



AFRICA DEVELOPMENT PROMISE

2020 Annual Report

ABOUT US

Vision

We envision flourishing rural communities across East Africa where women's creativity, innovation and hard work contribute to prosperity and economic self-sufficiency.

Mission

Africa Development Promise improves the lives and livelihoods of rural women in East Africa through training and resources that support their collective efforts to operate competitively in the marketplace.

Core values



Integrity.

We treat each other, our donors, and the communities we serve with honesty, fairness, and accountability.



Partnership.

We walk in solidarity with local citizen-stakeholders.



Equity and Inclusion.

We strive to create a welcoming space for all.



Sustainability.

We measure our impact in long-term economic resilience, enabled by environmental stewardship.

LETTER

Dear Friends and Partners,

We are excited to share with you the Africa Development Promise 2020 Annual Report. For the past seven years, we have focused on improving the livelihoods of rural women farmers in Rwanda and Uganda by promoting market-based cooperative approaches to agriculture. The end goal is shared ownership, profitability, and economic empowerment — the ability to access, own and control resources.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic threatened all the gains of previous years as the local, national, and global economies were in free fall, and the cascading ramifications permeated every aspect of life from food security to healthcare. The women in our partner cooperatives – and their families – not only saw a dramatic reduction in income but also found themselves hosting extended family members who returned home after losing their jobs. With all this additional strain on families, they needed our support now, more than ever. We had to adapt and deliver.

We took action to address household food security and nutrition by implementing a kitchen garden program and a tree planting (mangos and avocados) program. We also provided digital cash transfers to cooperatives to replenish their welfare fund to assist with unforeseen emergencies. As a result of this support, 450 families – some 2,500 people – in Rwanda and Uganda rebounded more quickly from the COVID-19 disruptions. As we write this letter, both Rwanda and Uganda are experiencing the second surge of the pandemic which is proving to be more devastating than the first.

However, we are more optimistic that this time, the families we support are better equipped to deal with the challenges because there is less vulnerability at the household level. And, as an organization, ADP took this opportunity to purposefully evaluate where we are and where we want to be. With feedback from staff, partners, and the women we serve, we developed a strategic plan that pushes us to become an even more financially sustainable, resilient organization with transparent and evidence-based programs that reflect our full commitment to improving the lives of rural women.

While we are proud of our rapid, flexible pandemic response and organizational advancement, none of these accomplishments could have been achieved without your help. We are extremely thankful for your support of our mission, and hope you view the strides we made in 2020 as much your own as ours. We hope you enjoy learning more about how your giving directly impacts women in Rwanda and Uganda.



JEAN NICHOLSON
Board Chair



MONICA LABICHE BROWN
Executive Director

UGANDA

Meet **Robinah Kawekwa Nakintu**, a hardworking, enterprising 41-year old wife and mother of six children, living in Wakiso, Uganda. She and her husband Kizito also care for other dependents however, due to Kizito's recent declining health Robinah has become the family's primary breadwinner.

In 2015, Robinah joined Epaphroditus, a Ugandan cooperative supported by ADP, mastering the art of mushroom production and helping to train new members.

Recently Robinah was elected as Epaphroditus's Cooperative Mobilizer recognizing her strong commitment to the women and a passion to see the cooperative succeed. She says her new role is central for motivating cooperative members, and keeping them engaged and focused. She is working to keep members informed, assign them responsibilities that matter, and hold them accountable to the rest of the cooperative. Her new leadership role demonstrates Robinah's desire to help other women succeed and sets an excellent example of promoting entrepreneurship and sisterhood in her community.

According to Robinah, the cooperative exchange visits and capacity building workshops organized and facilitated by ADP have turned her life around. Combining her cooking skills with her business knowledge, Robinah has started a small baking business and now maintains a household budget and has a savings fund.



I find great satisfaction in supporting other women. I know I wouldn't be able to support my family without the support of the cooperative. The capacity building trainings have helped me to bring out the abilities that I knew were inside me all along, and I want to help other women to find that in themselves."

