



FISTULA
FOUNDATION

2017 Annual Report



Mobilizing Communities

Ending obstetric fistula takes active, empowered communities. Courageous advocates like Fanny, a 16-year-old fistula survivor from Chisenga Island, Zambia, are strong public voices for this little-known condition.





Erasing the Stigma

Too often, women suffer from fistula in isolation and shame. When communities engage in conversation about the condition, they break down the social barriers that keep women from help. Here, a group of male ambassadors in Mumias, Kenya discuss their outreach tactics.







Reaching the Last Mile

For an incontinent woman, often living in a rural area, traveling to the hospital can be an obstacle. Secure transportation can ease the challenges of distance and access. This bus brings patients like Elizabeth from remote Zambian villages for treatment at Mansa General Hospital.



Increasing Treatment Capacity

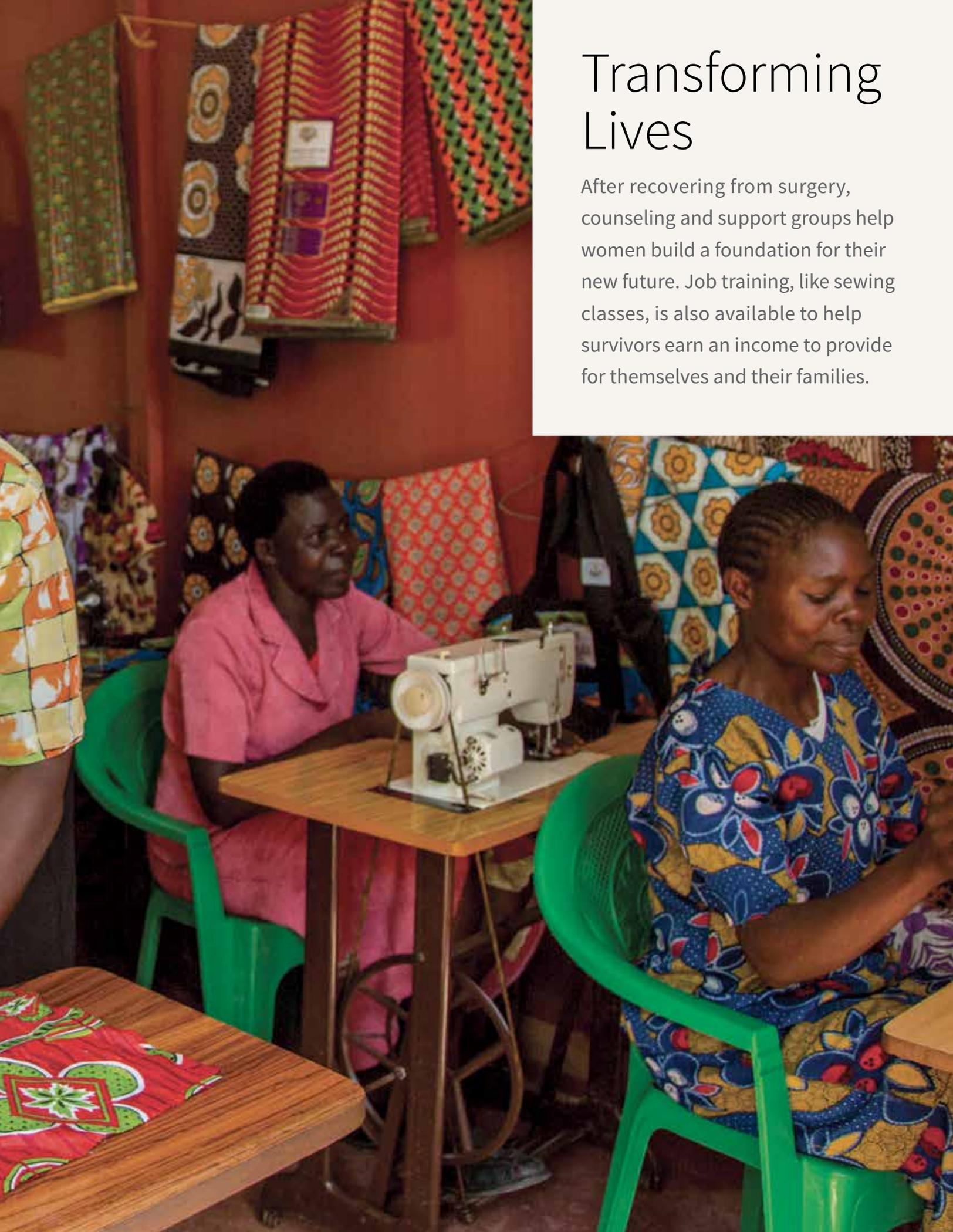
Medical help is often limited in rural communities in the developing world. With more surgeons trained and hospitals equipped to treat fistula, thousands more women across Africa and Asia can now receive life-changing treatment. 23 year-old Vitasoa is about to undergo fistula surgery at SALFA Hospital in Madagascar.





