



Growth ⇌ Resources ⇌ Action ⇌ Community ⇌ Empowerment

A catalyst for development; where communities take the lead.

GRACE Cares 2021 Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Letter from the Executive Director**
- 2. Projects**
 - a. B4 Peace**
 - b. Community Finance Guatemala**
 - c. Lucknow Project**
 - d. Munali Youth Empowerment Program**
 - e. Project Hearts**
 - f. Watha Project**
- 3. Financial Statement**
- 4. Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers**
- 5. Donor List**

Letter from the Executive Director GRACE Cares 2021

GRACE Cares' mission is to partner with local heroes and communities on small-scale community development projects that make a difference by empowering people to improve their lives. We do this with respect to local cultures and traditions. This is accomplished by helping to build healthy, educated, just, peaceful, and productive communities. GRACE Cares provides expertise, funding, and support for health, education, peace and social justice, cultural preservation, and economic development projects.

Growth: Despite the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, we have nevertheless seen all of our programs expand their vision of what they want for their communities.

- **B4 Peace** was active with two major projects (*Agent Orange: Do Not Forget Me* and *Do Not Forget Me: Yes, I Can*) that highlight the horrors of war and the specific damage left by Agent Orange in the context of the Vietnam War. B4 Peace also created a video, “The 100 Flowers of Peace,” for a public art and museum installation.
- **Community Finance Guatemala (CFG)** continued their major programs in 2021 despite COVID restrictions, including financial education, savings groups, chicken endowments, Fontierra loans, Ixoqi’, and entrepreneurship support. Notable success stories like the examples of Francisca Chicol and Gloria Cutzal also highlight CFG’s accomplishments for the year.
- The **Lucknow Project** created a database of 40 families headed by women to keep track of their well-being, health, and financial needs and to ensure that these needs are being met on a continuing basis. They also provided rations, essential medications, clothing, and necessary medical treatments to the 40 families. Finally, the Lucknow Project continued to support English education programs in Amethi, with a focus on wellness and health given the frequent outbreaks of COVID in the region.
- The **Munali Youth Empowerment Program (MYEP)** operated a mobile library for children, maintained three outreach field points for their mobile libraries in the communities, and carried out several outreach sessions in the communities to children and their parents on literacy awareness and health and nutrition education. They worked with five outreach volunteers and three staff members to deliver services to target groups. Finally, MYEP reached a collaborative agreement with the local city council to coordinate mobile outreach activities with permanent libraries in the local community halls.
- **Project Hearts** operated several W.A.S.H. initiatives that facilitated water access to 88 homes via 3 water filters and 87 water tanks. They also conducted Community Health Leadership programs that graduated 9 women who were then able to disseminate their knowledge to 60 families (98 adults and 104 children). Finally, Project Hearts’ staff psychologist led 11 informative workshops to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and how to care for themselves. She also conducted 27 personal counseling sessions with individuals and families.
- And finally in Kenya, the **Watha Project** purchased 35 water filters for two villages—Bombi and Katana-hakeye. They also purchased Wi-Fi for the project leader Jefferson Guyo Badiva. This was

seen as a major achievement to enhance the connectivity within the village and the local community. Finally, the Watha Project conducted 11 workshops for W.A.S.H. programs that have positively impacted the quality of life for the local community, particularly in regard to hygiene and health.

Resources: These communities depend on financial support. We have been encouraging our programs to delve into their own fundraising and social media. This can be a challenge for some of our programs with limited resources. That is why we depend on our donors who continue to sustain our current programs and provide the impetus for new programs in 2022.

Action: This year we have become more active on social media—check out our Facebook Page! We also made a conscious effort to spread the word about our projects and goals. In 2022, we are looking for additional board members to help provide fresh insight in this rapidly changing world. GRACE Cares has also taken on new staff which will provide us more focus and expand our programs.

Community: Every project we collaborate with has local heroes who are passionate about strengthening their communities. These heroes work with their communities at a grassroots level to determine community priorities, ranging from providing sustainable agricultural programs and water systems to education, social services, and healthcare. The commitment of these heroes has illustrated what can be accomplished to make their communities a better place.

