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   A special tribute to one of the most dedicated figures fighting for an equal world.
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Cover: A woman and her baby at VHW’s clinic.
Dear Friends,

Looking back at the past year, I am struck by how what seemed unimaginable only three years ago nevertheless happened: a global pandemic caused massive disruptions, millions of lives lost, and futures forever altered. Against all odds, I am deeply proud of the progress and accomplishments that are represented in this report.

In these pages, you will learn of the changes happening now in Burundi. Some changes are positive: a new government in Burundi (always supportive of Village Health Works) working hand in hand with local and global partners in support of a brighter future; a greater understanding of the importance of global health equity for the wellbeing of all humans sharing this planet; the advances in science that have saved countless lives through vaccines and other interventions.

Some changes reflect the greater challenges of this new reality: a vaccine distribution system in which Sub-Saharan Africa was once again at the “end of the line” to benefit from scientific advances; further disruptions in supply chains resulting in higher prices for those least able to afford them; and the linked belief that a “new normal” that puts the most disadvantaged at even greater risk through a slow deprivation of access to vital resources such as energy, food, and maternal and child health is somehow inevitable.

In Burundi, we have instead been working to create a “new normal” based on human dignity, community wellbeing, and opportunity for all Burundians.

We have been working steadily so that it will be normal that a woman in need of an emergency c-section is able to receive one — regardless of her ability to pay. Our investments in the Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion (WHP) will not only provide the advanced care that saves women’s and children’s lives, but will lay the foundations for training and education that will help strengthen the healthcare system of Burundi by well trained Burundian clinicians — making advanced care more normal and accessible for everyone who needs it throughout the country.

We firmly believe that it should be normal for everybody, particularly poor rural communities, to receive support before they get too sick, and to have their thoughts and opinions heard. That’s respect. As we build our continuum of care, an integrated model will include investments in prevention such as WASH and nutrition and early detection to support overall human wellbeing, through initiatives that each community will play a role in determining.

We are committed to the belief that it should be normal for young minds to learn how to be effective thinkers and leaders for their communities and country. As the diverse group of young students at Kigutu International Academy enter their third year, we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of globally-minded young leaders putting their skills to work in healing and rebuilding their country so that prosperity, peace and innovation can, at last, be normal in Burundi.

As we work to redefine what “normal” means for those we serve, we have drawn inspiration from the tenacity and dedication of our community members who literally laid the foundation of VHW and continue to do maintenance on our campus while helping to strengthen their communities. They do not have the option to decide that Burundi is too difficult an environment — and they do not believe that what is normal in other places should not be normal for themselves as well. Making this a reality will require significant investments in nearly every aspect of our work, from improvements in monitoring and evaluation to improved human resources practices and capacity building. It will only be possible thanks to our many friends and supporters who have been helping bring transformation and hope to the communities we serve in Burundi and beyond. I remember speaking with the late Paul Farmer, my brother from another mother, about what this new world could be at the end of 2021 — and I will remember him always as an inspiration for our work in the years ahead.

Turi kumwe — we are together,

Deogratias Niyizonkiza
Founder and CEO
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide quality, compassionate health care and education in a dignified environment while also addressing the root causes of illness, poverty, violence, and neglect.

OUR CORE PURPOSE

To cultivate healing, hope, and opportunities for transformation.

OUR CORE VALUES

- We value the dignity inherent in each individual.
- We aspire to excellence in all we do.
- We proceed with boldness and perseverance.
- Compassion and justice are at the heart of our organization.
- We are accountable to each other and to our community.
Where We Work

Village Health Works operates in a rural area of south Burundi, with its campus in the village of Kigutu. Our campus is seven miles from the nearest paved road and over sixty miles south of the country’s largest city, Bujumbura. We serve a population of approximately 200,000 people, receiving patients mostly from the provinces of Rumonge, Makamba, and Bururi — but also from as far away as Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The holistic approach VHW has developed in collaboration with the community we serve has grown to include compassionate health care, access to education and nutritional services, and an array of community-centered activities.

