



FISTULA
FOUNDATION

2022
ANNUAL REPORT

We Are **IN IT TO END IT**

We dream of a world where the suffering caused by fistula comes to an end in all countries where this condition persists today. By adding new Fistula Foundation Partners,

and by building new Fistula Foundation Treatment Networks that connect all women in all parts of a country with high-quality care, we can make this dream a reality.



Prisila was treated for vesicovaginal fistula at Gynocare Women's and Fistula Hospital in Kenya. Today, she is dry.

📷 Roshni Lodhia



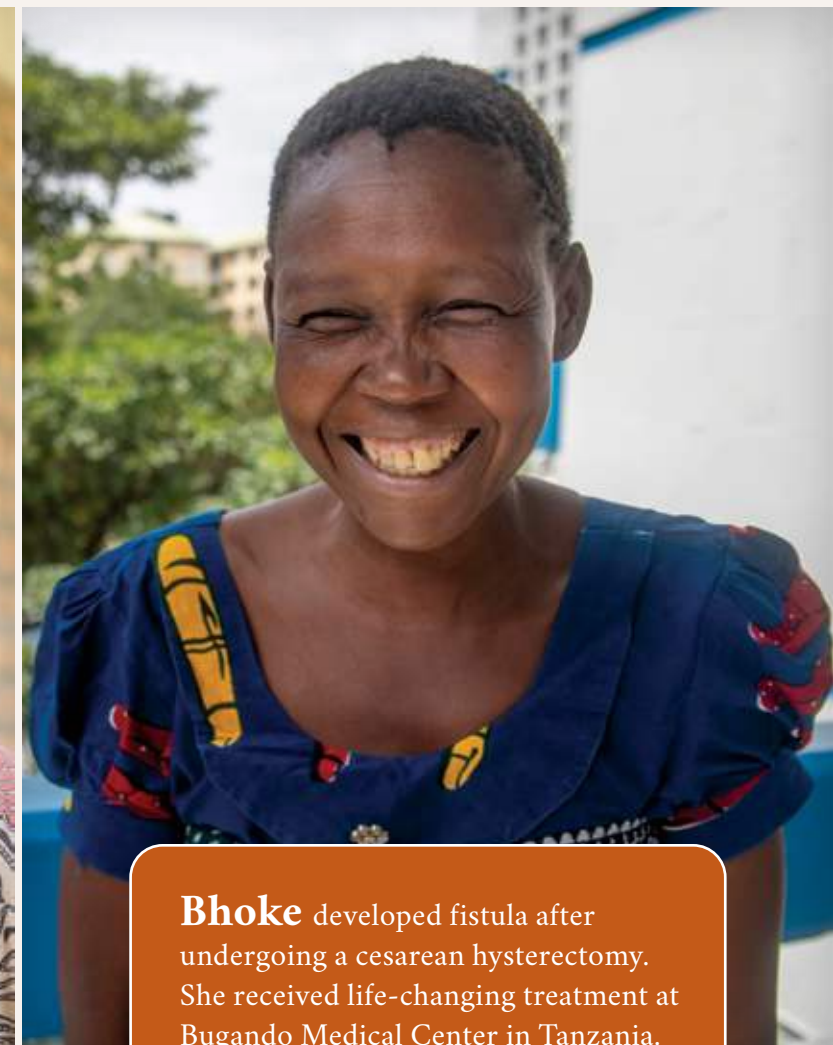
Cristobel lived for nine years with a severe perineal tear that caused incontinence. She received free care at Mbala General Hospital in Zambia.

📷 Sumy Sadurni



Batena was successfully treated by doctors from HEAL Africa during a surgical outreach effort in Tshibala, Democratic Republic of Congo.

📷 Bienfait Tussi



Bhoke developed fistula after undergoing a cesarean hysterectomy. She received life-changing treatment at Bugando Medical Center in Tanzania.

📷 Roshni Lodhia



IN IT TO END IT

Building on Success


We piloted our countrywide treatment model in Kenya in 2014. Nine years and more than 10,000 surgeries later, Fistula Foundation Treatment Network (FFTN) in Kenya serves as our flagship network. Peer-reviewed research on the first six years of our work in that country demonstrates the remarkable power of this model. Today, lessons learned from FFTN in Kenya guide our efforts elsewhere.

