



THE GIVING EXCHANGE

IMPACT REPORT · 2023



FROM OUR FOUNDER



As we reflect on the remarkable journey of the past year, I'm filled with immense gratitude and pride.

2023 marked a significant milestone for us – TEN YEARS of dedication to our mission. I founded The Giving Exchange to create opportunities for children in need — not with handouts, but with education, skills, and self-sustaining income. The impact we've achieved over the last decade has been transformative, and it is with great joy that we share our 2023 Impact Report with you.

Thanks to the support of 287 individuals, we raised a total of \$513,000 in donations. Your generosity enabled us to cultivate and enhance trusting relationships with 12 outstanding partners, where we invested a record \$181,000 into their self-sustaining projects.

This year, we took our first step toward establishing an endowment. This strategic move ensures that The Giving Exchange not only thrives today but is poised for a sustainable and enduring impact for the decades to come.

Looking forward, our focus on income-generating, community-building, project-based economic justice work will remain at the forefront of our efforts, with goals to double our funding in 2024, and continue to scale.

The heartbeat of our organization lies in the support we receive from you, our donors. Thanks for being a vital part of this incredible organization. I'm genuinely excited about the future, and with your support, know that we'll continue to create positive change that echoes for generations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod Mickels".

Rod Mickels
President and Co-Founder

OUR MISSION

We partner with under-resourced communities to implement self-sustaining projects for a lasting impact.



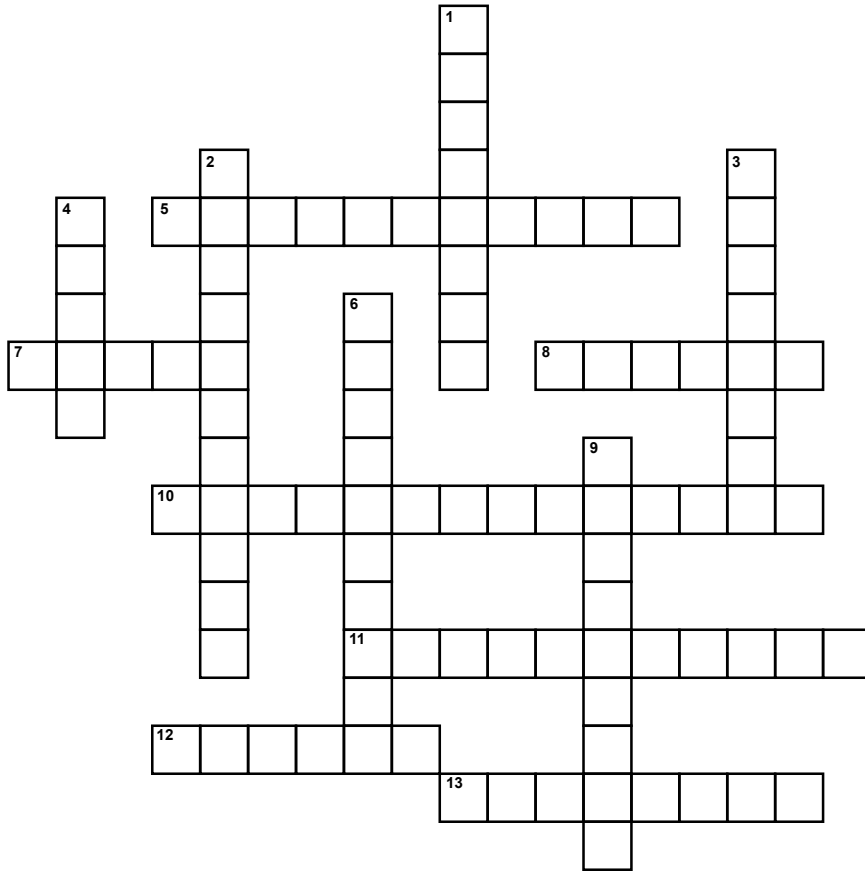
We dream of a world

where **children** have every opportunity to build their best future;

where **women** are supported, valued and championed for their contributions in reducing poverty and fostering inclusive economic growth,

and where **communities** are implementing the locally grown solutions they need to make life better for themselves and for generations to come.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 5 TGE partners with under-resourced [____] for a lasting impact
- 7 Where TGE started, geographically
- 8 In 2023, we took our first team trip to
- 10 TGE's mission is to implement [____] projects
- 11 United Nations Sustainable [____] Goals
- 12 Our work wouldn't be possible without our [____]
- 13 TGE's recurring donor program that offers exclusive, insider benefits

DOWN

- 1 TGE has a [____] Seal of Transparency from Guidestar
- 2 Please follow us on [____]
- 3 The World Bank reports that nearly half of the world's extreme poor are [____]
- 4 1 in 5 young [____] are married before their 18th birthday, per the United Nations
- 6 A TGE volunteer who travels to Africa
- 9 A donor who gives more than \$5,000/year, our highest tier

Hint: Explore our [website](#) for any answers you're missing! Or read through to the last page of this report.

