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Program Areas



Civic Participation



Economic Empowerment



Conflict Management



Political Participation

Letter from the President



This year has been one marked with tremendous success, challenges, and organizational growth as WCI expanded our global reach and implemented programs in Turkey, Iraq, Liberia, Angola, and more. Each country had its own successes, and although we had to end Iraq programming early due to security concerns, we are still very proud of the work we began there, and hope to return to finish what we started. Our project in Turkey was met with incredible enthusiasm and connected WCI to a host of new international partners who we will seek to work with in 2015 and beyond. Building on our close relationship with the National Rural Women's Program and other partners in Liberia, our staff quickly mobilized to move from business and campaign skills training to

providing critical Ebola support to more than 400 communities. Through the challenges and triumphs that come, we take great pride in the seeds of change and development that we are able to plant in target communities each year. Using feedback from participants and locally-based partners, we are able to continuously adjust and improve programs to achieve the greatest impact. In 2015, we will continue to build upon these partnerships and successes, and look forward to another tremendous year.

Summary of Programs

WCI has been empowering women with the skills, knowledge, and support necessary to transform their lives and their communities since its founding in 1998. Through our programs, WCI works with political, business and civil society leaders, local in-country organizations, and passionate local partners to ensure that women have an opportunity to participate in the development of public policy, placing women's issues on local, national and regional agendas. Programming in 2014 included the following:

ANGOLA

In collaboration with the Women's Economic Opportunities Initiative (WEOI) in Esso, Angola, WCI designed a simplified business planning curriculum with four key components: establishing a business, marketing for small scale business, microfinance and loan repayment, and budgeting for business. Partnered with Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP) for logistical support, WCI provided training to representatives from eight women's organizations.

USA

During its fifth year of programming, the GALS (Global Advocacy and Leadership Series) Program empowered 33 low-income, Philadelphia girls with targeted mentorship support, self-confidence building exercises, opportunities to hear from successful local women as guest speakers, and hands-on workshops in financial literacy and public speaking. In the words of GALS Coach, Jackie Jackson: "What a phenomenal program that serves as catalyst to equip young women with efficient tools as global trailblazers!"

TURKEY

Through an intensive four day training, WCI equipped 25 female political candidates and their campaign teams with practical skills and knowledge to guide them through the process of managing a modern political campaign. Sessions covered the step-by-step process of engaging voter support, crafting an effective campaign message, improving fundraising strategies, and promoting gender awareness and women's role in transparent governance.

IRAQ

Working with the International Association for Human Values (IAHV), WCI strengthened Iraqi families and civil society by advancing women's leadership and providing training on how to eliminate Gender Based Violence (GBV). In collaboration with local NGOs and community leaders, WCI implemented a GBV awareness training program for 67 local leaders in Shaqlawa, Iraq; trained an Iraqi survey team to improve and implement outcome and impact assessments on GBV in Iraq and surrounding countries; and promoted cooperation and communication on local and national levels about eliminating GBV between female and male community leaders.

LIBERIA

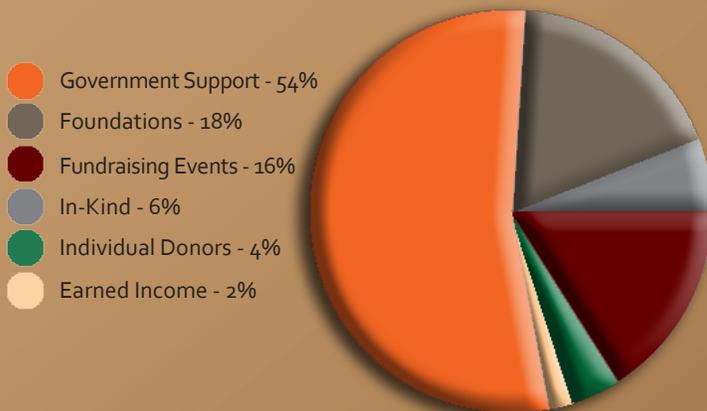
10,000 Women: Between 2010 - 2014, WCI and Goldman Sachs worked together to train more than 200 Liberian businesswomen through the 10,000 Women Program. In the final year of the Program, WCI provided ample networking opportunities, organized a Trade Fair in Monrovia to give women broader opportunities to market their businesses, and provided one-on-one training on business pitch development and public speaking.

GIZ: Beginning in September 2013, WCI provided training and support as part of GIZ's ongoing project to strengthen women's participation in the Liberian transportation sector. WCI's efforts included providing training and support to 10 women's groups on management, accountability, and networking in collaboration with the Women's Network for the Promotion of Gender in the Transport Sector of Liberia (WNPGTSL). Through this partnership WCI supported WNPGTSL to strengthen women's participation in transport at both the county and national level.

Campaign Skills – With funding from the U.S. Department of State, WCI's Campaign Skills Program provided Liberian women candidates and their staff with skills and knowledge necessary to run effective campaigns. It also focused on building a strong foundation to support the growth and success of women leaders by educating voters on the importance of gender mainstreaming and women's representation in local government. Finally, WCI established a sustainable support network and action plan in each county in Liberia to provide community-based training and support to women candidates until the time of the election. * With the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in 2014, election schedules and campaign programming has been temporarily suspended.



Sources of Support



Key Partners



Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo
Aldeia Nova
Freire Charter School
Academy Charter School
International Association for Human Values
Kensington Urban Education Academy - USA
Ministry of Gender and Development
National Rural Women's Program
National Transit Authority
Salvation Army Training Center
Toplumsal Egitim ve Gelisim Dernegi (Social Education and Development Association)
Women's Economic Eastern Opportunity Initiative/Women's Network for the Promotion of Gender in the Transport Sector of Liberia

Key Supporters

The following organizations provide services and support to help WCI in its mission to empower women throughout the developing world.

Exxon Mobil
Friends of Liberia
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National Peace Corps Association
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