republic of Panama and my father worked for the Panama Canal in various capacities for 42 years before retiring. His last role was as an environmental protection specialist, where he traveled (often via small boat or on foot) to communities located within the hydrographic basin of the Canal and educated the residents on the value of water and the importance of the waterway to their livelihood. His educational efforts focused on school-aged children in hopes that future generations would be better stewards and protect the Canal. I know his work has influenced my passion for water and ultimately led me to where I am now. I stand behind Water For People's mission to provide clean water and sanitation services to Everyone Forever!"



Stan Torgunrud has been a **Western Canada AWWA** Water For People committee member for many years, heading up local event support in Regina, Saskatchewan. Stan is currently representing Western Canada AWWA on the Water For People Canada Board. He also served an important role on that board as Treasurer for many years.

"I am proud to support Water For People. The success of the Everyone Forever program in several districts around the world shows that this is not just another water charity. Water For People has learned how to partner with local community leaders to help bring safe water and sanitation to their communities."

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE KENNETH J. MILLER FOUNDERS' AWARD RECIPIENTS!

To learn more about becoming a Water For People Champion,
reach out to volunteers@waterforpeople.org.





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