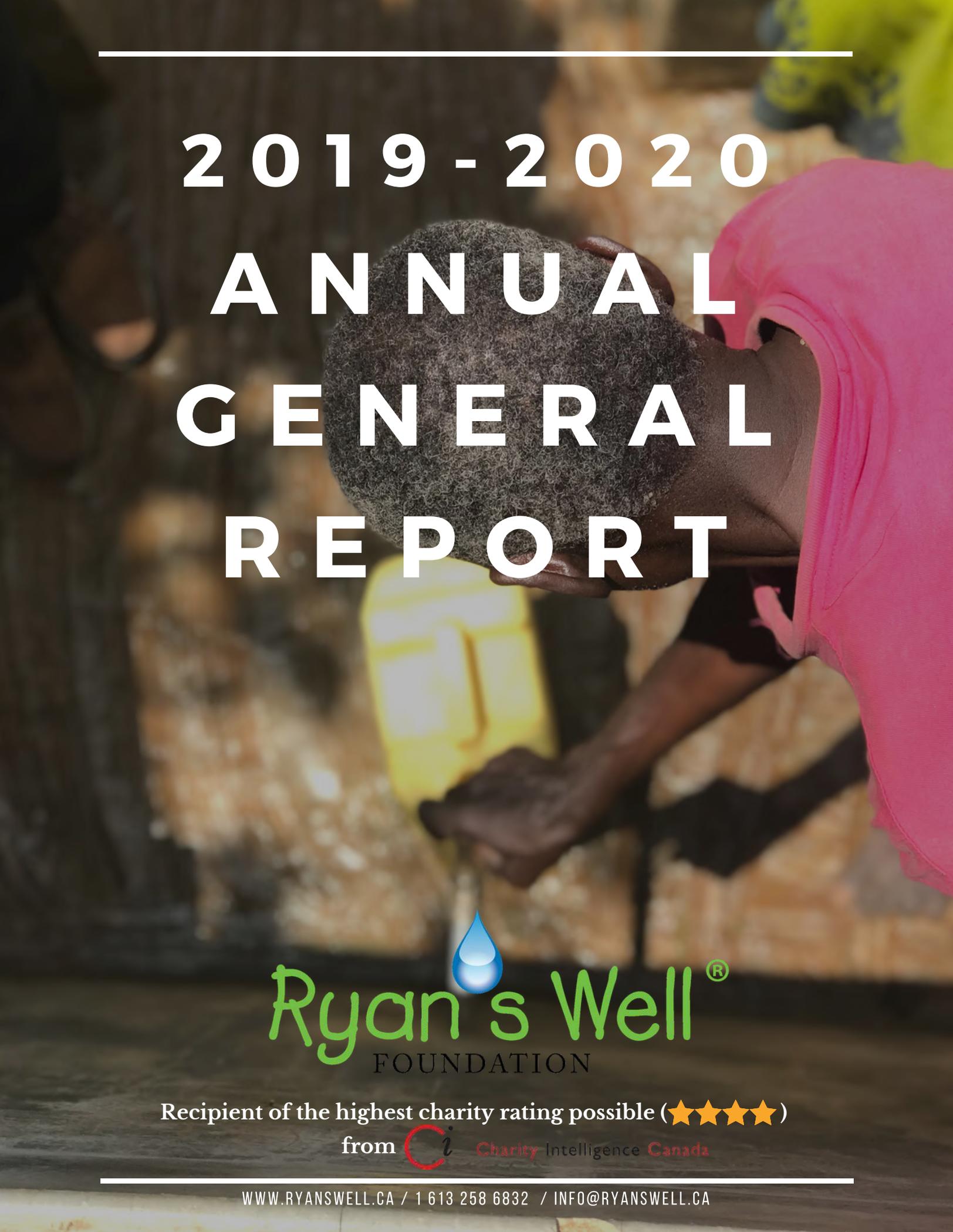


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# 2019 - 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT



**Ryan's Well**®  
FOUNDATION

Recipient of the highest charity rating possible (★★★★★)

from  Charity Intelligence Canada

# OUR IMPACT NUMBERS



Since our inception in 2001, our donors have helped us to accomplish so much. See the difference they have made in the lives of so many people across the world.

**1,047,390**  
**PEOPLE**

---

Have benefited from Ryan's Well Foundation projects, and now have access to clean and safe drinking water.

**1,491**  
**WATER PROJECTS**

---

Have been completed by the Ryan's Well Foundation, with the help of our generous donors.

**1,263**  
**LATRINES BUILT**

---

By Ryan's Well, to encourage proper hygiene, and limit the spread of disease.

**17**  
**COUNTRIES**

---

Have benefited from the work of the Ryan's Well Foundation.