Empowerment: 2021 was the year of resilience, strength, and empowerment. In the United States, where dramatic political and social transformations took place, B4 Peace has made the silent voices heard. And internationally, Project Hearts is empowering women in Baitoa, Dominican Republic, traditionally a male dominant society, and MYEP is empowering women and children in Zambia. All of our programs were inspired from these global changes and it is easily reflected in the growth of all of our projects.

With gratitude,

Lamia Lahrech, PhD

Executive Director, GRACE Cares



B4 Peace

Background: GRACE Cares believes it is important to promote the arts and education projects that develop individual and community awareness on the importance of peacebuilding. By doing so, they join citizens across the globe to reflect on decisions that impact the lives of vulnerable people. We promote an agenda that respects the rights and responsibilities of humans: the right to be free and to live peacefully and to learn how to build peace within individuals, families, and communities. An integral part of GRACE Cares is the B4 Peace project led by Namaya, poet and artist, and Zoe Kopp.

Activities: In 2021, despite pandemic setbacks, the [B4 Peace Project](#) continued its multi-year project on Agent Orange, its goal is to raise awareness of the impact of war, long after a war has stopped. 2025 will be the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War and yet the destruction of this war continues.



Namaya Art Rat for Peace 2021

The Agent Orange chemical warfare program left enormous environmental damage and caused significant health problems for the people of Vietnam. Presently, there are still over 2 million individuals suffering from Agent Orange Syndrome (AOS) in Vietnam and the USA. While many American veterans receive compensation from the US government for AOS, the Vietnamese victims do not receive compensation. The project's goal is to increase knowledge and action regarding the ongoing damage caused by the US military's chemical defoliant Agent Orange during

the Vietnam War. The Agent Orange educational video by Namaya is part of a social media campaign and can be viewed at: <https://namayaproductions.com/projects/agent-do-not-forget-me/> and was presented at the 2021 Vietnam Veterans International conference and at Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day presentation in St. Petersburg, FL.

IT WASN'T JUST AGENT ORANGE: The Rainbow Herbicides of the Vietnam War Era



<https://www.facebook.com/Do-Not-Forget-Me-115262450374398/>

B4 Peace was also active in supporting the *Do Not Forget: Yes, I Can* project. The art and parallel social advocacy campaign are designed to raise awareness of the extent of the damage and inspire critical thinking, dialogue, and concrete action addressing the social impact of the chemical warfare program.

In sharing the lingering effects of Agent Orange with the US and international public, B4 Peace hopes to promote peace and advocate for continued support for victims. An integral part of the project is "Yes, I can: Yes, we can" to highlight individuals' courageous work with Agent Orange Syndrome, their families, and organizations. The project has been endorsed by Veterans for Peace and is collaborating with other groups in the US, Vietnam, and around the world.

"The 100 Flowers of Peace" video was developed for a public art and museum installation and you can enjoy hearing and seeing this message of peace here:

<https://namayaproductions.com/projects/100flowersofpeace/>

"The 100 Flowers of Peace" is a poem written by Namaya and translated into over 100 languages making it one of the most widely translated poems.



Future: A sculpture created by Namaya will be installed at the War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in 2022 or 2023 depending on the museum's re-opening date. The sculpture uses (simulated) orange barrels with portraits of those affected and conveys the devastating and lingering effects of the Vietnam War. The names of the corporations responsible (Monsanto, DuPont, etc.) are emblazoned on the barrels. Namaya and the B4 Peace team will partner with the War Remnants Museum in Vietnam, volunteers, and local artists in Vietnam to implement the project.

House of War: House of Glass - This play is part of the B4 Peace project. It is about children who are faced with environmental disasters who find their courage to challenge the adults. We are currently looking for a production company and partners to produce the play.





