



# 2016 Annual Report

Global Pearls, Inc.

[www.globalpearls.org](http://www.globalpearls.org)

Dear Friends,

This has been an exciting year. In July I made the decision to start this non-profit. Shortly after, the two people I felt would be the most wonderful partners in this venture agreed to be co-founders, and the “dream team” was born. By September we had our 501c3 status approved – much earlier than we had anticipated. By the end of the year we had a website and were working with four wonderful projects, with several others in the pipeline. It has been an exciting and deeply rewarding year.

In **Guatemala** we worked with Sandra Alonzo Pac to establish a “**chicken program**” which will allow impoverished girls to raise funds needed to attend high school – normally a goal well out of reach for them. We have also planned a **savings program** for the girls so they can learn the importance of saving for future goals. This is an important skill for families who normally live hand to mouth. Looking forward we are helping Sandra expand the primary and middle school scholarship program and are experimenting with an income generating project to reduce Sandra’s future financial dependence on foreign donations.

In **Cameroon** we worked with Nakinti Nofuru to greatly expand her girls’ **scholarship program**. We also worked with another non-profit, Global Goats, to arrange funding for a **goat project** to diversify incomes of rural women. Nakinti also established several “**Girls Lead**” clubs in rural secondary schools, and plans to establish many more in the year to come. The clubs will be used to educate, mentor, and empower young girls in topics they know little or nothing about, such as sex education, menstrual hygiene, the importance of education, and leadership skills. As Nakinti says, “We knew that paying the school fees and giving them school supplies to stay in school was not enough. We teach them to value education, and inspire them to stay in school and graduate to become leaders by sharing stories of successful women.” Nakinti was honored by being chosen as a Global Impact leader - one of 6 women chosen worldwide in 2016. In the year to come we will also be exploring ideas to reduce maternal mortality through the training of traditional midwives. The rural areas, with little or no access to modern healthcare, are typically neglected by health improvement programs due to the difficulty of implementing projects there, yet those are the areas which have, by far, the greatest need. We are excited by the possibilities of this project.

In **Kenya** we worked with Abraham Kosgei and his family. Our 2016 focus was funding the purchase of a **tractor**. The tractor will be instrumental in improving the road to Matunget Village and bringing materials in to build a new preschool. Once the school is built, the tractor can be rented out to raise funds for a **school lunch program**. This should improve the nutritional health of the village children, and we anticipate it will also cause an increase in school enrollment. Moving forward our focus is shifting to water. There is currently no running water in Matunget Village so women must walk approximately 4km each way to a polluted river (8km round trip)

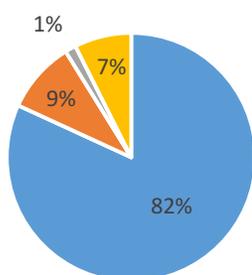
and carry water back to the village for all their cooking and cleaning needs. This is a tremendous burden for the village women, and we are hoping that by this time next year we can celebrate village access to clean, running water.

In **India** we support Urmi Basu in her efforts to **rescue the children of sex workers** - women trafficked in from Bangladesh, Nepal, and other parts of India – from a future life in the red light district of Kolkata. In particular, we have focused on helping preschool children – those too young to attend school who would otherwise have to accompany their mothers on their rounds to service clients. Instead they are given a loving environment where they receive a Montessori education, nutritious food, and medical care. We believe this is an incredibly worthwhile project, and hope to increase our support in the future.

Looking forward to 2017, we have several more projects in the pipeline. We expect to soon be partnering with an amazing woman in **Morocco** who wants to start a project helping Syrian refugees in Morocco. We also will be partnering with a man in **Southern India** as we help to protect girls in dalit villages (“untouchables”) from being exploited for slave labor in the cotton mills of southern India. A couple of other interesting projects are also being evaluated. We will share more as the new year unfolds.

From a financial standpoint, our administrative costs were higher this year than we anticipate moving forward, as there were many costs associated with the startup of Global Pearls that were one-time only expenses. Note: 100% of donations are sent abroad to our projects, as board members fund all administrative costs.

#### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN 2016



■ PROJECTS ■ TRAVEL ■ ADMINISTRATION ■ STARTUP

GLOBAL PEARLS BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENDITURES</b>	\$28,274
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	\$23,144
<b>GUATEMALA</b> - Girls Scholarships	\$9,161
<b>CAMEROON</b> - Girls Scholarships	\$3,435
<b>KENYA</b> - Tractor for Preschool, Water Project	\$7,500
<b>INDIA</b> - Pre-School Children of Sex Workers	\$3,048
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL</b>	\$5,130
<b>TRAVEL</b> (funded by those traveling)	\$2,634
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b> (funded by Board)	\$402
<b>START UP COSTS</b> (funded by Board)	\$2,094
<b>FUNDRAISING</b> (funded by board)	\$0

100% of donations received goes to projects

We thank you for your support, and hope you feel as good about these projects as we do. We believe they are among the most impactful projects in existence and are honored to be partnering with these amazing project directors.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Robinson Spader*

Lisa Robinson Spader, President