



THE ADVOCACY PROJECT

SUPPORTING ADVOCATES FOR PEACE

People Power

The Advocacy Project strengthens community-based advocacy



Sara Reichenbach, far right, attended the 20th anniversary of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre, while serving as a Peace Fellow at BOSFAM, a long-time partner of The Advocacy Project.

THE ADVOCACY PROJECT 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

www.advocacynet.org

People Power – 2015

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1. Mission and Vision

Supporting Advocates for Peace

The Advocacy Project (AP) has a human rights mission. Our goal is to help marginalized communities around the world take action against the root causes of their disempowerment, in a way that benefits society as a whole and produces social change.

We do not initiate partnerships, but try to respond to requests – particularly when they come from small groups that lack friends and need to raise their profile. We believe that those who are directly affected by social injustice are best equipped to take action. Information is their first need.

AP works through graduate students and young professionals who volunteer with our partners as Fellows for Peace and give generously of their time and talent. We view Fellows as a valuable resource and are committed to encouraging international service on behalf of human rights. AP was registered as a 501c3 organization in July 2001 and is registered in Washington DC.

Snapshot of 2015

- AP supported 10 marginalized communities and worked with 10 community-based organizations.
- Telling the story: AP produced 13 news bulletins; 89 blogs; 18 videos; and 1,626 photos. AP's online products were visited 99,912 times.
- IT and tech support: AP trained 3 “accidental techies” in partner organizations, and created two new partner websites.
- Outreach: AP assembled 7 new quilts and displayed quilts at the New England Quilt Museum, the Long Beach Island Foundation, and the Artists and Workers Studio in Rockville, MD.
- Fund-raising: AP raised \$213,931 for partners.
- Campaigns: AP supported five campaigns by partners. These helped 240 survivors of war rape to recover in Mali; installed an accessible toilet at a school in northern Uganda; worked with ten families affected by Agent Orange in Vietnam; screened 1,025 villagers in Eastern Nepal for uterine prolapse; and rescued 25 children from the brick kilns in Nepal.
- **Peace Fellows:** AP recruited 10 Fellows from 7 universities.
- **Staff and volunteers:** Fifty-nine individuals worked for AP in 2015.

2. Letter from the Executive Director

AP's model of support for community-based advocates was further defined through four strong programs in 2015 that empowered marginalized people while also providing badly-needed services. They also offer an innovative new approach to dealing with abusive practices that resist conventional solutions – child labor in Nepal; war rape in Mali; the denial of accessible sanitation and water to children with disability in Uganda; and uterine prolapse in Nepal. These and other programs are described below in Chapter 10.

We also developed exciting new partnerships with the Palestinian House of Friendship in Nablus; the network of families of the disappeared in Nepal (NEFAD); and Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB). TBB was launched in 2015 by AP Board member Mary Louise Cohen to connect refugees in the Middle East to employers. AP provided administrative support. See Chapter 9 for more details.

One major program came to an end after 16 years of support for our Bosnian partner, BOSFAM. This rich partnership began in 1999 when we accompanied BOSFAM members back to Srebrenica, where many of their relatives had perished in the 1995 massacre. Over the years that followed we deployed 12 Peace Fellows to BOSFAM and helped to launch BOSFAM's Srebrenica memorial quilts. We were also at BOSFAM's side on July 11 2015 when its members commemorated the 20th anniversary of the massacre with a magnificent display of quilts that was praised by visiting dignitaries, including Bill Clinton. It was a fitting end to a long campaign by BOSFAM and AP to keep the memory of the massacre alive.

In 2015, we also launched a new fundraising strategy for partners. This was triggered by the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal in April. Three AP partners sought emergency funding and we launched two appeals on their behalf, through our website and through Global Giving. By June over 130 donors had given almost \$11,000. Later in the year Global Giving awarded us another \$20,000 to help Care Women Nepal.

Several Fellows also raised funds for their hosts through crowdfunding. Josh Levy covered the cost of a new accessible toilet near Gulu, Uganda. Sarah Reichenbach raised over \$4,000 to help BOSFAM repair a workshop. Joti Sohi raised \$1,000 to place brick children in school in Nepal. Maya Washington raised \$450, which paid for a life-saving hernia operation in Nepal. Our congratulations and thanks to them all.

AP also underwent changes. Katie Petitt took over from Karin Orr as fellowship coordinator. Once again we were lucky to host several wonderful interns. Shortly after completing his internship at AP, Paul Khouri was profiled by the Washington Post and named advocate of the year by the Disability Rights Center in Washington – a testament to Paul's talents and the high quality of AP interns.

Finally, Scott Allen stepped down from the AP Board to become US Director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London. We will miss his guidance and wish him well in his exciting new position.



Iain Guest, Executive Director

3. The Challenge of Marginalization

Marginalized communities have been disempowered by conflict, poverty, discrimination and racism. Most of all they lack a voice. AP helps them to tell their story, take action and remove the cause of their disempowerment. We give priority to communities that have few other allies.

AP worked for 10 communities in 2015

- **Africa:** a) Survivors of sexual violence in Mali; b) Students with disabilities in Uganda.
- **Asia:** a) Survivors of Agent Orange in Vietnam; b) Wives of the disappeared in Nepal; c) Child workers in the brick kilns of Nepal; d) Women at risk from uterine prolapse in Nepal.
- **Latin America:** Relatives of the disappeared in Peru.
- **The Middle East:** a) Berber women weavers in Morocco; b) Young people and women in Nablus, Palestine.
- **Europe:** Survivors of the Srebrenica massacre in Bosnia.

The Faces of Marginalization

- **New communities:** We responded to requests from two new communities in 2015: Wives of the disappeared in Nepal; Women artisans in Nablus, Palestine.
- **Conflict:** Six communities supported by AP in 2015 have been affected by conflict in: Mali, Bosnia, Peru, Vietnam, Uganda, and Palestine.
- **Women:** Six partners work for women's rights: Mali (war rape); Nepal (uterine prolapse); Morocco (artisans); Bosnia (massacre survivors); Palestine (artisans); Nepal (disappearances);
- **Children:** Two partners worked for children: Nepal (child labor) and Uganda (disability).
- **Disability:** Two partners worked for disability rights in: Vietnam (Agent Orange); Uganda (students with disability).



Village women suffer from high rates of uterine prolapse in the villages of Nepal, caused by neglect, abuse and discrimination. AP's partner Care Women Nepal screened over 1,000 women for prolapse in Dhankuta district.

