

PORTFOLIO SAMPLE — CONTEXT

Major donor appeal letter written for the president of a Catholic humanitarian NGO. Mail-merge recipient fields have been removed, and the organization name, president's name, and specific project details have been redacted for portfolio use; all other text is unaltered and shown verbatim.

Dear friend in Christ,

There is a promise in the book of Isaiah I return to often: "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them" (Isaiah 41:17). What a beautiful reminder that God hears the cry of the thirsty, and so often chooses to answer through [REDACTED].

As a mother, my heart aches when I picture the mothers and daughters of [REDACTED]. Across the dioceses of [REDACTED], hundreds of thousands of families are seeking clean water and finding only contaminated sources, and it is most often the women and children who carry that burden. They wake up [REDACTED] to walk long distances, then carry heavy containers all the way back home. When the rivers evaporate under the sun, they dig into empty riverbeds to collect any drops of [REDACTED] they can find.

No beloved daughter of God should have to choose between going thirsty and giving her children water to drink. The water they find carries [REDACTED] that strike the youngest hardest. The loss of dignity a mother feels when she cannot keep her children, her home or herself clean is unimaginable.

This is why the work God has entrusted to [REDACTED] means so much to me. Clean water restores to our brothers and sisters the God-given dignity that is already theirs. Through our partners overseas, we help communities build lasting, [REDACTED] wells that they own and care for themselves, so that their thirst can be quenched for years to come.

When we bring clean water to those who have none, we witness to the fact that every human life is sacred, and every person bears the image of God. Please join me in reaching these wonderful communities of [REDACTED], and in affirming their incalculable worth in the eyes of the Lord.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

President, [REDACTED]