



CURAMERICAS GLOBAL ANNUAL REPORT 2016



Three of the twenty Care Group Volunteers in a small community in Sierra Leone. These women receive regular training on basic health practices and the recognition of danger signs during pregnancy and childbirth. Empowered with knowledge on how to prevent maternal and child death, they are viewed as leaders and valued resources by their fellow community members.



Dr. Henry Perry
Johns Hopkins
Bloomberg School of
Public Health,
Founder and
Director Emeritus of
Curamericas Global

“When the work of Curamericas Global began in Bolivia in 1983 as the Andean Rural Health Project, no one would have ever imagined that it would reach more than 1 million people in 7 different countries, including 3 in Africa now. In my view, the long-term, steady growth of Curamericas Global can be attributed to:

- (1) the high quality of staff that have joined the organization and their deep commitment to excellence in programming,
- (2) the unique strength of our Community-Based, Impact-Oriented (CBIO) approach that ensures that services reach all households through a community-based collaborative process, and
- (3) the generosity and long-term commitment of our donors.

There is still so much to do to end preventable child and maternal deaths around the world, and Curamericas Global is poised to contribute to this lofty goal, one community at a time.”



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We continue to make great progress in fulfilling our vision of a world free of suffering from treatable and preventable causes. Last year alone, we worked alongside **75 communities** and reached over **100,000 people** with lifesaving health outreach and services. Because of your dedicated support, we are now one step closer to ending maternal and child death.

By working hand-in-hand with our partners in Guatemala, Liberia, Kenya, Bolivia and Sierra Leone, we created healthy, cross-cultural relationships that allow us to better understand local needs and barriers as well as identify solutions. **Together, we continue to educate, empower, and equip communities to improve their quality of life and save the lives of women and children.**

Because of your support and the strong partnerships that we've formed with communities, in 2016 Curamericas Global:

- Reached **97,622 people** in Guatemala, including **18,334 women** of reproductive age and **9,332 children** under age 5.
- Visited **130 communities** and reached thousands of people through the Nehnwaa Child Survival Project in Liberia.
- Conducted more than **2,087 household visits** with pregnant women or newborns in Kenya.
- In Bolivia, we reduced infant mortality to **2/1,000 live births** (compared to 7.3/1,000 in North Carolina in 2015) and **completely eliminated maternal deaths** for over 10 years.
- Successfully completed the first year of the Kuimei project in Sierra Leone, impacting the lives of **4,090 people**.

We are proud to see our story and impact published in several publications such as: *The News and Observer*, the *Global Health: Science and Practice Journal* and the *US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health*. Despite this year's success, there's more work to be done!

We are excited to announce that in 2017 we will expand our programs to Haiti,



the poorest country in the Americas, where families continue to suffer from a lack of basic health services and support. In Haiti, we will combine the power of our Community-Based, Impact-Oriented methodology with Care Groups to identify and address the most urgent needs. Our goal is to partner with individuals, communities and local organizations in order to create a lasting impact on the health and well-being of families in need.

While we have a proven methodology and great plans for the future, we can't do it without you! Increase your impact by making a recurring monthly donation at www.curamericas.org, inviting us to share our work with your employees, following us on social media or by volunteering your time and talent at our office.

We're very pleased to share the content of this annual report with you and are deeply proud to have the support of a community of funders, donors, and supporters who are committed to making measurable and sustainable improvements in the health and well-being of the most underserved communities around the world. Thank you!