4. Partnering with Community-based Advocates

AP worked with 10 community-based organizations in 2015

- **Africa:** a) Sini Sanuman (Mali); b) Gulu Disabled Persons Union (Uganda);
- **Asia:** a) The Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Vietnam); b) CONCERN (Nepal); c) Care Women Nepal (Nepal); d) National Network of Families of the Disappeared Nepal (NEFAD).
- **Latin America:** The Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (Peru).
- **Middle East:** a) The Ain Leuh Weaving cooperative (Morocco); b) The Palestinian House of Friendship (Nablus).
- **Europe:** BOSFAM (Bosnian Family).



AP provided administrative support for an exciting new initiative to identify skilled refugees in the Middle East and connect them to employers outside the region. Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) was launched by Mary Louise Cohen, an AP Board member, and her husband Bruce. See chapter 9 below.

5. Telling the Story – Producing and Disseminating Information

AP helps partners to profile their work through blogs, videos, press release, photos, and Tweets.

News bulletins: In 2015 AP issued thirteen bulletins. These were distributed to over 6,300 email contacts and opened 12,314 times:

- [*Soap Speeds the recovery of War Rape Survivors in Mali*](#), December 7, 2015
- [*Schools Rescue Children from Brick Bondage in Nepal*](#), December 1, 2015
- [*Wives of the Disappeared Hold the Key to Transitional Justice in Nepal*](#), August 24, 2015
- [*Accessible Toilet in Northern Uganda Promises an End to Bullying of Students with Disability*](#), August 19, 2015
- [*Health Camp Keeps Prolapse at Bay in the Mountains of Nepal*](#), July 27, 2015
- [*Memorial Quilts Take Center Stage at Srebrenica Anniversary*](#), July 13, 2015
- [*Srebrenica Quilt Display Will Cap 20 years of Advocacy and Anguish*](#), July 7, 2015
- [*UN to Peru – Find the Disappeared and Protect their Families*](#), June 22, 2015
- [*Nepal Update: Pennies Help to Turn Bricks to Books*](#), June 17, 2015
- [*Peace Fellows to Tackle the Legacy of War and Disaster*](#), June 9, 2015
- [*Help Us Protect Women and Children in Nepal*](#), June 1, 2015
- [*Rebuilding Nepal, How You Can Help*](#), April 29, 2015
- [*Transgender People from India Reach Out to Massachusetts through Quilting*](#), March 31, 2015

Blogs: Peace Fellows produced 89 blogs and attracted 133 comments.

Videos: AP produced 18 videos (6 by AP, 12 by Fellows). 2,231 viewers watched videos on the AP YouTube site. By the end of 2015, the site had been viewed 468,111 times.

Photos: Fellows produced 1,626 photos, which were viewed 72,637 times.

Social media: AP's Facebook Page received 457 new likes. Our Twitter account registered 347 engagements (retweets, replies etc), and gained 236 new followers.

Website: The AP website was redesigned and went live on February 15, 2015. Thanks to Andrew Bowen (VertigoVisual), our web designer; Laura Jones, Natalya Ghurbanyan, Allison Maggy, and Katie Petitt helped to produce content. The AP web site: received 12,635 visits from 7,865 users (89% new).

Partner pages: AP produced new partner pages for Sini Sanuman in Mali.

IT support and dissemination by AP on behalf of partners

- **IT training:** Fellows trained “accidental techies” to work on IT at Sini Sanuman (Mali), CWN (Nepal), and AEPD (Vietnam).
- **Partner websites:** AP Fellows helped to develop a new website for BOSFAM in Bosnia and for Sini Sanuman in Mali.

6. Quilting Tells a Story

AP's quilting program continued to mature in 2015. Over 100 women in Mali and Palestine produced embroidered squares, and American quilters assembled squares from Mali and Peru into seven spectacular new quilts. AP displayed over 40 quilts at three leading museums.

New quilts: Working through her host, Sini Sanuman, Peace Fellow Refilwe Moahi helped women in Mali to produce 164 embroidered squares. Many squares featured a camel design. In Palestine, Peace Fellow Katie Conlon helped the Palestinian House of Friendship (PHF) to produce squares for a quilt (below).



Shadad (15), Aya (14), Tsneen (12) and Razan (14) produced squares for the Palestinian Sumoud (“Resilience”) quilt

Assembling the quilts in America

- The PM Fiber Arts Guild, based in Bethesda, Maryland, produced two quilts from Mali squares.
- Merry May, Elizabeth Ohlson and Ginny Cooper from the South Shore Stitches Guild (based in Marmora, New Jersey) assembled five quilts from squares that were knitted by relatives of the disappeared in Peru. (Photo below)



Merry May (left) led a team from the South Shore Stitches Guild that assembled the five Nunca Mas quilts from Peru

Quilt exhibitions

- AP was invited to show 11 advocacy quilts at the New England Quilt Museum (Lowell Massachusetts) in March 2015. This was the first public viewing for *Henna Pride*, a quilt from India that was embroidered by artists from the LGBTI community in Gujarat, under the supervision of the VikalpWomen's Group, an AP partner.
- AP showed fifteen advocacy quilts at the Long Beach Island Foundation in New Jersey, in July. AP staffers Katie Petitt and Iain Guest gave presentations. This was the first public viewing for the five *Nunca Mas* quilts from Peru, and the *Alafia Mali* quilts from Mali. Our thanks to Carol Nussbaum.
- AP showed 15 advocacy quilts at the Artists and Makers Studio, in Rockville Maryland in partnership with Quilt for Change, an AP partner. Four Peace Fellows who had worked on quilting projects attended and discussed their quilts with visitors: Sarah Reichenbach; Matthew Becker; Giogia Nicatore; and TJ Bradley (photo below). Our thanks to Barbara Eisenstein.



In 2014, Peace Fellow TJ Bradley helped his host organization EPAF organize a quilt training for relatives of the disappeared in Sacsamarca, Ayacucho, Peru. The artists commemorated their loved ones through 40 knitted squares. Photo above: TJ was on hand in September 2015 to tell the story of the Nunca Mas quilts when they were exhibited at the Workers and Artists Studio in Rockville, Maryland.

Promoting advocacy quilting

- AP produced new quilting web pages on: the Peruvian *Nunca Mas* quilts; the *Alafia Mali* quilts; and the New England Quilt Museum exhibition
- AP produced [a new video](#) that profiled quilters from the South Shore Stitches Guild at work on the *Nunca Mas* quilts.