Community Finance Guatemala

Background: Thousands of indigenous Kakchiquel Maya households throughout the Chimaltenango department (~counties) of Guatemala live with constant financial uncertainty and instability, which greatly diminishes their overall quality of life. Community Finance Guatemala (CFG) is dedicated to reversing this situation by supporting indigenous Guatemalan women with the necessary knowledge and tools to empower themselves to organize their own financial systems. Project founder Andrew Becker arrived in Guatemala in 2013 to consult for a local social business, Soluciones Comunitarias, which is dedicated to offering innovative services to alleviate many of the challenges faced by the indigenous populations throughout the country. By working directly with their local team and having countless individual and group discussions with constituents, Andrew designed what is now the CFG project. While Andrew was able to support and train a few savings groups on his own, CFG really didn't take off until in 2016 when he found two incredible local heroes of Comalapa, Doña Maria Sotz and Wilfred Son (now the director), to take over the training of the groups themselves. This dynamic duo has since taken over management of the project locally and has grown it to become more successful than Andrew could have ever imagined.

Activities: In 2021, community, labor, religious, and educational activities at the local and regional level were limited by fluctuating COVID restrictions. Nevertheless, the local Community Finance team restarted community activities with the enthusiasm and love of service that characterizes them. Here is a summary of the activities carried out during the year:



Financial Education

- Through educational talks on financial education CFG continues to raise awareness in the communities to create important changes in the management of personal and family finances, offering them tools and knowledge to balance their financial flow.
- Thanks to the successful experiences of the Solidarity and Savings groups, the word has spread to more communities in the Chimaltenango area who have invited CFAs to receive financial education.

- The result of the trainings was reflected in advisors with more strength and self-confidence, supported with practical and creative mechanisms for the development of the talks. Although field activities in the communities were not 100% normal due to the pandemic, every effort was made to attend to the different organized groups, communities, and families.



Savings Groups

- Maintaining Covid prevention precautions, the community finance team provided advice and follow-up to the 21 existing Solidarity and Savings groups through visits to the communities and telephone calls.
- To make the support more effective from a distance through phone calls, it was very helpful to create replicas of the ledger of each group, this being a tool to closely support the groups and at the same time to support the CFAs to update databases.
- Despite the challenges brought on by the pandemic, 100% of the groups are active and strengthened. The services offered by the community banks have been of great benefit to the members, so they themselves seek to convince more people to take advantage of them. Proof of this is that in 2021, 110 members were integrated among the different groups, totaling 401 active members.
- During 2021, the 21 Solidarity and Savings groups were able to collect Q. 378,727.00 in savings, these same groups had constant movement in credits and were able to generate Q.86,985.05 of interest in credits, which became profits for the members.
- Through the credits, savings, and profits generated in 2021, the families took another step to improve their living conditions by investing in health, education, strengthening personal businesses, agriculture, animal husbandry, etc.

Chicken Endowment

- At the beginning of the year CFG took advantage of a visit to the groups to monitor the first results of the chompipollos endowment project, the members of the Solidarity and Savings groups showed their gratitude for the support received in times of crisis due to the pandemic in 2020 and were very happy to share their experiences and benefits that produced these results.
- Many of them shared that they still fed on the fruit of the seeds received in 2020, especially taking advantage of the nutrients from the chard and mustard weed. And the mustard also even served as feed for their chickens.
- Of the chickens they received in the last months of 2020, thanks to the family effort to feed and raise them, they bore fruit in the first months of 2021, strengthening the food and economy of the families through the meat and eggs of these birds.



- The families that did not benefit from their consumption decided to sell the chickens to buy corn, beans, buy school supplies, pay school fees, buy fertilizer, supplement to pay off loans and, of course, have bought more chicks to keep their family farm stable.

Success Stories



Vilma Marleny López, single, 33 years old, member of Solidarity and Savings group "Flor de María".

By joining her Solidarity and Savings group she has benefited in many ways, this has helped her to advance in her studies, she acquired the habit of saving and when needed she has benefited from credits to be able to buy a study tool or pay tuition.

The chickens she received were of great benefit to her studies, through their sale she was able to complete the payment of tuition for the year and buy more chicks to raise, which again will benefit her school expenses for the following year. Her goal is to become a laboratorian.



Francisca Chicol, single, 63 years old, member of the group Girasoles.

