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Water filters for residents

By ANA NIUMATAIWALU
Wednesday, August 05, 2009

MOTHER of two Setaita Wati, along with fellow residents of the Housing Assistance Relief Trust (HART) home in Ba were all smiles after they became proud recipients of water filters.

Ms Wati and residents in the Ba district received water filters that were brought by American non-government organisation-Give Clean Water.

"The water is clean, clear and tasty," exclaimed Ms Wati.

"Forty families living in the HART homes received the filters and were taught how to use them. While our area maybe prone to water disruptions we have always been grateful that we have had a bore hole from where we have been able to get our drinking water from."

Around 400 families in the Ba district received water filters from Give Clean Water president Amanda Mineer said the first day of the installation of filters the group we up in Navala setting up.

"On Monday we visited Nasolo and installed 64 filters, and then on Tuesday we visited Sorokoba and installed 111 filters. We then moved on to Navala and installed 142 filters and ended the week with 84 filters being installed at the Ba HART home," she said. "We brought a team of 23 people from around the US to install 401 filters in the area of Ba."

Ms Mineer said they partnered the Fiji Water Foundation on this trip.

"We've partnered with Fiji Water Foundation for this trip and they have been a huge part of making this happen.

"We also have worked with local volunteers each day. We bring the filters in with us. We brought in 420 filters for this trip-one filter costing around \$100 to put in a filter set." she said.

Give Clean Water is non-profit organisation, provides and installs clean water filters n people's homes so no matter what type of water they have access to, these families will always have clean water to drink.

Give Clean Water partners 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 assist with gathering biographical and demographic information from each recipient family, take photos and mark each house with a GPS address.

She said the teams also educated the family 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 the homes to answer questions and insure proper use and function of the filter.

She said each home was also given contact information for the local community organisation partnered with GCW in case there were any problems with the clean water filter.



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