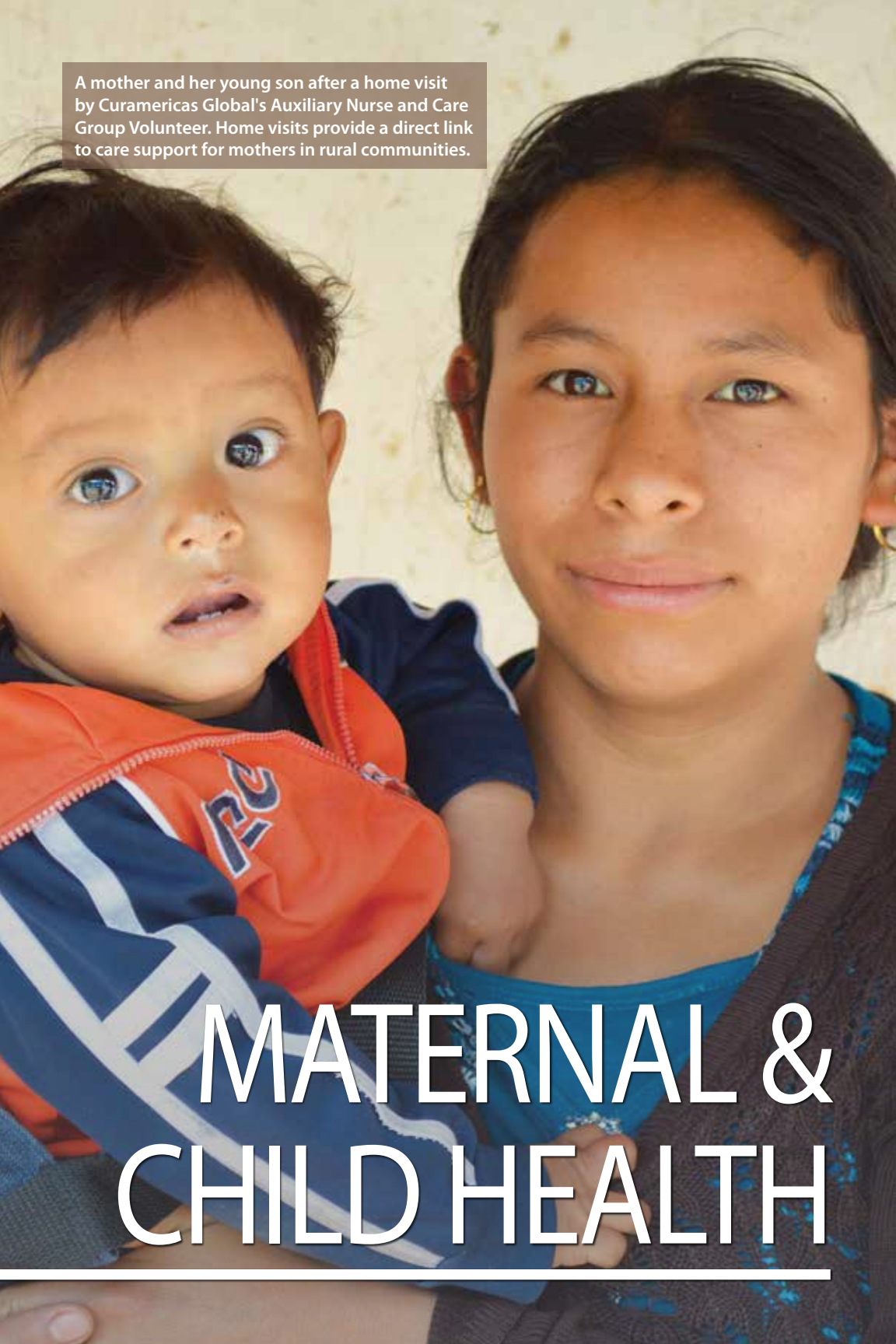
Kind Regards,

Andrew Herrera
Executive Director

Cover: A mother carries her ill child to the nearest clinic, more than four miles from her community in Sierra Leone.

This page: Children in rural Guatemala wait in line outside their school to receive de-worming medicine from a visiting Community Health Worker.

A mother and her young son after a home visit by Curamericas Global's Auxiliary Nurse and Care Group Volunteer. Home visits provide a direct link to care support for mothers in rural communities.



MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

D Decreasing maternal and child mortality is at the core of what we do.

Maternal and child mortality is a critical issue. At Curamericas Global, we believe and support community-driven, community-led partnerships rather than charitable-driven and charitable-led initiatives in order to make a sustainable, long-term impact. We listen, learn and create cross-cultural relationships with the communities in which our programs are present. We align with, empower and equip local leaders with education, treatment of illnesses, life-saving birthing attendants and school programs. And that's exactly what we did in 2016.

OUR WORK, REACH AND IMPACT



32 office volunteers and interns, and 68 international volunteers donated nearly 11,000 hours, equivalent to an additional 5 full-time staff members!