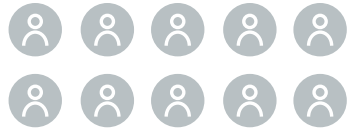


2023 BY THE NUMBERS

12 Unique income-generating projects implemented

3,375

Lives directly impacted



\$181,000

Invested in self-sustaining projects

\$512,000

Total donations

15 Board members

287

Individual donors



39+

Volunteers



100% of every donation goes directly to our projects; Angel donors cover all admin costs. Net revenue is rolled over and applied to projects next fiscal year.

MEET OUR TEAM

STAFF



Ming Richie
Executive Director

“ I go to work every day alongside the most incredible staff, volunteers, and Board members, all driven by a passion to change the world for the better. It’s just tangible in the way that each of these people show up. I truly have the best job in the world.

Ming, Executive Director



Reanna Placide
Director of Operations



Peninah Ndirangu
Project Coordinator, Kenya



Shelly Boyd
Finance Manager*



Brittany McCarthy
Development Associate*

* part-time

A huge thank you to our volunteer Board of Directors:



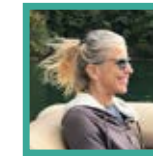
Rod Mickels



Drew Hagen



Paul Salinger



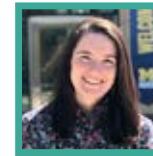
Kristen Radakovich



Christopher Revetria



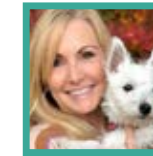
Ming Richie



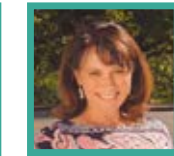
Chloe Hull



Terri Wygal



Laura Cervelli



Jill Tanner

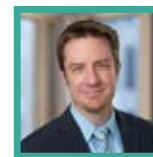
“

The knowledge and satisfaction of knowing that we collectively make the world a kinder and better place [is the best part of being on the TGE team].

Paul, Board Member



Cary Edgar



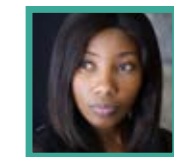
Michael Berta



Bruce Cacho-Negrete



Amy Alanes



Victoria Tswamuno

“

[I joined the TGE BOD for the] opportunity to be a part of something bigger than myself; an opportunity to grow, learn and give back.

Victoria, Board Member

In 2023, The Giving Exchange celebrated our 10-year anniversary, a momentous occasion that prompted both reflection and evolution. We took two trips to Africa: a team trip to Uganda in March, and an Ambassador trip to Kenya in August.

In-person trips bridge the gap between commitment and reality, allowing us to witness the tangible effects of our donors' generosity. Establishing strong, transparent relationships with our partners is vital to success, and on-site visits are the most effective means to achieve this.



Upon our return from Uganda, our Board, equipped with insights from the field and a comprehensive audit of the past decade, chose to enhance our existing partnerships across East Africa. By concentrating on impact and lives touched rather than geographical expansion, we aim to amplify our influence.

In 2023, we funded 12 project enhancements, each undergoing a simplified yet thorough TGE project process. Together with the beneficiary, we developed achievable metrics personalized to each project.

We have chosen just a few key highlights to share with you here – you can always learn more on our website: www.thegivingexchange.net.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

T-SHIRT PRINTING WITH FANTASY SOCCER ACADEMY

Fantasy Soccer Academy (FSA), trains young soccer talents in Kitengela, Kenya. To enhance sustainability, they launched a profitable project—screen printing soccer uniforms and equipment. During school months, profits are solid, and they significantly spike during holidays.

With support from The Giving Exchange, FSA acquired new machines in Summer 2023. This upgrade resulted in an impressive 82% increase in monthly profits, showcasing the project's financial viability. The academy actively markets its printing services to individual players, sport clubs, and corporations, aiming for financial diversification and long-term success.



