

### **OUR MISSION**

Global Health Ministries is a nonprofit organization committed to strengthening Lutheran health systems that improve health for all people in the name of Christ. GHM partners in low- and middleincome countries in Africa, Central America and Asia, where Lutheran churches manage hospitals, clinics, and community-based outreach.

## ALL PEOPLE. EVERYWHERE.

#### **Executive Director's Letter**

Strong, Nimble and Steadfast ... these three words describe how volunteers and donors positioned Global Health Ministries to partner around the globe in 2021, despite continuing complications from COVID-19.

It was a record year, with GHM sending \$3,100,000 worth of capacity-building medical equipment and supplies in 13 sea containers to overseas partners (a 44% increase over 2020). Such strong and steadfast support was possible thanks to large donations of new materials ready-to-ship, increased efficiencies in our warehouse, and a committed core of volunteers and staff. Volunteer time increased by 6,000 hours over 2020.

GHM's emphasis on community-centered efforts saw growing impact in multiple countries as community health workers nimbly redoubled their efforts. In the following pages, you can read highlights of such efforts in El Salvador, Madagascar, Nigeria, and Tanzania.

GHAP Leadership consulting aligns with such community-centered efforts, and also contributed to strides in sustainable and constructive governance in mission hospitals like Selian Lutheran Hospital in Tanzania and national systems like OSEELC in Cameroon.

Thank you for your support in imagining change together and helping the hands that heal make that change happen. Health for all is our goal, in Jesus' name.

Pastor Doug Cox



### THREE STRATEGIES

#### **LEADERSHIP**

GHAP (Global Health Administration Partners), the consulting arm of GHM, offers consultants in governance, management and leadership for health leaders in low- and middleincome countries. In 2021 GHAP conducted consultations in 4 countries and enhanced long-term relationships in several others through ongoing communication, highlighting trusted research along with timely information during the COVID-19 pandemic. GHM also invests in leaders by offering scholarships for health workers at all levels, at the request of our country partners.

#### MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Most mission hospitals and clinics lack important medical equipment and even basic supplies. GHM gathers donated medical items, from exam gloves to ultrasounds, and matches them to requests from partners in developing countries. GHM also purchases and ships new equipment, helping make quality healthcare accessible for some of the world's most vulnerable people. In 2021, GHM shipped 13 sea containers in support of hospitals and clinics in 6 countries. Medical supplies and equipment were hand-carried in 23 suitcases to 13 different countries through GHM's Suitcase Ministry.

#### **GRASSROOTS EFFORTS**

GHM supports grassroots efforts to train and sustain Community Health Workers (CHWs) for sustainable health improvement at the community level in multiple partner countries. In 2021, GHM-supported CHW programs in El Salvador, Madagascar, Nigeria and Tanzania continued their work even as they adapted to help communities mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The new community-based program in Tanzania's Lake Tanganyika Diocese took root, as did the Community Health Nurse program in Madagascar with placement of the program's first graduates.

#### **GRASSROOTS EFFORTS**



In **Nigeria**, the community-centered approach expanded into 25 new communities in 2021 (almost doubling in scale). 137 new Village Health Workers enthusiastically embraced the work of improving public health. One mother, Nashirian, explained the impact for her children by saying that before learning from the VHWs, each of her five children would get malaria every year, often requiring a hospital visit to survive. In 2021, middle of malaria season, not one had contracted malaria.

It's no exaggeration to say that access to water is access to life itself. When that access is close enough, girls don't need to spend all day carrying containers of water, but can spend time in school. When enough water is accessible, people can drink, cook, farm, and wash as needed for health and to generate an income. By the end of 2021, GHM had helped 43 villages in Nigeria have clean year-round wells. Many have been working for up to 10 years, a testimony to the training and follow-up of local water and well-repair teams in each village.



#### **GRASSROOTS EFFORTS**



Since 2008, GHM has supported the Community Health Program of the Lutheran Church in **El Salvador**. Alicia, a volunteer Health Promoter with the program, attended a nutrition class in 2021 as part of her training. When asked why she participates, she pointed out that there are no clinics in her area, and in emergencies, "no one knew what to do." Elected by their communities, volunteers received health education, and training in first aid and disease prevention. Training was also expanded to include a focus on mental health, an even more pressing issue during the pandemic. In 2021 the program had grown to about 200 trained volunteer Health Promoters like Alicia across the country.

