

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



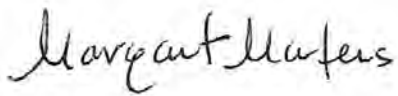


## Letter from the Director

Dear Supporters,

As we look at 2025, we reflect on our work to create a brighter, more just and compassionate future for all. When we invest in community, we plant seeds that grow far beyond our lifetime. During 2025, 141 well projects and 61 wastewater systems have been completed, along with wrapping up projects in WNC from the devastation that Hurricane Helene left behind. These efforts invested \$2,019,833 back into these rural local communities along with the water well industry.

As we celebrate our successes, we cannot ignore the challenges ahead. Potential funding cuts threaten the program, unavoidable cost increases impact the industry, which in turn, impacts our most vulnerable homeowners. The coming year will require all of us to stand strong and speak out to ensure our vital program survives as we continue to educate those unaware of the 2.2 million Americans living without water here in the United States. Your belief in our mission made every success possible. Because of you, homeowners are moving from crisis to stability, and from stability to opportunity. Let's keep the momentum going.



Margaret Martens  
Executive Director



# Service Highlights



## 37 STATES

202 Projects Completed

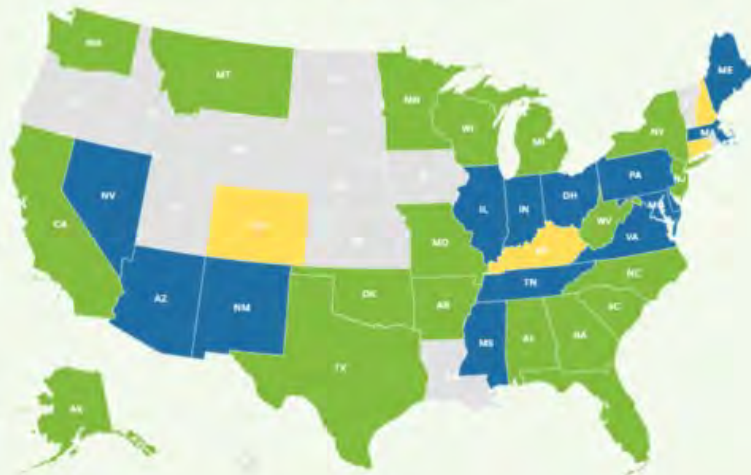
141 Water Wells

61 Septic Systems

Michigan had the most projects completed at 40 - 22 wells and 18 septic systems.

Florida was second with 29 projects - 22 wells and 7 septic systems.

Well & Septic Well Septic



## 382 PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CLEAN AND SAFE DISPOSAL



♥ = 1    👤 Children    👴 Senior Citizens    ♡ Disabled    ★ Veterans    ⚙️ Other

**Of Those:**  
**84** Children  
**103** Senior Citizens  
**121** Disabled  
**13** Veterans  
**61** Others



## Service Highlights

### CLIENT FINANCING SNAPSHOT

**Average Well Loan** \$9,485  
**Average Well Payment** \$65.87

**Average Septic Loan** \$9,417  
**Average Septic Payment** \$43.31

**Average Household Income**  
\$23,249.23

### OFFICE QUERIES

3,995

Inquiries

16

Asks for help a day!

399

Applications



*Thank you!*

**GRANTS ISSUED**  
**\$867,786**

**Average Septic Grant**  
\$10,438

**Average Well Grant**  
\$11,002

## MONEY BACK INTO THE INDUSTRY

# \$2,019,833\*



## WNC Helene Disaster Response

In the wake of Hurricane Helene's destruction, the Water Well Trust worked closely with the North Carolina Groundwater Association, Ferguson Drilling, Merrill Drilling, Water Systems Council, and Yadkin Well Company to address the water crisis brought on by the storm. With your help, over \$267,000 was raised to put towards these efforts, helping those in need regain access to water. November 2024, the first projects started with emergency wells at local churches and a fire department that served as emergency response centers, and another 19 projects were completed for homeowners ranging from tank clean outs, to pump replacements, rehab of casing, and several new wells.



Thirteen different contractors have been used to complete the work. WWT was honored that WCNC Charlotte featured our work in a local news story, along with our own video we were able to capture. If you haven't seen them, check them out on our website.

The request for help from WNC homeowners continues to be ongoing with limited resources to help those that do not qualify for USDA financing. Experts specializing in natural disasters tell us recovery efforts will take at least a decade. This organization and its staff are 100% committed to this endeavor.



## Annual Fundraising Event

On October 15th, we hosted our 12th annual Fall golf tournament and live auction in Palm Coast, Florida at the Hammock Beach Golf Resort and Spa. The day was fun-filled, with a shotgun start as teams hit the course to battle for the first-place bragging rights and a chance to sink a hole in one putt for \$10,000. Throughout the morning, golfers participated in several sponsored games.

Following a great day on the course, attendees enjoyed the evening reception, dinner, and auction.