Robinah Kawekwa Nakintu, Epaphroditus Women's Cooperative

RWANDA

Josephine Niyonsenga is a proud mother of five children and a long-time member of Ingabo Ikingira Ubkene cooperative in Bugesera, Rwanda. Through Ingabo coop, Josephine has fine-tuned her agriculture skills and helped build a thriving community of women farmers.

When Josephine did not have sufficient funds to begin her business, she was able to take out a low interest loan of \$20 USD from the cooperative to purchase a single piglet. As a member of Ingabo, Josephine was able to participate in ADP's Street Business School program, where the innovative mother learned essential skills in implementing and growing her business.

Originally, Josephine's business was devoted to the sale of piglets born from the original pig she purchased. Using funds from these sales, Josephine purchased a goat to sell milk. Utilizing profits from goat milk sales, Josephine purchased a flock of chickens from which she sells eggs to the surrounding community. Using manure from her animals, she has begun growing additional crops to sell at markets and further support her family. Josephine is an incredible example of how far \$20 and the training can go when utilized by the innovate women of East Africa.

Speaking about her business, family, and community, Josephine's eyes shine with a sense of pride and accomplishment, and it is easy to see why. As her business has grown, Josephine has been able to provide health insurance and pay school fees for her children.



Nubwo watangirira ku bworozi bw'ingurube imwe, bushobora ku kugeza kuri byinshi ndetse n'abaturanyi bawe bakabyungukiramo"

"Even beginning with a small amount, you can achieve incredible things with a community behind you"

Josephine Nyonsenga, Shield Against Poverty Cooperative



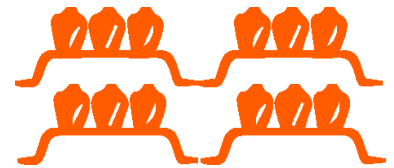
ADAPT AND DELIVER

Our response to the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

KITCHEN GARDENS

The pandemic exposed the inequities among countries and further highlighted the vulnerabilities of certain population groups. Anticipating that the rural communities could contend with the pandemic for an indefinite period, we worked with cooperative leaders to seek solutions that will provide improved food and nutritional security at the household level.

Building on a Rwanda Government Initiative, ADP launched a kitchen garden project which we believe will have the greatest and most immediate impact. With funding from ERM Foundation and Nelson Family Foundation a total of 250 kitchens were created giving cooperative members relief as they adjust and manage their response to the disruption in the agriculture value chain.



250

Kitchen gardens
created



TREE PLANTING

Building on the kitchen garden project, we added a tree planting initiative so that each household we have supported with a kitchen garden also got or will get a mango and avocado seedling. Africa Development Promise supports a mango and avocado growing cooperative that also has a tree nursery.

ADP purchased approximately 500 seedlings that not only supports the cooperative business but will pay them to distribute of seedlings when they are ready for planting. In addition, they will provide education on the nutritional benefits of the fruit and educate on the benefits of reforestation.