Unique Community-Based, Impact-Oriented (CBIO) methodology identifying and solving the health needs of a community.

\$515,497 in support from our donors. Accountability and transparency at Curamericas Global means that every \$1.00 donated turns into \$7.00 of support for communities abroad.



We've reduced child mortality by over 50% at our projects in Bolivia, Guatemala and Liberia.


5 in-country partners and specialized expertise and programming with a community-centered approach.



Care Group Volunteer
with her baby boy in
Fulawahun, Sierra Leone.

Our vision to eradicate
maternal and child mortality
has been in our DNA since our
founding in 1983.

We've taken a unique methodology combination to transform entire communities and save lives. Our Community-Based, Impact-Oriented (CBIO) + Care Groups (CG) methodology is an exceptional, evidence-based approach. It enables local health care providers to better understand, more effectively treat, and accurately measure outcomes and impacts for the most commonly found causes of unnecessary suffering, sickness and death within their communities.



Community members gather to welcome the Kuimei team to their village and celebrate the first year of the project.

Our programs and services are designed to meet community needs and become sustainable.

No matter how great the need, or how challenging it is to work in a community, our signature CBIO + Care Group methodology helps us identify the issues and barriers as well as the enormous untapped capacity of each community. At Curamericas Global, we continue to be inspired by and build upon the abilities and knowledge of the community to create self-sufficiency and long-term impact.

Curamericas Global also fosters sustainability by empowering locals and governments to financially support and implement our programs. And there aren't many non-governmental organizations out there that are able to follow this model. We do it by generating interest, building confidence and establishing regular communication with the local Ministry of Health, community leaders, and other community representatives.

SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

Our *Casa Materna* Program in Guatemala has seen great success over the last 15 years and is now expanding to a new region in partnership with the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare of San Marcos. The program expansion will create a "Model Municipality" where all of the villages within the San Marcos region have access to Curamericas' health education and outreach as well as the services provided by the *Casa Maternas*. Because of the past successes of the project site, the local government is invested in and funding the expansion of the project.

SUSTAINABILITY



"The CBIO methodology is a unique one because it is cost effective and you can visibly measure impact. We are able to disseminate information faster at a community level, and resources are distributed equitably. Information is always available because we impart knowledge at a community level. And the community can then replicate that knowledge to other people. Although it is a new intervention in this country, CBIO is very good."

– Ernest Jusu, Curamericas Global Program Coordinator in Sierra Leone



Our desire to break down barriers is fundamental to our mission, approach, reach and impact.

Curamericas Global leverages a train-the-trainer approach to empower local health workers and volunteers to achieve a common goal – their own, long-term health and well-being.

