Dear Project Soar friends,

2019 has been a year of milestones. We kick off each year with a new theme, and for 2019 it was Crossing Borders. We are proud to have met that challenge! We collaborated with Ugandan partners, Open Space, to take Project Soar to five underserved girls’ schools in Kampala. While the distance between Morocco and Uganda is significant, the challenges that teen girls face are the same: lack of self-esteem, period poverty, sexual harassment, and girl brides. Project Soar works to tackle these issues and more. To meet specific concerns in Uganda, we added new workshops on HIV/AIDS and female genital mutilation to our core curriculum. And after months of hard work, our first class of Soar Ugandan girls has just graduated! But beyond program completion, the pilot in Uganda demonstrated something more important yet: Project Soar’s relevance across borders because teen girls everywhere need to know their value, voice, body, rights, and path.

2019 was an important year for Project Soar in Morocco, too. One of our proudest milestones is our first cohort of Soar girls accepted into university. At our headquarters site alone, every single 12th grader passed the Baccalaureate and is now getting a higher education. And there are many more girls to come! With support from the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the American Language Center, in 2019 we trained over 70 new women Project Soar Empowerment Facilitators. These facilitators are now working across the country to empower teen girls with critical leadership skills.

All of this would not have been possible without the tireless help of our staff, board members, volunteers, and donors. And of course, the commitment and grit of the hundreds of Soar girls themselves.

With the hope of a more just world for teen girls everywhere,

Maryam Montague
Founder & Director

And we are not stopping. For 2020 our theme is IMPACT STORIES. Armed with new technology that helps track the progress of the Soar girls, we will be sharing more Soar girl stories via text, pictures, and videos in 2020. Because no one knows better how Project Soar transforms lives than the girls themselves. So stay tuned for stories that will open your heart and inspire your soul. In a tumultuous world, never doubt that change is possible.

With the hope of a more just world for teen girls everywhere,

Maryam Montague
Founder & Director

Let’s work together to help transform lives and change the world for our girls today and tomorrow.

The Project Soar pledge:
All girls must stay in school.

Maryam Montague
Founder & Director

Maryam Montague
Founder & Director
Empowering girls in Morocco and Uganda

19 Project Soar squads
January 2019

21 Girl Leaders Clubs

48 Project Soar squads
December 2019

1,611 teenage girls served

48 squads in Morocco & Uganda

48 hours of empowerment

93.3% passing rate of Academic Scores for PS

1,134 hours of empowerment

16 days training Empowerment Facilitators

123 Empowerment Facilitators

74 volunteers

4,706 volunteer hours donated

1,052 BeGirl menstruation kits distributed

1 Diplomatic Gala with Reward

1 Girl Power games

1 TEDx Talk

1 Keynote speech

5 Grants

1 Jewelry Collaboration

2 visits by American Business delegations

“My relationship with my family was horrible because I refused to get married at the age of 16. Project Soar helped me develop my communication skills. I learned how to express my opinions and share why I didn’t want to get married. It was difficult but my relationship with my family has improved. I will never forget the moment when I told my father that I graduated from high school. He took me in his arms and he spun me in the air. I felt so proud and happy. Project Soar has changed my life.”

-Dounia
20 years old from Douar Laadam
Empowerment Workshops
Project Soar girls across Morocco and Uganda join Empowerment workshops in their communities led by trained Project Soar facilitators. Workshops are rooted in the Project Soar Empowerment Pillars:

- Know your Value
- Know your Voice
- Know your Body
- Know your Rights
- Know your Path

Each workshop helps develop teen girl confidence and skills through a combination of:

- Affirmations
- Dialogue
- Art or Movement
- Meditation/Visualization
- Journaling

Academic Support
Over two academic terms in 2019, Project Soar Girls served by our Marrakech headquarters received weekly academic support and intensive exam preparation classes. Thank you to the Embassy of Australia in Morocco, Direct Aid Program for your support!

- **192** Project Soar Girls in grades 9 to 12
- **821** hours of general academic support in Math, Physics, English, French and Natural Science
- **222.5** hours of intensive exam-preparation

**1000+** hours of academic support helping

Girls Leaders Clubs
Project Soar Girl Leaders Clubs (GLCs) help Girls put into action their leadership skills in their local communities. GLC Girls receive continued Project Soar support and are equipped with a toolkit that help them effectively manage their Clubs through:

- Club governance
- Activity planning
- Advocacy skills

- **21** GLCs launched
- **416** Club members in Morocco and Uganda

PSB Expansion
In 2019, we expanded the Project Soar in a Box empowerment program with key partners.

