



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEENS TO CONDUCT 15-MILE WALK IN DEATH VALLEY

BADWATER FOR GOOD WATER EVENT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE IN AFRICA

SAN JOSE, Calif., – June 12, 2007 – An enthusiastic group of students from the San Francisco Bay Area will conduct a 15-mile walk-a-thon in Death Valley, California to benefit the African Water Project (www.africanwaterproject.org). This group of teenagers and adult volunteers will travel to the Badwater Basin in Death Valley, the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere and one of the hottest places on earth. Their efforts are aimed to increase awareness of the water crisis in Africa and be a catalyst for change as they gather support and funding for clean water projects in critical areas of the African continent. “We have chosen an extreme environment to highlight an extreme cause – water scarcity in sub-Saharan Africa,” said April Hunt, student, and spokesperson for African Water Project.

According to the United Nations (UN), one person in six in the world lives without regular access to safe drinking water and over 2.6 billion lack access to adequate sanitation. Knowledge of these harsh facts motivated X-Force Student Ministries – a youth group based in San Jose, California – to launch the African Water Project. “Students were moved to action after learning that more than half of Africa's people lack access to safe drinking water, leaving them vulnerable to water-borne diseases like cholera, typhoid and infectious hepatitis,” said April Hunt. “Health care is often inaccessible, too. So water-borne diseases often go untreated and millions, especially young children, die as a result each year.”

African Water Project enables the public to support the *Badwater for Good Water Walk* by pledging dollar amounts per mile or making donations in support of the entire effort. Individuals may make donations through the African Water Project website: www.africanwaterproject.org.

The *Badwater for Good Water Walk* will take place on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. All monies raised by the *Badwater for Good Water Walk* will go directly to carefully-screened charitable organizations that have experience and current programs on the ground in Africa. “We’re going to Badwater to bring good water to the people of Africa,” said Julia Burke-Haddad, a high school student.

About African Water Project

African Water Project (www.africanwaterproject.org) is a student-led initiative to provide wells and clean water projects in sub-Saharan Africa. These projects will bring safe, clean drinking water and improved sanitation to thousands. African Water Project exists to focus on one achievable goal: providing access to clean water to everyone in Africa. African Water Project was founded by X-Force Student Ministries (www.sjcog.com), of San Jose, California, on World Water Day, March 22, 2007.

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