7. Building an International Constituency

- March 21. Eleven advocacy quilts go on show at the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell, MA.
- April 29. AP launches [an emergency appeal](#) for three Nepali partners following the devastating earthquake in Nepal.
- May 1. Iain Guest appears on CCTV (Chinese Television) to discuss the work of [SOS Femmes en Danger](#) in the DRC.
- May 20. Iain Guest addresses a meeting of Young Professionals in Washington.
- July 14. The second *Mahilako Swastha* (women's health) quilt from Nepal is shown at a [panel discussion on maternal health, fistula and prolapse](#) at the Wilson Center in Washington.
- July 30. AP's coverage of prolapse in Nepal is featured by the International Association of Urogynecologists. The IUGA reprints [AP's news bulletin on the Jitpur health camp](#).
- August 7. New advocacy quilts from Peru and Mali are publicly exhibited for the first time at the Long Beach Island Arts Foundation in New Jersey. Katie Pettitt, from AP, attends the opening.
- August 13. The local media in New Jersey covers AP's exhibition of advocacy quilts at the LBIF. The [Sand Paper](#) leads with "*Advocacy Quilts: an Art Exhibit With a Social Conscience at LBI Foundation.*" Iain Guest from AP and Merry May, from the South Shore Stitchers Quilt Guild, give a lecture on advocacy quilting at the LBIF on August 14. Merry helped to quilt the Peruvian quilts.
- September 11. Twelve advocacy quilts go on show at the Artists and Makers studios in Rockville, Maryland in a collaboration between AP, Solar Sister and Quilt for Change. The opening is held on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and attracts over 700 visitors, as well as media notice in the Washington Post.
- October 1. Seven quilts go on display at a church in Pforzheim, Germany. The quilts are later exhibited at a Pforzheim school. Iain Guest from AP is interviewed for the *Pforzheimer Zeitung*.
- October 23. Shortly after finishing an internship at AP, Paul Khouri is [profiled in the Washington Post](#) for his work as an advocate for disability rights.
- October 30. AP organizes an event of young professionals at the World Bank for visiting students from Salve Regina University, Newport, RI.
- November 6. Iain Guest shows the Mali and DRC quilts to staff members in the department of Monitoring and Evaluation (OPCS) at the World Bank.
- November 13. Paul Khouri is named Advocate of the Year by the Disability Rights Center.
- November 10. AP Board member Scott Allen is appointed US Director on the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) by a vote of 82 to 0 in the US Senate.
- November 20. Iain Guest gives an address on advocacy quilting at Salve Regina University.
- November 22. Iain Guest is interviewed for a podcast by Givology, which launches an appeal for AP's toilet program in Uganda.
- December 9. Iain Guest and 2015 Peace Fellow Giorgia Nicatore appear on a panel at Georgetown University with the Malian ambassador to the US, to review the crisis in Mali. The event also features the two *Alafia Mali* quilts.
- December 9. VOA broadcasts [a news item on quilts](#).

8. Fundraising for Partners

AP supports partner organizations financially, by raising funds, channeling funds from benefactors, sub-granting, and providing free technical assistance through Peace Fellows. During 2015 AP raised \$213,931.98 for partners. AP also made a major investment in online fundraising.

Nepal: The disastrous earthquake in Nepal on April 25 triggered an extraordinary outpouring of generosity. Shortly after the quake, AP launched an appeal to AP supporters for three Nepali partners (CONCERN, Care Women Nepal, and NEFAD) which raised \$1,300.

Following this, we launched a second appeal for the three Nepali partners through Global Giving, the online fundraising platform. By the end of the year, the appeal had netted \$11,300 from 125 donors and was ranked #402 out of 20,106 projects on the Global Giving site. AP was designated a “Superstar” by Global Giving. CONCERN used the money to take 25 children out of the brick kilns and place them in school. NEFAD paid several wives to produce embroidered panels for an advocacy quilt, and Care Women Nepal was able to screen over 1,000 villagers for health problems. These projects are described below.

This successful appeal led to others. Global Giving awarded AP another \$20,000 to AP to help Care Women Nepal hold two more health camps in 2016. Peace Fellow Maya Washington also raised \$450 for Care Women Nepal. Maya’s money was used by CWN to cover the costs of an emergency hernia operation for a woman, Dimar, who might well have died without the intervention.

Peace Fellow Joti Sohi also raised \$1,000 for her Nepali host, CONCERN, while Grace McGuire, 12, and several of her High School friends in Washington raised \$519 for CONCERN in Nepal by going door to door in their neighborhood and collecting coins. (Photo below) Their money enabled CONCERN to take three Nepal children from work in the brick kilns, and place them in school.



Grace McGuire (second from left) enlisted her brother Jack and friends to go door to door in Washington for children who work in the brick kilns of Nepal. Together, they raised \$519 and enabled three child workers to attend school.

Mali: As in 2014, AP was able to raise funds for the important and innovative work of Sini Sanuman, AP's partner in Mali. AP submitted a proposal to Zivik, in Germany, which was accepted. In addition, Refilwe Moahi, the AP Peace Fellow at Sini Sanuman, raised \$303 through a crowdfunding page.

Uganda: Peace Fellow Josh Levy raised \$3,252 for GDPU. This enabled AP and GDPU to build an accessible toilet at the Tochi primary school near Gulu town in Uganda. AP was able to contribute another \$1,000, donated the previous year by the Windsor Rotary Club in Canada. Without Josh's drive and initiative, the toilet would not have been built.

Bosnia: Peace Fellow Sarah Reichenbach raised \$4,254 for her host BOSFAM, and AP donated another \$1,000 to help the weavers of BOSFAM repair their weaving workshop, which had been badly damaged in floods. With this, AP's 10 year program of support for BOSFAM's weaving program came full circle.

Benefactors: Overall, almost 200 individuals donated funds to these different partner campaigns and programs. The amounts were often small, but they enabled us to develop innovative pilot projects that will, hopefully, stand a good chance of being scaled. The Peace Fellows involved all felt that they had achieved something significant. Working through Global Giving – a platform with high visibility and credibility – helped to professionalize our own fundraising and attracted 200 donors to our work. Finally, these grants forced our partners to observe good practice, such as keeping receipts and reporting to donors.