Surgeons from FFTN in Kenya and FFTN in Zambia convene at Gynocare Women's and Fistula Hospital in Eldoret, Kenya, for an advanced training workshop.

IN IT TO END IT

Training Compassionate Ambassadors

Following our success in Kenya, we built a second countrywide treatment network in Zambia in 2017. Zambia's varied terrain makes reaching women in rural parts of the country very difficult. So we built an army of nearly 1,500 community health volunteers and Safe Motherhood Action Group members who are trained to spread information about fistula and to refer patients to partner hospitals for care.

 SumySadurni



Florence (right), who was successfully treated for a perineal tear that caused incontinence, embraces Beatrice (left), an outreach worker from the Safe Motherhood Action Group in Zambia, during a post-surgery follow-up visit to Florence's village.



IN IT TO END IT

Going the Last Mile

In 2022, we launched a third treatment network in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)—a country known as “the worst place on Earth to be a woman.” Where possible, we work with partners to operate continuous care facilities. But where necessary, we provide care through specially arranged surgical outreach efforts. Today in the DRC, particularly in areas rife with instability, we support treatment on a large scale through surgical outreach sites.

 Bienfait Tussi


Patients dress each other's hair as they await treatment at a surgical outreach effort hosted by HEAL Africa in Tshibala, Democratic Republic of Congo.

A medical student in a white coat and blue surgical mask is looking down at a patient. The patient is a woman with short hair, wearing a yellow and blue patterned shirt, and is smiling. The background is a light blue wall, suggesting a hospital setting.

IN IT TO END IT

Reaching Every Woman

With our newest countrywide treatment network, FFTN in Tanzania, we take a decisive step toward achieving our vision to end the suffering caused by fistula—country by country, surgery by surgery, one woman at a time. FFTN in Tanzania is the first of five new networks that we plan to build over the next five years. Working closely with our partners, we are creating an infrastructure of care that will ensure that no woman is left behind.

 Roshni Lodhia

Mariam (right), a fistula patient at Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania, shares a moment of joy with a medical student (left) at the facility.

