



Happy New Year! One of the benefits of living in a multicultural society is that we can wish people “Happy New Year” several times a year. We thought we would begin the year of the Rooster by crowing (pardon the pun) about the great year that the Foundation had thanks to our generous donors, hardworking grant recipients, and the diligence of the members our board of directors and advisory council. We raised a record \$202,591 in 2016, and we are excited to share with you how your donation dollars are being invested.

## Challenge Grant

At the very end of 2013, the Foundation awarded its first two Challenge Grants. Challenge Grants are larger grants of up to \$100,000 awarded in 3 annual installments. These grants were intended to help an organization undertake a significant expansion of their services. They were also intended as an incentive for the awardees to find other grant making organizations that were willing to match the *AllPeopleBeHappy* funds. Over the last several years we have reported on the many successes of the original two grant recipients, Indego Africa and Global Emergency Care Collaborative.



Last Fall, Challenge Grant seekers were asked to submit a 1 page summary of their proposed grant. Our board went through the difficult process of selecting the top candidates who were then asked to submit more complete proposals. During our discussion, several board members commented that 2 of the selected proposals were for medical training in Uganda, and wouldn't it be great if they collaborated? When we communicated those thoughts to **Global Emergency Care Collaborative** and **LifeNet International**, much to our delight they requested introductions, and within a matter of weeks they began collaborating on a proposal. We are pleased to announce that a Challenge Grant (\$120,000 over 3 years) has been jointly awarded to LifeNet International (LN) and Global Emergency Care Collaborative (GECC) for a program to transform emergency care in the Masaka District of Uganda. The project seeks to improve health care and referral practices at a growing number of community health centers throughout the Masaka District, which serves a catchment area of nearly 300,000 people. LN will expand its franchise network to local health centers, addressing quality of care issues in basic nursing practices, management practices, maternal care, newborn care, and emergency care. GECC will train LN nurse trainers who will then train staff nurses at LN affiliated health centers in basic emergency care. This partnership allows both LN and GECC to provide new, highly needed services beyond what is currently offered by either organization. We look forward to reporting on the progress of this new initiative.

## **Project Grant Renewals**



The Foundation's first Project Grant to **Little Sisters Fund** was awarded in 2015, prior to the earthquake that struck Nepal that year. Somehow, they were able to continue the primary school teacher training that the grant was funding while the community they served strived to recover and return to normalcy. In their own words, 2016 was a better year. "2016 was a great success and we met all of our stated objectives for the year. The earthquake and fuel crisis in 2015 forced us to keep the trainings close to the Kathmandu Valley area. In 2016, we made up for it and were constantly on the road, focusing our trainings on partner schools in the more remote areas. We visited 8 districts and carried out 16 Primary Educator Trainings, 6 Revive courses and 23 follow-ups. 360 teachers attended these trainings, indirectly impacting approximately 9,000 students throughout Nepal. We are very proud of our impact on improving child-centered learning through the Primary Educator Training program, and are grateful for the support of the *AllPeopleBeHappy* foundation." We are happy to announce that Little Sisters Fund was awarded a 2017 grant of \$7,500 to continue their teacher training in primary schools as well as to expand to middle schools.



In late 2014, the Foundation awarded its first Project Grant to **Mercado Global** to support its innovative program working with women's artisan groups living in rural Guatemala. Their 2017 renewal grant of \$10,000 will enable them to continue and expand their client base. "Mercado Global empowers rural indigenous Mayan women to break the cycle of poverty by connecting them to international markets, fostering sustainable livelihoods, and pioneering a socially-responsible business model within the fashion industry. The Advancing Women's Health and Financial Literacy project provides indigenous women artisans the necessary tools and knowledge in order to access business opportunities and improve the livelihoods of their families and communities. This grant will fund part of the Community-Based Education program, specifically the Women's Health and Financial Literacy trainings.

As part of the Women's Health program, Mercado Global will deliver trainings in nutrition and reproductive health, and provide cervical cancer screenings and Pap smears. The Financial Literacy program will include modules on personal savings, mobile banking, and family budgeting. With the support of the *AllPeopleBeHappy* foundation over the past three years, these programs have positively impacted the lives of women who need it most in Guatemala"



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