



Riverland's Outstanding Teen 2011

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## “OPERATION BLESSING-LIVING WATER”

My platform is Operation Blessing-Living Water. According to the World Health Organization, 18% of the world's population doesn't have access to clean drinking water, and 4,500 children die each day from problems caused by lack of water and sanitation. I have partnered with Operation Blessing, which provides clean water to suffering communities in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. They provide the equipment to drill the wells, build rain cisterns, test the water for purity, and teach the villagers proper hygiene and sanitation.

One year ago, my family and I sponsored a well in a remote village in central India. This was a very rewarding opportunity to provide clean drinking water to people in need. It kept me from ever taking for granted the simple things in life such as a clean cup of water.

My goal is to be able to sponsor a well during my year of service through the Miss Mississippi's Outstanding Teen program as well as through financial support from friends, family, and other organizations. The sponsorship for one well is \$1,800 and the sponsorship for a cistern is \$450. Any amount donated is appreciated and will be combined with what others have donated to build a well in the area where there is the greatest need.

By showing compassion and serving others, we all can make a difference by providing the precious gift of water for villages or communities and literally transform lives for thousands of people.

**Anne Elizabeth's Website: [leafrivervalley.com/riverlandteen](http://leafrivervalley.com/riverlandteen)**