## Annual Fundraising Event

Fifteen items were featured in the live auction, while the silent auction had already begun in the previous weeks. The Bid from the Heart portion followed, raising an impressive \$152,300, including a generous \$50,000 donation from Bill and Jean Mills.

In total, \$220,256 was raised through the golf tournament, auctions, and Bid from the Heart, surpassing the 10% match required for the 2025 \$2 million USDA grant.

Special thanks to all who helped with the tournament and auction:

Steve Agnoli (Amtrol/Worthington Enterprises), Brandon Bailey (2M/Hydro/Gicon), Kim Barclay (South Atlantic Well Drillers Association), Brian Irwin (2M/Hydro/Gicon), and Buzz Mills (2M/Hydro/Gicon).



## 5 Star Review

Water Well Trust provides a satisfaction survey at the close of every project to each client. The feedback is valuable to ensure that we are providing the highest customer satisfaction. During the 2025-year clients gave staff a 5 Star rating including overall satisfaction being extremely satisfied.



## Client Stories

### MEAGAN FROM ELK CREEK, MISSOURI

Megan initially reached out to the WWT back in September of 2023 when she moved to her property and started her own little homestead. Initially Megan did not meet the requirements of the program, but she kept in contact with us, and with some hard work and saving, she was able to be eligible for the program. Megan did not have water or septic on her property when she contacted us. Megan is a single mom who lives on the homestead with her son, daughter, and a variety of animals. She knew that water was important and started with getting her well completed first. Prior to getting her well, Megan had to haul water in her truck with a storage tank from the local fire department and was buying bottled water for drinking and cooking. Megan had some more work to do and hurdles to tackle. The property had to be cleared for the septic system and the equipment to be delivered. Megan did what she had to do, found a contractor who was able to work with her, and completed the projects.



## Client Stories

### MEAGAN FROM ELK CREEK, MISSOURI (*Continued*)

Living without water was hard on the family, especially for Megan. “Life without water is hard, water is life.” Megan was hauling water every other day, costing her time and money and sometimes she couldn’t get the water. Megan stated that the process of working with the WWT was “wonderful, simple and straight forward, even the paperwork was easy to understand.” Life after a well looks different for Megan and her family, “kind of like freedom, puts money back in my pocket, more time on the farm and with my children. I know that my children can drink and bathe in the water. It is a peace of mind; our quality of life is much better with water.”

Also, before septic seemed like a luxury, not a need. They were getting by using composting toilets. Then Megan was approved for a septic loan. “Now life is easier.”



## Client Stories

### **KEVIN & TAMMI FROM PARK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA**

Kevin & Tammi Alexander found themselves in a race to get Kevin the proper medical treatment for a wound that he sustained on one of his legs during an accident. The clock was ticking as the infection spread to his bone. After consulting many physicians in five different states, this veteran found the help he needed at a healthcare center in Minnesota. Due to the severity of the infection, he had been told that amputation was the only solution and would save his life. Kevin felt he needed to find an alternative treatment; amputation was not an option for him. This new physician in Minnesota gave him hope and a plan. This new treatment plan meant they would need to relocate to Minnesota to be close to this physician and make Minnesota their home.

They left their former lives, family, and friends behind and started a new life. Kevin was outfitted with a vacuum seal wound pump, being the first to ever use this device, and his 7-year medical journey was finally at a place where he could breathe and focus on healing. Kevin said he wanted to be prepared for the worst during this time; he wanted to make sure that Tammi had a place to call home in case the infection could not be controlled. With limited funds, the couple purchased their home outright with money they have been saving. Kevin wanted Tammi to live mortgage free if he succumbed to the infection. However, affordable homes in the area where they needed to live did not have running water or a septic system.

The couple purchased their home without running water and sanitation systems in place and lived in it for almost 2 years, enduring the harsh Minnesota winters using an outhouse that they had purchased for \$250.00 from the realtor that sold the home to them. The realtor had come upon the outhouse that had been for contractors use at another property she had listed and knew the Alexanders were in a predicament. Their water was purchased from the grocery store in jugs for drinking, cooking, and sponge baths to get them by in the winter. Additionally, they purchased a state park pass to shower in warmer months in the bathhouse.



## Client Stories

### **KEVIN & TAMMI FROM PARK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA *(Continued)***

In June of 2025 the Alexanders reached out to the WWT. Finding this program gave them hope. If they could qualify for this funding, it would immensely improve their quality of life and benefit Kevin's health journey tremendously. They could just imagine showering in their own home and brushing their teeth and using their own bathroom that was frost free. They found local contractors who went above and beyond to help guide them and walk them through their process of installing each system. They felt safe and secure in the information that was being given to them, and the work was completed expeditiously and thoroughly. They felt supported by WWT staff and felt the application process was very manageable.