- **Ministry of Youth and Sports, Government of Morocco**
  - 34 Youth Centers (dar chebabs) across Morocco
  - 34 Girl Squads
  - **896** registered Project Soar Girls

- **American Language Center - Casablanca**
  - 5 Girl Squads in Casablanca, Morocco
  - **118** registered Project Soar Girls

- **Open Space Centre**
  - 5 High Schools in Kampala, Uganda
  - 5 Girl Squads
  - **132** graduated Project Soar Girls
  - 5 Girl Leaders Clubs launched

Thank you to the Embassy of Australia in Morocco, Direct Aid Program for your support!
"I was thinking about dropping out of school and my parents suggested that I get married. However, I learned about Project Soar and after joining, my idea completely changed. Now I’m going to finish my studies and apply for university. Thanks Project Soar!"

- Chaimae
19 years old from Taroudant

In partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Project Soar launched its Empowerment Program in 34 local youth centers (dar chebabs) across Morocco. Programming will continue for the 2019-2020 academic school year with Girl Leaders Clubs launched and housed in the youth centers. Funding from the Moroccan government has been instrumental in bringing Project Soar to scale across Morocco.

Program Overview
28 Youth Center Directors attended an orientation
67 Female Facilitators trained on the empowerment program
896 Girls registered in program by Dec 31, 2019
235 of workshops completed by Dec 31, 2019

Girls Squad Centers
- 18 Nov Youth Center
  - Aarst Alhamed
  - Abd Salam El Massari
  - Ahdaf El Atlas
  - Akchmir Youth Center
  - Akka Youth Center
  - Aknis
  - Al Wahda
  - Aourir Youth Center
  - Bouyazakarn Youth Center
  - El Aarbi Ben Mbark
  - El Aaroufi
  - El Hay El Oumali
  - El Kebab Youth Center
  - El Khang Youth Center
  - El Kharji
  - El Mariniyine
  - Essaouira Youth Center
- Esskhirat Youth Center
- Fam Ihiss Youth Center
- Hay Salam
- Hay Salama Youth Center
- Haman El Fetouaki
- Kasbah Youth Center
- Marrakech
- Masnana Youth Center
- Mdaghra Youth Center
- Mohammed Bordou
- Moulay Rachid - Casablanca
- Rahhal Ben Ahmed
- Riad el Andalosse Youth Center
- Rich Youth Center
- Sidi Ismail Youth Center
- Sidi Othman
- Tamzmout
“Project Soar opened up a window of opportunities for me. Before I joined Project Soar, I was nervous and afraid to speak up. I was afraid of the way I am perceived in my community and among my peers. I was extremely shy and introverted. I had no friends at all and wasn’t comfortable even in a family setting. I used to think that everyone disliked me. Then I heard about Project Soar from my classmates and thought it would be a great outlet for me.

Apart from the richness and variety of the activities offered by Project Soar, academics and others, nothing made more positive impact on me than Empowerment Workshops. First, when I just joined, I was nervous to interact with the other girls. During empowerment sessions, I have gained self-esteem, satisfaction, love, change, and a tremendous deal of personal growth. I have really come to value myself as a girl. I realized that there is every reason to my existence as a girl and young woman. I felt that I was born to explore my endless possibilities.

During the Voice module, I discovered that my unique voice sets me apart. My voice translates the strength of my thoughts and feelings. I figured that the only way for me to be understood is to take initiative to speak up. I overcame my anxiety and fears and was able to discover my true personal worth. I understood that the way I view my own self far supersedes the way others view me. My love and respect for myself is what will earn me respect and love from others.

During the Body module, I understood the importance of taking care of my physical health and adopting healthy eating/nutritional habits. I learned to never be ashamed of physical changes that my body undergoes at this age because it is a normal phase of my life – of every girl’s life.

As for the Rights modules, it helped me gain the courage to say “No” to forced marriage, violence, and exploitation. I learned to stand up against anything that might hinder my abilities as a girl.

The Path module taught me that there is room for me to dream about the future. It taught me the importance of setting goals and taking advantage of opportunities that will lead to a better future for others and myself.

I am aware of the hurdles that might stand in my way but I am very confident in my ability to overcome them. My self-confidence, resolve, and my desire to succeed are my weapons! Now, I have a goal, and my goal is to become a girl leader in my community. I would like to send a message to every girl like me: You are more than just a body to be exploited or work at a young age. NO! You are a soul. You are feelings. Even if people can not understand you what is most important is that you understand yourself. It is important for you to be aware of your rights. Embrace and enjoy them fully. Live your life. Wake up every morning looking forward to being better. It doesn’t matter if you fail. Stand back up again, and use your life experiences as a lesson to shape your own future.”
In 2019, Project Soar crossed borders! With Ugandan partner, Open Space Centre, the Project Soar in a Box empowerment program was piloted in five schools in Kampala, Uganda with great success. The program resulted in:

- 12 Trained Female Empowerment Facilitators
- 5 Project Soar in a Box Squads launched
  - Baptist High School
  - Kinaawa High School
  - Kisaasi College School
  - Mbago Progressive School
  - St. James Secondary School
- 132 Girls graduated the empowerment program
- 5 Girl Leaders Clubs launched

Girls in Action

A Project Soar Girl squad petitioned their school administration to allow the squad shirt to be accepted as part of their school uniform. The girls implemented lessons learned from the empowerment workshops and now their uniforms have a new look!

