



September 2021 – September 2022





Our mission is to empower local changemakers in developing countries to reduce suffering and foster hope among marginalized populations.

**PERU - JUAN**



*I'm ready for school.  
Bring it on!*

**NEPAL - JWALANT**



*I'll never again complain  
about a heavy pack.*

**HONDURAS - JAVIER**



*Ouch! Sometimes medical  
students are guinea pigs.*

**MOROCCO - NORA**



*Finally,  
back in business*

**CAMEROON - ETUGE**



*Excitement over lettuce?*

**INDIA - SONAM**



*No snowmen in Lingshed.  
Here we make snow YAKS!*

**UKRAINE - ALESSIA**



*An antidote to war:  
baby ducks*

**CAMEROON - ETANG**



*A benefit of vocational training...  
eating the assignments!*

**CAMEROON - NAKINTI**



*Proud of our cultural heritage*



Global Pearls, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67080  
Albuquerque, NM 87193  
[www.globalpearls.org](http://www.globalpearls.org)  
EIN: 81-3680165

Dear Friends,

Global Pearls operates a little differently than most nonprofits because our focus is not on implementing a particular type of project but in choosing a particular type of partner. We select capable, resourceful, passionate local partners who know what their communities need and how to achieve success. Typically, they have served their communities sacrificially for years before receiving any financial help. Once we have chosen a partner, we don't tell him/her what to do. We let them tell us how they want to help their communities.

As a result, our projects are incredibly diverse. They might address education, healthcare, agriculture, gender-based violence, income generation, or a myriad of other issues. That keeps things quite interesting for our U.S. team as we learn and respond to new projects and ideas that our partners propose.

Normally we organize our Annual Report by country, but to highlight the variety of projects our partners are working on, we decided to do it a little differently this year and organize the report topically. Your favorite partner/project will be a little harder to hunt down this way (and might appear on more than one page), but we are hoping you enjoy the search.

Everything you read about was made possible because you, our donors, have a heart for helping others and were generous in your gifts to fund the work. We humbly and gratefully thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Robinson-Spader*

Lisa Robinson-Spader  
President, Global Pearls, Inc.





# HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

## GUATEMALA – SANDRA

- 119 students received scholarships for school.
- Our former street children, mining children, and those who work as street vendors were given monthly food distributions.



## HONDURAS – JAVIER

- 211 IHER students were sponsored.
- 8 student-led projects were funded to help students develop project management and leadership skills.
- 3 university students received scholarships.

## MOROCCO – NORA

- 700 food baskets were distributed for Ramadan.
- Training of marginalized women resumed at Amal.

## INDIA – MARTIN

- 1146 students received school supplies and after-school tutoring 6 days a week.
- A second floor was added to the vocational training center, both floors were furnished with desks and equipment, and classes began in tailoring, computer application, beautician skills, and medical lab technician training.
- 65 bicycles were given to girls to begin secondary school without fear of sexual assault.
- Our maternal and infant health program was extended from 50 villages to 200 villages.
- Our anemia and intestinal worm program was also expanded from 50 villages to 200 villages.
- 20 young women and their families, who worked tirelessly as volunteers during our Covid education, testing, and vaccination campaign, received toilets so they no longer need to wait until nighttime to use a bush.

## CAMEROON – ETANG

- 2 classrooms were constructed to alleviate severe overcrowding at the Debundscha school.
- Teacher training was conducted for two schools lacking trained teachers. Student pass rates on national exams increased from 49% to 83% as a result.
- The vocational training center graduated 29 computer students and 32 catering students.
- A regenerative agriculture program trained 50 women in organic agricultural techniques and provided them with needed tools, planted 40,000 cocoa trees and 58,000 bush mangos on deforested land, and increased incomes and ecological health in a forest community.

## UKRAINE – ALESSIA

- Humanitarian aid (food, clothes, bedding, medicine and bandages) was given to a couple of hundred people per day during the first few months of the Russian invasion.
- Countless trips made into Mariupol, Kherson, and other hotspots to evacuate the most vulnerable.
- An agriculture program was initiated that gave 300 vegetable seedlings, a nanny goat and kid, plus 20 poultry (chickens, ducks, and/or geese) to 114 families (with a focus on widows and families caring for war orphans).
- An industrial chainsaw was funded to prepare firewood for the winter for our 100+ core families.



## HONDURAS – JEREMIAS

- 14 mountain villages received Wifi and solar panels.



# HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

## INDIA – SONAM

- Classes and a sports program were funded during winter break for 7 villages.
- 14 university students received scholarships.
- A dental clinic was constructed to provide basic dental care to 7 villages.



## CAMEROON – NAKINTI

- A 4-day rape conference was held for survivors who want to change the culture of rape in Cameroon.
- 4 anti-rape projects, designed and run by conference participants, were funded.
- 4 week-long child-rape camps were conducted reaching 200 children directly and many more indirectly through radio and television programs.
- 10 Girls-Against-Rape clubs were initiated in elementary and secondary schools in the Kumba area. 2,212 students attended the initial presentation, and 1,002 students registered to continue in the clubs.
- One-day workshops were conducted to train parents how to protect their children from rape. Our plan was to train 50 mothers in each of 7 workshops, but unregistered women begged to join. On the last day more than 110 women showed up, fighting for a chance to attend. 441 mothers were trained and more than 100 were turned away.
- Equipment was purchased and 24 women who are either working as prostitutes or at risk of prostitution are undergoing vocational training in tailoring and African hair braiding.
- A poultry facility was built to handle 1000 birds, and profits will fund administrative costs.