The mountainous geography of Burundi means the villages that form part of our community are often separated by the hills that they sit upon. Village Health Works serves an area of 18 hills or “collines” in the area surrounding Kigutu.

**BURUNDI FACES CHALLENGES IN HEALTH CARE...**

1 in 33 women in Burundi will die during pregnancy or childbirth

The infant mortality rate in Burundi is 39 deaths per 1,000 live births

1 physician per 20,865 people

**...EDUCATION...**

53% of children complete primary school

Only 5.6% of the population completes secondary school

**...AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.**

Over 80% of the population is living on less than $2 per day

Burundians survive on $274 per capita GDP, the lowest in the world

Only 3.5% of the rural population has access to electricity
In Memoriam:

Paul Farmer

The world lost one of the most dedicated and uncompromising figures fighting for a more equal world when Paul Farmer passed away on February 21, 2022. Below are some thoughts from our founder and CEO on the loss of his close friend.

It did not seem possible that we could lose somebody like Paul at 62. It was only at his memorial service, when I saw him for the last time, that I began to understand he was truly gone. I was heartbroken, but I was also strengthened by the presence of the community of friends and colleagues he had helped nurture, inspire, and lead. It is now up to us to keep moving forward towards Paul’s dream of a healthier and more equitable world for the many people who have been forgotten and left to suffer.

The first time I met my friend Paul more than 20 years ago, I was surprised by how much he already understood about the different realities experienced by most people in the world. It felt very natural to share my own history of poverty, war, and trauma with him. An initial conversation about our visions for what a more equal world could be turned into an all-night discussion, and then years of working together to try and make those visions come true. As meaningful as Paul’s own accomplishments were, they are magnified by the countless others he supported. The idea that became Village Health Works grew as Paul and I worked together in Rwanda and I explained that much of what we were doing was just as necessary — if not more so — in my own native Burundi. Paul’s support of me to continue our work in Kigutu is a fundamental part of the story of Village Health Works. As a founding board member of Village Health Works, he created connections and opened doors that were key in moving our shared goals of justice and equity forward in the rural community we serve in Burundi. The same understanding that wellbeing should not depend on the accident of birth is the driving force behind all of our work, including the construction of the new Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion.

Through a decades-long friendship our lives and the lives of our families became intertwined as I received the honor of being godfather to his son Sebastian and he spoke at my wedding. My family is his family, and his is mine. We called each other Bubba — brothers from another mother. His last phone call to me was the Thursday before he died, around midnight his time in Rwanda after a full day of caring for patients and teaching. Despite the late hour, he was full of his usual humor and energy, pressing me forward, as always. “Whether I am here or not, you must come visit the trees we planted,” he said. And then: “you know I will be there with you at the opening, dead or alive.”

I am deeply saddened that Paul will not be able to stand beside me in Kigutu to see the hospital we talked about so much come to life in 2023. I regret that we won't be able to walk through the green spaces that he loved so dearly in Kigutu or Rwinkwavu, or just share the joy of each other’s company in New York, Boston, or elsewhere. I am sorry that our decades-long discussion has finally and suddenly reached its last chapter. The world that he has done so much to enrich is a little bit poorer now, but his legacy can be measured in the many lives he brightened, and the many more his work helped to save. He looked at the injustices of the world and chose not to accept them as necessary or inevitable. To that end he made no apologies and paid no mind to skeptics. Paul provided an example of how much one person can do for their fellow human beings if they act with uncompromising conviction and compassion. I will treasure his example — but above all, I will miss him greatly.