Direct: AP raised \$183,931.98 for partners: Sini Sanuman (Mali) - \$141,203; Gulu Disabled Persons Union (Uganda) - \$3,502.00; NEFAD (Nepal) - \$3,999.66; CWN (Nepal) - \$24,499.66; CONCERN (Nepal) - \$5,523.66; BOSFAM (Bosnia) - \$5,254.00.

Indirect: The cost of deploying a single Peace Fellow comes to around \$3,000. We consider this to be an indirect donation to partner organizations and spent \$30,000 on ten partners in 2015: CONCERN; NEFAD; CWN; AEPD; BOSFAM; Ain Leuh; Sini Sanuman; GDPU; EPAF; PHF.



AP provided technical support through Peace Fellows to partners like AEPD in Vietnam, which hosted Peace Fellow Armando Gallardo (right)

9. Talent Beyond Boundaries

In 2015, AP entered into an exciting partnership with Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB), an important new initiative to help refugees in the Middle East find legal and safe employment in the global private sector.

TBB was launched in early 2015 by AP Board member Mary Louise Cohen and her husband Bruce. Together they visited the Middle East and held extensive meetings with refugees, refugee advocates, and international organizations.

Many refugees in Jordan and Lebanon made it clear that they had received advanced educational training and worked in skilled jobs before leaving their countries. Now, however they were living precariously. Unable to work legally, many were trying to support their families with illegal or poorly paid menial jobs, risking arrest and deportation. Often, their children were forced to work instead of attend school. This was leading many male refugees to leave their families in search of work in Europe. Others had taken the enormous risk of taking their families on perilous sea crossings.

When asked if they were interested in employment outside the Middle East, these refugees said they would happily take advantage of any opportunity to provide for their families and practice their profession. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) shared summary data with TBB showing that the refugee population included thousands of skilled refugees. However, these refugees were unable to take advantage of work opportunities internationally because they faced many barriers to safe migration and legal employment.

In May, TBB began working with staff at UNHCR headquarters in Geneva to discuss protection concerns and to identify barriers that have limited the ability of refugees to migrate and work legally. With encouragement from UNHCR, the private sector, key refugee advocacy organizations, and academic experts, Talent Beyond Boundaries began planning a pilot project to link skilled refugees living in Lebanon and Jordan with employers in countries that face facing skill gaps within the local workforce and that need to import talent. The goal of the pilot project is to develop systematic solution to barriers that hinder labor mobility pathways for refugees.

In August, TBB had hired its first staff and asked AP to provide fiscal sponsorship and administrative support. AP was happy to accept. AP's Executive Director joined TBB's advisors.

The pilot project will begin in early 2016 when TBB staff are deployed in Jordan and Lebanon. The first activity will involve creating an online talent catalog of skilled refugees, using information from the refugees themselves. Using this information, TBB will seek corporate partners willing to place a pilot cohort of skilled workers in countries that offer labor visas to skilled workers. Working with partner organizations in Jordan and Lebanon, TBB will develop systems to verify job skills and certifications and will work with UNHCR to procure necessary travel documents.

TBB's founding team has impressive credentials. Bruce Cohen served for many years as chief counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Mary Louise Cohen founded a successful Washington, DC law firm and co-founded two successful non-profits that promote health and education in the developing world. TBB's first Executive Director, Sayre Nyce, has over 15 years of experience with the UN and refugee organizations.

10. Taking Action for Social Justice

AP helps partner organizations to develop long-term programs with clear goals, expected outcomes and a budget. Typically, these programs will: a) identify beneficiaries; b) provide a service, with tangible benefits; c) advocate for a long-term change; d) strengthen the partner organization; and e) build an international constituency. During 2015, we supported 6 programs with partners.

10.1 Combating Sexual Violence in Mali

AP continued to support an ambitious program by Sini Sanuman, our Malian partner, to empower women who suffered extreme sexual abuse and violence during the 2012 conflict. In 2015 AP secured \$141,203 from Zivik and provided shelter and services to 240 survivors in Bourem and Bamako:

- **Nutritional and medical support:** The project provided one meal daily to 120 women in Bamako, and two meals a day to the Bourem beneficiaries – an important service at a time when over 500,000 Malians were malnourished. Survivors also received psychosocial support from two psychologists at the centers, and medical care for emergencies and infections.
- **Practical information about SGBV and confidence-building:** Sini Sanuman’s team of animators provided useful advice to 49,326 vulnerable women during 1,696 animation sessions and 958 home visits in Bourem and Bamako. Animators also used these sessions to identify women who were especially in need of support through the centers.
- **Training in soap-making:** Helped by their trainer, Aissata Toure, 150 beneficiaries produced 4,153 bars of shea butter soap and palm oil soap at the two centers. The palm oil soap was sold in the market at 2,200 CFA per carton of 12 bars. The program was still experimenting with the quality of shea butter soap (*beurre de kerite*) at the end of the year. The program also contracted a local women’s association (*Association Ane*) to provide shea oil for soap at double the market price. This meant that 40 more women benefitted from the program.
- **Training in embroidery:** 75 beneficiaries learned how to make embroidery. At first, they struggled with the quality of embroidery and also designs, but under the watchful eye of their trainers, their needlework improved. They produced 164 squares, many with a camel design. These were brought to the US and given to the South Shore Stitchers Guild to turn into quilts.
- **Strengthening Sini Sanuman:** Progress was made on several fronts. The program began to work and report in English, following the recruitment of an English-speaking assistant, Awa Sangare. Sitan Konate the program accountant collected 561 receipts and entered these in the final report. Sini Sanuman and AP produced two evaluations and secured funding for the 2016 program.
- **Local and international promotion:** Sini Sanuman developed a new website and newsletter. From Washington, AP produced two news bulletins and two videos on the soap project. AP also sponsored a meeting at Georgetown University, featuring the Malian Ambassador in Washington and AP staff members, which was well attended.
- **Malian quilts:** The PM Fiber Arts Guild in Bethesda MD, assembled the two *Alafia Mali* quilts, which were exhibited at three leading galleries in 2015. The Voice of America interviewed Peace Fellow Giorgia Nicatore and produced a 4-minute video on the Malian quilts.

- **Sustainability:** Sini Sanuman and AP discussed several ways to expand the program in 2016 and secured another donor – the government of Liechtenstein. AP and Sini Sanuman agreed that AP would reduce support for the program in 2016 and deploy one part-time Fellow.



