

Sharing our Resources to Help Build a Well

Thanks to all the children, families and staff who contributed money toward the building of a well for people who do not have access to safe water. We raised a total of **\$1,350 for WaterAid**, which means we will give 54 people access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation!

The photo here shows a “bore hole” style well that members of several churches in the west end of Pittsburgh provided for the community of Ntaja, Malawi (central Africa) in 2010. Dr. Carver's daughter, Ariel, is pumping the water for her father, Dave, who is a Presbyterian pastor. The cement pad is designed to provide an area for washing clothes. Other similar bore-holes have a type of merry-go-round attached and a large water tank above them so that children can pump water into the tank while playing on the merry-go-round. What creativity while seeking to improve health!



Sharing our Expertise with Educators

• From March 5th through the 9th, Mrs. Bird and Miss Hancock traveled to the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA for the **International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS)** Conference to present a workshop entitled Message from Me: Facilitating Collaboration and Communication. Laboratory school educators from the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico attended the annual conference to share the work that is occurring in their early childhood, elementary, and secondary school laboratories. The educators also had an opportunity to observe at the LSU Laboratory School, which serves children from Kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as at Mentorship Academy, a charter public high school with a project-based learning approach. The group had an extensive evening tour of the LSU stadium and met live mascot Mike the Tiger.



• During spring break, Dr. Carver attended the **National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers (NCCCC)** board meeting and conference in Williamsburg, VA. The conference is primarily attended by directors of early childhood programs on college and university campuses, so she presented a session on Meaningful Campus & Community Professional Development for Experienced Educators. The conference also provided opportunities to network with an early childhood specialist from the US Department of Education about the changes in policy from President Obama's first to second term, with a Scottish educator responsible for launching the movement to create “nature kindergartens” (see www.mindstretchers.co.uk), an occupational therapist who specializes in therapy for children with challenges in sensory integration, and a variety of educators developing innovative campus early childhood education programs.