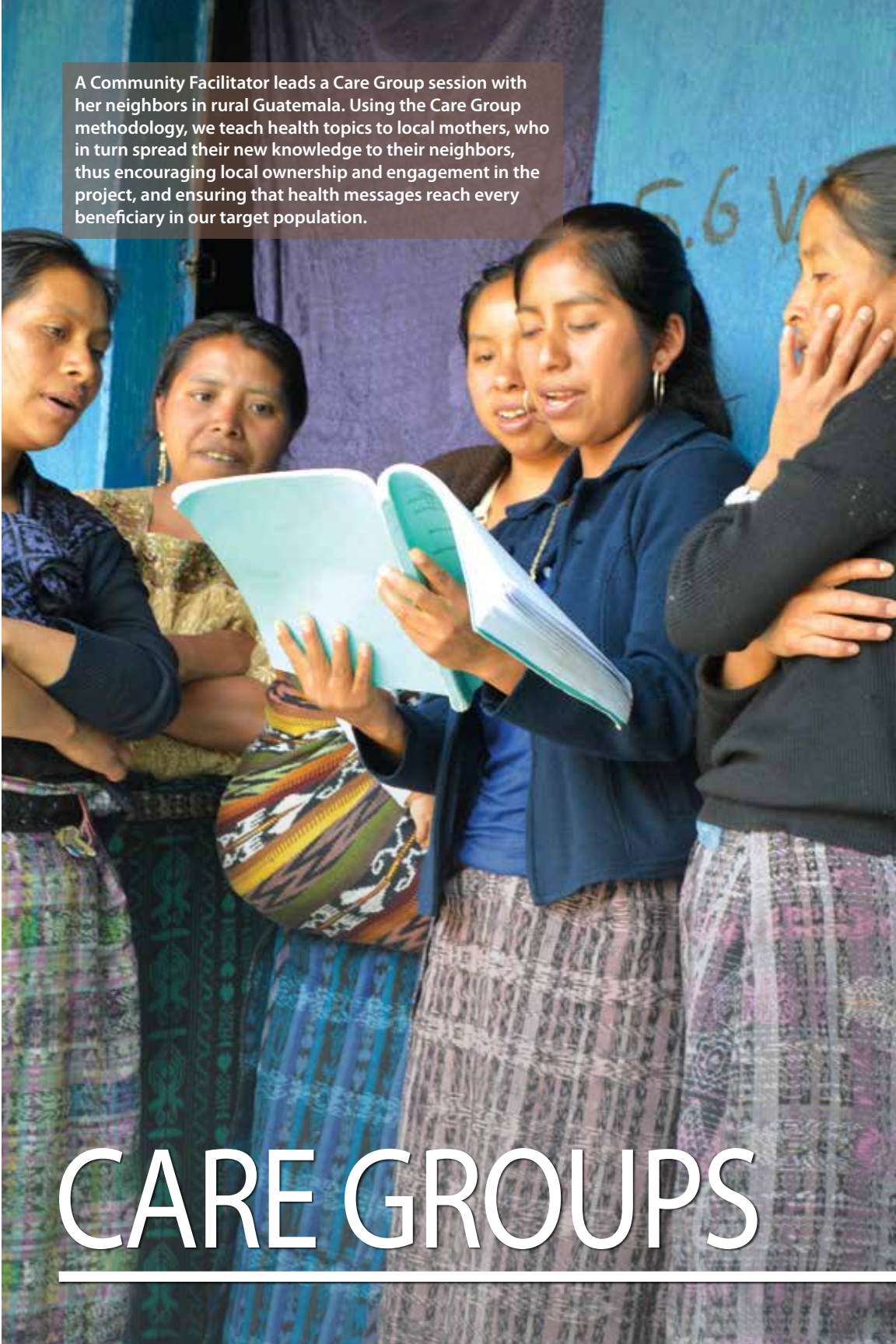
Care Groups are an essential supplement to our CBIO strategy that enhances our ability to improve maternal and child health globally. The Care Group methodology is an innovative approach in reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health programming that has gained increasing recognition because of its effectiveness in promoting behavior change and expanding population coverage of key interventions.

A Care Group is a group of 10-15 volunteers who regularly meet with staff for training and supervision. They are different from a typical mother's group in that each volunteer is responsible for regularly visiting 10-15 neighbors, sharing what he/she has learned and facilitating behavior change at the household level.

“I feel so empowered through these [Care Group] sessions and I have also recruited several of my neighbors so that they can also benefit from this incredible course. I would like to thank [Care Group Volunteer] Moraa so much, for if it were not for her pushiness I could not have benefited from this course.”

— Damaris, Curamericas beneficiary living in the Kibera slum outside of Nairobi, Kenya

Last year, **29 Care Groups in 26 communities** of rural Guatemala have made significant progress by completely eliminating the number of maternal deaths, due to an increase in the rate of deliveries in a *Casa Materna* health facility, a clinic or a hospital **(from 25% to 78%)**, and mothers exercising exclusive breast feeding **(from 17% to 50%)**.



A Community Facilitator leads a Care Group session with her neighbors in rural Guatemala. Using the Care Group methodology, we teach health topics to local mothers, who in turn spread their new knowledge to their neighbors, thus encouraging local ownership and engagement in the project, and ensuring that health messages reach every beneficiary in our target population.


CARE GROUPS



Children served by
Curamericas' Kuimej project
in rural Sierra Leone.

Hope through Health. That's the good news!

We bring sustainable changes to the healthcare system in the communities with whom we partner. Here is a snapshot of the 2016 milestones in each country we work with...



A Community Health Worker visits a young mother with a child under the age of five to weigh and measure the child and ensure she is growing according to target weight and height.