Sini Sanuman's program trains survivors of war rape to produce and sell soap. This generates an income and restores the confidence of the women. Working from two centers, in Bourem and Bamako (above), the 2015 beneficiaries produced 4,153 bars of shea butter soap and palm oil soap, which was sold in the Bamako market.

10.2 Building Accessible Toilets in Uganda

Working through the Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU), an AP partner since 2008, AP installed an accessible toilet at the Tochi primary school in Gulu district, Uganda as part of a long-term commitment to improve water and sanitation for students with disability. For more background see past annual reports.

GDPU and AP selected Tochi School after meeting with the Principal, Christina Aloya Foyla, and with students, in August 2014. The school had 16 students with disability in a student population of 489 but the principal said that many others were deterred from enrolling by the lack of accessible facilities, which had been repeatedly vandalized by the community. One student with polio, Ivan Olanya, had faced incessant bullying from other students who were jealous of his high grades and wanted to see him leave.

Peace Fellow Josh Levy started fundraising for the Tochi project as soon as he was selected by AP and by the time he arrived in Uganda over 50 donors had pledged more than \$3,500. The Rotary Club of Windsor Ontario donated another \$1,000. Josh worked with Simon Ojok, from the GDPU. They received three bids from local contractors and were able to install a toilet with handrails and ramp (photo below), and a water tank for washing (securely fastened to prevent vandalism). Equally important, the project organized an art competition among students, to preach the importance of inclusivity.

The Tochi toilet was opened on August 11 to local acclaim. Over 1,000 students, teachers, parents, community members and politicians attended. Capping off the event, the students from Tochi organized a play in which one of them played Ivan, while Ivan himself looked on with obvious pleasure. Mr Okumu Lurio, head of the local Gulu District Council, pledged continuing support for Tochi and the program. AP described the event [in a news bulletin](#).

This successful outcome left some important questions unanswered. First, would the new toilet encourage other children with disabilities to enroll – and would bullying be reduced? How would this be measured? Would the local community respect or vandalize the new facilities – as had happened with the previous toilet? Would GDPU follow up and monitor? Would the local government support future projects?

Josh worked with the GDPU to put a monitoring system in place, but left in mid-August. GDPU continued to visit Tochi School regularly and by the end of the year the toilet was still functioning well. This was sufficiently encouraging for AP to launch an appeal for a second toilet through the online platform Givology. This would allow for a second toilet to be built in 2016, and the model further tested.



10.3 Supporting Agent Orange Victims in Vietnam

Between 1960 and 1972 US planes dropped 11.4 million gallons of dioxin-laden Agent Orange (AO) over the south of Vietnam and parts of Laos and Cambodia. The dioxin entered the food chain, triggering a wide array of medical conditions and cancers in Vietnamese and American service-members and their families. The Vietnamese Red Cross has estimated that over 3 million Vietnamese are affected.

AP's partner in Vietnam, the Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD), has long been concerned about the impact of dioxin poisoning on Vietnamese families, and AP Fellows serving at AEPD have been profiling Agent Orange affected families in the province of Quang Binh, where AEPD operates, since 2010.

In 2014, AP Board member Scott Allen funded a joint survey by AEPD and AP of 500 affected families, to assess their needs. Peace Fellow Seth McIntyre helped to train the survey team and produce some powerful profiles for the AP website. The survey found that the pressure on caregivers was particularly intense. Many were ageing widows who were caring for severely affected children. Yet USAID – the main donor on Agent Orange – was focused more on cleaning up “hot spots” which had been heavily sprayed than on people.

Against this backdrop, AP dispatched Peace Fellow Armando Gallardo to help AEPD develop a program for Agent Orange caregivers. AP Executive Director Iain Guest joined Armando in August and together they visited ten families under extreme pressure. They were accompanied by AEPD outreach workers.

Armando and Iain took powerful photos, which have been widely viewed, and Armando helped AEPD develop a small budget for each of the ten families that will form the basis for individual appeals in 2016. The caregivers and their stricken relatives are certainly inspiring. Toan, 20, pictured below, has been denied the chance to go to school by his disabilities but remains upbeat and produces model buildings from chopsticks. He was delighted to make his first sale to AP!



AP and AEPD will raise funds for ten families that are severely affected by Agent Orange in 2016. They include the family of Pham Thi Do, who is seen here with her son Ngyuen Van Toan.

10.4 Eliminating Child Labor from the Brick Kilns of Nepal

It is illegal to employ children under the age of 16 to do dangerous work in Nepal, yet the brick kilns employ tens of thousands of young children. Rupesh Shrestha, pictured below, started flipping bricks at the age of three. When his mother Urmila met with AP in August 2015 she insisted that her son had only been playing while she herself was making bricks and that she could not afford child care. Some might see this as a poor excuse, but the enormous pressure on this family also shows the complexity of child labor, and the difficulties in eliminating such practices.

AP first became involved in child labor through our partner organization BASE, which works with domestic servants (*kamlaharis*) in the Tharu district. In 2014 we raised \$1,200 to help another Tharu partner, SWAN place ten girls in school who would almost certainly have become *kamlaharis*. The same year we deployed two Peace Fellows to work with another partner, CONCERN, in Kathmandu, which used the same approach to protect children from work in the brick kilns by sending them to school.

In 2015 we helped CONCERN to send 25 brick children to school. Using funds raised from our Nepal appeal through Global Giving, we transferred almost \$4,000 to CONCERN. Joty Sohi, the 2015 Peace Fellow at CONCERN, also raised another \$1,000. Finally, Grace McGuire, a 12 year old student from Washington DC put up her own web page (Bricks2Books), organized a group of friends, and went door to door to raise \$519 for the brick children. Grace's efforts inspired her community and led to many acts of generosity. Over \$100 of her grant came in the form of pennies.

Back in Nepal, CONCERN put the money to good use and paid for the school fees of 25 children. Iain Guest from AP visited Nepal in August to work with Joty and met with several of the children at their school in Bhaktapur. Joty went on to profile all 25 children for the AP website.

Iain and Joty also accompanied CONCERN's director, Bijaya Sainju, to the district of Ramechhap, in eastern Nepal, to meet families that planned to migrate down to the kilns in Bhaktapur when the brick season began in the Fall. It was an illuminating visit. Ramechhap is extremely poor and there are few obvious alternative sources on income on its steep slopes. In addition, the kilns recruit brokers who seek out workers in poor families and lock them in to contracts months in advance – a form of bonded labor.

