



water for people

Kenneth J. Miller

FOUNDERS' AWARD

Honoring Water For People Champions
June 4, 2024

Presented by

Jacobs

Thank you

Water For People gratefully acknowledges our sponsors for supporting this year's Kenneth J. Miller Founders' Award Ceremony.

Presenting Sponsor

Jacobs

"Water equity is about ensuring everyone has access to the same level of water and sanitation that we all take for granted. And Water For People's mission – Everyone, Forever – ensures that equitable water service is sustainable and lasting. That forward-thinking approach aligns with our mission at Jacobs – Challenging Today, Reinventing Tomorrow. Like Water For People, we're looking to the future and developing water solutions that account for a changing climate and solve water challenges for the long term."

– **Jan Walstrom**, Jacobs Senior Vice President, Office of Global Climate Response & ESG

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American Water Works Association

Program

Welcome

Jessica Carner and Julie Kauffman, Water For People
Alyssa "Sunshine" Smith, Jacobs

Water For People Overview
Sarah Bramley and Kate Verlaan, Water For People

Kenneth J. Miller Founders' Award Presentation

Closing Remarks

Optional: Awardee Breakout Rooms

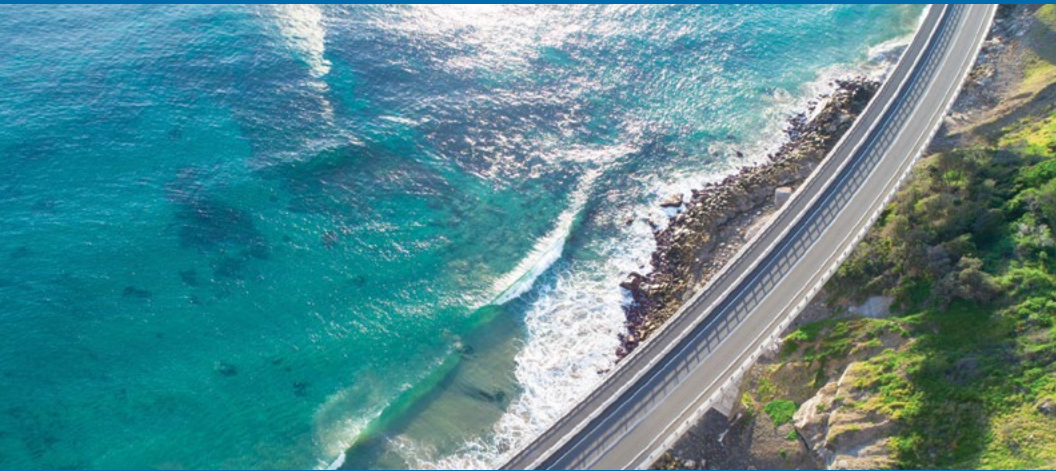
A OneWater future, today.

At Jacobs, we think differently about water. We view all water as a valuable resource and work with clients to tackle the issues that impact communities: climate, safety, reliability, flooding and scarcity.

By looking at water through a OneWater lens we move beyond traditional silos, bringing an inclusive approach to developing a sustainable and equitable water future for all.

We integrate planning, implementation, and operations to develop local solutions that optimize the global water cycle and maximize synergies across markets.

Let us show you how our OneWater approach provides our clients and communities the foundations they need to flourish and grow.



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Jacobs

Challenging today.
Reinventing tomorrow.

Awardees



Luke Ardizzone and George Whitten

Since 2016, George and Luke have served as co-office coordinators for **Carollo's** Workplace Giving Campaign in Phoenix, one of Carollo's largest offices with nearly 200 employees. Over the last 8 years, the Phoenix office has donated more than \$75,000 total through office FUNdraising events (salsa competition, guess how many game, Family Feud, baby guessing contest, penny wars, trivia, ice cream social, silent auction, World Cup viewing, poker night, bake sale, pie in the face), automatic payroll contributions, sale of old office equipment (computer monitors/laptops), merchandise purchases, and local Committee event sponsorship. George and Luke have successfully doubled the office's annual fundraising since taking the lead. Luke and George are two of Carollo Engineers' longest-serving workplace giving office coordinators. Consistent and reliable coordinators like George and Lucas are the cornerstone for our campaign.



"To see everyone's generosity with both time and money and knowing that we are supporting a truly well-needed mission, is what's most important to me. Organizations like Water For People and their mission are a reminder of issues that really matter."

