The Rotary Club of Wilmette received a $38,000 Global Grant from the Rotary International Foundation to place two water wells next to RISE International schools in Angola. RISE International is an outstanding Northshore based not-for-profit that has built 161 schools in rural Angola impacting over 110,000 children. The Rotary Club of Lobito, Angola in the Benguela Province was our host partner.

RISE Angola leaders were involved with RC Lobito and the community in identifying school sites where wells were needed. Given the challenges and effects of years of war in Angola, there is a county-wide focus on improving infrastructure, including water and sanitation. The Rotary Club of Lobito members used their expertise in handling the financial aspects of this grant, setting up a Global grant bank account and handling invoices and payments for the well work to be completed. They committed to using the remaining grant funds to drill a third well with RISE and Joint Aid Management, JAM.

JAM International has been an excellent partner in well placement and drilling at the RISE school locations. They have brought their extensive experience in well drilling and management in Angola to this project and submitted detailed reports with data on well quality and pictures of the installations. They partnered with RISE and RC Lobito to drill an additional well at a third RISE school for which they contributed in kind to the cost of the well placement. They brought their extensive experience in community WASH programs to train the RISE school communities in well management and sustainability as well as hygiene.

Thanks to our partners a Rotary grant to drill two wells placed three wells now supplying clean water to 8500 children and adults in RISE school communities.

A special thanks to the Rotary Clubs of Northbrook and Glenview Sunrise for their generous support of this Global grant.