Polo, my dear bubba, may you rest in peace.
Village Health Works was founded in the belief that health is a human right and every person deserves access to dignified, high-quality health care - regardless of their personal situation. Through our Health Care Program, we support human development through prevention and treatment across a range of areas. These include a targeted focus on maternal and child health as well as addressing the different challenges of infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, and mental health. In 2021 our clinical teams continued to work across program areas to provide patient-centered, dignified health services even as Covid-19 arrived on our campus and the need to limit travel required adjustments to our work in community health. Rising to these challenges, the tireless efforts of our team of over 200 Community Health Workers in providing referrals and guidance to our community members were reinforced through the introduction of Village Health Committees (VHCs). This newly launched initiative allows CHWs to join with Model Farmers, Imbonezas, Twiyugurure facilitators, and others working in each colline to provide coordinated care and guidance in support of health through expertise in nutrition, mental health, and other areas. As we build our continuum of care, VHCs will be instrumental in providing follow-up for patients discharged from the soon to be opened Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion.

### Health Care

A woman and child at the VHW clinic.

- **42,368 patient consultations**
- **86,997 CHW household visits**
- **100% of HIV patients** on ARV treatment
- **13,864 educational sessions** conducted at clinics and in villages
Training for the WHP

As the construction of the WHP steadily moved towards completion throughout 2021, our focus turned to developing the plans that would ensure that trained staff would be ready to turn the concrete structure into a place of healing. The driving force behind these efforts in training, education, and recruitment has been Dr. Teresa Gipson, who joined us in August of 2021 as our Director Clinical Quality and Training. Understanding the challenges of our rural location (and wishing to make the best use of scarce resources), we sought to provide as much training and education internally as possible — while also working to identify external partners that could provide the skills and experiences beyond our own capabilities. The plans developed focus on providing basic skills essential to the new hospital setting for all staff, as well as training for staff in each area of specialization. As our staff continue learning and growing, we are prioritizing skills and capabilities they can put into practice even before the hospital is open — immediately supporting the health and wellbeing of our community.

Dr. Teresa Gipson provides training in preparation for the WHP opening.

Facing Covid-19 in Kigutu

After nearly two years of uncertainty and preparation, the first cases finally appeared on the VHW campus in late September 2021. We quickly organized a Covid-19 Response Committee that allowed senior leadership to meet daily to coordinate a response and worked quickly to strengthen policies and expand facilities for isolation and quarantine. Among the staff and Kigutu International Academy students, most cases seemed to have been transmitted off campus when staff traveled home and proved to be mostly mild — the one staff member who needed to be hospitalized made a full recovery not too long after. Many factors contributed to this ability to limit on-campus spread, including ongoing preventative measures, such as masking requirements, and extensive testing of those returning to campus — including isolation in those few cases identified. Another key factor was the timely donations of PPE supplies from the US Embassy in Bujumbura, for which we remain incredibly grateful. Still, staff had to be agile and adaptable as cases climbed in November and December, with three out of our six doctors being infected with Covid-19 at one point. Decisions to add new members to our clinical staff and enact changes to clinical shifts to support efficiency helped to mitigate the impact of these challenges, but the dedication and resolve of our staff, including a willingness to take on new roles in addition to ongoing responsibilities, remained key. As vaccines began to be offered in Burundi, we facilitated access to staff members who wished to make the trip to Bujumbura (the only site where it was offered) to support further protection. Facing the reality that Covid-19 will likely remain a challenge for the whole world — not just Burundi — for years to come, we will continue to plan and adapt to best confront this threat to the health and security of our community.

The Honorable Melanie Higgins, United States Ambassador to Burundi, visiting the VHW campus and delivering essential PPE equipment to fight Covid-19.
Finalizing the Structure of the WHP

Despite an ongoing global context of supply chain disruptions and ever-increasing delivery times, the WHP was well on its way to being completed at the end of 2021. The roof structure was finally in place, and work had moved from building the structure to internal work. Floor finishings, ceiling installations, and window/door installation were between 40% and 60% complete, and the internal elements of electrical, plumbing, and ventilation were 70% completed — with even 10% of the finishing work also completed. The work was able to continue more efficiently as we invested in additional human resources for customs clearance, and created a more flexible and adaptable structure to approve locally-purchased items.