Transforming Lives

After recovering from surgery, counseling and support groups help women build a foundation for their new future. Job training, like sewing classes, is also available to help survivors earn an income to provide for themselves and their families.





Courtesy of HEAL Africa

Julienne

Julienne is a widow and mother of six from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She developed obstetric fistula after her first pregnancy. When she realized that she was leaking urine, Julienne went to a health facility for help, but she was given pills and sent home. The medication had no effect, so Julienne withdrew from her community in shame. “I started hiding,” she said. “I didn’t want people to see me this way.” Thankfully, Julienne heard that surgery was available at HEAL Africa, Fistula Foundation’s partner in eastern DRC. Today, she is dry and full of hope.



Dilder

Dilder is a Rohingya refugee currently living with her family in a camp at the Myanmar-Bangladesh border. She developed obstetric fistula four years ago after a wrenching labor. Dilder fled her small farming community after her neighbor was killed by the Myanmar army, as they terrorized and burned Rohingya villages. Her five-day journey across rivers and hills was all the more difficult because of her incontinence. Aid workers from HOPE Hospital, Fistula Foundation’s long-time partner, met Dilder in the refugee camp and referred her for fistula surgery. Dilder hopes to remain in Bangladesh where she can be safe.



Touhidul Islam



Courtesy of CURE International

Damsa

Damsa (name changed for privacy) became pregnant when she was just fourteen. She planned to have her baby at home, like most women in her remote Afghan village. Damsa labored for two days, but her family could not afford a car to take her to the hospital. On foot, it took them four hours to reach a health facility. By that time, her baby had died, and she began leaking bathroom waste. Her husband left, wanting nothing to do with her. Thankfully, Damsa's parents refused to give up hope for her recovery, and after years of seeking help, they eventually heard that treatment was available through CURE International Hospital, Fistula Foundation's long-term partner in Afghanistan. Damsa underwent successful surgery and returned home, ready to start a new life.



Marizany

Marizany suffered with obstetric fistula for 28 years.

She got married when she was 18, and eagerly anticipated the arrival of her first child. Tragically, the labor did not go as planned, and Marizany developed a terrible fistula. Her husband abandoned her, and she was left on her own. Marizany tried desperately to hide her condition with rags, but it was always a struggle. After decades of suffering, she heard about free treatment through SALFA, Fistula Foundation's partner in Madagascar. Now, Marizany enjoys going out and fully participating in community life.