# WHERE WE WORKED

*A quick look at how many projects we completed in each country during our 2019-2020 fiscal year!*



## THIS YEAR, WE...



Completed **62 WATER PROJECTS**.



Built **8 LATRINES**.



Connected **4 HEALTH CENTRES** to a clean water source.



Provided clean water to **51,262 PEOPLE**.





## A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The work that we and our partners do at Ryan's Well never seems to stay the same. When COVID-19 hit, our world, along with that of most others, seemed to turn upside down. There were challenges and hurdles to our project work, and our office was immediately shut down. How could we be confident that our work would be completed, given the arrival of this global pandemic? How could we be sure not to put any of our on-the-ground partners in harm's way? Then, there were uncertainties as we looked ahead regarding how the situation would affect our outreach, operations, and donations. We also realized that COVID-19 might cut off our vital connections with schools, foundations, and fund-raisers – all of which form our life link to the water, sanitation, and empowerment work we have undertaken for decades. After some soul-searching and urgent discussions, our staff and board realized that, not only has our mandate and purpose not changed, but that we still have the tools to adjust.

So far, we have been able to adapt by supporting our partners through continuous communication, and modifying our project scope and schedules. This year, I'm pleased to announce that we will continue delivering clean water and sanitation to people in Uganda, Ghana, and Mexico. We will endeavour to do better than ever to make sure the change and benefit is focused on empowering communities to grow and lead healthier and more stable lives. Seeing the COVID-19 situation develop has only strengthened our commitment to providing

potable, safe water and improved sanitation to beneficiaries around the world.

When I was young, and embarking on my earliest Ryan's Well fund-raisers, I thought that providing clean water so that kids would be healthy enough to go to school was the main goal. After all, without water fountains, I couldn't have imagined school even taking place. And, while this is still a crucial aspect of the work we do, I never thought water could be so much more; it is life and health for mothers and their families, for seniors, and for everyone, really, living their daily lives without the strain of not having such a basic necessity. I don't think I'll ever truly comprehend the leverage a safe, sustainable water source is to life everywhere. Clean water really does affect everything.

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**"I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER TRULY  
UNDERSTAND THE LEVERAGE A SAFE,  
SUSTAINABLE WATER SOURCE IS TO  
LIFE EVERYWHERE."**

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Our dream is alive and well, and the Ryan's Well team is going forward with confidence, cultivating decades-long collaborations, and starting new ones to better deliver water and sanitation to those who need it most. Our small team will continue to pull well above our weight to help bring more and more clean, safe water sources and sanitation to communities in need. I'd like to send out a huge thank you to all of our volunteers, partners, and donors, who make our work possible. We hope to continue making a world of difference for years to come, both during pandemics, and beyond.

*Ryan*

# PROJECTS REPORT



"All of our local teams are safe, healthy, and have begun project activities for 2020-2021!"



Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to fund 62 water projects and eight latrines in three countries, providing 51,262 vulnerable people with sustainable access to safe water and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) education.

In 2019-2020, we drilled ten deep wells in Northern Uganda, constructed 13 safe water sources in Western Uganda, and trained an Indigenous community in Southern Mexico how to build 31 rainwater harvesting tanks. We also had a successful School Challenge project in Western Uganda, which provided two vulnerable primary schools with a rainwater harvesting tank, eight latrine stances, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) training for eight primary schools total. Finally, we constructed and installed six deep wells in Southwest Ghana, four of which were provided for health centres.

Although the Government in Ghana provides equipment for the maintenance of hospitals in rural health centres – including beds, equipment, and health materials – they believe that connecting health centres to a reliable, safe water source is the communities' responsibility. Without proximate water access, these health centres cannot provide service to women who are pregnant and/or in labour, ultimately causing an increase in pregnancy-related health problems and miscarriages in the area. However, with support from our donors, we installed four deep wells along with distribution taps and hand washing stations for four health clinics in Southwest Ghana during the 2020 fiscal year. Once connected to a safe water source, nurses and midwives working in these health centres are able to help a lot more people in the area (especially women and children)!

One of the most memorable moments from last year's monitoring trips was meeting Stella, a young mother of six from Akuli village, in Northern Uganda. When I first met Stella in April 2019, it was her responsibility to collect water for 100 people in her village – daily! We discovered that the water source was not only unsafe to drink, but extremely unsafe to access. Less than one year later, I was able to re-visit Akuli village, and to evaluate their newly installed deep well. The community transformation was incredible, and I was so happy to see Stella again. She no longer has to collect water for anyone, other than her family, and she is so happy to have a proximate, safe, clean water source for her village.

We are so thankful that, through the leadership of our local partners, we were able to complete all project work for the 2019-2020 year. All of our local teams are safe, healthy, and have begun project activities for 2020-2021! Be sure to check out the active projects page on our website, and remember – WASH your hands!