500

Seedlings planted



DIGITAL CASH TRANSFERS

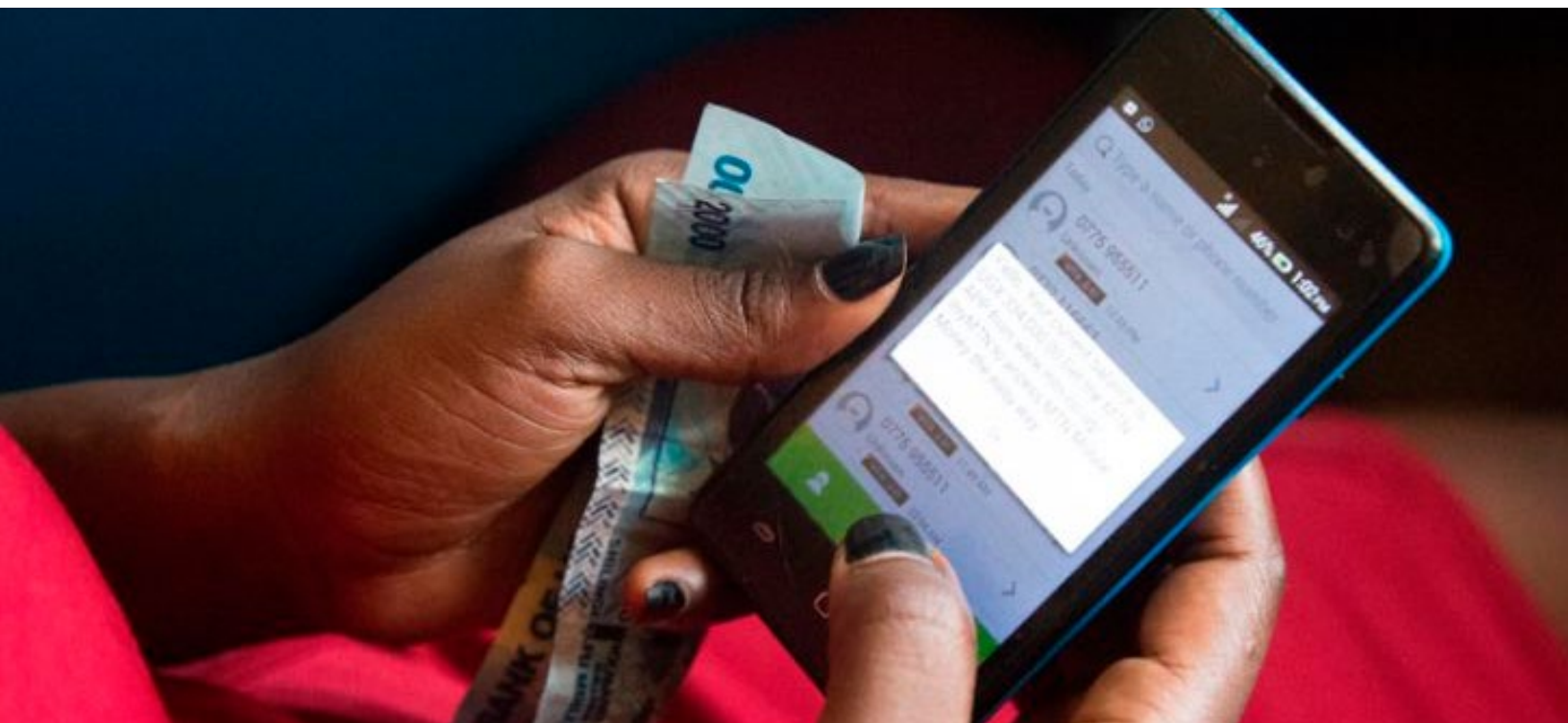
The one refrain we heard quite often from cooperative members was “we will die from hunger before we die from COVID-19”. To combat food insecurity among some of our most vulnerable members, ADP, with your help, was able to distribute unconditional cash transfers to over 36 households to meet their basic needs – food, water, and rent.

Mobile money proved to be the best contactless option for in-country staff to get money to cooperative members. They would then go to local agents to convert to cash which is their preferred method of transactions. This short-term assistance improved food security thus enhancing resilience to shut down.



\$2,080

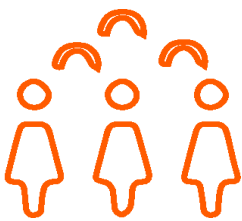
Transferred



GIRLS WITH DREAMS

With school closures due to the pandemic, students across Rwanda and Uganda, have been deprived of a basic education. For girls, who were already at risk of dropping out of school, the risk is even higher as the rates of pregnancy and early marriage are on the rise.

In 2019, ADP piloted a program in our Ugandan communities called Girls with Dreams, which offered camps for girls during the school breaks. The program includes presentations from local women in a variety of occupations and allows for girls to shadow those women at work. In addition, it provides leadership training, confidence building and team activities for the young women. What started as a pilot has become an anchor program and as we look to 2021 and beyond, ADP plans to expand the program in Uganda and open programs in Rwanda.



20
Girls supported





PARTNERING FOR IMPACT

This year, we have been working in partnership with two other organizations to create impact.