↑
82%
increase
in monthly
profits





MERCY FROM INSPIRE GIRLS FOUNDATION

Meet Mercy, an extraordinary individual whose story is woven with resilience and unwavering dreams. Despite facing the challenges of her disability, she refuses to let it be a barrier. Inspired by the support from Inspire Girls Foundation (IGF) and The Giving Exchange (TGE), Mercy ventured into the world of soap-making.

Equipped with newfound skills, confidence, and profits from the program, Mercy transformed her aspirations into reality by securing a grant from her local government sub-county. It was with this funding that she opened a shop where she currently sells soap crafted by her IGF group members. Mercy's shop has evolved into one of the central market hubs for selling their Inspire soap.



“ I never accepted my disability to be an inability. I’ve always wanted to come out and work as any other person would. That’s why I joined this group. My dream is to start a center where I can produce soap myself. After production, I will take it to the market myself and sell it. That’s my big dream.

Mercy, beneficiary from Inspire Girls Foundation



Curious to hear Mercy’s story directly from her? Click [this link](#) or scan the QR code below.





BACK TO KENYA

In August 2023, The Giving Exchange traveled to Kenya for our annual trip with two teams of dedicated ambassadors armed with curiosity, enthusiasm, and a bunch of soccer balls.

We have (3) main goals for every Trip to Kenya:

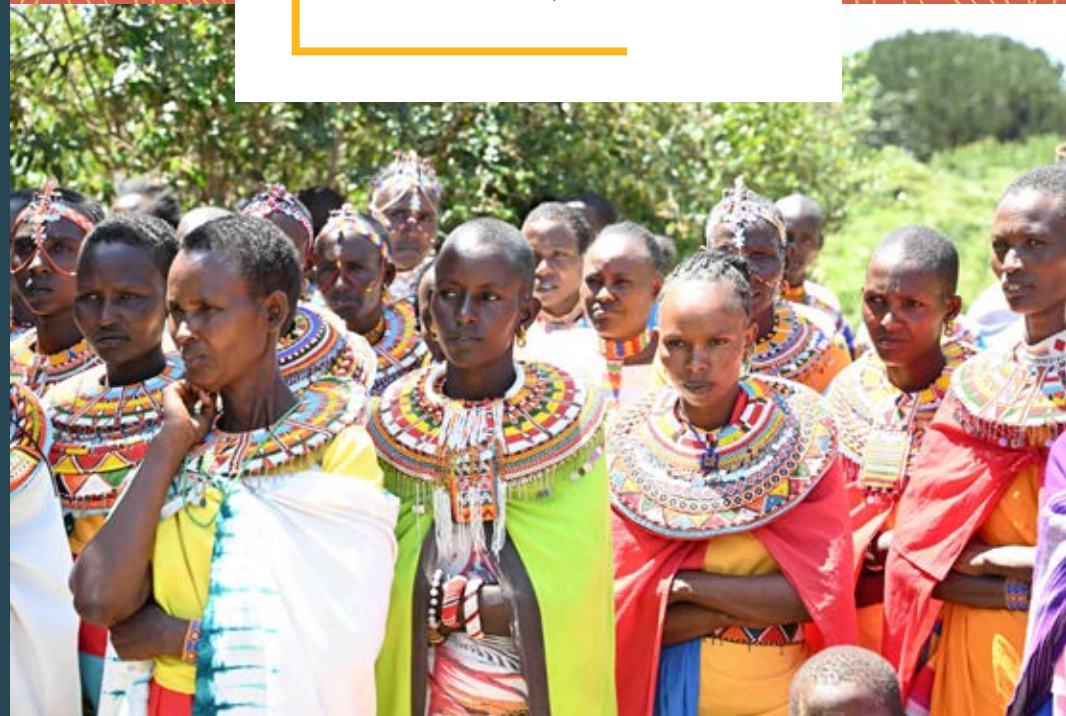
1. Raise awareness by exposing TGE Ambassadors to our projects
2. Build trusting relationships with our beneficiaries
3. Oversee the progress and impact of the sustainable programs we are implementing in-country

Of this year's 17 ambassadors, 11 had never been to Kenya before. It was a chance for newcomers to be part of something truly meaningful, and for returning ambassadors, an opportunity to deepen their connection to the beautiful communities we serve.

