

November 13, 2010 Gala for Water Missions International

A Fun, Private Fundraiser for a Life-saving Cause

Updated October, 2010

Problem: According to the United Nations World Water Assessment Program, 80 percent of all illnesses in developing nations are caused by water-borne diseases, and diarrhea is the leading cause of childhood death. Many people around the world live in remote villages and drink from rivers, ponds, wells, and streams that are contaminated with deadly bacteria. Because of their poverty and poor quality of life, they have never had the privilege of safe drinking water or good sanitation. Research has verified that water-, sanitation-, and hygiene-related diseases kill more than two million people annually, mostly children. Providing clean water to populations that currently lack it could reduce the spread of disease and save many lives.

Solution: Water Missions International (WMI) is a 501c3 non-profit engineering organization based in Charleston, SC. It provides fresh, safe water purification equipment and hygiene support to high-priority, impoverished, remote villages in developing nations. WMI has been awarded a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for four consecutive years, an award that only ten percent of all charities have obtained consistently. This shows that WMI's financial systems are well-managed and most funds are put toward helping the needy (rather than administrative costs).

WMI has developed a 1700-pound water machine that costs about \$25,000 to build and deliver (this amount includes equipment, delivery by truck once it is flown into the recipient country, one year's worth of supplies, and maintenance tools). A single machine can purify 10,000 gallons of water per day, supporting a village of 5,000 people with operating costs of about 50 cents per person each year. A \$10 donation will provide safe water to one person for his or her lifetime!

Each water machine takes about two hours to set up and is transported to the village by volunteers and staff from WMI. Then, WMI ensures that the machines are functioning properly and community members are educated in using and maintaining them. WMI has placed water purification machines in 40 countries and has been featured on BBC News, CNN, and Fox News. For more information, visit www.watermissions.org.

Goal: We want to create a well-attended, enjoyable event to raise at least \$50,000 (after expenses) to pay for two machines, which will provide safe water to 5,000 poor Honduran villagers and save many lives, mostly children's, annually.

Plan: We will hold a fun-filled night with: a band playing shag/beach music for dancing; excellent food and drink; silent auction between 6:30-9:00 PM; live auction at 9 PM; and a brief presentation on Water Missions during the band's break. A water machine will be set up outside the facility for participants to view during the event.

Location: Debra and Mike DuBose will donate the use of their 40,000-square-foot Columbia Conference Center for the event and coordinate the marketing. The facility is located in Columbia, SC off of Fernandina Road between Piney Grove and St. Andrews roads. For more information, visit www.columbiameetings.com.

Date: We will hold the event on the evening of **Saturday, November 13, 2010**. The business attire/black tie optional gala will run from 6:30-10:30 PM. The date was chosen based on availability of the Columbia Conference Center, the fact that USC and Clemson both have "away" football games, and because inclement/winter weather will be less likely in early November.

Participant Costs: Each person will pay \$50 (\$100 per couple) in advance. Door tickets will be \$75 per person or \$125 per couple. Participants will be able to register online at a specially-designed website accessed through www.mikedubose.com or purchase tickets sold by volunteers. We want to sell **at least** 300 tickets to generate at least \$15,000 in ticket revenue. We will also accept donations in addition to the ticket sales, which will be tax-deductible through Water Missions International.

Blake DuBose and his staff at DuBose Web Group (www.duboseweb.com) will design and coordinate the marketing and website for the event free of charge. Corporate sponsors will receive the benefits located on the following page. Doris and Jeff Warren of the Warren Group will serve as the Gala's central administrative unit.

Levels of Corporate and Individual Sponsorship

	Recognition level	Listed as MAJOR sponsor	Company banners displayed during event	Name appears on large plaque	Name on all flyers and programs distributed to participants	Name on press releases	Name on programs distributed to attendees	Free event tickets
Diamond \$10,000+ Provides clean water to 1,300 people (Check to be presented in front of 400 attendees)	<i>Full page</i> ad in brochure; Name on 60,000 mailed brochures and listed on event website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2 Tables for 8 (Total of 16)
Platinum \$5,000+ Provides clean water to 625 people	<i>3/4 page</i> ad in brochure; Name on 60,000 mailed brochures and listed on event website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Table for 8
Gold \$1,000+ Provides clean water to 100 people	<i>1/4 page</i> ad in brochure; Name on 60,000 mailed brochures and listed on event website			✓	✓		✓	4
Silver \$500+ Provides clean water to 50 people	<i>1/8 page</i> ad in brochure; Name on 60,000 mailed brochures and listed on event website				✓		✓	2

Corporate/Individual Sponsorship Commitment Form

Water Missions Gala—Saturday, November 13, 2010—6:30-10:30 PM

Columbia Conference Center

– Please return this form by November 10, 2010 –

This fundraising event will help provide clean water for 10,000 people in Honduras through Water Missions International. For more information about this 501c3 organization, please visit www.WaterMissions.org.

Please complete the attached form, include a check payable to Water Missions International, and mail or deliver check with completed form to: Mike DuBose, Columbia Conference Center, 169 Laurelhurst Avenue, Columbia, SC 29210-3825. To avoid expensive credit card fees, we prefer donations in the form of checks. However, you may purchase tickets or make donations using credit cards through www.mikedubose.com.

You may also fax this information to: (803) 454-2029 or call (803) 454-2018 for more information.

Please print your information in dark blue or black ink below as you would like it to appear on all marketing materials. You may also make donations or volunteer at www.mikedubose.com.

Name of Organization or Individual(s) _____

Contact Person _____ **Title** _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____ **E-mail Address** _____

Sponsorship Level (Please check one) --*The number to the right of each sponsorship indicates the amount of people who will be provided with safe water thanks to your donation.*

Diamond \$10,000+ (1,300 people) ____

Platinum \$5,000+ (625 people) ____

Gold \$1,000+ (100 people) ____

Silver \$500+ (50 people) ____

Other cash amount – Please specify \$ _____

Non-cash, in-kind donations (Please describe donation below)

If you have any questions, please e-mail Katie Beck at katie@dubosegroup.com or call 803-454-2018 and leave a message. Someone will contact you within 48 business hours. A tax-deductible receipt will be mailed to you within 45 calendar days. We appreciate donations of any amount!

Examples of Items Needed for Silent and Live Auctions

1- Use of second home or timeshare in mountains, beach, or other countries*
2- Golf for a foursome with carts (especially at famous courses)
3- Paintings (especially original artwork)
4- Fine antique furniture and heirlooms
5- Autographed mementos by famous artists, coaches, and celebrities
6- Wine tasting party for 20 people
7- In-home gourmet dinner for five couples with food and fine wine
8- Golf lessons (from a professional) valued at \$250 +
9- Tickets to college or professional football, baseball, and other sports games
10- Dinner with coaches like Spurrier, Tanner, etc. (we need someone who knows them)*
11- Family oil painting
12- Two coach plane tickets to anywhere in the mainland US*
13- Ride in a fighter jet*
14- Two-hour flight in a Cessna 182 with instructor pilot
15- Two or more hours of free, specialized consulting (i.e., interior design, personal training, etc.)
16- Oyster roast for 25 with wine and beer
17- Restaurant gift certificates valued at \$250+
18- Private dinner for ten at a restaurant*
19- Oil painting by artists like Blue Sky*

* Indicates an item that will be included in the live auction

Other ideas are welcome!