INTO YOUR HANDS

Partnering with Into Your Hands, Africa (IYHA) and Africa Development Promise are grassroots development organizations with different program models, working in Uganda. With offices in Masaka, IYHA works in the midwestern region while ADP has offices in Gayaza in the central region of Uganda. Both organizations have a common understanding of issues that rural communities, especially women, face but have different yet complementary approaches to solving them. For example, IYHA works primarily with single person owned enterprises while ADP work with cooperative enterprises.

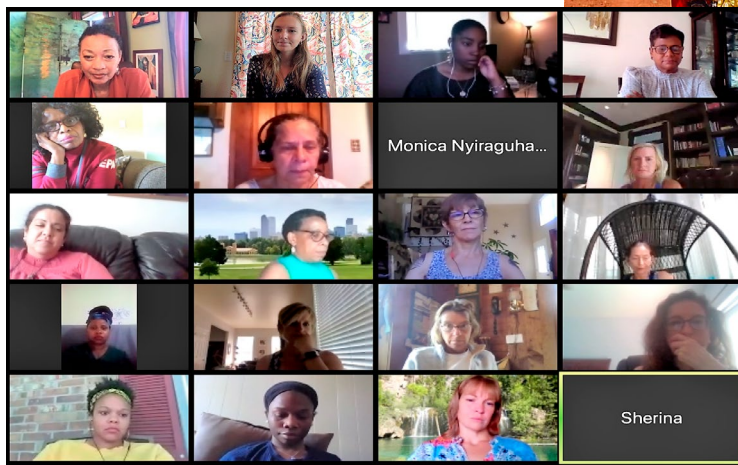
The two organizations have collaborated in the past, sharing resources and services. Very often grassroots organizations struggle to replicate or scale proven community driven approaches because they lack the funds and personnel. To overcome these challenges organizations decided to collaborate. IYHA and ADP decided to do just that as we have a two-year history of working together making a collaboration a natural extension of previous work. With a grant through Posner Center's International Collaboration Fund, we will be testing the replicability of our respective program models in different contexts to determine if we can achieve certain results at scale.



GLOBAL LIVINGSTON INSTITUTE

The Global Livingston Institute (GLI) and ADP had planned to team up and host the 8th Annual Women's Leadership Retreat in June 2020 in GLI's Entusi Resort and Retreat Center in Kabale, Uganda. The goal of the Women's Leadership Retreat is to bring together women leaders from around the globe to discuss complex social issues as well as build partnerships and mentoring relationships.

However, with the pandemic restrictions, we shifted the retreat to a quarterly online format with a focus on self-care, mindfulness, and well-being, especially in times of uncertainty. As we look to 2022, our goal is to have the in-person retreat in June.





OUR IMPACT

We have evaluated where we are and where we want to be.

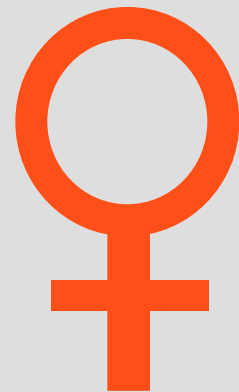
CHALLENGES

The socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have adversely affected recent progress on gender equality: violence against women and girls has intensified, child marriage is expected to increase after declining in previous years, and increased care work at home is affecting women disproportionately. The pandemic has highlighted the need for swift action to address the gender inequality that remains pervasive globally and to get back on track for achieving gender equality.

Women have played a critical role in the response to the pandemic as front-line health workers, caregivers, and managers and leaders of the response and recovery efforts. However, they remain underrepresented in critical leadership positions, and their rights and priorities are often not explicitly addressed in those efforts. The crisis presents an opportunity to reshape and rebuild systems, laws, policies and institutions in order to advance gender equality.

Major constraints for women:

- The total number of women and girls living on less than \$1.90 a day is forecast to total **409 million** in 2020 (up from 398.5 million in 2019).
- In sub-Saharan Africa, between 2021 and 2030, the number of women and girls living in extremely poor households is expected to increase from 249 million to **283 million**.
- Over **11 million girls** – from pre-primary school to tertiary education age – may not return to school in 2020.
- Women spend **3x** as many hours as men each day in unpaid care and domestic work.
- Women and girls are responsible for water collection in **80% of households** without access to water on-premises, according to data collected from 61 developing countries.