Literally building on the work that took place in 2021, we are pleased to say that the WHP is now “white box” complete, only waiting for power and other infrastructure to commission the final elements.
Meet Yves Ndayiragije

Yves Ndayiragije is a civil engineer with a master’s in structural engineering and a doctorate degree in technology and organization of construction, with particular expertise in quality control of construction, who joined VHW in September of 2021 as our Director of Capital Projects, Engineering, and Quality Control. Prior to joining VHW Yves had spent many years working on construction abroad, but was inspired by a trip for Burundian expatriates in 2019 where he was able to visit VHW and saw the construction of the WHP in progress. In his own words, “I was amazed to see such a large building in my own country of Burundi, and wanted to help build one of the few structures this big that exists here. With the level of medical care in Burundi being what it is, I wanted to help increase the expectations of the women, children and others in need of treatment, who will come from throughout the country. I know the care provided by the WHP will be at the highest level, and I want to make sure the building itself is also at a world-class standard.”
The fundamental purpose of VHW’s Education Program is to support our young people in reaching their full potential. We support our youngest community members in their critical early years through our Early Childhood Development and Preschool programs, and provide local young people with the skills and knowledge to succeed through the local Ecole Fondamentale (EcoFo) government school we run. Our school feeding program ensures that every student has the nutritious food needed to succeed, and is accompanied by healthcare screenings. For youth, our MUTIMA Girls’ Empowerment Program provides sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) education to 13-21 year-old females across four villages, while the ACCESS Microscholarship program implemented in partnership with the US Embassy allows outstanding students to develop skills and knowledge in American English. Building off of these successes, in 2020 VHW launched the Kigutu International Academy (KIA), a grade 9-12 boarding school with an innovative, interdisciplinary curriculum that draws exceptional young people from across Burundi to develop a new generation of problem-solvers, change-makers, and ethical entrepreneurial leaders for Burundi.

In 2021, the Education Program was able to overcome challenges and disruptions to continue improving the support we provide to our young people. At the Kigutu EcoFo, we continued providing support through parental engagement and home visits for students who are malnourished or drop out of school to share resources and support the whole family. Our MUTIMA program for the first time did not have a single girl drop out due to pregnancy, and we saw a group of students successfully graduate from the two-year program.
Celebrating ACCESS Graduates

In 2021 30 ACCESS students (18 girls and 12 boys) graduated after two years of sessions and activities on American English and culture, leadership, entrepreneurialism, information technology, and personal development. The event was attended by the Charge d'Affaires from the US Embassy.

Image: The US Embassy Charge d'Affaires presenting an ACCESS student with their diploma.

KIA Celebrates First Year – And Second Class

In 2021, the Kigutu International Academy (KIA) celebrated the successful completion of its first full year in May - and welcomed its second class the following September. The second class of KIA students quickly joined their classmates in further developing the culture and community of KIA through the first student council elections and the launching of a KIA newsletter, all while dramatically improving both French and English language skills.

Students learning at KIA
2021 was a landmark year for the future of KIA as plans were finalized on KIA’s new home, the Learning Center. A rigorous analysis of the original designs by our Director of Capital Projects, Engineering, and Quality Control Yves Ndayiragije allowed us to better adapt them to our local circumstances and to identify areas for greater efficiency — without compromising the strength and resilience of the building. (You can learn more about Yves and his journey to VHW on Page 111!)

Now completed, the Learning Center features dorm rooms, multiple classrooms, a kitchen, an e-learning lab, a STEM space, flexible meeting rooms for group work, and a large assembly area for school-wide gatherings and performances. These facilities will support the transformational learning that KIA students will experience for years to come.

As KIA grew from around 30 students when it opened to double that when the second class began, it was clear that additional housing would be necessary not only for the students — but for the additional teachers as well. The simple but comfortable housing was well under construction at the end of 2021, and is now ready to provide a space for KIA’s educators to call their own.
Nutrition & Food Security

Responding to a food crisis in Burundi that is among the worst in the world, the VHW Food Security and Nutrition program works to break a cycle in which insufficient nutritious food, limited dietary variety, and unimproved agricultural practices lead to chronic malnutrition in our community — which further impede the capabilities of community members to access nutritious food. We provide patients in our clinic and the students at our school with highly nutritious food to support healing and learning while also providing education about the composition of a nutritious diet, and how to grow nutritious foods in small plots. At the same time, we support community agricultural cooperatives and economic enterprises in providing more nutritious food throughout every community — all while generating valuable income. Through our Model Farmers training program, VHW specialists work intensively with selected farmers chosen for their farming skill and dedication. In turn, they can provide community members with information and guidance on how to implement sustainable, innovative, and productive agricultural practices in their own fields.