## KENYA – ALICE

- Tuition support was given to 73 secondary school girls to help them avoid child marriage and continue with their studies.
- 7 exceptional students received scholarships for university studies.

## NEPAL – JWALANT

- Food distributions were given to 500 families in the Khumbu region and 500 families in the Pokhara region to help them through the prolonged period of depressed tourism.
- 5 women received high-altitude guide training.

## CAMEROON – ETUGE

- Scholarships were given to 50 elementary school girls and 6 secondary school children.
- A feeding program provided one nutritious meal each day for 152 children.
- We conducted a dance program and installed playground equipment to promote fun.
- A computer lab was created for students and the community.
- Land was purchased, a security wall built, and construction begun on a secondary school.
- 2 regenerative agriculture programs were conducted to train women in sustainable agriculture, improving food security and incomes.



## PERU – JUAN

- 23 families in Willoq Alto developed cuy businesses and 15 greenhouses were constructed.
- 8 new hostels were built in Marampata and the equivalent of 4 hostels were added in Maisal.
- School supplies were given to 353 children in Marampata, Cachora, Willoq Alto, and Paru Paru.





## EDUCATION

### A Door to a Better Life



Making it possible for impoverished children to attend school is probably the single most effective way to lift a family out of poverty. That is why we support education in almost all our project areas. Our educational support takes various forms depending on local needs: giving books, supplies, and uniforms to elementary and secondary school children (1,981 students), providing tutoring and after-school classes for at-risk students (1,186 students), paying university tuition for exceptional students (38 students), building schools and vocational training centers (1 each in Cameroon and India). Our local partners determine the most impactful ways we can help children achieve their dreams. We love hearing their success stories. One of our medical students, for example, won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a regional research contest with thousands of students participating!

### Defying Cultural Norms

Our students desperately want an education. In order to get one, they might embark on dangerous journeys to reach a school, they forgo food and other necessities to prioritize uniforms and supplies, and, when they aren't in school, they work difficult jobs to earn school fees. Sometimes their efforts are creative, and we admire their heroic determination. Fanilla, one of our Kenyan



students, was a partial orphan after her father, a police officer, was killed in the post-election violence of 2006.

Her widowed

mother struggled to

care for her four daughters. In 2019, Fanilla wanted to enter the International Camel Derby in her hometown of Maralal in hopes of winning the prize money to pay her school fees. Her uncle had won the Camel Derby two previous years (the trick, he told us, was never to beat your camel). He was already registered for the 2019 race when he tried to register Fanilla, but no woman had ever competed in the professional race before, and the race committee refused. In defiance of their wishes (and turning down bribe money to keep his niece out



of the race), he gave her his place along with his camel. She came in second and won enough money to pay her school fees that term as well as helping pay for her siblings. Life has gotten tougher, however, as Fanilla's mother died in 2021. Fanilla is now one of our sponsored university students, and we are also sponsoring two of her sisters. A girl with that much pluck will surely make an impact in this world!





## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Sadly, girls the world over still face terrible sexual violence. Three of our projects are designed to protect girls from some of the worst of these abuses.

### Child Rape Education Can Also be Fun

In Cameroon, our partner Nakinti runs a program to stem child rape – a frequent event even among children as young as 4 and 5. This year Nakinti ran four anti-rape camps for 200 children to teach them how to avoid dangerous situations, protect themselves when threatened, and contend with the aftermath of rape. In addition, 7 parent workshops taught 441 mothers the same lessons so they can support and protect their children. To reach a wider audience, Nakinti's organization spread the anti-rape message on radio and TV. Girls Against Rape clubs have been started in ten Kumba schools. Most of these clubs are in elementary schools, given the young ages that girls are threatened, and over 1,000 young girls signed up for the clubs. It is a difficult subject, but Nakinti manages to make it fun with traditional sports, silly games, and indigenous dances – so the girls not only learn and heal together, but laugh and celebrate too.



### School Helps with More than Education

Sexual violence against young girls is also common in Kenya among remote tribes like the Samburu. Beading, female circumcision, and forced child marriage are heart-breaking practices. The longer girls can stay in school, however, the more they can develop the self-confidence and survival skills needed to resist these practices. Working with our partner Alice, this year we helped 73 vulnerable girls stay in school by paying part of their school fees, and 7 top students were rewarded with university scholarships. These dynamic young women want to use their education to change the abusive aspects of their culture while retaining their beautiful dress, dance, and strong community ties.



### The Power of a Bicycle

In India, there is an elementary school in almost every village so children do not need to travel far to get to school. Secondary schools require a longer commute, however, and this exposes young girls to the dangers of sexual assault – a very real risk for low-caste girls. As a result, parents previously would not allow their daughters to continue their education past the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Our partner Martin found a solution to this problem that is surprisingly simple: bicycles! Commuting by bicycle keeps girls safe and eases parents' concerns. Now girls in these villages are as likely as the boys to pursue higher levels of education. This year we provided bicycles for 65 girls.