SOLUTIONS

ADP believes that when we give the right tools and support system, any rural women can become economically self-sufficient and flourish. We leverage the cooperative model of enterprise because studies show individuals are more likely to succeed when cooperative members pool their resources and share in the risks and reward of business. In particular, we recognize the opportunity to uplift marginalized women through cooperatives, emphasizing the partnership between sisterhood and entrepreneurship.

ACTIONS

ADP's four-part strategy establishes a firm foundation for the development of sustainable businesses that move women farmers beyond subsistence farming to market-oriented agriculture.

Management Training



Technical Assistance



Network Building



Infrastructure Solutions



Management Training.

Builds the skillset of members and supports effective cooperative governance. ADP provides training on: strategic and business planning, financial management, and record keeping etc.

Technical Assistance.

Promotes high quality increased yield. ADP provides hands-on technical training on: soil and water resource management, weed and pest management etc.

Network Building.

Connects cooperatives with local government, businesses and other NGOs. These connections encourage the sharing of market information, demand and distribution channels, storage facilities and link cooperatives to financial institutions.

Infrastructure Solutions.

Provides cooperatives with locally-appropriate smart farming tools and equipment including greenhouses, machinery, irrigation systems to improve seed and fertilizer. The provision of these infrastructure improvements aims to help cooperatives increase production.



IMPACT

UGANDA



Women from three agricultural cooperatives



Women from two solar cooperatives



Girls participated in two piloted programs
Girls with Dreams



Women supported in vocational program

RWANDA



Women from five agricultural cooperatives

TOTAL IMPACT



Total women cooperative members



Contract farmers



Indirect beneficiaries
(includes family members, buyers, suppliers)

Direct benefits for cooperative members

- Approximately 65% increase in income in the first year of support;
- Increased savings;
- Improved living standards;
- Improved food security;
- Ability to pay for children's school fees;
- Ability to pay for health insurance; and
- Ability to start other income generating activities.

Impact on cooperatives performance

- Increased farm assets (machinery and livestock)
- Approximately 65% increase in crop yield
- Approximately 65 - 85% increase in profits from sales
- Enhanced capacity to be credit worthy; and
- Improved governance, business development and operations.





OUR FINANCIALS

Accountability and our valued partners.



June 29, 2021

Board of Directors
Africa Development Promise
Denver, CO

We have audited the financial statements of Africa Development Promise (the “Organization”) for the year ended December 31, 2020 and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2021. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit:

Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated January 5, 2021 our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statement does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our meetings about planning matters on May 19, 2021.

Significant Audit Findings

● Qualities Aspect of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Organization are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during fiscal year 2020. We noted no transactions entered by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been reorganized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transactions occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral of the financial statement prepared by management and are based on management’s knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no significant estimates or disclosures that we classify as sensitive that affected the financial statements.

- Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

- Correct and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatement identified during the audit, other those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements (see attached). In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, ether individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

- Disagreements with Management

For purpose of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

- Management Representation

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated, June 29, 2021.

- Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountant about auditing and accounting matter, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultant involves application of an accounting principle to the Organization's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

- Other Audits findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Organization's auditor. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of The Organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very Truly Yours,
ICL, LLC

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Suite 3800, Chicago, IL 60603,
P: 800-307-1008, F: 312-924-5906
www.instcl.com

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position. Year ended December 31, 2020

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	7,806
Pledges receivable		187
Prepaid expenses		7,058
Property and equipment, net		54,704

Total assets \$ 69,755

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts payable	\$	3,828
Corporate credit card		5,010
Unsecured notes payable		14,564
Accrued expenses		6,292

Total liabilities \$ 29,694

Net assets:

Net assets without donor restrictions	\$	30,061
Net assets with donor restrictions		10,000