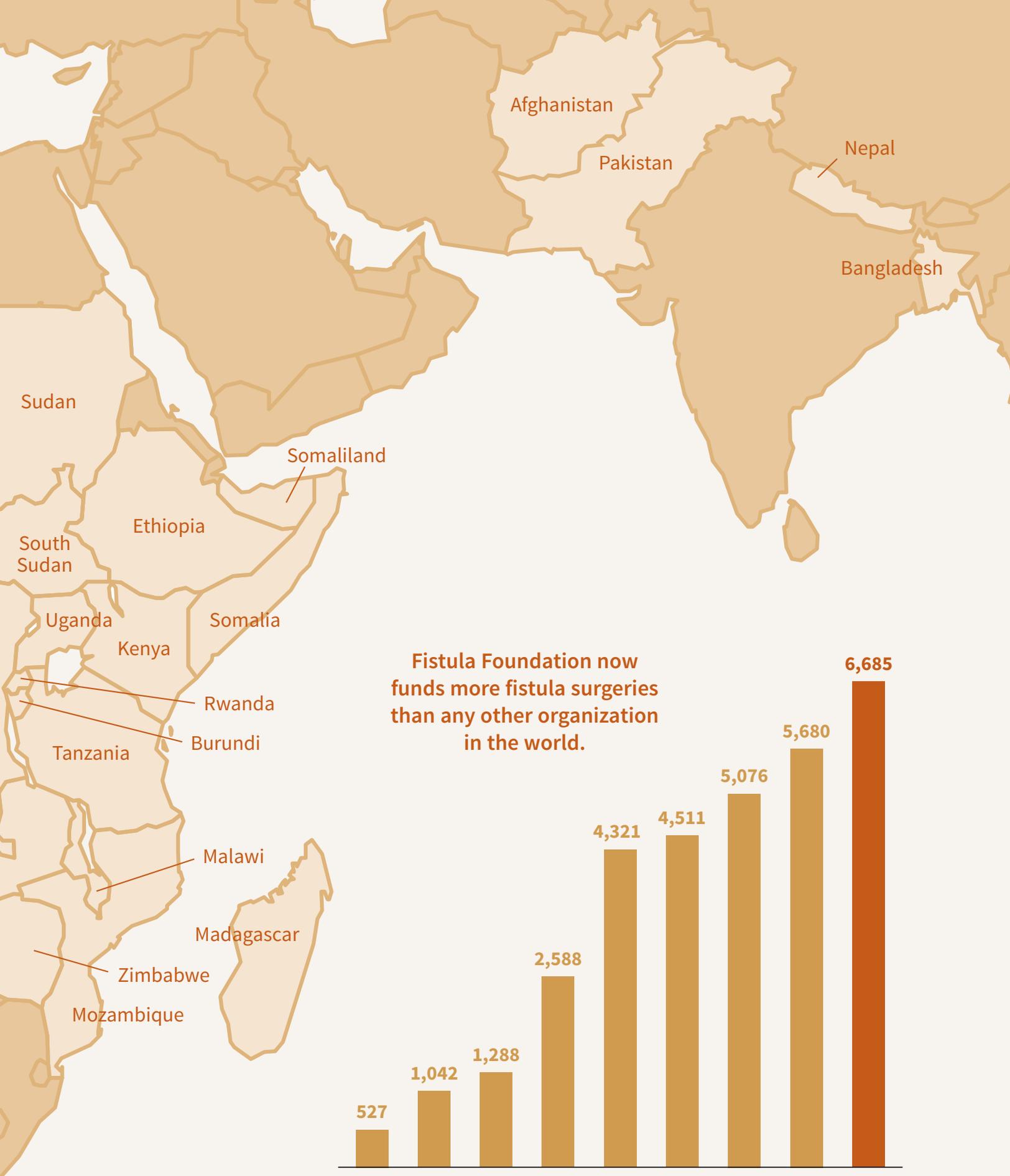
Georgina Goodwin

No Woman
Left Behind



Global Reach

We have partnered with more than 150 hospitals in 31 countries since adopting a global mission in 2009.



Fistula Foundation now funds more fistula surgeries than any other organization in the world.

31,718 fistula surgeries provided since 2009

Ending Fistula in a Generation

In 2014, we launched our pathbreaking, countrywide program in Kenya, and results far surpassed our expectations.

In 2017 we brought the model to Zambia. Both programs are thriving, and we're looking ahead to a third country in 2018.

Reaching Every Woman

Fistula survivors are hard to find. Many live in rural areas and hide themselves from the public, ashamed of their smell and incontinence. We're on a mission to reach every woman suffering with fistula and bring her to treatment, no matter how isolated she may be.

More Hospitals, More Capacity

Too few hospitals and clinics offer fistula care, which means that most women must travel long distances for help. We're building strong, countrywide networks of hospitals, and equipping them to provide high-quality fistula surgeries.



Georgina Goodwin

Kenya

By 2017, our program in Kenya had already provided life-changing surgeries to more than 3,400 women. In addition, we have trained six Kenyan surgeons, enrolled over 250 women in formal support groups, and conducted over 10,000 outreach events.



◆ Hospital and outreach hubs



John Healey

Zambia

Our program brings comprehensive, year-round treatment to Zambian women. Within our first year, 226 women received free surgery, two surgeons were trained, and four hospitals came together to form a new countrywide treatment network.



◆ Hospital and outreach hubs

Surgeon & Nurse Training

Fistula repair surgeries are difficult, and there is a global shortage of fistula surgeons and nurses. We're filling the gaps by providing certified training and mentorship for local doctors and nurses, who know their patients best.

Her New Future

Too often, fistula survivors continue to experience emotional trauma, even after they are physically healed. We provide support groups, counseling, and job training to help women re-enter their communities with confidence, and the tools to build a new future.

Trusted Partners

Fistula Foundation works with carefully selected doctors, hospitals, and health workers across Africa and Asia.

These highly-skilled partners on the ground are vital to our success. They know their patients and local communities best, and bring a culturally sensitive approach to fistula treatment.