Upon hearing the news of receiving chicks, Francisca was happy and built a small pen to raise them, she fed them with edible bushes, ground corn, food waste, and a little concentrate; thanks to that effort she managed to raise them for three months and sold them receiving Q.540.00 for them.

With that money she planned to buy more chickens, buy food for her and her sister, and with what was left over she decided to save it in her Solidarity and Savings group.

Francisca is grateful for the support, accompaniment, and ideas she has received from the program for planting vegetables and raising chickens.

Gloria Cutzal, 42 years old, mother of 5 children, member of the group San Antonio.

With the 15 chicks that her family received they all supported each other for their raising, the fruit of their work was reflected when they sold them for Q. 75.00 each, in total they received Q. 1,125.00.

With the money received Gloria paid off the rest of the credit she had in her Solidarity and Savings group, bought 20 more chicks to continue her small family farm, and with the rest of the money she bought more products to sell in her small grocery store.

Gloria and her family are very grateful for the support that Finanzas Comunitarias has given them, especially during the pandemic.



IXOQI'

The business relationship between Sunshine Tienda and Community Finance has been very successful for almost two years now, through some challenges that arose along the way during the year, we saw the need to create our small business with a social vision with the objective that women have access to fair and sustainable economic development, dignifying their work and ancestral art.

The successes of Ixoqi' were very significant during the year 2021 and were reflected in this way:

- During almost the entire year we continuously generated employment for more than 80 women of different ages and living conditions, such as: teenage students, single mothers, widows, low-income women with lack of opportunities, etc.
- Two additional staff members were hired and are dedicated to attending to the needs and operation of Ixoqi on a full-time basis.
- Established an office for the solid operation of Ixoqi' and Community Finance.
- 8,689 hats were sold, generating a total of Q.116,639.06 in funds for the operation of Community Finance, creating more financial stability for the organization.



Fontierra Loans

Since the end of 2020 CFG began to work to attract the benefit of credits by Fondo de Tierra for new families. With the necessary effort CFG has processed the registration documents for 50 beneficiaries and expect to continue working for it and integrating more families for four consecutive years.

Following the management and attraction of this program, CFG also offered financial education to the beneficiaries so that this support can be used effectively for the benefit and development of the family.



Seed Capital for Groups



CFG received an important contribution from an outstanding woman who is an indigenous micro-entrepreneur from Quiche, Doña Silvia Coj.

In 2017 Doña Silvia visited one of the convivencias organized for Solidarity and Savings groups. Excited by the success that the groups have achieved, she donated 6 typical cuts with a value of Q.400.00 for each cut, with a total donated value of Q. 2,400.00.

The purpose of the donation is to strengthen the funds of the community banks. These were raffled and arrived in the hands of 6 Solidarity and Savings groups (Winaqi, ICAM, MIAS, Flor de María, Girasoles, and San Antonio). Each group took it with gratitude and promised to care for and strengthen the seed capital that was donated to them.

Entrepreneurship Support

With the help of GRACE Cares and Community Finance, support was provided to José Xoch. Despite the adversity that the pandemic brought to his life, he and his family decided to explore new livelihood opportunities.



Because of the experience they gained during their years working for Soluciones Comunitarias, they decided to continue working in the sale of health products, such as water filters and eyeglasses/eye exams.

The credit that GRACE Cares and Community Finance granted them allowed them to obtain the necessary capital to take the first steps to establishing the social enterprise "Visión Comunitaria." During the year some challenges have arisen for its operation, but with Jose's enthusiasm and perseverance, the project is still going strong.

Preventative Health



Taking advantage of the visits the Community Finance Advisors take to the groups during the year, they took the opportunity to offer prevention talks, teaching the women some very practical homemade and natural recipes for the creation of oral serum, antibiotics, anti-flu, anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, etc.

Teaching people that in spite of their economic deficiencies, it is possible to solve the common health afflictions that members of their family suffer from.

During the pandemic, CFG continued to promote healthcare to the groups, especially the use of mouth covers and hand washing or disinfection constantly. As soon as CFG had access to vaccinations, they were raising awareness and making trips to the vaccination centers, with the result that 95% of Solidarity and Savings group members were vaccinated, guaranteeing community health.