Total net assets \$ 40,061

Total liabilities and net assets \$ 69,755

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

	Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	2020 Total
Foundation and corporate grants	\$ 84,674	\$ 10,000	\$ 94,674
Individual contributions	56,861	10,000	66,861
Program income and other	11,265	-	11,265
Special events	8,300	-	8,300
In-kind contributions	8,000	-	8,000
SBA PPL Loan Proceeds	12,110	-	12,110
Net assets released from restrictions	20,000	(20,000)	-

Total revenue and support \$ 201,210 \$ - \$ 201,210

EXPENSES

Program services	\$	165,176	\$	-	\$	165,176
Supporting services						
Management and General		35,317		-		35,317
Fundraising		15,569		-		15,569

Total expenses \$ 216,062 \$ - \$ 216,062

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

\$ (14,852) \$ - \$ (14,852)

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR

\$ 44,913 \$ 10,000 \$ 54,913

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR

\$ 30,061 \$ 10,000 \$ 40,601

DONORS

Ambassador

- Posner Center for International Development
- The ERM Foundation
- Together Women Rise
- William D. Betts, Jr.

Partner

- BNY Mellon
- Cynda Collins Arsenault
- Dale Morton
- Global Giving
- Henry E. Niles Foundation
- Jack Gorman III
- Jessica Clemmons
- Mary & Keith Matthews
- Nan Kelley
- Nelson Family Foundation
- The Women's Foundation (Beyond our Borders)
- The Denver Foundation (Bayless Family Fund)
- Xylem Water Solutions

Advocates

- Anonymous
- African Eyes Travel
- Audrey Hipkins & Ray Williams
- Bjorn & Sharon von Euler
- Christopher M. Latham
- Cindy B. Mick
- E. Dean Brown, Jr. Edgewater Capital Group
- Larcus N. Pickett
- Nina Miller, PhD
- Nkechi O. Mbanu
- Ray & Albe Larsen
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of the Gulf Coast of Florida Inc.
- The Denver Foundation William S. Brackett

Champions

- Beautifi Solar, LLC
- Timothy A Green
- Daisy M. Minter
- Evalyn Tandon
- Foundations Church, Inc.
- Gloria Fields
- Helen Gair
- Ilke McAliley
- Jessica Clemmons
- Loren Labovitch
- Xylem Water Solutions
- Marvin Floyd
- Nicholas Mouganis
- Rebecca Mouganis
- Rhonda Marshall
- The Denver Foundation
- Wylia Sims
- Elbert Dean & Lorethia Brown

DONORS

Friends

- Aidan Gallagher
- Amazonsmile Foundation
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Arthur Morrissey
- Avoki Omekanda
- Barbara Bates
- Beautifi Solar, LLC
- Betty Doris
- Bjorn Hamso
- Bregetta Pleasant
- Candace Hall
- Carrie Diroll
- Charles P. Ridgway
- Cherrelyn Napue
- Cindy Cambridge
- Daniel Clark
- David E. Erickson
- Dawn Merriott
- Deborah R. Brink
- Deborah Tavenner
- Delois Porter
- Djuana Harvell
- Edith Okupa Magbegor
- Eileen Lambert
- Elisa Speranza
- Elizabeth Lomeli
- Facebook
- Francis Croffie
- George Bamu
- George Thomas
- James Symons
- Jan Mazer
- Jessica Clemmons
- Jessica Kelley
- Judith Kraszewski
- Julie Pecaut
- Karen Renz
- Leah Mouganis
- LeAnn Fickes
- Marietta Newman
- Mark and Shelia Lewis
- Mark B. Reiner
- Mary Griesedieck
- Na Wehrheim
- Network For Good
- Officiency Partners Limited
- Patricia Greenstein
- PayPal Giving Fund
- Phillip Schuyler
- Rachel Shek
- Roberta F. Burroughs
- Rochelle Smith
- Sharon Otto
- Shay-La Romney
- Simone Labiche
- Stacey Cruise
- Susan Basile
- Susan Wettermark
- Tahlia Banks
- Tony Tapia
- Tracey Doreen
- Virginia Davies
- Whitnee Pleasant
- Yvette Hunt



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