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Beyonce's BeyGOOD donates over \$82K to Flint for water crisis



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## Beyonce's BeyGOOD donates over \$82K to Flint for water crisis



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June 15th 2016

★ WORLD NEWS ENVIRONMENT CELEBRITIES

Toxic water in Flint has lead to [87 cases of Legionnaires' disease](#) and 10 deaths from Flint River's water. When the water supply was switched in 2014 via new pipeline away from Lake Huron's water, and without an anti-corrosive agent, this was round two of already poorly treated water. There had already been 134 polluted sites within the Flint River watershed, but that didn't stop government officials from giving the water a second shot to let residents drink and bathe in it.

In the small city of 99K residents, with over half of the population African-American, R&B/pop superstar Beyonce wanted to do something about this water crisis that lead to residents drinking water that was 19 times more toxic than that of Detroit's water.



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Photo credit: Beyonce/Instagram

BeyGOOD, Beyoncé's charitable organization, has donated \$82,234 from Parkwood Entertainment on Monday, June 13, and made out to United Way of Genesee County, via [retweet](#) from the [company's official Twitter page](#). United Way of Genesee County, which was established in 1922, focuses on funding "patriotic, war, charitable, philanthropic, and benevolent purposes," according to its [official site](#).

The "Cadillac Records" actress and singing superstar also got a music history lesson while visiting Detroit's Motown Records. Along with husband, Jay Z, she credits people like Marvin Gaye and Smokey Robinson as a few to pave the way for me to be on this stage today," according to [Detroit Free Press](#).



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Jay Z has also been involved in past clean water charitable drives. In 2006, he visited Africa and participated in the documentary "Diary of Jay Z: Water for Life" to bring awareness to the need for water. He also donated \$1,000 to charity:water to build a water well and a "play pump" to help children avoid going into water holes.

Recommended Reading: "[Should celebs copy Jay Z, donate instead of dump water in Ice Bucket Challenge?](#)"

"[charity:water Brings Clean Water to Developing Countries](#)"

This couple is among many popular names to get involved with helping to fight against a water crisis. BeyGOOD, along with Pearl Jam, Ed Sheeran, Coldplay and Chime for Change co-founder Salma Hayek Pinault also helped out with [Global Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation](#).

"Of the 2.5 billion people who do not have access to proper sanitation, 663 million people still lack improved drinking water," according to Global Goal 6. Women and children are primarily (75 percent) tasked with gathering water for the family.



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Photo credit: Beyonce/Instagram

Without clean water, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) confirms that residents will be at risk for:

- \* Giardia
- \* Legionella
- \* Norovirus
- \* Shigella
- \* Campylobacter
- \* Copper
- \* Salmonella
- \* Hepatitis A
- \* Cryptosporidium
- \* E. coli, excess fluoride (tie)

Some of the most common ways, according to CDC, that water becomes contaminated include "naturally occurring chemicals and minerals (for example, arsenic, radon, uranium), local land use practices (fertilizers, pesticides, concentrated feeding operations), manufacturing processes, and sewer overflows or wastewater releases."

The who's who of the celebrity world has previously teamed up with charity:org to "[Pledge Your Birthday](#)" for clean water. Popular names include Ethiopian model Gelila Bekele, the band Depeche Mode, former NFL quarterback Matt Hasselbeck and skateboarder Tony Hawk.

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