

# Singing to raise money for drinking water in Africa

PAUL WALDIE > EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

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## Singing to raise money for drinking water in Africa

PAUL WALDIE

TGAM

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**The donor:** Janet Kay

**The gift:** Helping raise \$85,000

**The cause:** The Water for Life Initiative

Music has always been part of Janet Kay's life and choir singing has taken her to New York's Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall.

She's also been eager to get more involved with charity work so when her friend Stephen Mallory asked if she would sing lead vocals to help raise money for clean drinking water in Africa, she didn't hesitate. "When he asked me to help, I jumped at it," recalled Ms. Kay, 52, who is a real estate agent in Mississauga, Ont.

Mr. Mallory had already brought a bunch of friends together in 2015 to form a group called the Cherry Trees Band. They released an album titled Change the World and sold it for \$10 apiece. The sales raised \$42,500 which went to the Water for Life Initiative, a project run by the Langley, B.C.-based Global Aid Network.

The money helped build five wells in Africa. Earlier this year Mr. Mallory got the group together for a second album, Aqua, and he asked Ms. Kay to sing lead vocals. The group hopes to raise \$85,000 for Water for Life this time through album sales and a performance on Dec. 3 at Hugh's Room in Toronto.

"It's a fantastic feeling," Ms. Kay said of the recording process and rehearsals for the upcoming show. And she's hoping the band won't stop after two records. "I would love to do this again," she said. "I'd be very happy to because I know its creating such a positive impact."

[pwaldie@globeandmail.com](mailto:pwaldie@globeandmail.com)