Despite the need to curtail travel due to Covid-19, in 2021 the Food Security and Nutrition Program was not only able to continue its work with our Model Farmers, but expand it significantly. Through a successful pilot program implemented at the end of 2021, VHW is now purchasing produce directly from community members to feed its staff, patients and students, with Model Farmers serving as intermediaries and conduits. This alleviates the need for purchasing produce from much farther away while stimulating a growth of production among community members that is providing much needed income - which can support wellbeing in countless ways.
Christine’s Story

Understanding that food is medicine, VHW not only provides nutritious food for our patients but helps them learn about healthy eating as well. Hatungimana Christine is a care attendant for her brother-in-law, who suffers from diabetes. They live in Rumonge, a four hour journey on foot from our clinic. Before arriving at our clinic they did not understand the appropriate diet for a diabetic, which greatly impacted his health. In the end, he needed to stay at the clinic for over a week receiving treatment.

Christine shared her experiences at VHW, commenting, “The Kigutu clinic is very different from other health facilities. Besides treating the disease, they give you nutritional education on the importance of a balanced diet and share information on how to obtain healthy foods. On top of that, they take care of patients with particular dietary needs like those suffering from diabetes. We not only received treatment, but also knowledge that will help us take care of our health and that of our relatives. My brother in law would never have survived if he was not treated by a caring clinic with a comprehensive approach to health.”

ON-CAMPUS AGRICULTURE

- 28,748 kg of produce worth $16,225 on the VHW campus
- 6,610 liters of milk worth $3,339 produced on the site
- 2,866 inpatients fed worth $11,669 equaling 22,410 kg of food

COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

- 11 cooperatives
- 9,013 kg agricultural produce worth $4,604 produced by cooperatives
- 8 different types of seeds distributed to farmers
VHW's Community Engagement Program continues to support the multifaceted partnership we have developed with those we serve. Through ongoing meetings with community leaders and coordination with community actors, we are able to gain insights and a nuanced understanding of community dynamics that are then used to more effectively address ongoing and emerging needs together. The Community Engagement Program also supports the continuation of Burundi's traditions through highly respected youth-centered arts programs that include traditional music, sports, drumming, and dance, in addition to ongoing work in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and environmental protection. Our extremely popular Twiyugurure programs provide education and psychosocial support to local families to better understand each other and provide healthy ways of resolving conflicts.

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to impact every area of VHW’s activities in 2021, but was particularly disruptive to the Community Engagement team. The need to avoid large gatherings severely impacted our ability to plan meetings with community members, adding to existing difficulties in community work such as impassable roads. Despite these challenges, we accomplished a great deal. Our strengths in music and dance were demonstrated as we won a national arts and culture competition for our Bururi province, and through our water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) program not a single case of dysentery or cholera was reported for the whole year. We also took measures to protect the environment by planting 28,000 plants and trees and almost completely eliminating bush fires in our community. Our extremely popular Twiyugurure peer support programs expanded greatly as difficulties in travel led to initiating sessions in the communities themselves. As we engaged with previous graduates of the program, there were repeated requests for help with their children. In response, towards the end of the year we began plans for six centers to support youth - which are now open and supporting approximately 100 youth.
Caring for the Flowers of Kigutu

“We plant seeds of flowers, pull weeds, and replace old flowers. You must take care of flowers, just like any crop you might grow for food,” says Karubi Gregoire, the head of Landscaping at VHW. “We create a healing and welcoming environment for anyone coming to the VHW campus, whether a visitor or a patient,” he added.