GUATEMALA

Since 2002, Curamericas Global has been working in partnership with the local government to reduce the rates of infant, child, and maternal mortality in the remote communities of northwest Guatemala. With funding from USAID, Ronald McDonald House Charities®, the Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation, and individuals like you, Curamericas Global has established a network of thousands of local Community Health Volunteers that reach impoverished Mayan communities with vital health services and education. **In 2016, Curamericas Global and our partners provided services to a population of 97,622 including 9,332 children under five years old.**

We're also proud to report that in 2016, **we continued the milestone of ZERO maternal deaths** in partner communities of the *Casa Maternas* Project. What's more impressive — **we nearly eliminated deaths in children between ages 1 and 5.** To take a closer look, that means that we saved 65 mothers by successfully resolving complications or getting them to the hospital when needed, and ensured that 78% of women delivered in a health facility.

Services provided to
97,622
people, including
9,332
children under 5

We saved the lives of
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successfully resolving
complications or
getting them to the
hospital when needed

78%
of women **delivered**
in a health facility

0
maternal deaths

C

Curamericas Global first began its work in Bolivia in 1983 as Andean Rural Health Care. Through twenty years of partnership, as well as funding from the USAID Child Survival program and Curamericas Global's supporters, we have successfully addressed the causes of maternal and childhood illness and mortality through interventions including immunizations, diarrhea and pneumonia case management, nutrition, maternal and newborn care, and family planning.

Curamericas Global's CBIO methodology, originally pioneered in Bolivia over 30 years ago, is still being implemented by our partners in Bolivia today. Because of our work in Bolivia, **there have been no maternal deaths since 2002 in Villa Cochabamba and no maternal deaths since 1999 in the Cruz Roja area.**

0

maternal deaths in Villa
Cochabamba since

2002

0

maternal deaths in
Cruz Roja since

1999

Siblings, beneficiaries of our project in Bolivia, play outside their home during a visit with a CSRA health worker.



BOLIVIA



A Care Group session in Kibera, Kenya, teaches a group of pregnant women about the importance of antenatal care.

Since 2012, Curamericas Global has partnered with Ronald McDonald House Charities® to reduce child mortality from preventable diarrheal disease in the Kibera slum. Kibera has some of the highest child mortality rates in the world, due in large part to preventable diarrheal disease. Many childhood illnesses in Kibera are caused by a lack of access to hygiene and sanitation, and a lack of knowledge on preventative practices.

In 2016, Curamericas Global and our partners continued to make strides in improving healthcare in Kibera. To increase the capabilities of local healthcare providers, 35 staff and volunteers were trained to use Care Groups. This led to a staggering 2,087 household visits to pregnant women and families with children under age five. With the efforts of our Care Groups, 396 pregnant women were reached with vital health education and support. As a result of training, education and community engagement, 2,087 household visits were conducted to pregnant women and families with children under five, and 783 children were treated for malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea.

783

children treated for malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhea

35

staff and volunteers trained to use Care Groups

396

pregnant women reached with health education and support

2,087

household visits to pregnant women and families with children under 5

Number of **neighboring women participating in Care Groups** increased from

580 → 630

KENYA

In 2008, Curamericas Global was awarded a USAID Child Survival Grant to reduce the rates of infant, child, and maternal mortality in an isolated area of north-central Liberia called Nimba County. Since then, we have been partnering with Ganta United Methodist Hospital, a Liberian nonprofit that provides services to approximately 125,000 Liberians. This joint project is known as the Nehnwaa Child Survival Project. Nehnwaa is a term in the indigenous language of the region (Mano), which means “protecting children.” **Since 2008, the project has reduced child mortality by 63%!**

In 2016, in collaboration with Nehnwaa, we visited 924 communities where we reached hundreds of people on issues of family planning, community mobilization, referrals to health facilities and maternal health education utilizing the CBIO and Care Group approaches. Nehnwaa staff referred 16,559 pregnant women and children to health facilities. They also reached 3,127 people with family planning services and 3,127 individuals with personal counseling, and 55 financial life saving clubs were established in the communities.

63%

reduction in
child mortality
since 2008

924

communities
visited

16,559

pregnant women
and children referred
to health facilities

3,127

people reached
with family planning
services

3,127

people reached
with personal
counseling

55

financial life saving
clubs established in
the communities

Baby girl and her mother in a rural community in Liberia



LIBERIA

SIERRA LEONE



Care Group Volunteers gather for their monthly visit from Curamericas' Kuimeï team in Lowma, Sierra Leone.

