



SIERRA LEONE

A LETTER FROM NAT ROBISON, BOARD TREASURER



Dear Friends,

Despite much progress, saving women and children around the world from death and illness generated by preventable causes continues to be a monumental challenge. Curamericas Global's approach to identifying, keeping in contact with and working directly with families and communities at risk is a proven way to achieve sustainable change through hope and healing.

After more than 30 years of being associated with the development and growth of Curamericas Global and its impact in Bolivia, I am proud to be able to continue contributing to this effort as a member of the Board of Directors. I want to take this opportunity to thank so many of you for being long, loyal partners and supporters of this noble cause.

Nat Robison
Board Treasurer

Community Health That Works: Insights from Sierra Leone



A Care Group Volunteer with her baby girl in the rural village of Lowma, Sierra Leone.

Because of the support of generous donors, 4,000 people in rural Sierra Leone can now prevent deadly diseases, and over 1,000 women now have hope that their children will live to celebrate their fifth birthdays.

This past year, the Kuimeï team has been forming partnerships with eight rural communities to set up groups of volunteer community health educators and provide lifesaving health education. Learn about the impact of Curamericas Global's Kuimeï Project firsthand through the eyes of Andrew Kamara, Kuimeï's Water,

Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) Officer.

The communities where we work are deprived communities in terms of access to health care and resources. Yes, there have been other nonprofits operating in these areas, but they have not been able to bring long-term change; their impact has not been sustainable.

Curamericas Global's project has been a success, in part, because it is participatory. We don't just go and tell them what to do; we listen and guide them

in defining their health problems and finding their own solutions. When that happens, **their knowledge becomes a tool of empowerment**, and this kind of knowledge is not easy to forget. That's what makes the difference. Where other nonprofits just go and try to "fix" the community, with Kuimeï, the community is involved from the beginning and is invested in the solution. Long-lasting change is about walking alongside and joining forces with the community, not doing the

Continued on back page

A Heartfelt Note from Alma:

Her Own Experience Drives Her Work at Curamericas Global



A Community Health Volunteer meets with a mother in rural Guatemala to review the health lessons from that month's Care Group session.



Two young boys at one of the communities served by Curamericas Global.

I started working with Curamericas Global 15 years ago with the goal of helping women and mothers living in rural Guatemala. These women suffer from limited access to health services due to a lack of education, challenging economic situations, and a restrictive cultural reality — *machismo*. Unfortunately, the combination of these barriers results in lives lost during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum.

I am no stranger to this hard reality. My mother lost her life this way. She had 16 pregnancies — seven living children, six that passed away, and three miscarriages. During her last pregnancy, she developed gestational diabetes. As her due date approached, the baby was in a breached position, which would require a cesarean section. My mother thought that she wouldn't be able to heal properly after the surgery due to her diabetes and decided to have the birth naturally. None of the staff at the local health clinic approached her to provide education about her pregnancy and delivery, or

to let her know that gestational diabetes usually disappears in the last month of pregnancy. My mother died during labor along with the child she was carrying, leaving me with the responsibility of raising my younger siblings.

The death of my mother inspired me to continue my studies and to become a health worker. In this way, I can support and empower women, like my mother, who are at risk of dying and leaving their children without protection or care.

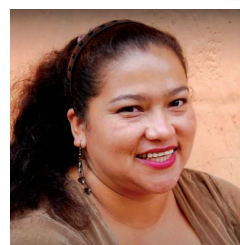
Curamericas Global makes a great humanitarian effort to manage and seek funds to develop projects in various parts of the world. Thanks to your support and donations, women and children in the most neglected communities around the world are provided with education and direct medical attention.

I pray to God daily that he blesses you and your families so that you may continue to support Curamericas Global's projects. This nonprofit is one of few organizations in

the world that continues to make substantial reductions in maternal, infant and child mortality, and that truly creates access to public health through its many vital health services and programs.

Thank you for your contributions; they allow children to see the light of day and the beauty of this world and many women to enjoy a new beginning alongside their sons and daughters.

God bless you!



Nurse Alma

Head Nurse at Curamericas-Guatemala, and one of Curamericas-Guatemala's founding staff members.