The Landscaping staff starts their workday at 5am by watering new flowers that have been planted and cleaning the campus — all before the first patient arrives. The campus is divided into nine zones, and a different staff member is assigned to look after each zone. Other members of the Landscaping team sweep away dry leaves and shape flowering plants into many forms.

“Creativity is the motto of our daily work in Landscaping. Sometimes we form plants in the shape of words like VHW or WHP (for the Women’s Health Pavilion). We also create shapes such as the map of Africa, hearts, ducks, among others. We work hard daily to create relaxing, beautiful sights and a therapeutic atmosphere. My pleasure is to see a well-maintained garden, with different healthy flowers and trees, which reflects how healthy people are living around such gardens,” concluded Gregoire.
Financial Statement

Audited Financials for the year that ended December 31, 2021.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Support &amp; revenue:</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; grants</td>
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<td>$2,605,736</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
<td>$569,339</td>
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<td>In-kind revenue</td>
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<td>Special events</td>
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<td>Pharmacy revenue</td>
<td>$102,821</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>$4,036,655</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total support &amp; revenue</td>
<td>$7,445,769</td>
<td>$7,605,436</td>
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Expenses:

| Program Services            | 3,477,526     | 4,629,727     |
| Supporting Services:        |               |               |
| Management & general        | 700,124       | 582,478       |
| Fundraising                 | 436,650       | 449,359       |
| Total supporting services   | 1,136,774     | 1,031,837     |
| Total expenses              | 4,614,300     | 5,661,564     |

Increase in net assets without restrictions: $2,831,469 1,943,874

CHANGES IN RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

| Contributions & grants      | $3,550,686    | $3,280,700    |
| Net assets released from restriction | $(4,036,655) | $(4,005,170) |
| Decrease in net assets with restrictions | $(485,969) | $(724,470) |

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS

$2,345,500 1,219,404

NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR

$17,582,623 16,363,219

NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR

$19,928,123 17,582,623

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

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<th>2021</th>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Contributions &amp; grants receivable, net</td>
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<td>645,687</td>
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<td>Property &amp; equipment, net</td>
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<td>Other assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
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<td>$17,915,844</td>
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LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

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<th></th>
<th>2021</th>
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<td>Liabilities</td>
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<td>Net Assets</td>
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<td>Net assets without donor restrictions</td>
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<td>Net assets with donor restrictions</td>
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<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>19,928,123</td>
<td>17,582,623</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</td>
<td>$20,192,580</td>
<td>$17,915,844</td>
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Because of rounding, sums may not equal 100%.
Building a Movement

Thank you to our generous partners and friends whose gifts of $500 or more made between January 1 – December 31, 2021 are reflected here with our profound gratitude.

$500,000 +
Alexandra Shor
The Pharo Foundation
Anne Peretz
Rosamund Zander

$100,000 - $499,999
11th Hour Project
Kim and Steve Beattie
The Crown Family Philanthropies
Paul English
Patrick and Margaret Grace
Bill and Sharon Jacob
Lesley King
The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
The Schmidt Family Foundation
Segal Family Foundation
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
George Stephanopoulos and Ali Wentworth
The Wagner Foundation

$50,000 - $99,000
Anonymous
Fidela Chiang and Mu Wei
Bill Clapp
John and Lauren Driscoll
Goldman Sachs
Addie Guttag
Chang K. Park Foundation
Terrence J. Rose
U.S. Department of State

$25,000 - $49,999
Michael Aldridge
Axioma, Inc.
Matthew Britton
Clermont Foundation
Jozelyn and Peter Davis
Claire Evans
Patricia Feighan and Stephen Zenczak
Godley Family Foundation
Jonathan Goldberg
Gregory Gottlieb
Wende Hutton
Intelligent Cross
Tyler Kenyon
Judith Mayer
William and Ginger Nemerever
Megan Newman and Matthew Greenberg
Pico Trading LLC
Brinna Sands
Frederick St. Goar and Anne Friedlander
T2AM LLC