Family Planning and Sex Education

Family planning and sex education was provided for selected women and their families, especially on hygiene and intimate care. As a result of this education, Hilda Alvarez learned the Natural Family Planning Method. Together with her husband, they learned to postpone pregnancies and her last child is 4 years old. She currently has 4 children.

Hilda is a very active woman in her community and having this knowledge in her hands in her free time she teaches her neighbors to use this method of family planning. In this way, the small local team of Community Finance carried out a series of activities in favor of the communities and families of Guatemalans, seeking to strengthen the individual and collective development of Guatemalans.



Future: CFG's greatest wish is that opportunities for Ixoqi' continue to grow and be stable so that in 2022 the Community Finance program can expand to more communities and support more Guatemalan families. Next year CFG is seeking to focus on implementing systems to help streamline the Ixoqi' business, measure impact, and define what expansion of the programs looks like, including training for teams and formalizing the initiatives that provide support to their new pillars of work.



Lucknow Project

Background: In 2008, Nazeela Nasseri, a U.S. citizen of Indian descent decided to take action after recognizing the need for basic education and healthcare through a visit with her maternal grandfather to the Amethi region. Soon after, she began travelling to India during the summer to teach English in the school for girls in Amethi. The Lucknow Project was eventually established to introduce an Intensive English Program in the region's schools. Nazeela's sister, Afshan Nasseri, is now the director of the Lucknow Project.



Activities: In 2021, the Lucknow Project created a database of 40 families headed by women to keep track of their well-being, health, and financial needs and to ensure that these needs are being met on a continuing basis. They also provided rations, essential medications, clothing, and necessary medical treatments to the 40 families. Finally, the Lucknow Project continued to support English education programs in Amethi, with a focus on wellness and health given the frequent outbreaks of COVID in the region.



Future: The Lucknow Project’s future plans include more fundraising to expand their support networks in Amethi as the impact of COVID continues to be felt across the village. They would also like to create self-sustaining sources of income for women in the village (e.g., tailoring, embroidery, etc.). Finally, the Lucknow Project is planning to strengthen English education initiatives, given the opening of several large, English language schools in near-by property developments.



Munali Youth Empowerment Program

Background: Founded in 2008, Munali Youth Empowerment Program (MYEP) is a grassroots community-based organization dedicated to improving early childhood education, maternal health and child care, human welfare, and opportunities for children, youth, and their families in the Chongwe District of Zambia. MYEP's overall goals are to provide early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities for children, youth, and their families. MYEP also strives to offer educational advancement opportunities for teen mothers and young fathers and to ensure that no one in Chief Kasengo's village goes hungry. Current programs include mobile book activities, health education programs and clinics, cultural activities, and leadership programs.



Activities: MYEP operated a mobile library for children where a temporary office was used to conduct sessions for participating children. They also maintained three outreach field points for their mobile libraries in the communities and carried out several outreach sessions in the communities to children and their parents on literacy awareness and health and nutrition education. They worked with five outreach volunteers and three staff members to deliver services to target groups. Finally, MYEP reached a collaborative agreement with the local city council to coordinate mobile outreach activities with permanent libraries in the local community halls.



Future: MYEP's future plans for 2022 and beyond are to increase the number of booths for the mobile libraries in community locations, train new volunteers and equip them for field work, provide more outreach activities on mobile libraries in communities, and begin a systematic assessment program to evaluate the effectiveness of their programs.



Project Hearts

Background: Baitoa is a rural municipality located in the north of the Dominican Republic with a population of approximately 15,000 people. Due to its lack of infrastructure and social services, Baitoa suffers from problems like access to quality education and healthcare, sanitary forms of waste disposal, clean water supply, and employment opportunities.

Prior to being officially recognized as a Dominican NGO in 2011, Project Hearts existed informally in the personal service of founder Rubén Ottenwalder. Since 2011, Project Hearts has been refining its mission to ensure it is working in such a way as to truly empower communities. For this reason, they are focused on addressing critical needs that fall into three primary categories: health, economic development, and education.



