## Water By Women Biography

**Larraine Lauter**, Order of St. Ursula (OSU) is the Executive Director of Water By Women, a 501(c)(3) organization. Larraine has formally served in this capacity since 2011, and is one of three co-founders, along with Arnold LeMay and Jim Burris, all Kentuckians. She previously served in education and Catholic parish ministry and is a member of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Larraine has led Water By Women from its inception in 2008, growing the base of the first 10 Honduran water women to 200,000 water women worldwide, across 45+ countries.

Water By Women is an innovative solution to the confounding problem of 2.2 billion people without access to safe, potable drinking water. The mission of the non-profit to is to empower women at the source of the public health necessity. The Water by Women program builds a community-wide web of women who each filter drinking water for their neighbors, so they all have long-term access to potable water in a short period of time, at very low cost. This program received the 2014 PAHO Foundation Award of Excellence for its potential to meet water needs of millions of communities beyond the hope of infrastructure projects. Water By Women also works to address the water needs of Native peoples in the US, Appalachian communities, including the 2022 flooding in Eastern Kentucky.

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