- Luke Ardizzone

"Water For People continues to be my favorite charitable organization. It aligns directly with my professional passion and personal motivation to help those in need with my resources and talents. The organization has also helped build personal relationships with coworkers that I wouldn't have otherwise had." - George Whitten



Harold E. Bailey, Ph.D., P.E.

Harold has been an active member of the **San Diego Water For People** (SDWFP) "Core" team for over 15 years, which is under the umbrella of the California-Nevada Section of AWWA. Harold's involvement started when the Committee began in 2005, and he served as Committee Chair in 2016-2017. Harold attended a Water For People Impact Exchange to Peru and presented his experience at the Committee's annual luncheon. Harold also participates in Committee

meetings and volunteers for events, including Jazz on Tap and the Holiday Nut Drive. In recent years, Harold served as event chair for the SDWFP Walk for Water and is currently mentoring a new Core member in her position as event Chair. The SDWFP Committee is grateful to have someone with Harold's talent, experience and understanding of water supply systems contribute so much to our organization. As a past chair of the San Diego Water For People Committee who continues volunteering numerous hours serving on multiple event Committees, and who has been a strong and consistent supporter of Water For People for over 15 years, Harold Bailey exemplifies outstanding service to Water For People's mission of bringing clean water and sanitation to Everyone Forever.

"Water For People is very effective in fulfilling its mission. I am proud to be working with an organization that has provided services to almost six million people, changing their lives, and advancing their communities. It gives me an opportunity to use some of my skills in helping the local Committee conduct fundraising events and gives me opportunities to interact with colleagues and people with similar interests."

Martin Coleman



Martin is a newer member of the **Hazen and Sawyer** Workplace Giving Committee, but he has brought energy and valuable contribution over the past year. He is a member of the Florida Section AWWA Committee and was an integral part of the team that put on the Wine for Water event in July 2023. Since joining the Hazen Workplace Giving Committee, he has promoted events such as the March Madness bracket challenge that has become a yearly tradition and keeps Hazen employees in Florida involved in Water For People.

"For many around the world, access to safe drinking water and sanitary services are luxuries they can't afford. Water For People is changing that one project at a time. I am proud to be a part of a team that has a global impact. As a fundraising volunteer, I do my part to bring in donations so that Water For People can empower locals with the tools and knowledge they need for successful implementation of drinking water and sanitary projects."



James Brandon Crook

Brandon has been a supporter and promoter of Water For People for over 15 years. Brandon is very passionate about Water For People and its goals. He plays a huge part in organizing fundraising events to support the **Georgia Section AWWA Water For People Committee**. A quote that summarizes Brandon is “Without failure, success is not an option. Never give up.”

“In essence, Water For People to me is dedication to the basic need to sustain human life. We often forget that water is the cornerstone for life. The events we hold give a singular purpose that everyone can support. We do not have to consult or develop opinionated strategies; we simply need to believe in the cause. Not only does Water For People help sustain life abroad, but it also helps maintain a stronger foundation here at home.”



James Dwyer

James is the driving force behind the **Texas Section AWWA/WEA-Texas Water For People** annual volleyball tournament in Austin which marked its 12th anniversary this year. James created and organized the first tournament and has led every tournament since. Originally using two courts, the event has grown to four courts and over 100 participants, raising approximately \$10,000 annually. James leads the event in full – from setting up the courts and rules to tracking and recognizing the winners. James was instrumental in getting this staple fundraiser off the ground in the Austin area, which has provided a steady revenue stream for Water For People and is much anticipated and enjoyed by participants year in and year out. The AWWA/WEA Texas Section is proud to celebrate James as a Miller Award winner this year.

“Water For People is a great organization. The work they do changes the lives of thousands of people around the world. And the model used to select and design these projects provides the target communities with maintainable and reliable infrastructure. And I like to play volleyball.”



Ada Liz Gabancho-Soto

Ada joined the **Connecticut Section AWWA Philanthropic Committee** in early 2020, and very soon after assumed the role of Committee Chair. Due to the COVID pandemic, when all the Committee’s “traditional” fundraising methods

were no longer possible, Ada came up with several ideas for new fundraisers, including a virtual yoga event and virtual trivia events, which allowed the Philanthropic Committee to continue raising money even when we could not be together in person. She also secured a large and generous donation from her employer for Water For People. Ada's personal water journey began as she was witness to the many problems with drinking water throughout her childhood in Peru. That is when she vowed to help solve these problems. Ada is a relentless supporter of water causes including Water For People.

"Water For People is important for me because I lived and observed how people lived with lacking basic water services, and bad water quality. I saw the reality of how people suffered and got sick. I am from a small town in the Amazon Peru which does not have water treatment available 24 hours. I love to help those people who do not have access to water."



