IWSH FOUNDATION

**GENERAL INFO**

* **The International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Foundation** (IWSH) is the 501(c)3 charitable arm of the IAPMO Group. IWSH harnesses the skills and expertise of water industry professionals, organizations and manufacturers to support critical water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives worldwide.
* The flagship IWSH initiative is the **Community Plumbing Challenge** (CPC). The CPC is an international program that demonstrates the critical role that industry and government must play in sustainably solving longstanding water, sanitation, and plumbing challenges. Each new CPC project around the world creates a unique opportunity for water professionals to gain experience and to learn new skills by working directly with international peers, industry experts, and host communities.
* The Community Plumbing Challenge was established in 2015, and has launched programs in **India**, **South Africa**, **Indonesia** and the **United States**. Ongoing projects address design and construction of toilets and wash facilities, wastewater systems and water supply for disadvantaged or marginalized communities-in-need.
* The most recent CPC was presented in the **Navajo Nation** (Baca-Prewitt area, New Mexico) in October 2018. An international team of approx. 30 tradespeople assembled to provide hands-on technical expertise to the 2018 U.S. Water Prize-winning *Navajo Water Project* initiative of human rights non-profit, **DigDeep**. In five intensive days, working across a remote area of the reservation spanning approx. 40miles, this team connected ten households to new wastewater systems, safe electrical systems, and provided running water inside homes – some of which had lived without for ten years or more.
* The Navajo Nation CPC represents IWSH’s first efforts to helping highlight and address the water and sanitation crisis in America, bringing Government & Industry together to work towards solutions. An MOU has been signed with **Navajo Technical University** to develop an introductory plumbing skills curriculum, due for initial roll-out later in 2019, and planning for follow-up projects in collaboration with DigDeep and other key partners such as **United Association** Locals and **IAPMO Chapters**, right across the U.S., are ongoing.
* IWSH also supports hands-on practical and technical input to partner programs overseas. Our most successful partnership is with the **Nepal Village Health Improvement Program,** from Australian NGO **Healthabitat**, which builds and upgrades toilets, water supply and waste systems for schools and homes in the remote and mountainous Kavre region.
* IWSH also engages youth worldwide through an annual **Essay Scholarship** competition and presents **World Plumbing Day** initiatives each year: all intended to generate debate, raise awareness and promote the importance of plumbing as vital to global health.
* All of IWSH’s work is made possible by financial donations and the generous contribution of materials and expertise from across the global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector. Tax deductible donations can be made by visiting **www.iwsh.org/donate** and we encourage any individuals or groups interested in partnering or collaborating with any of our initiatives to get in touch via **info@iwsh.org**