

Businesses will help give clean drinking water around world

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Holland, MI — West Michigan businesses are getting together to help provide developing nations with clean drinking water.

For a new “social business venture,” Grand Rapids-based Cascade Engineering has partnered with Windquest Group, a Grand Rapids private investment fund and an affiliate of Windquest Companies, of Holland, Cascade Engineering announced.

Windquest’s involvement will help speed Cascade’s development and distribution of the HydraAid BioSand water filter, a device that weighs less than 10 pounds and can provide up to 70 gallons of clean water per day, according to a Cascade Engineering press release.

The filter has already begun to provide clean water for developing communities across the world.

“We will serve not only non-profit and government agencies, but also focus on enabling individual, in-country entrepreneurs who will distribute, assemble and teach families how to utilize the filter system,” said Fred P. Keller, Cascade’s chairman and CEO.

More than 10 million people die each year because of disease from unclean drinking water, according to the release.

“We are pleased to provide a catalyst for a venture that has the potential both to save — and significantly enhance — the lives of millions of people worldwide,” said Dick DeVos, Windquest Group CEO.