After an almost 2-year hiatus because of COVID-19, GHM resumed onsite partner visits with a visit to El Salvador in November. 2021 also marked the first year of a 3-year GHAP consultation to help establish a 5-year strategic plan and a practice of evaluation for the program.



#### **GRASSROOTS EFFORTS**



In **Madagascar**, Mamy Bonne was among the 10 first graduates of a newly launched Community Health Nurse (CHN) program. Simple outreach, like free screening for ear problems that Mamy offers in the local schools, builds awareness of health and the presence of a clinic in the neighborhood. Placed in 5 strategic locations around the nation, CHNs like Mamy are now actively mobilizing communities and dozens of volunteer leaders to prevent disease, offer early diagnosis, and give special attention to maternal and child health. Over 21,000 people are already being served with this new expansion into remote, underserved communities.

One of the centers with this new program attracted a new hire - a surgeon. Patients came from far and wide, including one man who was carried 40 kilometers to get the help he needed.

GHM supported Community Health programs in **5 countries** in 2021: El Salvador, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Nigeria and Tanzania.



#### **LEADERSHIP**



In 2020, Lake Tanganyika Diocese (LTD), **Tanzania**, invited a GHAP team to help them determine how to improve health in the region over the next decade. Three top goals were identified: reduce maternal mortality, infant mortality and stunting rates by 50% in 5 years. LTD and GHM established a 3-5 year partnership to design, establish and implement a Community Health Educator (CHE) Program as the primary approach to realize their goals. Despite the pandemic preventing GHAP from collaborating onsite, the LTD team launched training for 66 volunteer CHEs (3 from each of 22 parishes) and other leaders in January. Nutrition classes were one of their first initiatives.

Selian Hospital leadership had also asked GHAP to help them strategize to reduce debt and become more financially stable. After implementing adjustments they were able to reduce their debt dramatically in 2021. Selian was also able to make significant quality improvements in the wards, lab and OR to attract patients and staff, ultimately helping increase revenue.



#### **LEADERSHIP**



Gemechu Asfawu was a student at Aira College of Nursing in **Ethiopia** in 2021. In addition to classroom work, he received practical experience at Aira Hospital in the prenatal clinic, helping draw blood to test for HIV and conditions that could impact a mother and her developing baby. Gemechu was one of 51 trainees at Aira in 2021. Each one will be critical for access to health in a country with one of the lowest nurse/midwife to population ratios in the world. GHM provided support for 121 nursing students in 2021 including 10 with scholarships at Aira.

GHM also sent PPE to protect the 51 trainees and 12 staff at Aira College of Nursing. Students learned about COVID-19 and helped spread information, including the importance of hand-washing, as cases rose in Ethiopia.

In 2021, GHM funded scholarships and training for **858** doctors, nurses, midwives, lab techs and Community Health Workers in 7 different countries, an 18% increase over 2020.



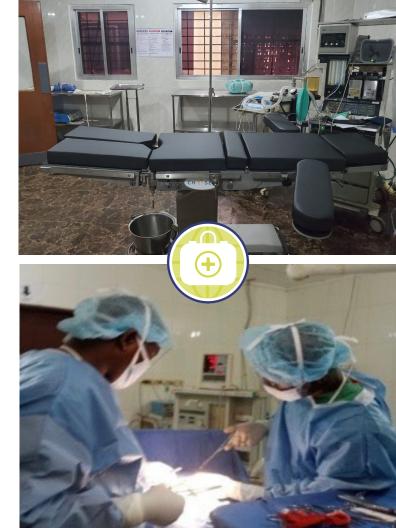
#### SHIPPING MEDICAL SUPPLIES



GHM shipped 13 sea containers overseas to waiting partners in 2021. This was 4 more than in 2020, despite global supply chain challenges. Our partners in **Liberia** received four of these sea containers, full of medical supplies and equipment headed to 48 clinics and hospitals across the country. Thanks to your generosity, Phebe Hospital completely renovated two operating rooms, replacing surgical tables and other equipment damaged by chlorine during the Ebola crisis.

Curran Lutheran Hospital received a new digital x-ray machine as well as other critically important equipment and supplies, from an ultrasound to lab equipment, blood pressure monitors, oxygen concentrators and sterile surgical gowns.