© Touhid Islam

Dr. Nrinmoy Biswas is a surgeon at HOPE Hospital in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Thanks to Fistula Foundation donors, he completed his fistula certification in 2015, and this year, he also began to train another fistula surgeon at HOPE Hospital. Dr. Biswas treats local Bangladeshi patients, as well as Rohingya refugees from neighboring Myanmar.



Founded by Her Highness Sheikha Shamsa bint Hamdan Al-Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates, Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA) is one of Fistula Foundation's longest-standing partners. Since 2009, we have worked together on fistula projects in 18 countries. We are especially grateful for their dedication to deliver treatment in some of the most dangerous regions of the world.

Fistula Foundation 2017 Partners

Location	Partners	Treatment	Training	Facilities/ Equipment	Research, Advocacy Outreach
Afghanistan	CURE Hospital	◆	◆		◆
	Unidade Fistula Obstetrica	◆	◆		◆
Angola	Kalukembe Hospital	◆	◆		◆
	Centro Evangelico de Medicina do Lubango (CEML)	◆		◆	◆
Bangladesh	HOPE Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh	◆		◆	◆
Benin	WAHA – National University Hospital	◆			◆
Chad	WAHA – Abeche Hospital & Ndjamena	◆	◆		◆
	HEAL Africa	◆		◆	◆
DR Congo	Panzi Hospital	◆			◆
	WAHA – Kirungu Hospital & Benekir Hospital	◆			◆
Guinea	WAHA – National University Hospital Ignace Deen	◆	◆		◆
	Gynocare Women’s and Fistula Hospital	◆	◆	◆	
	Cherangany Nursing Home	◆			◆
	Women and Development Against Distress in Africa				◆
Kenya	Kisii Gynocare Fistula Center	◆		◆	
	Disciples of Mercy				◆
	Daraja Mbili Vision Volunteers				◆
	Bomu Hospital	◆			◆
	Jamaa Mission Hospital	◆			
Madagascar	Sampan’Asa Loterana momba ny Fahasalamana (SALFA)	◆			
Mozambique	Focus on Fistula	◆	◆		◆
Nepal	International Nepal Fellowship	◆			◆
Niger	SIM USA – Danja Fistula Centre	◆			◆
	EVFC Centre	◆	◆		◆
Nigeria	Fistula Foundation, Nigeria				◆
Pakistan	Pakistan Women’s Health Forum	◆			◆
Somaliland	National Borama Fistula Hospital	◆	◆	◆	◆
South Sudan	Global Health Ministries	◆	◆		◆
	WAHA – Juba Teaching Hospital & Aweil State Hospital	◆			
Tanzania	Comprehensive Community-Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT)	◆	◆		◆
	Comprehensive Rehabilitation Service in Uganda (CoRSU)	◆			◆
Uganda	Kagando Hospital	◆			
	Uganda Village Project				◆
UK, London	FIGO		◆		
US, California	Direct Relief – Mapping Project				◆
	St. Francis Hospital, Katete	◆			◆
	Chilonga Mission Hospital	◆			
Zambia	Kabwe General Hospital	◆			
	Mansa General Hospital	◆			
	Monze Mission Hospital	◆			
Zimbabwe	WAHA – Parirenyatwa, Harare Central, & Chinhoyi	◆	◆		◆

Note: The above is a list of all organizations that received 2017 grants from Fistula Foundation, and is not an exhaustive list of current partners.

WAHA (Women and Health Alliance International)

Thank You



John Healey

Maureen was the most vibrant participant at our annual rally for International Day to End Obstetric Fistula—she smiled, clapped, and sang all throughout the celebration. Maureen is a Community Health Worker in Luapula Province, Zambia. She finds women who are suffering from obstetric fistula in her community, and refers them for treatment at one of our network hospitals located across the country.

Johnson & Johnson



Our countrywide program in Zambia is thriving thanks to Johnson & Johnson. Their generosity has transformed the fistula treatment landscape in the country. For more than a decade, Johnson & Johnson has supported Fistula Foundation's work, with product donations and financial contributions totaling more than \$2 million. We are grateful for their compassion and continued partnership.

We also extend our thanks to Astellas Pharma EMEA, for providing seed funding for our countrywide program in Kenya. They continue to support outreach and rehabilitation efforts in Kenya.

We are deeply grateful to supporters like you. Located in 60 countries around the world, your commitment transforms thousands of lives each year.



Joe and Sharon Kemper made their first gift to Fistula Foundation in 2013. Since then, they have become one of our most dedicated donor families. Joe and Sharon first heard about our work through Peter Singer’s *The Life You Can Save*, and were inspired to lift up women and girls in the developing world. The Kempers give with joy, and put great care and consideration into each gift. They are pictured here with Dr. John Omboga in Kisii, Kenya. Their gifts supported construction costs for the operating theater in Dr. Omboga’s new fistula facility, including a much-needed new lamp and table. We are continually inspired by their values-driven support and generosity of spirit.



