



1000 Survival Garden Kits Project

*Empowering 1000 Women to
Independence and Food Security.*

A collaboration of Canadian, American and South
African Rotary clubs and the Roll a Hippo Foundation



PROGRESS REPORT - MAY 2022

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Listen to Mbongeni Nzama tell her story on gardening for survival during the pandemic.

Thank You!

As the pandemic, political unrest, climate change, and the drums of war fill our news feeds, we are most thankful for the clubs and individuals whose eyes and attention are drawn to those who are most vulnerable in this global chaos... women and children.

We continually see and hear from beneficiaries of hippo rollers and garden kits. The one chord linking them together are the smiles on their faces, and the thankfulness in their hearts, as they are empowered with an easier way to collect water, and the tools and seedlings to help them create food security.

We want their appreciation to flow to you, our donors, who make this project such a rewarding experience for all involved.

1000 Survival Garden Kits Committee:

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A GENDER BENDER

In the early 1600s, when the Europeans first explored Africa, they were met by men brandishing spears and the women carrying buckets of water on their heads.

It's now 2022 and the men carry cell phones and laptops. But the women are still carrying buckets of water on their heads. What's wrong with our priorities?



Our Project Suppliers:



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The head of the United Nations food agency warned that, as the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries in Africa are also "on the brink of a hunger pandemic" that could lead to multiple famines if immediate action isn't taken.

IN MANY RURAL SETTLEMENTS in South Africa, women are the frontline workers. As the COVID-19 pandemic upsets the familiar community routines, unemployment, business failures, school closures, and social isolation have become the new reality. With little income and sparse government assistance, women are faced with providing food for their families by growing their own food.

This Rotary-driven project is providing **1000 women with a Survival Garden Kit** that includes the tools and seedlings to start small vegetable gardens. This is the most immediate and productive action we can take to help them create food security and self-sufficiency during and after the pandemic. Helping women establish survival gardens has short and long-term benefits:

- ❖ While the coronavirus is the immediate threat, its impact will be felt for years.
- ❖ Small homestead farming is doable and relatively easy (when water is readily available).
- ❖ While the need is immediate, a survival garden also creates food security for the future.
- ❖ Growing one's own food is not just self-sustaining; it's rewarding and empowering.
- ❖ A mother's drive to provide for her family is her core passion. What she needs is the 'how'.
- ❖ Simple tools and an easy way to transport water makes the Survival Garden Kit a viable option.



SURVIVAL KITS & HIPPO ROLLERS



A Survival Garden Kit includes:

- Hippo water roller - Moves 5x more water with ease-
- A shovel, rake and hoe
- Watering can
- Seeds and seedlings
- Compost, fertilizer
- How to Grow a Garden Guide
- Soap and sanitizer
- Face masks

► DID YOU KNOW?

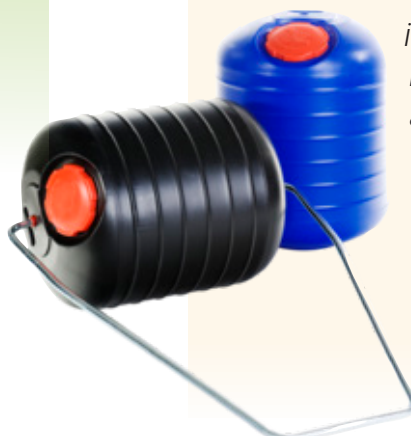
The hippo water roller was developed in South Africa in 1992 and is manufactured in Johannesburg. Despite all of its obvious benefits, it is still virtually unknown.

THE HIPPO ROLLER IN 60 SECONDS

- A hippo water roller is basically a re-invented wheelbarrow designed to transport 90 litres (24 gallons) of water –about 200 pounds– by rolling it on the ground.
- The roller is made from one solid piece of UV-safe polystyrene by rotational extruding. There are no seams or welds making it extremely durable.
- The weight is distributed over a large surface area so it does not create wheel ruts which leads to erosion.
- The roller's bevelled ends allows it to be easily tilted to an upright position for access, cleaning and storage.
- The handle bearings are made from virtually indestructible polyurethane ... They never wear out.
- The large fill cap allows for easy filling and cleaning.
- It does not require spare parts or maintenance and has a life span of between 5 -7 years.
- Using a hippo roller requires no training and the benefits are immediate.

■ It's made from chemically-inert polystyrene making it safe for water and food storage.

■ One trip to the water source using a hippo roller equals five trips with a bucket.