*Kately*

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

In the unpredictable times that accompany COVID-19, charities face many challenges – millions in lost revenue, a significant disruption to the services they provide, and uncertainty in planning for the delivery of critical domestic and international programs and services. The Ryan's Well Foundation is no exception. Staff and volunteers at Ryan's Well have continued to work diligently to ensure that the foundation is able to continue to provide clean water and sanitation to communities in the developing world, and that we emerge from the current global pandemic strong and focused.

Despite the existing global challenges, particularly those facing the charitable sector, the Ryan's Well Foundation had a very impactful 2019-20 fiscal year. We are all extremely proud that we have been able to maintain consistency in ensuring that, over the past three years, an average of 83 cents of every dollar continues to be spent directly towards our BUILD, EDUCATE, and MOTIVATE programs. I am eternally grateful to every donor who helped make our work possible. And, with the consistent generosity of monthly and regular donors and legacy gifts, we are fortunate to have stable, consistent support, allowing us to continue witnessing true community transformation during our monitoring trips.

And so, although there is much uncertainty in the months, and perhaps years, ahead, our relentless focus remains providing potable water and proper sanitation to those going without. In March 2021, the Ryan's Well Foundation will be celebrating its 20th anniversary. The organization continues to operate with the passion and conviction of that six-year-old boy from 1998, whose vision of a world wherein everyone has clean water provides the impetus for both staff and volunteers to model Ryan's "power of one" message.

For more than 19 years, Ryan's Well has been, and continues to be, uniquely positioned to meet these vital and essential needs. With trusted technical partners in the field, the foundation continues to deliver safe water to children and families without bureaucratic delays. By its example, Ryan's Well hopes to continue its important water work, as well as to inspire present and future leaders to seek and realize their own vision for making the world a better place. Huge thanks to you for continuing to make this possible!

Stay safe, and stay healthy!



**"WE ARE ALL EXTREMELY PROUD THAT... AN AVERAGE OF 83 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR CONTINUES TO BE SPENT DIRECTLY TOWARDS OUR BUILD, EDUCATE, AND MOTIVATE PROGRAMS."**



# EDUCATE & MOTIVATE

In support of the Ryan's Well Foundation's Educate and Motivate programs, we allocated funds towards educating youth about, and raising their awareness of, global issues, and inspiring them to become involved; Ryan and the rest of the team encouraged students around the world to take steps to help eradicate the global water crisis, or support other grassroots causes about which they are passionate. This funding helped to support the foundation's participation in ongoing presentations to schools, service clubs, and other organizations worldwide in 2019.

In 2019-2020, members of the Ryan's Well team delivered keynote addresses in Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, and all over Canada and the United States. We also presented at conferences in Australia, Singapore, Japan, Mexico, United Kingdom, Brazil, Thailand, the United States, and Canada. Ryan's Well also facilitated video conferencing presentations to over 75 schools from around the World. Many of these presentations were with schools who participated in the 2019-2020 School Challenge project! The School Challenge is an annual opportunity for which students from all over the world can collectively raise funds for a specific project. Once a teacher signs their class up to join the challenge, they are eligible to receive extra teacher resources and updates directly from the field to help their students stay motivated and learn about the global water crisis. The Ryan's Well team develops e-blasts, videos, brochures, teacher resources, and other content to send to the participants. In addition to School Challenge content, we designed various social media posts focused more broadly on education and awareness.

We have continued improving the Ryan's Well website and communications tools in order to grow the Foundation's reach through new partnerships, as well as maintain those relationships we have already established. Please send an e-mail to [info@ryanswell.ca](mailto:info@ryanswell.ca) if you have further questions about our Educate and Motivate programs!

Since the foundation's inception in 2001, our monthly donors have contributed over \$560,000! This consistent generosity has enabled the building of many of our projects, and WASH and maintenance training. It has vastly improved (and continues to improve) the lives of thousands of men, women, and children. Our monthly donors really do save lives!

Becoming a monthly donor is simple. Just visit [www.ryanswell.ca/donate/#Monthly-Donation](http://www.ryanswell.ca/donate/#Monthly-Donation) to enrol and, should circumstances change, you can easily contact us to cancel. If you are a Canadian taxpayer, you will receive an annual tax receipt for the total of your yearly donations.

We cannot thank our current Monthly Donors enough for their continuing commitment to enable us to make a difference. We welcome new donors to help us in our journey to make the world, as Ryan said so long ago, "a little more fair."