Andrew Hansen

The **AWWA Kansas** recipient of this prestigious award has been a member of AWWA since 1999, serving as chair in 2019–20 and serving as Chair of the section's Scholarship Committee. Andrew began serving as chair of the Section's Water For People Committee in 2022, and was able to successfully bring in more than \$3,000 for Water For People.

"It is a privilege to work in the water industry where we have the opportunity to produce safe and plentiful drinking water on a daily basis. Serving Water For People is simply an extension of what we do, but the rewards are much greater knowing we are helping people less fortunate."



Hana Asnake Jembere

In 2023, the Carlsbad, CA **CDM Smith** office saw the most payroll contributor growth in its history, increasing both the number of contributors and total dollars raised. This was due to Hana's efforts as the office's Water For People coordinator. She set out with a goal of reinvigorating the office's fundraising efforts. Hana is extremely passionate about Water For People, knowing from personal experience the impact that lack of access to clean water and sanitation has due to growing up in a developing country. She's strengthened fundraising in her office through strategic

communications and meaningful conversations, resulting in growth surpassing all other offices in the company.

“Water For People is where my passion meets my purpose. As I was born and raised in a developing country, I know the impact that lack of access to clean water and sanitation has. Supporting Water For People is supporting the livelihood of many, and I am glad to be part of this effort.”



Dawn M. Keyler

Dawn has engaged with the **Indiana AWWA Section** through the years, volunteering before, during and after her tenure as an Indiana section staff member. She has supported Water For People events for years and been an active committee member helping with events such as the Indianapolis 5k and Water to Wine events.

“Everyone is entitled to clean, safe drinking water and proper sanitation. Water For People changes lives in the communities they work in by providing this vital access to the clean drinking water and proper sanitation services that so many of us take for granted. The sustainable access they provide changes the lives of many individuals for generations to come. I am proud to play a small part in supporting Water For People’s efforts for Everyone Forever.”



Victoria Lonny

Victoria has been a member of our **New Jersey Section** Water For People Committee for over 5 years. From the start she has taken on leadership roles, putting her dedication to helping others to work. She has a passion for the water industry, and it shines through in the commitment she has made to Water For People. Victoria has a creative mind and great ideas on how to grow our Committee. She participates in all our Committee events and helps raise money for this amazing charity. She is currently our Vice Chairperson of the NJ section and will soon take over the throne of Chair. We couldn’t be more blessed to have someone on our team that believes in the power of water! A quote that reflects Victoria is “No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.” – Joseph Addison

“It isn’t just about bringing clean water and sanitation

to people who need it, it's doing it sustainably and improving everyone's quality of life."



Gary R. Lynch

Even in "retirement" from public service, Gary Lynch has been a huge contributor to both the **Los Angeles Committee** and the **California/Nevada Water For People Committee** overarching Section. He is always willing to help. His energy and enthusiasm inspire us all. He helped rebuild the section after the LA Committee had dissolved. Gary is a true gem. The Los Angeles Committee for Water For People has been lucky to have Gary in our region. We appreciate his energy and enthusiasm.

"As a retired drinking water professional, becoming an active participant with Water For People, has given me a way to 'give back.' Being able to work with so many others to help improve drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, forever, for those living in far different conditions in these developing countries is the perfect activity for a retired person like me. I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in such good efforts."



Michael McBrady

Mike McBrady has been a member of the **Arizona (AZ) Water Association's** Water For People Committee for many years and has been a volunteer for most of our events. Mike is often the first person to greet you as you enter an event such as Pints for People or the Run for World Water 5K. He has been an important part of the fundraising success of Pints for People, leveraging his relationships within the AZ Water community to encourage participation and event sponsorships. Mike likes to remind us that he has never held an official role on the Water For People Committee, but he's always there in the background helping out. Whether it's cold calling colleagues for sponsorships and donations or being the first person to greet you with a smile and a handshake, Mike's role in the Committee has had a great impact on our success.

"Water For People highlights the pivotal role that clean water takes in our everyday life, and how it's often overlooked in our modern life until scarcity strikes. Water For People's work underscores the importance of global solidarity, reminding us that even amidst the chaos of the world, collective efforts can bring about profound positive change."