BY THE NUMBERS - MAY 2022

Number of Rotary clubs participating 90

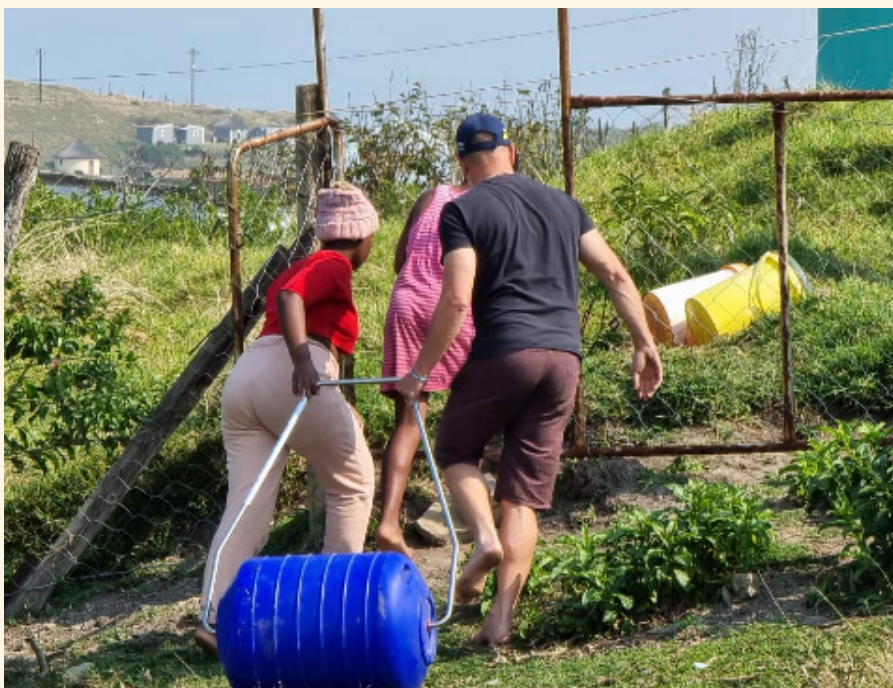
Amount of funds raised \$117,875

Number of Survival Garden Kits delivered 519

Number of communities assisted 14

Number of immediate beneficiaries 519

Total number of people impacted 4,152



PARTICIPATING CLUBS - MAY 2022

District 5040

Project Lead: RC Gibsons

Bowen Island
North Vancouver
Pender Harbour
PG Yellowhead
Powell River
Prince George Downtown
Prince Rupert
Quesnel Rotary Club
Richmond Sunrise
Sechelt
Smithers
Squamish
Steveston (Richmond)
Sunshine Coast Sechelt
Vancouver Mountainview
Vancouver Sunrise
West Vancouver
Whistler
Whistler Millennium
Williams Lake Rotary

District 5030

Seattle Rotary Service Foundation

District 5010

First City Rotary
Anchorage International
Anchorage South Rotary
RC Ketchikan
Stika

District 5050

Meadow Ridge
Chilliwack Fraser

District 5060

RC Kelowna
Penticton Sunrise

District 5080

Coeur D'Alene Sunrise
Columbia Center
District 5080 Passport Club
Moscow Rotary Club
Nelson Daybreak
Ponderay
Radium Hot Springs Sunrise

Richland
Rossland
Castlegar
Castlegar Sunrise 2000
Colville
Cranbrook
Cranbrook Sunrise
Creston Valley
Grand Forks
Golden
Invermere
Kimberley
Nakusp
Nelson
Pasco-Kennewick
Rossland
Spokane Aurora NW
Trail
Waneta Sunshine
eClub Waneta Sunshine
District 5080 Charitable Fund
District 5080 District Grant

District 5300

RC Victorville

District 5360

Calgary Centennial

District 5370

Edmonton Whyte Ave

District 5470

Snowmass Rotary Club

District 5550

Project Lead: Winnipeg Downtown

Winnipeg - Charleswood
Winnipeg - St. Boniface-St. Vital
Dauphin
Saskatoon Downtown
Saskatoon North
Saskatoon Riverside
Gimli
Minnedosa
Nipawin Passport
Regina Eastview
Selkirk
The Pas
Watrous

Weyburn

District 6330

St. Thomas Railway City

District 6360

Delton Area Rotary

District 6450

Homewood Rotary

District 7040

Ottawa Stittsville

District 7070

RC Colborne
Ajax

District 7080

Oakville
Guelph
Shelburne

District 7090

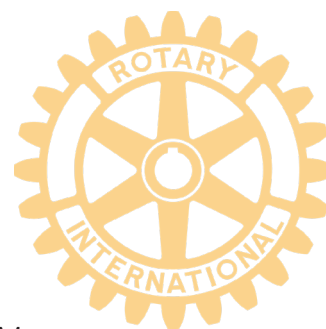
RC Hamilton AM

District 7820

Halifax Harbour

Interact Clubs

Sussex Regional HS Interact



OUR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT PARTNER

Rotary Club of Hillcrest,
South Africa



PROJECT - The Villages of Mophela and Driefontein

Many thanks for the fundraising efforts of the **Rotary Club of Chilliwack Fraser** for their sponsorship of hippo rollers and garden kits to these two villages!

