17-year-old Sodriene is from a small, rural village in southeastern Madagascar. She and her husband were looking forward to the birth of their first child, but things did not go as planned. She endured a long, wrenching labor, which left her leaking urine uncontrollably. Sodriene had developed obstetric fistula.

Her husband left, saying that he could not stand the smell of her incontinence. Heartbroken, she returned home to live with her family. Then, one day, Sodriene heard an announcement on the radio: SALFA Hospital, Fistula Foundation’s partner in Madagascar, was offering free treatment to women with her condition. She followed up, and was promptly referred for surgery.

Today, Sodriene is dry. Her surgery was successful, and it completely transformed her life. Now she is happy, healthy, and grateful—thanks to supporters like you.
After a decade of growth, Fistula Foundation is now the global leader in the battle against obstetric fistula. To date, we have partnered with more than 150 hospitals and clinics in 31 countries in Africa and Asia.

In 2014, with seed funding from Astellas Pharma EMEA, we built a network of six hospitals in Kenya and launched a comprehensive program that has the potential to end fistula in a generation. The pilot in Kenya was so successful that we launched a second countrywide network in Zambia in 2017, with support from Johnson & Johnson. We are already looking forward to bringing this game-changing model to other countries in the near future.

Commitment to Accountability

Where many aid organizations spend a majority of their funds on U.S.-based operations, we turn that model around: 80 percent of our income goes to work on the ground in Africa and Asia.

We also have consistently received the highest ratings from every industry watchdog group. For thirteen consecutive years, we’ve earned an ‘exceptional’ 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, a designation awarded to only 1 percent of charities reviewed on the site. We are recommended by ethicist Peter Singer’s The Life You Can Save organization, and were named a 2017 Top-Rated charity on GreatNonprofits, thanks to over six hundred positive reviews.