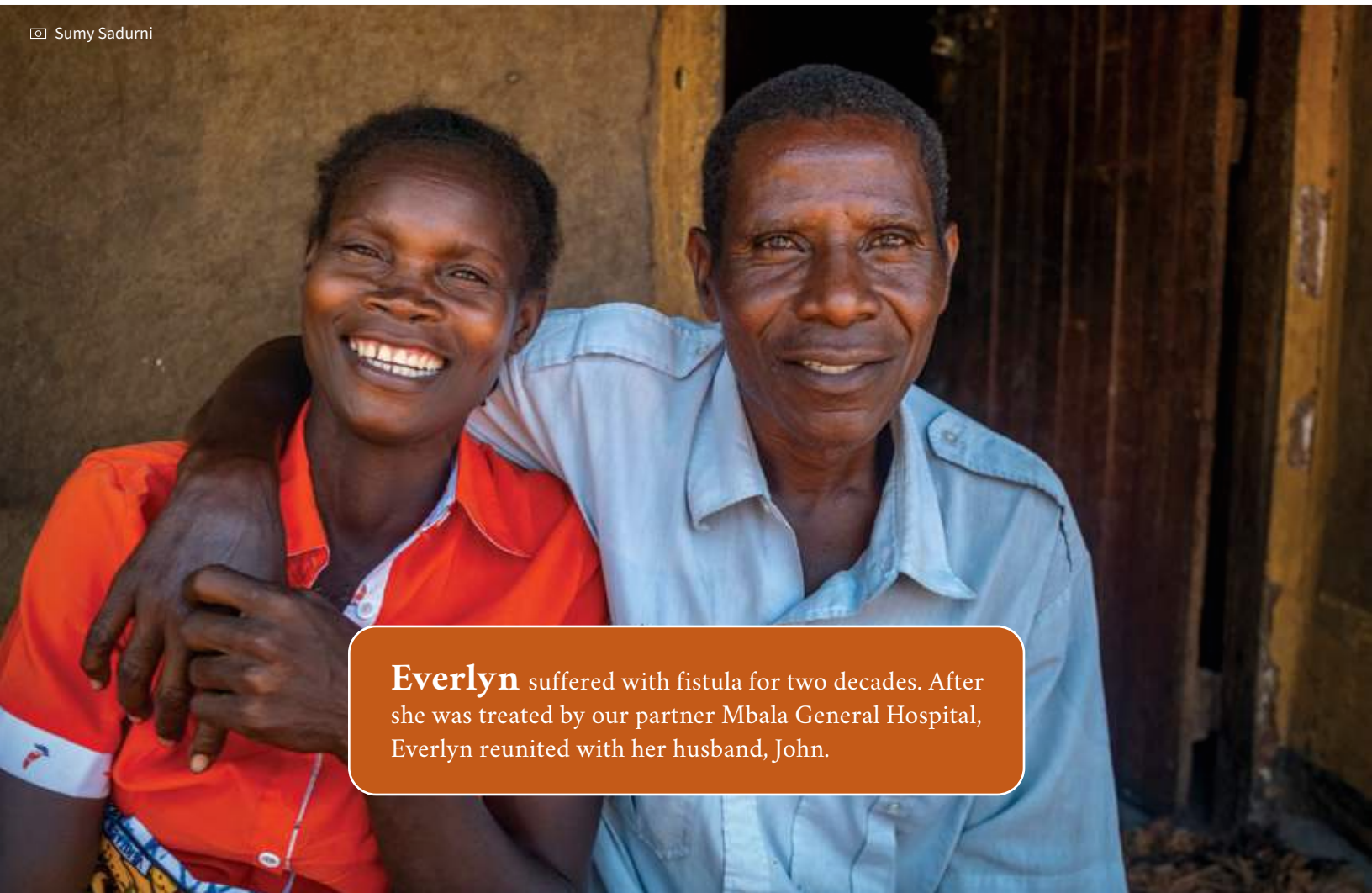
No Woman Left Behind

When we say *In It to End It*, we mean that we won't stop until every woman injured in childbirth has access to surgery that can restore her health and give her hope for the future. Our model works at scale to end the needless suffering of multitudes of women. But we need you, our compassionate supporters, to make this vision a reality. I hope we can count on you to stick with us.

— Kate Grant
Chief Executive Officer

Our Mission in Action

At Fistula Foundation, we believe that no woman should live a life of misery and isolation, simply for trying to bring a child into the world. We strive every day to end the suffering of women injured in childbirth—and to ensure that no woman is left behind.