I

In 2015, Curamericas Global began the Kuimeï Project in Bo District, Sierra Leone to reduce maternal and child mortality rates in the region. The Kuimeï Project derives its name from the indigenous language Mende. The word "Kuimeï" translates to "mother" and is symbolic of a provider or caretaker in the community. Sierra Leone currently has the 2nd highest child mortality rate in the world and women face a 1 in 17 chance of dying from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.

This past year, Curamericas' Kuimeï project partnered with eight communities to reach over 4,000 people with lifesaving services and education. The project includes a community census and verbal autopsies to identify the major causes of death and illness for mothers and children as well as the training of 138 Care Group Volunteers who will continue to reach more than 1,000 women with regular health messaging.

Trained

138

Care Group Volunteers, who will continue to reach more than

1,000

women with health messaging

Partnered with

8

rural communities

More than

4,000

people reached with lifesaving services and education

Nehnwa staff clear the road during the rainy season to reach distant communities. We bring services door-to-door in remote, isolated communities to ensure health services and education reach every beneficiary.

FINANCIALS

Your investment is at work. With the help of generous donors and partners in 2016, we were able to empower underserved communities worldwide and provide life-saving, community-based health services to mothers, children and families.

For the fiscal year of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016, Curamericas Global maintained a consistent level of revenue for various organizational activities totaling more than \$1.3 million. Of this, nearly \$1.2 million was allocated to bringing our mission to life through in-country program related expenses.



*“To me, Curamericas Global is important because they are reaching underserved communities around the world and saving the lives of women and children. I support them because they work **with** the communities they serve, not just in the communities, to build sustainable programs.”*

— Falesha Houston, employee from 2001-2007, supporter from 2007-present

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A BETTER WORLD



\$50 for Healthy Births

Supply 2 trained midwives with Safe Delivery Kits.



\$250 for a Healthy Future

Provide vitamins and de-worming medicine to combat malnutrition for 200 children.



\$100 for Healthy Families

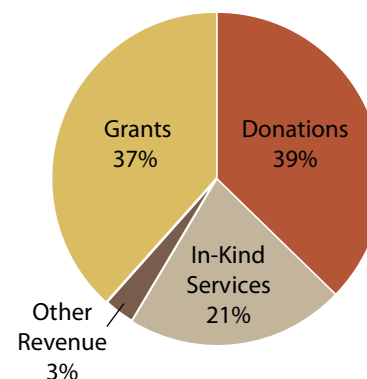
Give prenatal vitamins, a safe birth, pre-natal checkups, and vaccinations to a mother in need.



\$600 for Healthy Communities

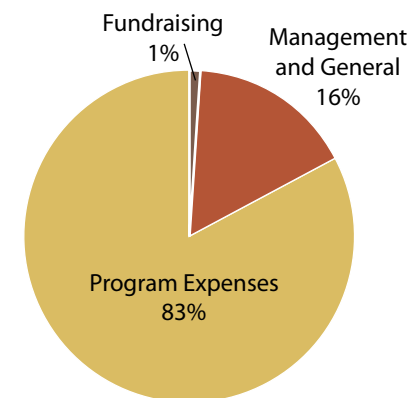
Cover the cost of a Community Health Facilitator. These vital workers teach life-saving health practices to mothers. Last year each worker impacted over 30 households!

SUPPORT AND REVENUE



Total Support & Revenue:
\$1,377,771

EXPENSES



Total Expenses:
\$1,413,003

*Other income includes restricted individual donations, Employee Matching and State Campaigns.

To review our complete Financial Statement and IRS 990, audited annually by Buie, Norman & Co., P.A., visit <https://www.curamericas.org/financials/>

SUPPORTERS

For gifts made October 1, 2015 - September 30, 2016

Curamericas Global's work is made possible by the support of our many advocates and partners. We proudly work with national and local governments, international and local nongovernmental organizations, faith-based institutions, community and private foundations, and individuals.