**Our next Trip
to Kenya is
scheduled for
August 2024.**

“ As donors, we really wanted to understand how the funds got to the beneficiaries, and all of the programs we saw this week, from Morning Star and Njoo Dada, to Fantasy Soccer and Divine Mercy... it has been awesome – it has really gotten to both of us. We hope to do more to help the programs, and thank TGE for the experience.

Scott and Lori Smith, Ambassadors



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

MACHINERY FOR DAIRY PRODUCTION FOR TWO CHILDREN'S HOMES

This year, The Giving Exchange funded Dairy Production Machinery for two neighboring children's homes in Kiambu County, both longtime, trusted and inspiring partners: Morning Star and Divine Mercy.

The provision of industrial equipment, including a milking machine and maize chopper, aims to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and generate additional income by renting the chopper to local farmers.



These tools are currently in use, highlighting the transformative impact of advanced agricultural technologies: reducing manual labor, milking faster, and enhancing feed preparation efficiency, positively impacting the well-being of the 50 and 30 children under each home's care, respectively.

“One dollar, to us in Kenya, means so much. For 250 USD, a kid can go to school for an entire year. Sometimes we can take these things for granted, but what I've realized is something seemingly so small can make a huge impact. We just want to say thank you so much to TGE and every donor supporting our programs.

Reah Nderitu, Morning Star Children's Home



GALA: A DECADE OF LOVE, GROWTH AND IMPACT

The Giving Exchange held our fourth annual Gala on October 14, 2023 at the Brower Center in Berkeley, CA.

Three esteemed guests of honor, Reah and Francis Nderitu, and Lilian Biira, graced the stage, each representing a unique facet of TGE's journey, having traveled all the way from Kenya and Uganda, respectively.

95 guests joined us in-person at the theater and about 40 more supporters joined us virtually online.

“

One change can cause a million changes in the world.

Lilian, Director of Inspire Girls Foundation

Thanks to 110 individual donors, we raised **\$250,000!**



Some of the wonderful feedback we heard from guests in attendance that night:

“

Great event. Love everyone's energy as always – it was exciting to watch us exceed the goal together.

“

Lilian's story was amazing! It brought my guests to tears.

“

IT WAS REALLY AWESOME! Having representatives from Kenya and Uganda present was a huge highlight!



MEDIA RECOGNITION

We pride ourselves on transparency. At The Giving Exchange, we know our beneficiaries personally, and we can introduce you to the exact individual whose life you've changed. Trust is the foundation of our work.

One hundred percent of donations go directly to our projects, and the US dollar is stretched to make a huge difference in the communities we serve.



Started in 2009, the Classy Awards recognize nonprofits for their unique approaches and impact on our world.



This symbol of transparency and accountability is provided by GuideStar USA, Inc., the premier source of nonprofit information.

NOW WHAT?

YOU made the stories and results in this report possible. We urge you to continue being a force for positive change. Please don't close this report without taking one of these three impactful actions:

- 1 Join The Roots.** Become a part of our recurring giving program. Monthly donors provide a stable foundation for our initiatives. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to join.



- 2 Volunteer your time.** Whether it's lending your expertise to our Board of Directors, joining our project assessment committee, or contributing to our social media efforts, your time is a valuable resource. Reach out, and let's collaborate. E-mail info@thegivingexchange.net

- 3 Donate today.** If you're not ready for an ongoing commitment of time or financial support, a one-time donation makes a significant impact. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to donate online, Venmo @TheGivingExchange, or mail a check payable to The Giving Exchange to 455 Summit Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.



Thank you for everything you've done. Together, let's continue creating positive and lasting impact.





The Giving Exchange is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Tax ID# 46-2898471, established to improve the lives of under-resourced communities around the world. All donations are tax-deductible. Angel donors cover all administration costs, so that 100% of every donation goes directly to support the people and communities we serve. We partner with beneficiaries on every project to complete measurement and evaluation reports, certifying that your generous donations are properly and ethically applied.

Learn more on our website: www.thegivingexchange.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Crossword Answers: Across: 5) Communities, 7) Kenya, 8) Uganda, 10) SelfSustaining, 11) Development, 12) Donors, 13) TheRoots; Down: 1) Platinum, 2) SocialMedia, 3) Children, 4) Women, 6) Ambassador, 9) Visionary



THE GIVING EXCHANGE

455 Summit Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 USA

www.thegivingexchange.net