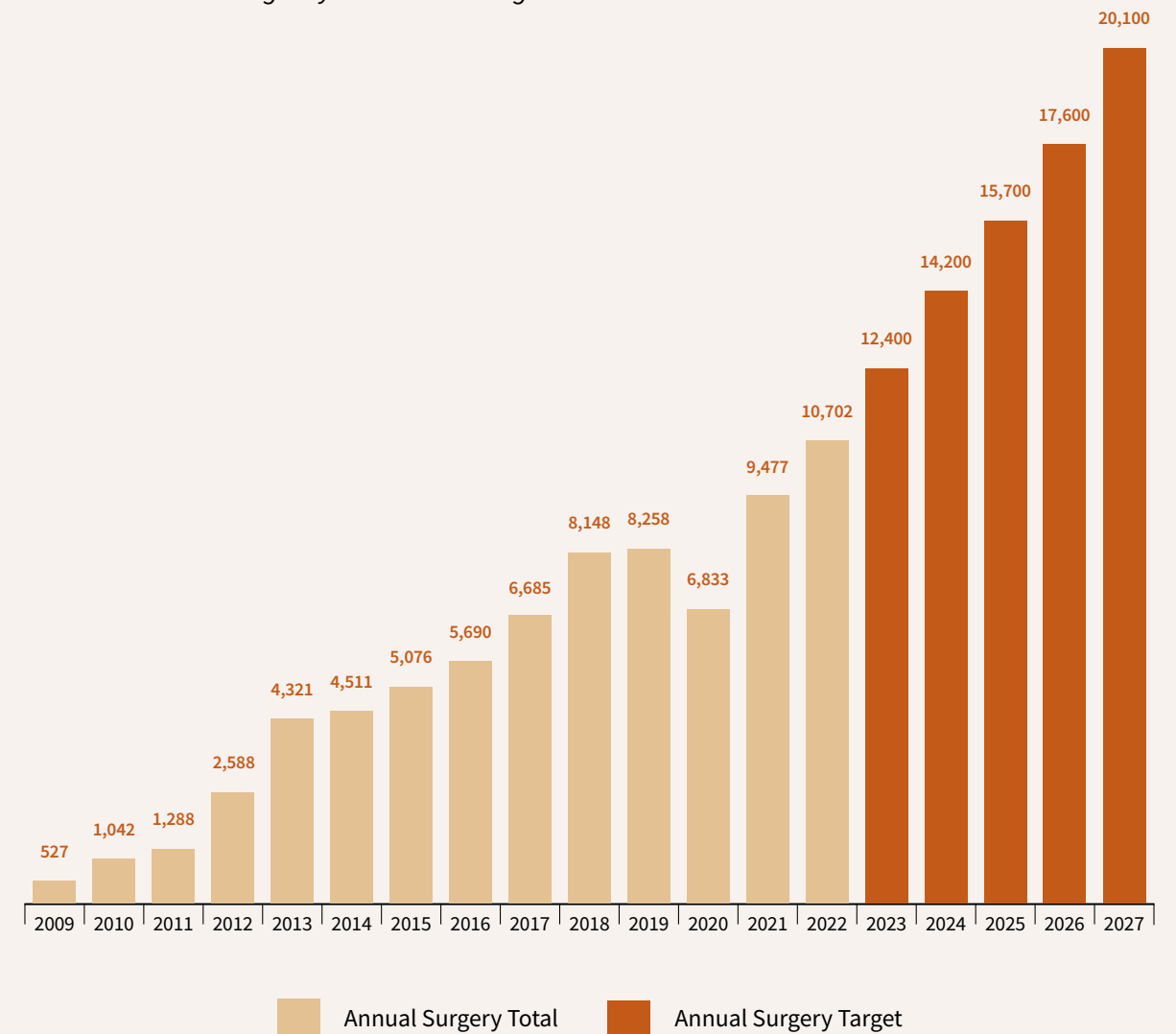


Everlyn suffered with fistula for two decades. After she was treated by our partner Mbala General Hospital, Everlyn reunited with her husband, John.

An Ambitious Plan

Since 2009, when Fistula Foundation launched a global strategy to treat women with obstetric fistula, we have supported more than 75,000 surgeries for women in need.

Under a new strategic plan, we will exceed that achievement in just five years. From 2023 to 2027, we aim to provide 80,000 surgeries, add more than 40 partners, and build five new countrywide treatment networks. By pursuing this plan, we will reach and serve women with devastating childbirth injuries on a scale that equals the urgency of their suffering.



World-Class Partners

Your support helps healthcare heroes provide world-class care to the patients who walk through the doors at each of our partner facilities. The dedicated surgeons, nurses, and outreach workers who work with our partners are grateful for what you enable them to achieve for women in their countries.



Sumy Sadurni



Khaula Jamil



Roshni Lodhia



Roshni Lodhia

Fistula Foundation Partners

AFGHANISTAN

Cure Hospital, A Be Team International Facility

ANGOLA

Centro Evangelico de Medicina de Lubango (CEML)
Unidade Fistula Obstetrica (UFO)

BANGLADESH

Hope Foundation for Women & Children of Bangladesh
Kumudini Women's Medical College and Hospital

BENIN

Artemedis Benin

BURKINA FASO

Association Renaissance (ARENA)

CHAD

Artemedis Chad

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Artemedis DRC
Fistula Program DRC (FisPro DRC)
HEAL Africa
Maendeleo Fistula Care
Panzi Hospital
Rwankole Hospital
Vanga Hospital