\$50,000+

Joyce Houser
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Wes & Lucy Jones

\$15,000-49,999

Carolina for Kibera
David & Karen Barkman
Drew School
Helping Children Worldwide
Rick & Brenda Booth

\$5,000-14,999

East Ohio Conference United Methodist Church
Elton & Suzy Smith
First United Methodist Church of Cary
Master Card Matching Gift Program
Reed Altman
Rob & Amily McCool
Rob & Beth Fields
Sandy Calhoun
United Methodist Women

\$1,000-4,999

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Annabel Link
Ashley Montague
Avery & Pam Manchester
Baker & Patience Perry
Bart & Elaine Boyer
Brad Richter
Caitlin Showalter
Carol Ann McMann
Carol Dickey
Catherine James
Charles Miller
Charles Robison
Chelsea Taylor
Chris & Tina Jones
Cora Lim
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Linda Velonis
Lisa Hoskins
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Nick Haddad
Nicolas & Joanna Huacani
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Sam & Babs Jones
Sara & Wes Lewis
Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America
Tia-Rose Raymond
Towson United Methodist Church
Tricia Andrews
Umstead Park United Church of Christ
Walter & Deborah Greene
Walter G. Canipe Foundation
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church
Younghee Kim

\$500-999

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Terry Church
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Timonium United Methodist Church

\$100-499

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Aileen Sayre
Alan & Fabiola Palmiter
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Andrea Murray
Anna Maria Siega-Riz
Anne Evans
Apple Lane Foundation
Barbara Bond
Barbara Muffoletto
Beth Blackbird
Bethlehem United Methodist Church
Bette Camit
Betty Kelly's Gift Shop
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Robert & Mary McIver
Robert Leech
Ruth Campbell
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Shannon Fiorenzo
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Sheila Gudiswitz

< \$100

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Amy Vance
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April Anthony
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Harold & Mary Pitts
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James Busbee
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Jenny Johnston
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Judie Coleman
Karen Bullard
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Paul Brown
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Sarah Gordon
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Sharon Arenas
Shelley Brucker
Sheryl Abbuhl
Sonny Patel
Summer Meyers
Susanna Evans
Suzanne Davis
Suzanne Tilton
Sydney Lantz
Tassi Smith
Thomas Heath
Tian Tian
Timothy Williams
Tom Raymer
Tracie Dugdell
Tracie Waxman
Valerie Rind
Vance & Dolores Neal
Warren & Jane Baldwin

Tia-Rose Raymond, a nurse and international volunteer, takes time from her busy volunteer schedule to play with kids in Guatemala. Interacting with locals is an essential part of every volunteer trip.

VOLUNTEERS

V Volunteers are the backbone of our organization.

In 2015, we had **32 office volunteers and interns** that helped fulfill our mission by donating a total of **3,270 hours** at our office in Raleigh. These volunteers helped with tasks such as program management, budgeting, grant writing, funding research, fundraising events, community outreach, social media, administrative tasks, marketing, donor management, and much more! We are so grateful to these wonderful supporters who contributed their time and talent to improve the health of mothers and children in need around the world.



“Curamericas Global has changed my life as a nurse, leader, and person. As a nurse, the experiences I had with Curamericas Global helped me to grow in my practice and learn more about treating patients from all sorts of backgrounds. As a leader, Curamericas Global helped me to lead with compassion and have faith in myself. As a person, Curamericas Global has taught me just how fortunate I am for the life that I am living, and compelled me to always work for others that haven't had the same opportunities that I do.”

— Morgan Clark, 2016 Curamericas Global Volunteer in Guatemala

“I was fortunate enough to go on a recent volunteer trip to Guatemala with Curamericas Global. It's one thing to make a monetary donation and see photos of what the money is doing, it's another to experience first hand what the money is doing. Curamericas Global is doing great work in some of the most isolated and desperate areas in the world. I am a firm believer in lifting up others and Curamericas Global is doing just that.”

— Tricia Andrews, 2016 Curamericas Global Volunteer



“Curamericas Global's approach to community-based health care is innovative and inspiring. The idea of helping a community become self-sustainable rather than just bringing in healthcare for a week or two and then leaving the community where it started, is something that I learned from Curamericas Global. I even worked with other students to start a Curamericas Global Club at my college because I so strongly support the work that they do.”