Project Hearts believes everyone deserves to live with dignity, so they are working to exchange the cycle of poverty that exists in Baitoa for a cycle of empowerment. Rather than limiting what resources the poor have access to, they are using their privilege to lift up others by offering them the wisdom and tools that will allow them to alter the future, for themselves and their descendants to come.

Activities: Project Hearts was able to accomplish the following in 2021:

- W.A.S.H. Initiatives: facilitated water access to 88 homes via 3 water filters and 87 water tanks. This impacts 88 homes, including 283 individuals, 76 of which are children.
- Community Health Leadership Program: 9 women graduated from the course after receiving education on 25 health topics and proving their mastery by passing a final exam. These women also taught everything they learned to 60 families, which impacts 98 adults and 104 children by educating them on improved health and hygiene habits.
- Holistic Wellbeing (Mental Health Program): Project Hearts' staff psychologist led 11 informative workshops to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and how to care for oneself. She also conducted 27 personal counseling sessions with individuals and families. Project Hearts is working to break the cultural taboo of not talking about emotional problems, to help people improve their own well-being, as well as their relationships with others.



Future: Next year, Project Hearts will continue to administer programs with proven impact: Community Health Leadership, W.A.S.H. Initiatives, and Holistic Wellbeing (mental health education and counseling services). They also plan to begin offering mental health training to various community leaders so they can be "mental health advocates" in their neighborhoods.

Project Hearts also plans to launch two new programs that address major problems identified by community members:

Financial Literacy and Savings Groups: Many residents in Baitoa have lived in generational poverty for so long that they've never learned how to save money and become financially stable. Project Hearts wants to teach these skills and give residents, especially women, the resources that will help them form healthy habits and eventually help their families break the cycle of poverty. Funding needed to pilot a program is estimated at \$5,000.

Youth Leadership: A major problem in rural areas of the Dominican Republic, including Baitoa, is high teen pregnancy rates. This is largely attributed to the cultural taboo associated with talking about sex, which results in young women and girls only learning how to prevent pregnancy once they are already pregnant. Project Hearts wants to offer adolescent health programs to teen boys and girls and their parents so they can have a better understanding of the physical and emotional changes they are going through, what a healthy relationship looks like (domestic violence is also prevalent here), and how to prevent pregnancy until they are ready to start a family. Additionally, Project Hearts wants to add a leadership component to empower youth and hopefully motivate them to set goals for their futures and give them support to achieve their dreams.





Watha Project

Background: The Uzima Community Development Project supports the wellbeing and development of the Watha people in the Galana region of Kenya through development programs in education, healthcare, water access, and human rights training. The Wathas primarily inhabit four villages within the Kisiki sub-region with a majority living in Garisemuke Village in the Galana area. Most Wathas earn a living through farming, hunting, or charcoal burning. In addition to natural disasters and cyclical climate events like droughts, the Wathas have encountered the following developmental problems that have had adverse effects on their daily lives:

- **Access to clean water:** As a marginalized community, the Watha have historically confronted difficulties in securing access to their own clean water supply. In addition to the history of discrimination, the Watha have had to deal with frequent crocodile attacks which have made the acquisition of water even more difficult.
- **Poor infrastructure:** The Galana region is considered an undeveloped area with poor or under-paved roads that become impassable during the rainy season. Many residents live in simple huts with thatched roofs and mud floors and walls. As with the differential access to water, the lack of infrastructure in the Watha community seems to be an endemic problem.
- **Healthcare:** The nearest dispensary is located in the town of Bombi, a 4-5 km walk for many residents. Beyond the distance, the dispensary lacks adequate health facilities, equipment, and medications and has only one on-call nurse. Mobile health services run by the county government of Kilifi have only been available on a sporadic basis, and the majority of people have had to rely on traditional herbal medications without proper access to medical care.
- **Food security:** The Galana community depends heavily on subsistence farming and charcoal burning with very little opportunity for livestock husbandry. However, since the region tends to be very arid and susceptible to floodwaters, it is very difficult to raise crops consistently. The problems are exacerbated by the rate of deforestation to produce charcoal.
- **Education:** The level of illiteracy is much higher within the Watha community compared to other neighboring communities. The residents not only suffer from a lack of resources (e.g., schools, teachers), but also face economic pressures that compel families to keep children at home.