## THANK YOU, MONTHLY DONORS!

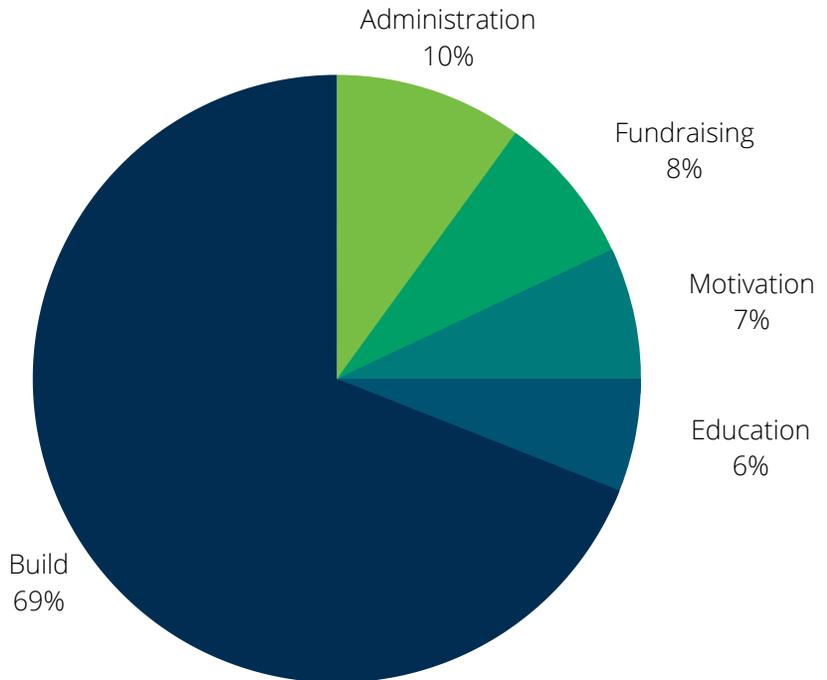




# Our Financial OVERVIEW

Over the past three years, an average of 83 cents of every donation dollar spent has directly supported our charitable programs (Build - Educate - Motivate). As we continue to examine ways to grow and diversify our revenue stream, we are deeply committed to ensuring donations are directed towards our mission of improving lives and effecting change in the world. Our small and efficient team is critical to keeping our overall fundraising costs at 8%, and our average administration costs remain unchanged over the past four years at 10%.

The Foundation's fiscal year runs from April 1st to March 31st. Our annual audit and financial statements were completed this year (2020) by the firm of Hendry Warren LLP. This audit can be found under 2019-20 Audited Financial Statements on the Ryan's Well Foundation website at [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)



**BUILD:** Build clean water, sanitation, and hygiene projects; facilitate the accompanying WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) training; and monitor the project upon completion to evaluate level of sustainability.

**EDUCATION:** Educate on the importance of access to safe water and sanitation to raise awareness about the global water crisis. Includes foundation's conference and travel expenses.

**MOTIVATION:** Motivate people, especially youth, to get involved with their passions and make a positive difference in the world. Includes foundation's travel expenses to schools and other groups locally and internationally.

**FUNDRAISING:** Internal fundraising efforts within Ryan's Well Foundation to maximize our donor reach and potential impact (for example, printing costs to mail our annual general reports and newsletters).

**ADMINISTRATION:** Admin needs vary each year but, typically, costs derive from our monthly rent, salaries for our small team of full- and part-time staff, and purchasing office supplies.

HAVE ANY FEEDBACK, QUESTIONS, OR COMMENTS ABOUT HOW WE CONDUCT WORK AT RYAN'S WELL FOUNDATION?

Please feel free to get in touch with us anytime by:

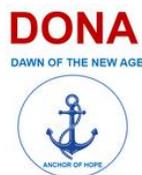
**E-mail:** [info@ryanswell.ca](mailto:info@ryanswell.ca)  
**Telephone:** 1.613.258.6832  
**Mail:** 40 Campus Dr.  
P.O. Box 1120  
Kemptville, Ontario K0G 1J0

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



We would also like to thank all of our generous individual donors, as well as those who make legacy donations in honour of loved ones. We couldn't do what we do without the help of many.  
Thank you!

# AND OUR INCREDIBLE PARTNERS



## VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CHAIR** - Sarah Gore

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** - Mark Nowell

**SECRETARY** - Susan Hreljac

**INTERIM TREASURER** - Devan Pennell

### BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Glofcheskie  
Rosemina Nathoo  
Nancy Prest  
Kevin Rogers

## RYAN'S WELL STAFF

**FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Ryan Hreljac

**PROJECT COORDINATOR**  
Keely Noiles

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**  
Connie Jensen

**COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR**  
Virginia Larose



Recipient of the highest charity rating possible (★★★★★)

from  Charity Intelligence Canada

40 Campus Drive, Parish Building - 3rd Floor  
P. O. Box 1120  
Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0  
Tel. 1.613.258.6832

[www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)

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