ETHIOPIA

Healing Hands of Joy
Village Health Partnership

GUINEA

Artemedis Guinea

KENYA

Bomu Hospital
Cherangany Nursing Home
Daraja Mbili Vision Volunteers Youth Group (DM)
Garissa County Referral Hospital
Gynocare Women's and Fistula Hospital
Jamaa Home & Mission Hospital – Edelvale Trust
Kapenguria County Referral Hospital
Kisii Gynocare Fistula Centre
Maisha Empowerment Initiative
Narok County Referral Hospital
Nyambene Sub-County Hospital
Vihiga County Referral Hospital
Women and Development Against Distress in Africa (WADADIA)
Women Education and Health for Development (WOHED)

LIBERIA

Artemedis Liberia

MADAGASCAR

Freedom from Fistula Foundation Madagascar
SALFA

MALAWI

Freedom from Fistula Foundation Malawi

MALI

Artemedis Mali

MAURITANIA

Artemedis Mauritania

MOZAMBIQUE

Focus Fistula

NEPAL

Fistula Free Nepal
International Nepal Fellowship
Kathmandu Model Hospital / Public Health Concern Trust – Nepal
Public Health Concern Trust/CBRHCC

NIGERIA

Dame Olayinka Obaleye Obstetric Fistula Center
Dogon Nasara Fistula Foundation
Evangel Vesico-Vaginal Fistula Center (EVFC)
Family Life Centre/V.V.F. Hospital
Fistula Foundation, Nigeria

PAKISTAN

Pakistan National Forum on Women's Health

RWANDA

Ubi Caritas

SIERRA LEONE

Artemedis Sierra Leone

SOMALIA

Galkayo Medical Foundation

SOMALILAND

Edna Adan University Hospital
National Borama Fistula Hospital

SOUTH SUDAN

Artemedis South Sudan
Dr. Andrew Browning
Health Coordination Department, Catholic Diocese of Wau

TANZANIA

Association of Obstetric Fistula Surgeons of Tanzania (AOFST)
Bugando Medical Centre
Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT)
Maternity Africa
Nkinga Referral Hospital

UGANDA

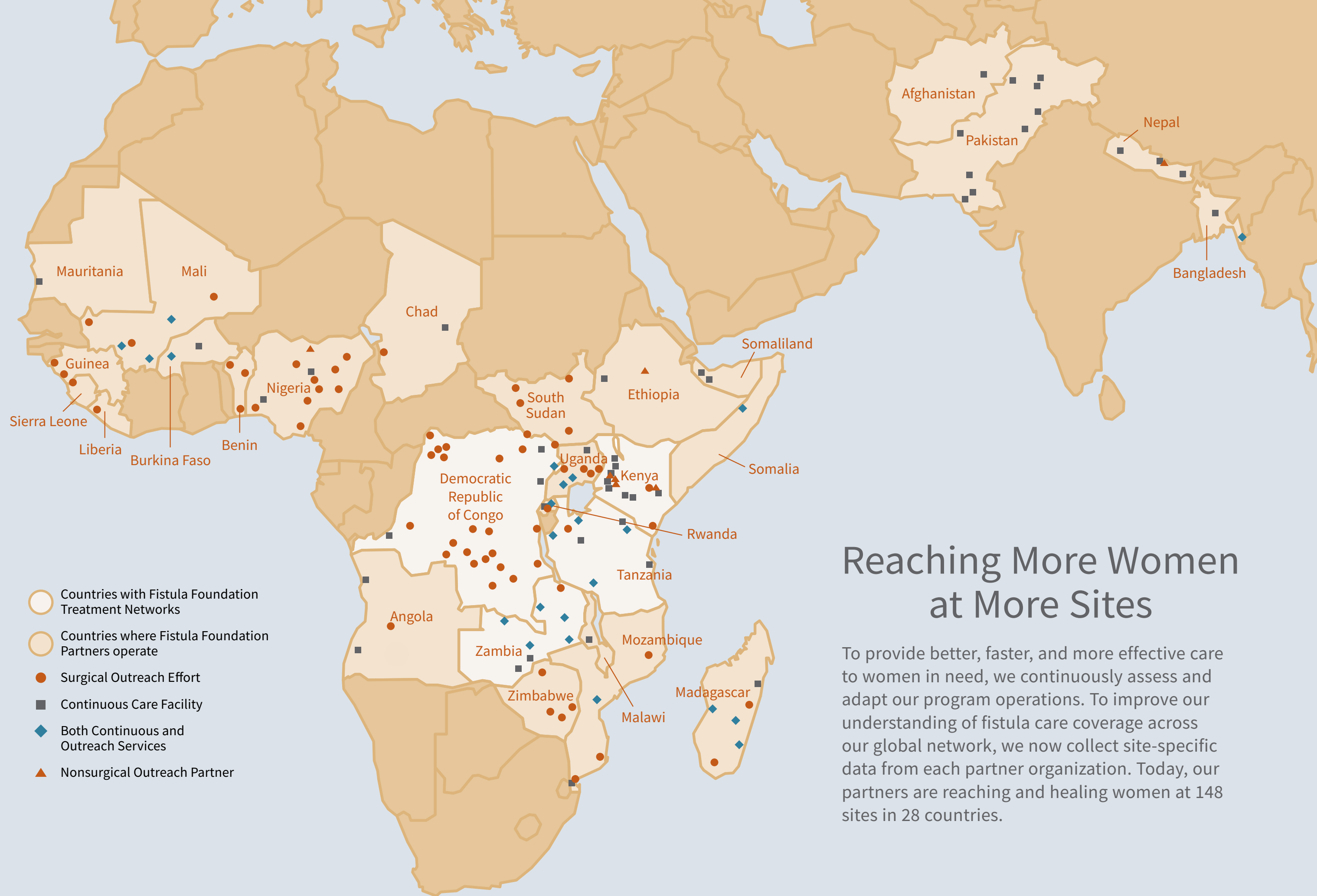
CoRSU Hospital
Kitovu Hospital
Terrowode
Uganda Childbirth Injury Fund
Uganda Village Project