$10,000 - $24,999
King Baudoin Foundation
Marissa Berkley
Jennifer Blakely
Michael J Carr

James Cashel and Anne Ching
Christopher Combe
Stuart Green and Jennifer Moses
Patrick and Beth Heron
Robert Jackall
Elizabeth Kaido
Sid Knafel and Londa Weisman
Jennifer Leidich and Hector Bonilla
Alexia Leuschen
Arien Mack
Carl Pforzheimer
The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation
James Pitaro
Michael and Naomi Rosenfeld
The Schooner Foundation
Marshall and Amy Smith
John and Teresa Tippett
The Vanderbilt Family Foundation

$5,000 - $9,999
Anonymous
Richard and Victoria Baks
Eve Birnbaum and Lawrence Goldberg
Sebastian Ceria
Susan Cook and Drew Fine
Dtouch Creative
Donald and Jo-Ann Farley
Susan K Feagin and Michael Margitich
Thermo Fisher
Ross Garon and Hong K. Suh
Scott Graczky
Jane Greenfield
Alice Greif
Satish and Usha Gupta
William and Anne Harrison Foundation
The Jim and Robin Herrnstein Foundation
David Hochschild and Cynthia Li
Craig Iseli
Raymond Iwanowski
Dan Jump
Frances and Tracy Kidder
Knafel Family Foundation
Jesse Lainer-Vos
Nancy Langsan
Anjali Malipatil
Brian Marsh and Elizabeth Heron
W. L. Melchor
Henry K. Metz and A. F King
Rishi Narang
Dziwe Ntaba and Molly Reichert
Tara O'Keefe
Deirdre O'Neill
Meg Porfido
Laurence and Brice Russian
John Sabat
Brad Smith and Kathy Surace-Smith
Blakely and John Stonebaugh
M3 and Lisa Sweat
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And, special thanks to Cynthia Riaz, VHW’s Chief of Staff, for her tireless wisdom and amazing work.
SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

Rishi Narang and ITBB

VHW’s Board Chair, Rishi Narang, has been a supporter of VHW since he met Deo in 2013 and a board member for five years. He is motivated by the possibilities of VHW’s model, commenting, “What VHW is doing, and equally important, how it’s doing it, is perhaps unique in the world. VHW is implementing a highly effective, community led model for ending extreme multigenerational poverty, which is a notoriously difficult problem to solve. Furthermore, this model is relatively easily translatable to just about any impoverished community in the world.”

Shortly after assuming his position as Board Chair, Rishi made his first trip to our campus in Kigutu, a trip that impacted him greatly. “To see what VHW has created from whole cloth on a mountaintop in rural Burundi was astonishing. To see the leadership team operating at such a high level, both on campus and in the community was amazing. And to see the impact in the communities was truly a revelation.”

In addition to supporting VHW through serving on our Board, Rishi has also spearheaded a fundraising event linked to the conference he runs, Inside the Black Box (ITBB) that has raised $850,000.
SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

Jennifer Leidich

Jennifer Leidich learned about VHW through reading Strength in What Remains in 2010 — and 12 years later, she continues to support our work as a monthly donor. Jennifer matches the passion we have in our mission, commenting, "It is hard to describe the feeling of connection, purpose and pride that comes over me when I read VHW’s updates and know that I am a part of this compassionate, impactful organization."

She is particularly inspired by the VHW’s holistic model, saying, “The VHW mission itself is centered on people, evidenced in the way that VHW cares for the whole person: her history, her future, her education, her food security, her community, her family, and her physical, mental and emotional health. With this integrative approach to wellness and well-being, VHW is able to tackle its bold goal of breaking the cruel cycles of sickness, poverty and strife. In essence, it really is about dignity, which itself is a pillar of VHW’s mission. Putting people at the center encourages everyone to feel dignified, cared for, confident, hopeful, and devoted."

We deeply appreciate Jennifer’s enthusiasm, commitment, and her monthly sustaining support. We invite you to become a monthly donor and help make our transformative work possible.

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Image: Flowers in the Burundian countryside.