📷 Tony Phillips

Celebrated ethicist Peter Singer, founder of *The Life You Can Save*, has long been a champion of effective giving—directing philanthropy to the developing world where the impact is greatest. Many of our most committed donors have found our organization through his recommendation, and we are very grateful for his continued support.

“Obstetric fistula is a hidden tragedy that devastates lives. Fistula Foundation runs a high-quality, cost-effective global program, which I am proud to support.”

— Peter Singer



📷 David Smoler for Show of Force

Nicholas Kristof, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and co-author of *Half the Sky*, consistently brings attention to the plight of obstetric fistula survivors. We are thankful for his willingness to cover fistula in the *New York Times*—over the years, his platform has introduced countless supporters to our work.

“I’ve never seen a smile to match that of a teenage girl whose fistula has been repaired, who has her life back.”

— Nicholas Kristof

Accountability

We're committed to the highest standards for financial management and transparency.



Charity Navigator

For 12 consecutive years, we have received an “exceptional” 4-star rating—given to only 1% of charities reviewed.



GreatNonprofits

We were named a 2017 Top-Rated charity, thanks to nearly 600 perfect 5-star reviews from supporters like you.



Consumer Reports

We are shortlisted as one of the best nonprofits in the United States, and one of only five in the international category.



Better Business Bureau

Since 2006, we have consistently met all 20 of the BBB's Standards for Charity Accountability.



The Life You Can Save

We are honored to be on The Life You Can Save's list of 20 most effective charities, and a part of the Effective Altruism movement.



Charity Watch

We earned an 'A' rating from Charity Watch, which the *New York Times* calls the “pit bull of watchdogs.”

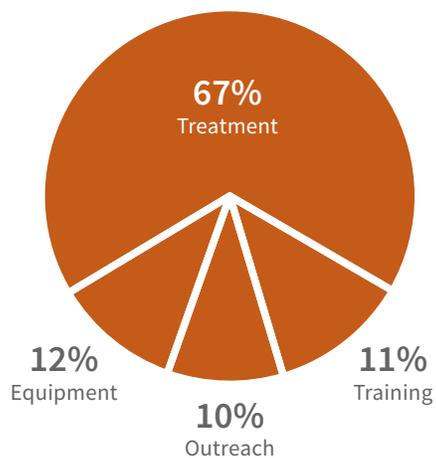
2017 Financials

Revenues and Support	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Contributions	\$7,455,501	\$1,366,917	\$5,496,795	\$14,319,213
Net investment income (loss)	\$1,053,591			\$1,053,591
Net assets released from restriction for purpose	\$1,799,461	(\$1,799,461)		
Total revenues and support	\$10,308,553	(\$432,544)	\$5,496,795	\$15,372,804

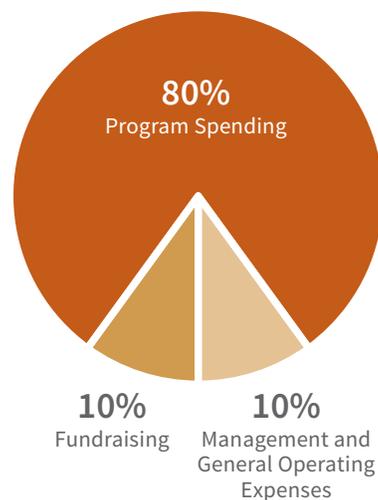
Expenses	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Program services	\$6,946,840			\$6,946,840
Management and general	\$868,205			\$868,205
Fundraising expense	\$836,734			\$836,734
Total expenses	\$8,651,778			\$8,651,778

Change in net assets	\$1,656,775	(\$432,544)	\$5,496,795	\$6,721,026
Net assets at beginning of year	\$2,821,880	\$2,012,657		\$4,834,537
Net assets at end of year	\$4,478,655	\$1,580,113	\$5,496,795	\$11,555,563

2017 Program Spending



Overall Spending in 2017



Our Team

To deliver more surgeries to more women around the world, we have added to our team in San Jose and built two teams on the ground in Kenya and Zambia. We all share a deep commitment to Fistula Foundation's mission.

We believe no woman should be forced to endure a life of misery and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world.

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Our invaluable volunteer for 14 years

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Georgina Goodwin, Touhidul Islam, and Courtesy of Fistula Foundation Staff