Thank you Marsha P for your support!
“The girls’ attitudes and the way they carry themselves have changed drastically. A number of girls shared with me that now they no longer feel it is their fault when they are sexually harassed. This is vital given that communities still victim shame and make girls feel they are the problem.”

Asmaa
PSB Facilitator in Esskhirat
Donors and Supporters

Donations received January 1st to December 31st, 2019.

Project Soar has expanded core programming and launched new initiatives in thanks to our supportive partners and generous contributors. Project Soar staff and the Project Soar Girls are grateful for the continued commitment of the United States, Moroccan, and Australian governments.

- United States Department Of State, Office of Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)
- Ministry of Youth and Sports, Government of Morocco
- Embassy of Australia in Morocco, Direct Aid Program

Project Soar staff and the Project Soar Girls are deeply thankful for the heartfelt gifts from the 242 individual donors of 2019. The generous donations make an incredible impact on Project Soar Girls, their families, and their communities.

$125,000+
Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI): United States State Department

$30,000+
Direct Aid Program (DAP): Australian Government: Embassy in Morocco

$20,000+
Reza Safavi

$15,000+
MMontague & Peacock Pavilions World Wide Women’s Web (WW)

$10,000+
Ernie & Jeanne Giabatti
Williams Family Foundation
DeVaan Family Charitable Fund
The San Francisco Foundation
Rogers and Julie Weed
Anna Beck Jewelry

$5,000+
Meadronic Foundation Volunteer Grant Program
American Language Center Casablanca
Mark Eckman
Drift Home Collection
Luleta Maslak
Marina Fanning & Larry Cooley

$1,000–$5,000
Cameron Family Foundation
Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise
Henry McLoughlin
Eat Pray Move Yoga
Laura LeCoque
Anna Rohlers
Jaime Leigh
Carol Niall
Jillian Karstrom
Leticia Gonzales-Reyes
Adela Kutalova
Ursula Khoshaba
Thierry Marchand
Lisa Moriyama
Michael Saltman
Asit Nahas
Queen Kirby
Plan it Morocco
Om Yoga
Meknes Carpet
MAANA Travel
Cefalo Family
Timothy Resch

INCOMING REVENUE

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OUTGOING EXPENSES

| Personnel & Professionals | $47,313.36 | $102,591.25 |
| Taxes, insurance & benefits | $9,250.00 | $22,261.90 |
| Supplies and equipment | $5,976.07 | $44,637.48 |
| travel and transit | $1,413.09 | $39,998.59 |
| Contracts & Subgrants | $37,518.31 | $33,134.78 |
| Other Direct Costs | $6,027.33 | $15,809.00 |
**Staff** (left to right)

Maryam Montague  
Co-founder and Executive Director  
CEO

Chris Redecke  
Co-founder and Director of Logistics  
COO

Kaydee Dahlin  
Director of Finance and Administration  
CFO

**HQ Staff** (left to right)

Jessica Houari  
Office Director

Latifa Boukiri  
PSD Coordinator

Fatima Chakir  
Finance & HR Manager

Yasmine Moujiane  
Empowerment Lead

Noor Boughrad  
Program Coordinator & Academic Manager

Fatima Ait Ouknik  
PSB Coordinator

Kawtar Ait Malek  
PSB Coordinator

**Empowerment Facilitators**

123 facilitators in Morocco and Uganda

**Uganda:**
- Kampala

**Morocco:**
- Aghbalou
- Ait Bouguina
- Ait Hibaq
- Ait Ouirir
- Akka
- Amellago
- Aouir
- Azrou
- Bougra
- Bouyuzakarn
- Casablanca
- Douar Laadam
- El Jadida
- El Kebab
- El Kharg
- El Menzel
- Essouira
- Essouira
- Fam Lhisn
- Fes

**Morocco Board Members**

- Chris Redecke, President
- Yasmine Sarhrouny, Vice President
- Aziz Nahas, Treasurer
- Hadia Temli, Secretary
- Caitlin Dowe-Sandes, Advisor
- Patrick Benjaminson, Honorary Advisor

**US Board Members**

- Marina Fanning, President
- Per Sjödell, Vice President
- Sarita Jha, Treasurer
- Jacqueline Assimwe, Director
- Lamia Bazir, Director
Teen girl’s empowerment is challenged in every way. With over 130 million girls out of school around the world, so many girls are missing the chance to envision their dreams. At Project Soar, we know and believe that every Girl is capable. Our signature empowerment program enables girls to realize their Value, Voice, Body, Rights, and Path and Soar higher than the hurdles placed in front of them.

Did you know that not educating girls costs $15 to $30 trillion in lost lifetime productivity and earnings?* Our world cannot afford to miss out on the economic prospects that girls’ education and empowerment entails. By donating today, you contribute to making the world a better place by empowering teenage girls to become leaders of today and tomorrow.

* 2018 World Bank Report