While Kevin is still battling his health issues, he can now do it in a home that has the amenities that every veteran deserves. He and Tammi both agree life is much better now that they do not have to worry about hauling water, showering at a park, or using an outhouse. It has helped both of them tremendously, and now Kevin can focus on himself. They are both grateful and thankful that the WWT was able to help them with procuring these fundamentals in life. They both extend their thanks for not only the WWT, but the community of contractors who supported them, and the willingness of others to help bring this to fruition. They also feel a special connection to the well contractor as their well was the last one he completed prior to his retirement. It was as special to them as it was to him.



## Board of Directors



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2M Company Inc.

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Retired Business Owner

**Elizabeth McClain, Treasurer**  
Water Well Trust

**Kevin Koonce**  
The Vinyl Institute

**Jeffrey Williams (not pictured)**  
Spafford & Sons Water Wells

### WWT Staff

**Margaret Martens, Executive Director**

**Elizabeth McClain, Program Director**

**Sherry Bishop, Program Assistant**

**Tara Green, Program Assistant**

**Kristen McKee, Program Assistant**



## Our Donors INVEST in COMMUNITY

2M Company  
A.O. Smith Water Systems  
AAA Well Drilling  
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Amtrol  
Aquaflow Pump and Supply Co.  
Ashland Water Group  
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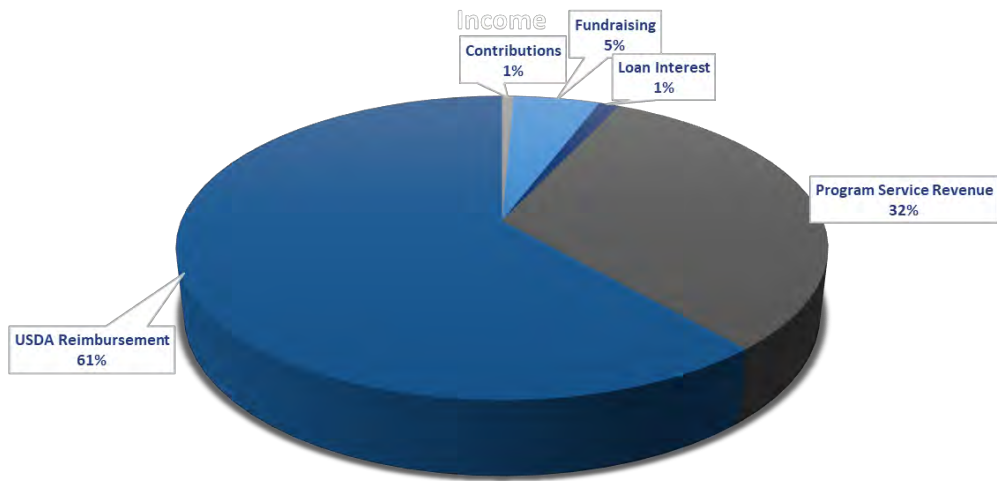
## Our Donors INVEST in COMMUNITY

Pentair  
Resource Monitor  
Richard & Janice Mest  
Robert Lance Jr.  
Robert Lee  
Robert & Debra Richardson  
Ryan McClain  
Service Wire Company  
Sun-Star Electric, Inc.  
Tara Green  
Toni DaLomba  
Tyler Kline  
Valley Farms Supply  
The Vinyl Institute  
Water Systems Council  
Well with My Soul – A church with no walls  
Western Hydro  
Wholesale Pump  
Woodford Manufacturing Company  
Xylem



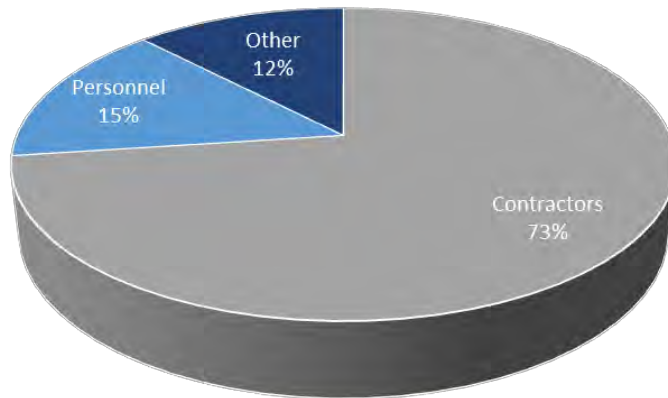
## 2025 Financials

### Income



■ Contributions ■ Fundraising ■ Loan Interest ■ Program Service Revenue ■ USDA Reimbursement

### Expenses



■ Expenses ■ Contractors ■ Personnel ■ Other



## Accountability

The Water Well Trust is fully accountable to the donors and citizens who receive funding. An independent audit is conducted annually, currently conducted by Strickland & Hardee PLLC, an unmodified opinion of the Water Well Trust was issued for 2024. “. . . the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Water Well Trust as of December 31, 2024, and the changes in its net assets and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

## USDA Statement

This program is partially funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA and the Water Well Trust are Equal Opportunity Providers, Employers and Lenders.







**WATER WELL TRUST**

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