ZAMBIA

Chilenje Level 1 Hospital
Chilonga Mission Hospital
Kabwe General Hospital
Mansa General Hospital
Mbala General Hospital
Monze Mission Hospital
Solwezi General Hospital
St. Francis Hospital, Katete

ZIMBABWE

Artemedis Zimbabwe



- Countries with Fistula Foundation Treatment Networks
- Countries where Fistula Foundation Partners operate
- Surgical Outreach Effort
- Continuous Care Facility
- ◆ Both Continuous and Outreach Services
- ▲ Nonsurgical Outreach Partner

Reaching More Women at More Sites

To provide better, faster, and more effective care to women in need, we continuously assess and adapt our program operations. To improve our understanding of fistula care coverage across our global network, we now collect site-specific data from each partner organization. Today, our partners are reaching and healing women at 148 sites in 28 countries.

Leveraging the Power of You

Every donor has a powerful story—and a unique connection to our cause. No matter how you originally learned about fistula, or what motivates you to support women with this devastating condition, you and thousands of supporters like you have changed tens of thousands of lives.



Turning Passion into Purpose

What happens when you turn your passion for women's health into a new career? Dr. Brandie Freeman did just that. Brandie is a longtime donor to Fistula Foundation who learned about fistula from the documentary Half the Sky, based on a book by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. At the time, she was a science teacher. Each year in one of her courses, she showed scenes from the film and talked with students about how healthcare disparities lead to conditions like obstetric fistula.

In 2019, Brandie had a revelation that came to her in a dream: To follow her passion for women's healthcare, she should become a pelvic floor therapist. She left teaching and underwent training

in physical therapy, and today runs her own practice in Acworth, Georgia. "It is important to me to provide an oasis of care here in the county where I was raised," Brandie said. "Most of my clients are from a rural area, and I'm the only clinic in the [vicinity]."

For the past 10 years, Brandie has supported Fistula Foundation by making monthly and annual gifts. In recent years, she has hosted pelvic floor workshops that serve as fundraising events. Brandie also hopes one day to pursue mission work in developing countries, where she would train people in pelvic floor therapy. "I try as much as I can to make my life about service. When that's your mindset, opportunity presents itself," she said.

