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Water brings smiles

By ANA NIUMATAIWALU (Tuesday, May 05, 2009)

Villagers of Tau and Korokula outside Nadi were all smiles after receiving water filters from a non-profit organisation.

Give Clean Water executive director Amanda Mineer said a group of volunteers were in the country installing water filters for villages and schools just outside Nadi.

She said a team of volunteers was in the country last week installing clean water filters.

"We have finished up Tau as we did most of Tau Village in October and then headed to some homes closer to Nadi," she said.

Ms Mineer said GCW's goal was to provide clean water filters to locals who did not have clean water.

"We are partnering with local community organisations to facilitate the distributions of the filters and will be sending teams to the islands to assist with the distribution and installations of the filters," she said.

GCW worked with local community organisations to identify families in need of clean water filters.

Ms Mineer said the organisation then hired local community members or volunteers to help gather biographical and demographic data from each recipient, take photos and mark each house with a GPS address.

She said on installation day, team members made up of local volunteers and GCW teams visited the home, installed the filter and spent some time educating the family on how to maintain the filter.

She said the teams also educated families on basic hygiene and the importance of drinking and cooking exclusively with clean water.

She said after the filter was installed, GCW would send a follow-up team to ensure proper use and function of the filter.

She said each home was also given contact information for GCW local partner in case there were any problems with the filter.

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