— Andie Woodson, intern

International volunteer teams visit high-need communities and have a profound impact on the health and well-being of the local population while being immersed in the local culture. Last year, **68 international volunteers contributed 7,716 hours** to our project sites in Guatemala and Sierra Leone.

This included four volunteer trips with the following groups: Drew School in San Francisco, Duke University School of Nursing, a group of medical professionals and students from Florida, and Umstead Park United Church of Christ.

Unlike many “voluntourism” trips, Curamericas Global’s international volunteers become part of the project during their stay, providing training and assistance with needs identified by the program staff and the communities. This past year, medical volunteers provided trainings for staff on topics including neonatal resuscitation, identification and treatment of pneumonia and more. They also provided medical consultations, assisted with vaccinations and conducted prenatal checkups. Additionally, volunteers assisted program staff with distributing deworming medicine, weighing and measuring children to ensure proper growth, and establishing and maintaining medicinal herb gardens. On the trip, Curamericas Global volunteers learn an immense amount about international development, global health, and the details of running a grassroots community-based health project.

At Curamericas Global, we are able to provide important job training and skills to student interns, and life-changing experiences for international volunteers. Abroad, volunteers offer critical training, enthusiasm and the opportunity to build relationships with the communities we serve.




“When I learned about Curamericas Global, I felt an instant connection. Growing up in South America I have seen a lot of poverty in my country. I’ve seen mothers and children living in such precarious conditions in areas with no running water or electricity and just cardboard over their heads as a roof. As a mother now, I can’t imagine living in such living conditions and facing all these difficulties every day.”

— Annie Kaiser, office volunteer, mother of two, originally from Perú



A volunteer from UPUCC in Raleigh, NC assists a health worker in weighing and measuring a baby during a home visit. Regular home visits ensure children are growing according to target weight and height and provide nutrition education to mothers keeping kids healthy and happy!

A photograph of three children smiling. In the background, a young boy with short dark hair and a wide smile wears a dark jacket with a yellow and black patterned design. In the foreground, a young girl with long dark hair and bangs wears a red and blue patterned blouse. To her right, another young boy with short dark hair wears a blue t-shirt with a graphic of two cars. They are standing in front of a white wooden building.

Curious about the new visitors in town, three kids stop by to watch a team of Curamericas volunteers in action. Department of Huehuetenango, Guatemala.

The need is great – our commitment is, too.

Since 1983, Curamericas Global has partnered with communities to save the lives of women and children. Curamericas Global works with communities that have some of the highest child and maternal mortality rates in the world and in areas where preventable diseases like malnutrition, pneumonia, and complications from childbirth can quickly lead to death. Curamericas Global is here to stay. We are committed to help end preventable child and maternal deaths by 2035. We hope you join us too!

Curamericas Global is a 501(c)(3) organization that partners with underserved communities around the world to make measurable and sustainable improvements in their health and wellbeing. For nearly 35 years, Curamericas Global has been working to bring hope through health by reducing child and maternal mortality rates around the globe. Through its revolutionary, proven community-based methodology and focus on prevention and health education, Curamericas Global has helped over 1,000,000 people in impoverished communities worldwide.

For more information, please visit www.curamericas.org and follow Curamericas Global on Twitter (@Curamericas), Facebook (facebook.com/curamericasglobal) or Instagram (Curamericas Global).



“You don’t have to die and your baby doesn’t have to die.” This is Curamericas Global’s message that resonates most with me. Along with its in-country partners, Curamericas Global alleviates suffering TODAY. But that is not all. By educating and empowering people to care for their own communities, today’s work becomes a LEGACY. Proudly supporting Curamericas Global as a donor, volunteer, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors, I encourage you to dig in and learn more. Curamericas Global’s recently completed a Strategic Plan, this annual report, and published research based on its programs around the world. These materials are filled with reasons to get involved and stay engaged in this life-saving work.”

— Tina Jones, Vice-Chair of Curamericas Global Board of Directors



Everyone can make a difference through Curamericas Global!

A donation of time, goods, or funds helps to save women and children that would otherwise die from preventable causes. Make a difference in the lives of mothers and children around the world by making a donation, joining us on social media, volunteering or setting up your own personal fundraising page.



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