Activities: In 2021, the Watha Project purchased Wi-Fi for the project leader. This was seen as a major achievement to enhance the connectivity within the village and the local community. A poor network connection was a continuing challenge for project leader Jefferson Guyo Badiva prior to this year.

The Watha Project also purchased water filters for two villages—Bombi and Katana-hakeye. They managed to purchase 35 water filters for distribution to the two villages respectively. The water filters have allowed villagers to access clean and safe drinking water in a reliable way.



Finally, the Watha Project conducted 11 workshops for W.A.S.H. programs that have positively impacted the quality of life for the local community, particularly in regard to hygiene and health.



Future: The Watha Project has so far constructed five wells in five villages, and there is currently a need to add one more well in Garsemuke, the largest village in the area. To ensure sustainability of the wells, each well in every village has a group of committee members entrusted to take full responsibility of their management.

The Watha Project is also planning to conduct health education programs for children. The community health workers will be responsible for providing training to adolescents in collaboration with school teachers in selected schools. They anticipate that this program could alleviate academic difficulties, school dropout rates, high-risk sexual behavior, and the prevalence of mental illness.

Finally, the Watha Project is planning on starting a scholarship program for Watha children. As one of the designated Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMGs) in Kenya, children in the Watha community struggle to access educational opportunities. Guyo notes that they currently have eleven secondary students and three college students in the local community who have dropped out of school due to financial constraints. It is therefore imperative for this program to be supported in order to increase the number of educated Watha in the area for their own development and ultimately for the benefit of the entire community.





Financial Statement

In 2021, GRACE Cares had a total operating budget of \$147,086.91 received from donations, fundraising, and grants. We gratefully received \$32,850.00 in individual donations, \$47,300.00 in major donations, \$2,000 in grants, and \$64,936.91 in fundraising events. Our total expenditures in 2021 were \$138,736.12.

We are proud to say that \$128,465.13 of our income was allotted for programs. 92.5% of our income has or will go directly to our projects. Expenditures of \$10,270.99 went to administrative, management, and contract costs.

Our detailed financial review is available upon request at info@gracecares.org.



*A Catalyst for Development:
Where Communities Take the Lead*

Growth
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Daryl Caggiano, MNM, Fundraising Volunteer
Paul Elghouayel, Grinnell College, Intern
Aparajita Kaphle, Yale University, Intern
Swetha Ranga, MS, Mental Health Specialist Intern

Donors

We are grateful for the generosity of our 2021 donors and volunteers as well as our *Corporate, Organization, Foundation and Matching Donors*

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Krystal Tonstad	<i>Network for Good</i>	Samantha Piper	Tom Downs
Leslie Baker	Nicholas L. Biddle	Sandra Tarbox	Tory Sharp
Leslie Travis	<i>No Greater Love Mission and Ministries</i>	Sara Moore	<i>Total Pfizer</i>
Linda Foxworthy	Noah Steinberg-Di Stefano	Seema Haider	Valarie Anne Leishman
Lori Schreier	Noah Surti	Sergio Garcia	Wayne Ottenwalder
Lorraine Parsons	Patricia Pinckney	Sharon Maynard	Wendy Redlinger
Lawrence T. Geraty	Paul Laswick	Sharon Miller	William Gallea
Lydia H. Miller	Penny Weingarten	Sherri L. Perras	Yanella Parra
Margarita Y. Judd	Philippe Elghouayel	Sisy Oorbitg	Yusi Turell
Maria Bruno	Quentin Fleurat	Sue Wiley	
Maria Heller	Rachel J. Tieger	Suha Huffaker	
Masen Ewald	Regina Evans	Sunshine Tienda	
Meghan Garcia	Renee Daniels	Susan Hebson	
Melissa Davis	Rhoda Miller	Susan Kopp	
Michael Anson		Tabitha Moore	
		Tahseen Mia	