

Nick Morris

Clean Water Access Speech

Water is one of the basic building blocks of life. But did you know that about one billion people do not have access to clean drinking water? The World Health Organization says that water related diseases are the leading cause of death in the world. According to the medical journal The Lancet poor water sanitation and a lack of safe drinking water cause more deaths than war, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction combined. It is estimated that around 3.4 million people a year die due to water related diseases. The majority of those who die are children in developing countries.

Clean Water Access is a nonprofit organization based in New York City that provides access to clean water to people in developing countries. We do this primarily by building wells and teaching rain water containment techniques. The majority of our well building projects are in Africa and Asia. Everyone should have the ability to access clean drinking water. Water is just too important for life to not want everyone to have access to it. In the United States we waste thousands of gallons of clean drinking water a day. It is hard to think that there are people out there they don't even have access to clean water. Or maybe the problem is that we don't think or care about what we waste.

That is why it is our goal is to get people involved and care about this issue. You may now be asking how can you help? On July 21st we are holding our biggest event of the year. Take a Dive, Build a Well is a swim event across the East River and will be hosted by Michael Phelps. The event cost \$50 dollars to participate and will begin at 10 a.m. at the Brooklyn Bridge Park. We will use everything raised at the event to fund water well projects in Ethiopia. Thank you and I hope to see you there.