Effective Altruism in Action



“When we heard about fistula, and how it was easily fixable but wasn’t being fixed, it affected both of us. It was heartbreaking,” said John Nevin, speaking also for his wife, Emily. The Nevins learned about Fistula Foundation from the book *The Life You Can Save*, by Peter Singer, a founder of the Effective Altruism movement. Effective Altruism is an approach to philanthropy that emphasizes “doing the most good” with money spent.

John and Emily are pediatricians who live in Southern California. As U.S.-based healthcare

professionals, they routinely treat chronic conditions that can be managed but not solved. In the case of fistula, they saw an opportunity to address a problem that has a clear, known solution. They were also eager to support a specific project. In 2022, when Narok County Referral Hospital joined the Fistula Foundation Treatment Network in Kenya, they signed up to sponsor that site. “The amount of care that Narok [Hospital] provides with such a small investment really shows the need in the region,” said John.

Ellen Walton is an artist who uses her creativity to help others. After a career as a real estate professional in northern Virginia, Ellen retired with her husband in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She wanted to find a new way to channel her energy, and began oil painting. Today, she sells her paintings to raise money for charities, including Fistula Foundation.

Several years ago, Ellen decided to leave money in her will for charities that help women in need. Then her husband suggested that she could

have an impact right away. So now Ellen directs proceeds from the sale of her work to several nonprofits. Over the past six years, Ellen has made donations through Fistula Foundation to support seven repair surgeries. To market her paintings, she sends out a monthly online newsletter. In one newsletter, she told the story of a fistula patient named Salma, and noted that Salma had undergone repair surgery—thanks to donors’ generosity. “As you can see, proceeds from the sale of my art do help to make a difference,” she wrote.

Giving While Living— and While Painting



A Mission to Support Healing



Since 2001, Randy Harshbarger has made 40 trips to Ethiopia. Randy, a Christian minister based in Nacogdoches, Texas, began traveling to Africa because he wanted to help people who live in extreme poverty. On an early trip, he made the first of several visits to the Hamlin Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa. Hearing about the plight of fistula patients at that facility had a life-changing effect on him. “The trauma of these young girls, who are often forced into marriage at a young age, is heartbreaking,” Randy said.

“Yet the joy that comes from the healing of both their body and their soul will soften the hardest of hearts.”

Randy has made numerous gifts to Fistula Foundation in recent years, and urges others to follow his example. “To any who cares to listen: You probably will not go to Africa,” he said. “But you have enough money—right now, in your pocket—that will make a difference in the lives of these beautiful women. Why not give it today?”

A Growing Team

We are adding new leaders in treatment network countries and investing for growth by expanding our team across multiple sites. No matter where we live and work, our vision to end the suffering caused by fistula unites us all.

TEAM U.S.

- Kate Grant**
Chief Executive Officer
- Pam Lowney**
Chief Operating Officer
- Lindsey Pollaczek**
Chief Program Officer
- Michael Slind**
Chief Marketing Officer
- Kelly Anderson**
Senior Director of Philanthropy
- Darren Blankenship**
Database Administrator
- Jesse Chu**
Program Manager
- Hannah Garone**
Senior Donor Relations Manager
- Jamie Heisch**
Philanthropy Associate
- Shelly Helgeson**
Vice President of Partnerships
- Nicole Huelar**
Administrative Assistant
- Keerthana Rajagopal**
Associate Program Manager
- Jackelen Renteria-Bustos**
Marketing and Communication Associate
- Jing Shi**
Finance Manager

- Carol Tillman**
Donor Relations Assistant
- Tarah Walker**
Senior Communications Manager
- Morgan Walter**
Digital Media Manager

TEAM DRC

- Clément Lofumbwa Balilo**
Program Officer
- Pascal M. Vahwere**
Program Manager

TEAM KENYA

- Habiba Corodhia Mohamed**
Regional Director
- Nelson Musa**
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

TEAM TANZANIA

- Clement George Ndahani**
Program Manager

TEAM ZAMBIA

- Florence Changwe Mulenga**
Administrative Officer
- Bwalya Chomba**
Program Director