In May of 2022, 26 hippo rollers and survival garden kits were distributed to Mophela, near Mpumalanga Village, and 19 rollers and kits to the village of Driefontein, near Ladysmith, in the KwaZulu-Natal area of South Africa.

The women who received the rollers are currently involved in a **Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural Program**. Not only are they trained to grow vegetable gardens, their training also provides improved food security and resilience in crises like drought, increased income by selling produce, and influencing neighbours who are not part of the program. To achieve ultimate sustainability, they are encouraged to transfer to others the knowledge and skills they are learning.



PROJECT - Umgibe Farming Organics

In late spring we delivered 25 hippo rollers to **Umgibe Farming Organics**, a small-scale agricultural development enterprise that aims to build and support thriving agricultural cooperatives of smallholder and women farmers, who are able to produce and sell sustainable quality agricultural products, by providing individuals with access to the Umgibe Farming System and Co-Operative Network and assistance to market gardens.

They take great pride in educating young and old on the benefits of organic farming. and their impact is felt by the over 40 co-operatives in their network and the thousands of people trained in their program.

Umgibe's **Stop the Hidden Hunger** campaign addresses and responds to the challenges experienced by school children, in particular girls. It provides solutions to hunger challenges in schools. It facilitates and promotes self – sufficiency in schools through various agricultural programs.



PROJECT - Hillcrest Aids Center Trust

“

On behalf of the team here at the Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (HACT), I would like to thank you for your recent donation of 109 Survival Garden Kits. These much needed supplies will go a long way to helping local families in need within our surrounding communities during these challenging and unprecedented times by supporting improved food security.

Candace Davidson,
CEO, Hillcrest AIDS Centre
Trust

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PROJECT - Phephile Primary School



“

Some of our Grade 4 students with our beautiful new hippo rollers. They all enthusiastically help getting the garden ready for planting.

Three months after the gardens had been planted, Happy Gabela, the school Principal at Phephile Primary School, reported that they had their first harvest of spinach and green beans and have sold R250 worth of produce. The R250 will be put back into the garden by way of seedlings so that the garden can be expanded.

Jessica Rich
Innovative Methodology NPC

”



PROJECT - Zero 2 Five ECD



“

Thank you kindly for your continued support of our Early Childhood Development schools. With Covid, food security is a massive threat and these hippo rollers and food garden starter kits are an impactful add-on for sustainability. Home-grown food for the children at these centres is a huge bonus.

I cannot stress this enough: it is not only the donation that is of importance here, it is also the thought and care behind this project. I applaud my team when they tell me the stories of appreciation and hope they hear from the ECD teachers. It creates an immense amount of hope and positive energy for them to know there are local people, and people from as far away as Canada and the USA, who know our plight, and care enough to help.

Julika Falconer
CEO, Zero2Five

”



PROJECT - The Village of Taweni

In September 2021 a delivery of 75 hippo rollers and 25 Survival Garden Kits were distributed in the Village of Taweni, Mpondoland at the Wana Johnson ECD Learning Centre.

Comments from Rotarian and CEO of Learning Centre, Khaya Mposula: *"It rained all day yesterday but the weather cleared today and we had clear skies as we prepared the food for the handover of the hippo rollers and garden kits. Some of the women arrived early with hot beverages and sandwiches. The delivery truck arrived at 11 am and everyone pitched in to unload the kits. Afterwards we took a walk-about in the school demonstration garden and provided the women with training that covered companion planting, crop rotation, mulching and natural pesticides."*



FUNDRAISING & CALL TO ACTION

Rotary clubs are built for this type of **International Community Service**: a collaborative project that leverages our global network of local clubs – wherever they are – to deliver community service and betterment.

Please Join Us and Support this Empowering Project!

HOW CAN WE HELP?

- Make an immediate donation.
- Schedule a club presentation on the 1000 Survival Gardens Project and see the difference this innovation makes. **Simple idea. Massive need.**
- Make a commitment for your club to sponsor 1, 3, 5, 10 or more Survival Garden Kits. **It's easy and impactful.**
- Make it a larger club fundraising project. Leverage media for events that focus water, gender equality, etc. **It's empowering.**
- Share the project with Interact and Rotaract, schools, churches, social organizations, businesses and individuals. **Share and include.**
- Apply for a District Grant, if applicable.
- Post the project on your social media pages.

**A Survival Garden Kit cost
US\$200.**

Includes delivery of the kit into the hands of an appreciative woman.

Rotary Club of Hillcrest, South Africa manages all kit purchases and delivery logistics.

**DONATE
NOW!**

[CLICK HERE](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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