Rupesh Shrestha, now 5, was one of the 25 children that met with AP and is now in school thanks to CONCERN. But Rupesh (photo below) also made it clear that school is only part of the solution. Both his parents work in the kilns during the season, and Rupesh lives with them when he returns from school at night. Their living conditions are unhealthy – the family lives in a brick hut and the kiln lacks a health center. Also, Rupesh's homework suffers as a result. As a result, CONCERN's long-term goal is to prevent rather than just moderate the scandal of child labor. AP is committed to helping.



10.5 Combating Uterine Prolapse in Nepal



AP has worked through partners in Nepal to combat the scourge of uterine prolapse since 2008, when Peace Fellow Nicole Farkouh first alerted us to the problem. The first partner to ask for AP support was the Women's Reproductive Rights Program (WRRP) in 2009, and our video for WRRP *Saving the Womb* still attracts viewers. We also continue to show the spectacular *Mahalako Swastha* (Women's Health) quilts, which were made under the auspices of WRRP and portray prolapse as viewed by women affected.

In 2014 AP received a request from Care Women Nepal (CWN), a community association which works in the eastern district of Dhankuta. CWN was seeking funds for health camps where women could be screened for prolapse and then wait-listed for surgery. AP deployed a Peace Fellow, Katie Baczewski, to help organize an experimental health camp at which village women could be screened for prolapse. AP launched an appeal, which raised over \$3,000 – enough to fund the camp.

Katie was impressed by the camp and in the spring of 2015 we raised around \$4,000 through Global Giving for another health camp. Peace fellow Maya Washington moved to Dhankuta and Iain Guest from AP also attended the camp during a visit to Nepal. The camp screened 1,005 villagers and covered the cost of 12 surgeries for women found to have third degree prolapse. Maya also raised \$450 which paid for an emergency operation for Dimar, 57, who was suffering from a grotesque hernia. The photos below show Dimar before and after the surgery, with Indira Thapa, the inspiring founder and director of CWN.



The 2015 camp provided a clear picture of CWN's value, but also needs. The organization works in remote areas where government services are few and far between. It is trusted by villagers and can draw on a loyal network of around 30 local volunteers, government doctors, nurses and specialists, which illustrates CWN's value as an intermediary between villagers and their government. Dr Ramesh Shrestha, who headed

the gynecological team at the 2015 camp, is pictured at the top of this page. The 2015 camp also showed how CWN can support other NGOs. Sanjok Shakya and his colleagues from The Dhankuta Eye Hospital took advantage of the CWN camp to screen over 300 villagers – many times more than they would see in an average day at his hospital.

Still, the challenges of being a volunteer association also became apparent. Much of the burden of running CWN falls squarely on Indira Thapa, who has many other responsibilities and interests in the district. The timing of surgeries also depended on the availability of the Dhankuta hospital schedule, and it was not until November that a visiting team from the Aloha Medical Mission could operate on 12 women wait-listed by the camp. This created uncertainty and could have caused anxiety among the patients. It suggested that the informality of CWN's model could be a weakness as well as a strength.

The question at the end of 2015 was how to address the weakness while also playing to the strength. After Global Giving generously granted an additional \$20,000 to AP and CWN, we agreed to fund two more health camps in 2016 and focus on strengthening CWN.



1,005 villagers attended the Care Women Nepal health camp at Jitpur, Dhankuta district, in July 2015. Some older women have lived with prolapse for over thirty years. For more, read [this news bulletin](#).

10.6 Supporting Wives of the Disappeared in Nepal

AP began a partnership with the National Network of Families of Disappeared and Missing Nepal (NEFAD) in 2014, when we helped NEFAD submit a proposal to the US Department of State. The proposal was shortlisted, but the project was cancelled when the earthquake struck.

Working on the proposal strengthened the partnership between AP and NEFAD and in June 2015 AP raised over \$3,500 for NEFAD from our Global Giving appeal. The decision was taken to deploy a Peace Fellow, Dustin Pledger, to help NEFAD spend the AP grant. Dustin recommended helping wives of the disappeared to produce embroidered squares, commemorating their loved ones. Unfortunately, Dustin was unable to work with NEFAD's lack of structure and left in mid-July.

Iain Guest from AP visited Nepal and spent ten intensive days with Ram Kumar Bhandari, the founder and leader of NEFAD. Together, Ram and Iain met with wives in the Kathmandu valley and neighboring districts. They included several members of the Hateymalo program for wives of the disappeared, run by the Red Cross. Some wives had been on opposite sides of the conflict (photo below).

Ram and Iain also met with the 5 members of the governmental commission on disappearances, after which the Commission agreed to meet immediately with NEFAD members, including Shobha Bhatta (see above, chapter 5). This greatly increased NEFAD's profile with its members and the Commission, which began to call on Ram for advice regularly. The Commission also circulated a [news bulletin issued by AP](#).

Meanwhile, Ram also commissioned embroidered squares from several wives. Several squares were ready by August 30 – International Day of the Disappeared – and exhibited publicly in Kathmandu. This was the first income-generating project for families of the disappeared in Nepal. Unfortunately, the squares were not quite suitable for an advocacy quilt, so the embroidery project was postponed until 2016.



Reconciliation through advocacy: Mankumari Ranjit's husband was abducted by Maoists, Durga Shrestha's husband by the Army. Membership of NEFAD has allowed the two wives to find common ground and become fast friends.

11. Fellows for Peace

AP recruits graduate students to serve as Fellows for Peace and volunteer alongside partners. Ten Fellows were deployed in 2015, bringing the number recruited since 2003 to 274.



Recruitment and Training

In promoting the 2015 fellowships, AP staff presented at 5 schools (Georgetown, SIPA, Tufts, UMD, and CAIS) and received 125 applications from 70 schools and programs. Special thanks to our university partners in particular: Patt Macken, SIPA; My Doan, Fletcher School; Cori Epstein, New York University.

AP provided a week of training to all Fellows in Washington in May, under the direction of Katie Petitt. Our thanks to the trainers: Ashok Sinha, (photographer and founder of Cartwheel Initiative); Heather McCuen, (writer and digital media strategist); Julie Espinoza, (video journalist at Devex); David Bartecchi, (Executive Director of Village Earth); Iran Sayed-Raeisy (researcher in global health); Vrinda Gupta (digital communications and strategy planner); Asia Hege (website expert); Michael Gale (Global Giving); Abbie Satterfield and Michelle Brown (Clements International).

Deployment

AP deployed 10 Peace Fellows to work with 10 partner organizations in eight countries in 2015.