Alyssa Ramsey

Alyssa has been an active member of the **Ohio AWWA** Charitable Outreach Committee since 2018 and took over the position of Committee Chair in 2021. Over the years she has helped to organize the annual Cincinnati area Race for Global Water 5K event, which raises about \$15,000 annually for Water For People. Through her involvement, the Cincinnati 5K Planning Subcommittee has been able to expand their outreach and educate the community on Water For People's mission and impact. As an avid runner and supporter of Water For People, she has also participated in the Columbus and Cleveland area 5K events as well. She has also worked with municipalities, consultants, and vendors across the state of Ohio to raise funds for Water For People by organizing a silent auction and raffle during the state-wide, annual One Water Conference. Through fundraising efforts at the three 5K events and the state-wide conference, the OAWWA Charitable Outreach Committee raised nearly \$40,000 in 2023 for Water For People.

"I witnessed Water For People in action on a project in Bolivia during my time in graduate school and this experience helped me to really understand the issues facing the developing world, specifically regarding access to clean water and sanitation. This experience led me to choose a career in the water industry where I feel I am in some way providing/maintaining access to water, wastewater, and stormwater services locally. I remain committed to preserving and protecting our waters and promoting the mission of Water For People so that everyone, everywhere can have safe and reliable access to water and sanitation services."



Laura Tua

Brenntag Pacific (BPAC) raised over \$8,000 last year for the 2023 World Water Classic and \$5,000 in 2022. Laura was integral in helping the BPAC team achieve both of these successful outcomes. From organizing the initial team leader call to helping track results and pushing the branch level teams to participate, we couldn't have made the World Water Classic a success without Laura's drive. This is Laura's second year being very involved in this initiative.

"Water For People has given me the opportunity to make a difference and to lend a hand where needed."



Danielle Walters

Danielle has been a valuable member of the **North Carolina Water For People Committee** for many years, volunteering in many capacities. She is always fully engaged in Committee calls, offering suggestions and ideas for existing and future fundraising ideas. Danielle is an essential part of our fundraising efforts, reaching out to businesses and obtaining sponsorships for events. Our fundraisers would not be nearly as successful without her efforts in obtaining sponsorships. Year after year she provides support and coordination efforts for the annual 5K. In 2023, Danielle took the lead on the Committee's annual golf tournament. Danielle sees numerous tasks through to completion without requiring any credit to her name, which is a credit to her character. She has proven to be a dependable key player with the heart of a servant. Her humble, kind, and gracious attitude is a joy to have in our presence.

"Water is something I rely on daily. I couldn't imagine living without it. Volunteering with Water For People allows me to give back in a small way, to help ensure others can rely on water the way I do. It also allows me to make lifelong connections with amazing people!"



Nancy Wardell

Over the decades, Nancy has supported the **Jacobs Water For People Employee Giving Campaign** planning team and steering Committee. While she is incredibly humble in her contributions to the cause, her presence has not gone unnoticed. Every year she has been excited to support the Campaign – helping the rest of the team stay motivated. We are happy to nominate Nancy for all her support and time, especially as she closes this chapter with plans to retire this summer. Jacobs is fortunate to have had her support and is happy to nominate her for this prestigious award.

"Every time I water my garden or go to the faucet for a drink, I am reminded of how fortunate we are in this country to have access to fresh clean water. The ability of this organization to step up and provide immediate relief to communities in need is inspiring. Working with the Jacobs Water For People steering Committee introduced me to many wonderful people who have volunteered with love and dedication to support this organization."



Alyssa Watkins

Alyssa joined EA in 2022 and quickly became an integral part of our Workplace Giving steering Committee. She has jumped in with both feet, providing support on any task requested as well as taking initiative to identify new ways for us to engage individuals within EA. One unique idea Alyssa brought to fruition in 2023 was a virtual “Great Puzzle Race” where EA’ers donated to compete in individual or group competitions on completing a virtual puzzle depicting some amazing Water For People Impact Exchange highlights. Additionally, Alyssa has taken a leading role in supporting our communications, streamlining announcements, and keeping our information shared with the company up to date and transparent. Alyssa humbly takes on so much responsibility, seeking no recognition, but really providing an invaluable service to our Water For People Workplace Giving program and EA’s culture.

“By creating and sustaining the ability to access clean water and sanitation services, Water For People saves lives. I believe in supporting Water For People so future generations can grow and flourish, and am glad to contribute my time to help Water For People exceed their goals. I am proud to know my support will be leveraged to help communities around the world.”

To learn more about becoming a Water For People Champion, reach out to volunteers@waterforpeople.org.



water for people

Water For People will be at the American Water Works Association Conference (ACE) in Anaheim, CA June 11-13. To get information about attending the **Social Splash** on Tuesday, June 11 or setting up a meeting at our booth, visit waterforpeople.org/ace.