

Dear Friends,

July 2010

Imagine living in a country where 70 percent of its land mass lies within the Sahara Desert! This African country only receives a few inches of rain each year during its three- to five-month rainy season. Imagine how thirsty you would be! Now imagine your everyday normal life in the Western world. You do not live in the Sahara Desert. At any moment in time, and many times throughout the day, you can get up from your chair and simply walk to your faucet or water cooler for a drink to satisfy your thirst.



In Burkina Faso, a country in West Africa, life is very hot, dry, and dusty. When you are thirsty, you can not just get up and go to the faucet to quench your thirst. Having fresh, clean water available when you need it is not an easy task. The job of retrieving water for the family is typically given to younger women and children who often have to travel three or four miles roundtrip to obtain it. In many rural villages, this walk can be up to 10 miles one way when things get really dry. To provide for all of the family's water needs, these trips have to be made several times each day—just to provide a basic necessity of life that we take for granted! And unfortunately, the water they walk so far to get might not even be sanitary, which can pose another set of problems.

Friends in Action (FIA) International has an incredible opportunity to reach out to the people of Burkina Faso, a nation of which 90 percent is either Muslim or practices the traditional religions of their ancestors. Our well drilling projects give us a meaningful way to demonstrate the love of God. As we drill for and provide fresh, clean water, one of our partner missionaries shares the life-changing message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. During these Gospel presentations in 2009 alone, more than 450 Burkinabe placed their faith in Jesus, the true Water of Life!

In addition, if a village is provided with a well, then the young women and children do not have to walk for water several times each day—a journey that is typically not safe. A village well literally protects villagers from the risks of abduction, rape, and possibly even human trafficking. It also means that these children can remain in the village and receive an education.



Won't you prayerfully consider helping us drill wells through your financial support? It is estimated that each well provides fresh, clean water for approximately 500 families. In the last well-drilling year alone, wells drilled by FIA changed the lives of over 12,000 villagers at a cost of just \$8,500 per well.

In addition, we have recently committed to constructing a two-room classroom building in October 2010. This building will be for a school in Ouagadougou that was established in 2000 by the Christian Missionary and Alliance (CMA), one of our partners in Burkina Faso.

As you are most likely aware, FIA has a sizeable investment in well drilling equipment. While our equipment is not in use drilling wells out in the bush, it is stored on property owned by the CMA. The school we will help was established to educate and develop future leaders in Burkina Faso and to aid in the accomplishment of the Great Commission. These two purposes are evidenced in the fact that since the school started, approximately 136 students have placed their faith in Christ. This additional classroom building is needed in order to accommodate the influx of students and to ease the overcrowding of existing classroom space.

Our commitment to the school is to provide \$7,500 in funding and recruit a work team of eight individuals. Can you help us as we strive to be a blessing to one of our partners in Burkina Faso? The amount of funds needed to complete this project is not huge, yet it will take each of us to accomplish this task. Your gift of any amount would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in being part of the two-week work team, please call us at 717-546-0208 or email [FIA-USA@FIAintl.org](mailto:FIA-USA@FIAintl.org). Proposed dates of travel are October 1-16.

Thanks in advance for your gifts, and thank you for listening to and obeying the leading of the Lord. All of us pooling our resources together can change the lives of many people who need to hear the life-changing story of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

In His Service,



Timothy P. Farrell  
Office Administrator

P.S. To give to the ongoing well drilling work in Burkina Faso, please use the following account number on your response card: **500201**.

To give to the CMA school project, please use account number **500204**.

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