Africa

- Mali: Refilwe Moahi (Brandeis University) was deployed at *Sini Sanuman*.
- Uganda: Josh Levy (Columbia University) *The Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU)*.

Asia

- Nepal: Joty Sohi (City University London) *CONCERN*; Maya Washington (Brandeis University) *Care Women Nepal*; Dustin Pledger (Brandeis University) *National Network of Families of Disappeared & Missing in Nepal*.
- Vietnam: Armando Gallardo (University for Peace) *Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities*.

South America

- Peru: Mariel Sanchez (Tufts University) *Equipo Peruano de Antropología Forense*

Europe and the Middle East

- Morocco: KENZA Elazkem (University for Peace) *Ain Leuh Weaver's Cooperative*;
- Palestine: Katie Conlon (Ohio University) *Palestinian House of Friendship*
- Bosnia: Sarah Reichenbach (George Washington University) *Bosnia Family*

Services

AP trained Peace Fellows to offer 5 services. Nine Fellows provided 40 services (out of a maximum of 45) services to nine host organizations, as follows:

- Service 1 – Telling the story of partners: Peace Fellows produced 86 blogs, 1,626 photos, 12 videos and oversaw the production of 36 embroidered squares for advocacy quilts.
- Service 2 – Tech support: Peace Fellows produced two finished websites (Bosnia and Mali) and trained local staff to maintain websites at 7 host organizations
- Service 3 - Strengthening organizations: Fellows provided 27 different sub-services which helped to strengthen their host organizations. (photo below)
- Service 4 - Fundraising: Fellows raised \$9,264 for their hosts.
- Service 5 - Outreach in the US: Several past Fellows attended quilt exhibitions. Former Peace fellow Georgia Nicatore joined the Malian ambassador in Washington for a panel discussion on the Mali crisis at Georgetown University.



Strengthening organizations through partnership: Peace Fellow Refilwe Moahi (left) spent seven months at Sini Sanuman in Mali. By the time she left, Sini Sanuman was able to conduct business in English; produce bi-monthly reports for the German government; manage a new website; collect and record 571 receipts; e) produce and distribute a new newsletter in English and French; f) work more closely with INGOs, UN agencies and embassies. Refilwe is seen here with Awa Sangare, program assistant at Sini Sanuman.

Evaluations and Impact

AP asked all Fellows to complete two evaluations at the end of their fellowship – one on the impact of the fellowship and the second on their deliverables. The evaluations are available for review.

- Overall experience – 72 out of 90 (Four fellows rated 10)
- Support from AP in the field – 34 out of 45
- Academically enriching – 36 out of 50
- More prepared to volunteer – 35 out of 50
- More confident in general – 40 out of 50.

Feedback from Fellows

We asked fellows to tell us what they had most appreciated about their fellowships:

- Mariel Sanchez (EPAF, Peru): “Everything I did had the greater benefit of supporting human rights. Working with the people of EPAF and learning the stories of conflict directly from the victims were the most rewarding aspects. I have grown academically, professionally and personally.”
- Josh Levy (GDPU, Uganda): “Seeing the fruits of my labor. Once the toilet was built I felt an enormous sense of accomplishment. It was also really great working with Simon and training him on how to make this project happen next year.”
- Kenza Elazkem (Ain Leuh cooperative, Morocco): “The best aspect of the fellowship was to see the process of carpet making and sharing meals with the women's families.”
- Sarah Reichenbach (BOSFAM, Bosnia): “Forging strong relationships with the women of BOSFAM and developing a personal philosophy on conflict-sensitive development. I have developed a stronger sense of how effective change can begin at the grassroots, especially with women.”
- Joty Sohi (CONCERN, Nepal): “Having the funds for an actual project, and seeing it through. I was able to come up with a small proposal, a budget, (and do) field work that involved interviewing the beneficiaries. It has opened my eyes to what it's like to work abroad for a smaller NGO.”
- Katie Conlon (PHF, Palestine): “Getting the chance to experience life in the West Bank and seeing the reality of the Israeli occupation. The fellowship has definitely reinforced my ability to adapt to new environments.”
- Refilwe Moahi (Sini Sanuman, Mali): “Getting to know my co-workers and some of the survivors at the center. It has helped me realize that I like working with small teams and that I want to continue to pursue a career in women's empowerment.”
- Maya Washington (Care Women Nepal): “I did feel that the health camps were helpful and people were receiving care that they otherwise wouldn't have received.”
- Armando Gallardo (AEPD, Vietnam): “Meeting the families and getting to know them as individuals and not just mere recipients of benefits. After meeting those families there's no way one can't be touched and changed.”

Finance for fellowships: The 2015 fellowship program cost \$61,400.73. Our thanks to the many individuals and foundations who helped to cover the cost, through their core grants to AP or special donations. They are listed at the end of this report.

12. People at AP

AP drew on a committed group of 59 staff, board members, and volunteers in 2015:

- **Staff:** Iain Guest, Karin Orr, Katie Petitt.
- **Interns:** Lauren Blommel; Nada Babaa; Katherine Brana-Milian; Sydney Capito; Karen Delaney; Paul Khouri; Seulgi Kang; Jerry Lui; Annika McGinnis; Yasmin Moorman; Emma Miller; Danielle Storbeck; Joel Vazquez; and Huiquiao Zhang. Our thanks to the Cal State DC internship program and to the The Fund for American Studies for sending us more excellent interns.
- **Contractors:** Josh Nichols, founder of Unbound Technology, took over as AP's new web master. Beverly Orr continued to manage our accounts, with authority and expertise.
- **AP Board:** Mr Scott Allen (photo below), HE Claudia Fritsche, Mr Devin Greenleaf, Mr Iain Guest, Dr Susan Martin, Mr Soren Jessen-Petersen, Mr Bayo Oyewole, and Dr Cristy West.
- **US quilters:** Ten quilters from the PM Fiber Arts Guild, and three quilters from the South Shore Stitches, worked on advocacy quilts in 2015.
- **Peace Fellows:** Ten trainers assisted in training Fellows. Ten Peace fellows served in the field.



Scott Allen stepped down from the AP Board in 2015 after being named US Director to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London. Scott is a long-time donor and friend of AP. He is seen here with Saraswoti, a rescued child laborer during a mission to Nepal for AP in 2012.

