

Tom Tom Founders Festival

Founders Summit Luncheon – Social Good: Awareness, Action and Access to Clean Water

<https://tomtomfest.com/events/luncheon-clean-water-conversation-justin-ahrens/>

April 14, 2017 12:00-2:00PM Brasserie Saison Charlottesville (20-25 Attendees)

At the event, Chris Long (NFL player and Founder of Waterboys), David Dusseau (CEO MadiDrop), and Justin Ahrens (Founder Rule29 and affiliated with Wheels4Water) talked about clean water problems faced by people in third world countries and what their organizations are doing to provide clean water. They explained that clean water initiatives are the best charities in terms of impact per dollar spent. They justified their claims by laying out the number of people affected by lack of access to clean water and the cost to provide it and also mentioned a UN study. Besides the facts, they also told stories of the poverty in the communities they are helping and how witnessing this inspires them to help the people. For example, when Chris Long was climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, a Sherpa was overjoyed when he found out about his water project. Another story was of witnessing people in desperation drinking dirty water even though they knew it was going to make them sick.

Facts:

- 1.2 billion cases of waterborne illness treated every year
 - 650 million people in the world live without safe water
 - Every 90 seconds a child dies from a water-related disease
- Cost to provide one person clean water for life
\$40

The Individual Charities

Waterboys – www.waterboys.org

- Founded by NFL player Chris Long and affiliated with the NFL
- Raises money for wells in rural communities in East Africa
- 17 wells funded so far

MadiDrop – www.madidrop.com

- A public benefit company
- Their product M-Drop provides safe drinking water at a low cost
- The M-Drop destroys waterborne pathogens without chemically altering the taste or smell
- M-Drop used in Saltadere

Wheels4Water – www.wheels4water.org

- Hosts charity biking events to raise money to provide clean water for a community in the Kalliro District of Uganda
- This community faces significant health and economic concerns as 67% of the population lacks access to clean water

Saltadere – www.saltadere.weebly.com

- Goal is to provide long term assistance to the Saltadere region of rural Eastern Haiti
- Current projects include a school, a health clinic, a clean water project, and a micro-loan fund