Local health systems in the USA offered generous donations of medical supplies, and corporations like Walmart and General Mills shared overstock items as well. These gifts made it possible for GHM to ship more than 2.8 million PPE items to partners around the globe in 2021.



#### SHIPPING MEDICAL SUPPLIES



Women have given birth, alone, on the ground outside the gate to Reconciliation Health Center in Juba, **South Sudan**. The health center was designed as an outpatient clinic, with a focus on maternal and infant health including prenatal care and immunizations. The gate was locked at night when staff went home, but women still came, hoping for a safe place to deliver their babies. Sometimes the babies came before the gate was unlocked in the morning.

In 2021, Reconciliation Health Center expanded with the addition of a new maternity ward. Complete with hospital beds and two delivery rooms, the center now provides 24-hour care for new moms and their babies. The new ward, like the health center itself, was fully equipped with donated medical supplies and equipment sent by GHM - a blessing where maternal and infant mortality rates are among the world's highest.

The Fair Market Value of medical supplies and equipment shipped by GHM in 2021 was more than **\$3,163,000**.



## HELPING HANDS

Volunteers are the beating heart of this organization, and their steadfast support in 2021 was invaluable. GHM recorded more than **19,700 volunteer hours** in 2021, still lagging pre-pandemic numbers but up 47% compared to 2020. This does not include individuals or groups who rolled bandages or volunteered through other GHM service projects. Warehouse volunteers sorted donated items and picked and packed a total of 25,116 boxes of medical supplies and equipment for our overseas partners. Both the volunteer experience and productivity were enhanced with the advent of a new integrated badge system and new inventory software features including "speed pick," standard reporting, and packing list generation.

GHM initiated a new summer internship program in 2021, welcoming 4 interns from schools around the country, including Georgetown University, Hastings College, St. Thomas University and the University of Minnesota. A 5th intern Zoomed in virtually from Tanzania. Participating both on- and off-site, the interns brought fresh ideas, talent and enthusiasm to their work in Global Health, Development and Operations.



### STAFF

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### 2021 FINANCIALS

Thank you for investing in our work to ensure all people, everywhere, have access to a healthy life. We can't do this without you.



Summary of Activities					
		<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	% Increase
Revenue	\$	5,877,190	\$	5,592,645	5%
Expenses	\$	5,408,303	\$	4,514,253	20%
Revenue less Expense	\$	468,887	\$	1,078,392	-57%
Summary of Net Assets					
		<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	% Increase
Total Assets	\$	6,370,809	\$	5,903,335	8%
Total Liabilities	\$	55,062	\$	56,475	-3%
Net Assets	\$	6,315,747	\$	5,846,860	8%

## THANK YOU

The global objective, the public purpose, is exactly what we heard the reverend (Pastor Doug) say - health for all ... I wish you every success in your partnerships for the public purpose in the many countries where you work, and extend the WHO's thanks to all those volunteers that come together in Minnesota and elsewhere to support your work.

James Campbell, World Health Organization (WHO), Director of the Health Workforce Dept, shared these remarks from Geneva during GHM's 2021 Symposium.

"I thank God for your ministry and I'm grateful for your service to humanity ... As a community health worker there's so much joy ... it's so rewarding when you see people you've worked with ... transform from what they used to be into what they aspire to be ... The work that we do as community workers, community mobilizers, is work that's not very fancy, but it's also work that can open doors."

~ Ms. Leymah Gbowee 2011 Nobel Peace Laureate Speaker, GHM's 2021 Gala



# JOYFUL LEGACY



Former medical missionary Dr. John Toso and his wife, Jan, are current GHM volunteers and Legacy Partners, having included GHM in their estate plans. They have seen the importance of our partners' work firsthand and now, "the next stage for us was to give back what has so generously been given to us - an abundance of resources and the experience of joy we can share as GHM Legacy givers." That joy will be felt around the world. Thank you for making a lasting impact for future generations through GHM!



2021 was a remarkable year. GHM's Annual Report shares how **your generosity** 

made it possible for GHM to advance our mission to improve access to a healthy life for all people, in Jesus' name.

Thank you for making an Impact to help the hands that heal.

Learn more at www.ghm.org 763.586.9590

