

## **Ryan Hreljac and the RYAN'S WELL PROJECT**

### **About Ryan**

Ryan has always been a very sensitive boy. His parents and those around him have tried to nurture this characteristic. His grade one teacher, Mrs Prest was able to inspire Ryan. He decided that raising money for wells for people who didn't have clean water would be a good thing. He worked for four months in order to earn his first \$70.

It grew from the \$70 collected by doing simple household chores, to the support of non-profit organizations such as WaterCan, CPAR, CIDA and Free the Children. It grew to over \$800,000 in support of people in Africa who need clean water.

"I'm just a normal boy," Ryan says when anyone asks about his achievements. Although many people would disagree with this statement, it is very true. He plays soccer, basketball and hockey. He enjoys reading, playing Nintendo and swimming as well. He has friends in the elementary school he attends, including dedicated volunteers like Jack who, like Ryan, plans to be a water engineer when he grows up. He loves to visit his Nana and his cousins in Ontario's Niagara region and his Grandparents near Deep River, Ontario. Ryan plays with his brothers Jordan and Keegan and with dog Riley. He has been writing to his African pen pal Jimmy Akana, who you may have seen with him on the cover of Reader's Digest.

Throughout, Ryan's family has been very supportive of his efforts to get clean water to Africa. Older brother Jordan sets up most of Ryan's audiovisual presentations and little brother Keegan has licked hundreds of stamps for thank you letters and notes that have been sent around the world. The Hreljacs live in a country home in North Grenville, just south of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

**Source:** [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)