To read Alma's complete letter in Spanish, visit our blog at www.curamericas.org.

Donor Spotlight: The Keeners

We learned about Curamericas Global when our eldest son, Brooks, went on a volunteer trip to Guatemala through his school, Fayetteville Academy. Now, two of our children have gone on trips with Curamericas Global and our youngest hopes to follow in their footsteps. The trips provided invaluable experiences for our children that challenged them to step out of their comfort zones and made them more aware of differences in the world.

We continue to support Curamericas Global because they empower people to help themselves, and because they operate with a high level of accountability and transparency that validates the tangible impact of their work. In addition to their ongoing reach and impact, we are grateful for the relationships that we've built between our family and the Curamericas family.

— **Jim and Millie Keener**

Pictured with their three children, Brooks, Jessie and Jamie.



Because of you...

Generous donors like you are the reason that those living in poverty around the world have seen substantial improvements in their health. Your gifts do more than just provide temporary services, they effect change that improves the health and well-being of communities for generations to come. Your continued support keeps our projects and community health programs running strong.



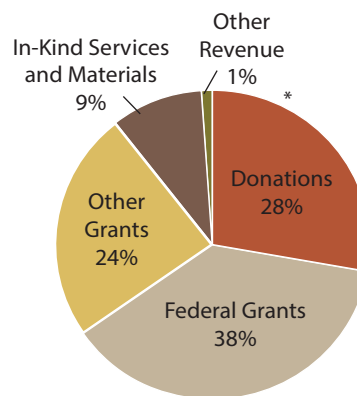
Increase the impact of your donation by becoming a monthly supporter, or include us in your planned giving to make a lifelong impact on the health of those in need.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FY 2014-2015

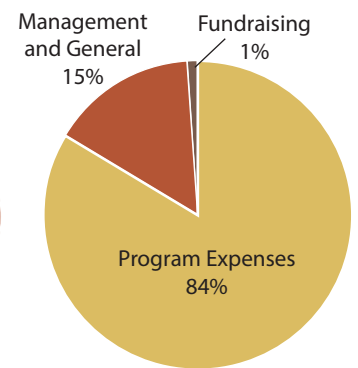
Net assets: \$49,118

SUPPORT AND REVENUE



Total support and revenue: \$1,398,667

EXPENSES



Total expenses: \$1,349,587

*Other income includes restricted individual donations, Employee Matching and State Campaigns.

To review our complete Financial Statement and IRS 990, audited annually by Buie, Norman & Co., P.A., visit <https://www.curamericas.org/financials/>



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HOPE THROUGH HEALTH

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Curamericas Global partners with underserved communities to make measurable and sustainable improvements in their health and well-being.

Your gifts make a lasting impact on the health of communities around the world.
Thank you for your support!



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Sierra Leone (cont.)

work for them.

For example, during a community visit we found out that there was a young boy who had severe diarrhea. When we arrived, the Care Group Volunteers, who are women in the community, had already engaged the little one and his family. Their first thought was to determine the cause of the diarrhea, looking at where the family gathered the water and the kind of environment that exists at home. Through conversations with his mother and health workers, they determined that the boy's illness was caused by drinking from a contaminated stream where other community members wash and defecate. I asked them, "How can we tackle this problem, together, now? How can we restore the health of this boy and prevent others from getting ill?" They then made a plan to treat the boy, first by making and giving him oral rehydration solution, a local, low-cost treatment, and then taking him to the clinic. As you see, the research, cooperation and solutions are coming from them. When it comes from them, they can easily remember the process, replicate it and put it into practice. If you impose it on them, they forget.



Andrew Kamara
WASH Officer, Kuimei Project

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Community Health
Volunteers trained

1,300

women reached with
health education



Our Board of Directors is critical to our success! Today, we give them a huge, heartfelt THANK YOU!

Curamericas Global would like to thank our incredible, talented and committed Board of Directors for their endless vision and guidance. The current members of our Board have supported Curamericas Global for a combined total of 90 years! Thank you for leading us to provide *Hope through Health* to the many people we serve.

Are you interested in leading and creating sustainable change with us? Contact our Executive Director, Andrew Herrera, at andrew@curamericas.org.