13. Financials (Year ending December 31, 2015)

INCOME

Unrestricted Contributions	\$98,250.27
Restricted Contributions	\$119,109.35
Program Service Income	\$19,437.00
Rental income	\$8,616.2
Other revenue (quilts)	\$144.74
Total Revenue	\$245,557.61

EXPENSES

Personel Costs	\$89,502.57
Contract Services	\$30,676.26
Fellowships Fees	\$22,680.00
Project Officer Stipend	\$1,750.00
Office Expenses	\$10,949.69
Occupancy Costs	\$21,656.10
Insurance	\$9,371.58
Subgrant Expenses	\$5,281.00
Travel and Lodging	\$23,150.26
Meeting and Conferences	\$4,752.70
Information and Technology	\$6,720.79
Other Expenses	\$2,363.49
Total Expenses	\$228,854.44

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS **\$16,703.17**

14. Our 2015 Benefactors

With Thanks To...

Organizations: Humanity United Fund; The Zonta Club of Washington; Pepsico; the Combined Federal Campaign (through the Human & Civil Rights Organization of America); World Bank Community Connections Fund; The Brimstone Foundation; The Journey Fund.

Individual Donors: Scott Allen; Sonya Baskerville; Carol Beaver; Mary Ellen Bittner; Fred and Joan Bliss; Helen Blumen; Nora Burchfield; Katerina Canyon; Jeff Carmel; M A Chiulli; Julia Coburn; Mary Louise Cohen; Eugene Cohen; Sarah Craven; Teresa Crawford; Judy Crip; Heather Dolstra; Chuck and Cynthia Dougherty; Barbara Eisenstein; Alan Erlich; Claudia Fritsche; Devin Greenleaf; Diana Garcia; Soren Jessen-Petersen; Carol Jones; Erin Lapham; Luigi and Karin Laraia; Joyce Leader; Judith Leff; William Lorie; Rubana Mahjabeen; Sultan Mahmud; Merry May; Susan Martin; Gail Morgado; Richard Newton; Carol Nussbaum; Elizabeth Ohlson; Wayne Outten; Pamela Omidyar; Herbert Parsons; Robert Pease; Katie Perry; Ramona Pettitt; David Rion; Annette Scarpetta; Alison Soldano; James Soldano; May Vaughan; Pamela Weeks; Robin and Eileen West; Cristy West; Allison Wilbur.

Applicants for Peace Fellowships: Abdul Rehman Ahmed; Jillian Aldebron; Brittany Alexander; Juan Ascencio Moctezuma; Sebastian Bae; Michael Baker; Saskia Brechenmacher; Molly Caldwell; Eric Cheng; Trinetta Chong; Haley Cline; Katie Conlon; David Cronin; Patrick Cullen; Ericka Dixon; Kathleen Ebbitt; Lauren Egbert; Andrea Eisinberg; Kenza Elazkem; Lidia Eyob; Niloufar Farid; Armando Gallardo; Cameron Giebink; Leah Goldmann; Tallyn Gray; Heidi Green; Lindsey Green; Jackson Gzehoviak; Riana Hardin; Fakhruddin Hashimy; Kenley Jones; Sabin Khadka; Kumar Khadka; Adrienne Klein; Makoto Kurokawa; Hae Kwon; Elizabeth L. Law; Josh Levy; Jennifer Linkletter; Chelsea Matson; Karen Meyer; Refilwe Moahi; Jamaluddin Mohammadi; Elohim Monard; Chimalang Ngu; Audrey Nicolas; Hyun Kyung Park; Danny Pavitt; Minh Nguyet Pham; Dustin Pledger; Aryn Rajan; Michelle Ralph-Forton; Maya Ranganath; Elsa Raunio; Sarah Reichenbach; Megha Rimal; Samantha Rommel; Emma Rosenberg; Rebecca Russell-Einhorn; Abdoulaye Sall; Mariel Sanchez; Paola Santamaria Sánchez; Mariam Saoma; Iran Seyed-Raeisy; Navjot Sohi; Carly Teng; Molly Thomas; Scott Tuurie; Saadiya Usmani; Vierka Vasquez; Denisse Vega Flores; Maya Washington; Suzanne Webb; Yuanzhou Wu; Sangeetha Yogendran; Hilda Yoin; Christine Young; Kaitlyn Zeno.

The World Bank's Community Connections Campaign (CCC): Patricia Bliss-Guest; Carla Fabiola Chacaltana; Cecile Ferro; Thomas Flochel; Shaanti Marie Kapila; Anne T. Kuriakose; Luigi Laraia; Eguiar Lizundia Gonzalez; Mona Luisa Niebuhr; Bayo Oyewole; Olufunke Olabisi Oyewole; Christian Albert Peter; Kanako Yamashita-Allen.

Through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC): Daren Draves; Richard Doucette; Deirdre Cunningham; Marcie Stone; Jessica Morelli.

Through Global Giving: Sara Allen; Scott Allen; Chelsea Ament; Nada Babaa; Katharine Baker; Raka Banerjee; Christine Barker; Carol Beaver; Matthew Becker; Mary Ellen Bittner; Stacey Blackford; Anthony Bliss; Lisa Bliss; Sara Bliss; Patricia Bliss-Guest; Lauren Blommel; Jessica Boccardo; Kate Bollinger; Carla Borden; Katherine Brana-Milian; Elizabeth Branda; Marilyn Brekka; David Avid Burtonperry; Kristen Caldwell; Katerina Canyon; Kenneth Chin; Sydney Capito; Julia Coburn; Mary Cohen; Rachel Cohen; Ari Cohen; Katie Conlon; Anastasios Coulaloglou; Margaret Davidson; Julia Delaney; Karen Delaney; Michael Delaney; (Heather Dolstra); (Claudia Fritsche); Rebecca Gerome; Cindy

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The Last Word...



In 2010, Charlotte Bourdillon, above, served as a Peace Fellow at the Kakenya Center of Excellence in Kenya, where she helped Kakenya Nataiya develop a pioneering girls school and combat genital cutting. Kakenya's program has gone from strength to strength and in 2013, she was named one of CNN's top 10 heroes. Since completing her fellowship Charlotte has continued to work on health in Africa, as a Maternal and Child Health Fellow for the Access Project in Rwanda. Charlotte's mother, Sarah McCracken, has given generously to two AP appeals on uterine prolapse in Nepal and helped assemble the Maasai advocacy quilts. Sarah wrote to AP that Charlotte's work in Kenya had been "deeply meaningful to her and totally changed her career trajectory."