



## **Bangladesh Tube Well Project**

Most shallow tube wells in the Barisal district of Bangladesh are highly contaminated with arsenic. Women and children walk 1-2 hours per day to bring water from contaminated streams and lakes to their homes. Unfortunately the percentage of arsenic in these streams and lakes is 70% to 90%.

This arsenic contamination causes many people, especially women and children from under-privileged rural communities, to suffer from various deadly diseases. In rural areas of Bangladesh, women are responsible for fetching the drinking water, irrespective of distance, for their families which becomes very difficult and laborious for the pregnant women and young girls. Moreover, women have to use water throughout the day for washing, cleaning, bathing, cooking and other household uses. As a result, women and children are the most affected by arsenic contamination and will be the primary beneficiaries of this project.

Roseville Rotary Club would like to do a Global Grant (GG) which would provide up to 40 deeper tube wells. The new GG will be designed so that one tube well can benefit up to 200 people in a community. With approximately 40 new tube wells, we will be able to help 8,000+ women, children and their families to receive safe, arsenic-free drinking water.

Each tube well will be tested by the Dept. of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) Zonal Laboratory to verify that the water is arsenic free; all tube wells with our current Global Grant have come back with extremely low levels of arsenic (less arsenic than we have in the US).

A picture of women and children receiving arsenic-free water thanks to our current Bangladesh Tube Well Global Grant follows.

Please contact Kathy Clemens at [kaclemens@earthlink.net](mailto:kaclemens@earthlink.net) for more information. If your Rotary Club can help us with \$250 or more, we'd love to have you partner with us.