- Victor D. Chibale**
Driver
- Emmanuel Chiluba**
Senior Program Officer
- Martin Chiyana**
Program Officer
- Jordan Chileshe Chomba**
Driver
- Kalumba Kaputo**
Senior Program Officer
- Jameson Kaunda**
Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator
- Patricia Nyawa Tempo**
Program Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Chair
- Thomas Huntington**
- Cleo Kiros**
- Charlotte Polle**
- Gillian Slinger**
- Vanessa Taylor**

MEDICAL DIRECTORS

- Dr. Steve Arrowsmith**
- Dr. Andrew Browning**



Celebrating Two Decades of Service



In January 2023, we said farewell to Fistula Foundation's first full-time—and longest-serving—staff member, Anne Ferguson. Anne has now begun her next life chapter: retirement. She started at the Foundation in 2003, and proved herself to be indispensable as the Foundation grew to become a global leader in fistula care. For more than a decade, she served as deputy director and excelled in the role of right-hand woman to CEO Kate Grant. Thank you, Anne, for the integrity and dedication that you brought to your many years of service.





Fistula surgeons Dr. Sajjad Siddiqui (left) and Dr. Shershah Syed (right) check in on Naseema, a patient at Koohi Goth Hospital in Pakistan.

Built on Trust



Charity Navigator

Fistula Foundation has earned an "exceptional" four-star rating from Charity Navigator every year since 2005.



BBB Wise Giving Alliance

For the past 17 years, Fistula Foundation has met all 20 of the BBB Standards for Charity Accountability.



The Life You Can Save

The Life You can Save—cofounded by Peter Singer—has featured Fistula Foundation on its list of the "best charities for effective giving" since 2014.



GreatNonprofits

Thanks to nearly 800 five-star reviews from supporters, Fistula Foundation was named a Top-Rated Charity in 2022.



Charity Watch

Charity Watch has awarded an A rating to Fistula Foundation, and recognizes the Foundation as one of only 45 charities on its list of Top Rated International Organizations.



GuideStar by Candid

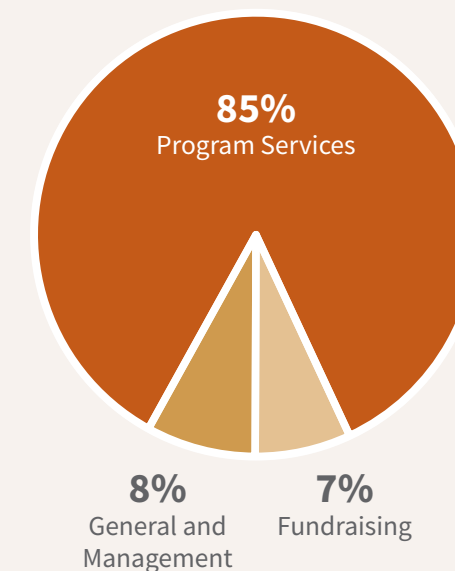
Fistula Foundation has been named a Platinum-level GuideStar Participant—the highest level of recognition given to charities by GuideStar.

Each year since 2005, we have received the highest rating from every nonprofit sector watchdog group.

2022 Financials

Revenues and Support	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Contributions	\$9,805,075	\$5,610,464	\$15,415,539
Net Investment Income (loss)	(\$1,879,318)	(\$1,609,986)	(\$3,489,304)
Net Assets Released from Restriction for Purpose	\$6,252,228	(\$6,252,228)	—
Total Revenues and Support	\$14,177,985	(\$2,251,750)	\$11,926,235
Expenses			
Program Services	\$13,815,700	—	\$13,815,700
Management and General	\$1,318,524	—	\$1,318,524
Fundraising Expense	\$1,198,831	—	\$1,198,831
Total Expenses	\$16,333,055	—	\$16,333,055
Change in Net Assets	(\$2,155,070)	(\$2,251,750)	(\$4,406,820)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$7,317,772	\$14,502,967	\$21,820,739
Net Assets at End of Year	\$5,162,702	\$12,251,217	\$17,413,919

Overall Spending in 2022





Patients at Comprehensive Community-Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT), in Dar es Salaam, sing joyful songs together. By tradition at CCBRT, patients wear like-colored gowns—including blue gowns on weekends.

Fistula Foundation

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