



The Giving Exchange

ANNUAL REPORT · 2021



From the Founder

We may be a small organization, but there is nothing small about our accomplishments. Like most years, last year did not lack in challenges. But as always, with discipline, dexterity and an unwavering focus on our mission, we achieved and even exceeded our goals. In fact, I proudly consider 2021 'The Year of Doubles'. In the last twelve months we:

- Doubled the size of our board of directors to 15.
- Doubled donations from individual donors. Over 247 individuals contributed to our work in 2021 with 136 contributing for the first time.
- Doubled our projects, both in budget and impact, to 15 befitting more than 10,000 individuals.

Since founding TGE in 2013 with my daughter, Alissa, our mission has remained the same: to connect need with supply for good, with an emphasis on self-sustainability. While developing meaningful partnerships, we give individuals the tools and resources they need to make a better life for themselves, their communities, and their children.

I hope you find the details in the 2021 Annual Report informative and above all inspiring. It is all thanks to supporters like you that our work continues and our impact grows.

Rod Mickels
President and Co-Founder



The Giving Exchange is committed to improving the lives of people in need – not just for today, but for tomorrows yet to come.

We work with beneficiaries around the world to provide critical lifesaving resources and implement self-sustaining certifiable programs complete with training and measurement.

Because our overarching goal is to strengthen communities for generations to come, most of our projects are long-term and income-generating, such as chicken coops, greenhouses and dairy cow production. However, we understand that innovation is dependent first on survival. Therefore, some of our projects focus on basic human rights, such as access to clean water, good hygiene and education.

We proudly collaborate with applicants on every project to fill a need *they* have identified; and we use in-country staff, partners, and resources to enact the solution *they* have engineered.

Financial year in review



\$318,000

TOTAL DONATIONS

\$99,000

FISCAL
SPONSORSHIP
PROJECTS

Renato Simone Aviation Scholarship
Yatra Documentary Film
Bibles Next Door

15

EXTRAORDINARY
VOLUNTEER
BOARD MEMBERS

277

GENEROUS INDIVIDUAL
DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

\$86,000

TOTAL SPENT ON PROJECTS

PROJECTS

Chicken coop

\$13,100

Pig-rearing (Kenya)

\$9,700

Pig-rearing (Uganda)

\$6,200

Dairy cow production

\$10,400

Solar-powered water pump

\$5,500

Bottle-brick water tanks

\$8,300

Greenhouse repairs

\$2,100

Student education
sponsorship

\$8,500

Training tools for
skills college

\$4,700

Emergency &
disaster relief

\$17,500

100% of every donation to TGE goes directly to our projects; any surplus in donations annually is rolled over and applied to projects in the next fiscal year.

TGE takes great pride in our commitment to direct 100% of every dollar you donate to support the people and communities we serve. As a donor, you may choose where your money goes, whether you want to sponsor a child's education or uplift an entire community by contributing to a chicken coop, for example. In 2021, our most popular causes were clean water for two remote Maasai villages, education sponsorship for the students at a children's home, and business training for teen mothers.

Projects change annually based on a thorough application process conducted by a team of staff, volunteers, and Board Members. We assess each new application with weighted criterion including cost, impact and sustainability. Together with the beneficiary, we develop achievable metrics personalized to the project.



2021 Highlights

- ♥ Impacted >10,000 individuals
- ♥ Implemented 15 unique life-sustaining and income-generating projects
- ♥ Took 75 volunteers on a virtual Trip to Kenya in July
- ♥ Hired full-time local project coordinator, Peninah, to oversee our project needs in Kenya
- ♥ Improved our project application and assessment process to be more detailed and thorough
- ♥ Utilized a powerful team of strategic and diligent volunteers to enhance all areas of the organization, from project reporting to Gala event planning

Being of service to others is the best way I have found to feed my heart and soul. The rewards, whether paid in smiles, hugs, or the humblest of thank you's are the most gratifying of life's experiences.



Terri, Board Member



Chicken Coop

Kadjiado, Kenya

Self-reliance is the overarching goal of community-based Sons of Manaseh Children's Home and Rehabilitation Center (SOM) in Kadjiado, Kenya. The organization supports 75 children and youth, ranging from three years to university level. The children receive an education and social support. SOM also covers all of their basic needs, including food, shelter, medical care, and protection.



TGE raised the needed funds to support the construction of a chicken coop to provide SOM with a sustainable source of income. The TGE donation covered the initial investment to procure chickens, medicine and labor to construct the chicken coop.

SOM now is able to sell chicken eggs each day and generate income to pay for the children's school fees, food and other basic necessities. The income will also enable SOM to save for future projects and better the children's quality of life.

Pig-Rearing

Nyeri, Kenya

The Giving Exchange successfully supported a pig-rearing project for the Umoja Investment Self Help Group (UISHG), an organization comprised of 20 adults who combine their savings and work together to invest in sustainable projects, such as bull rearing, dairy goat production, and horticultural farming through micro-loans. Project beneficiaries repay the loans and support themselves at the same time.

TGE donations supported UISHG's self-sustaining pig farm and feed production. Funds covered the cost of five pregnant pigs, the construction of the pig pen and the purchase of machines to make feed, which the farm uses itself and sells to other community farmers to generate income. Piglets produced from the initial pigs were sold to other farmers, increasing the farm's revenue.



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Pig-Rearing

Kasese, Uganda

Agriculture plays a key role in the economy of Uganda where most of the households depend on subsistence farming, but many people lack training and animal management knowhow. The Giving Exchange successfully launched a sustainable ongoing pig-rearing program to support disadvantaged Ugandan families. The program initially benefited 30 families who are part of the Youth Partnership Uganda (YPU). YPU is a registered non-profit community-based organization whose mission is to empower communities with training and necessary materials for sustainable development.

Helping people who just are looking for the opportunity to put themselves in a position to succeed not just for today, but forever, is the only way to create lasting change.



Michael, Board Member



TGE funds covered the purchase of 30 female piglets, training for the first beneficiary households in Kitholhu Sub County in the Kasese district, construction of pig pens, and other program start-up costs. The program has expanded well beyond the initial effort. Beneficiary households continue to breed new piglets, some of which they keep to use or sell as they like, while placing others in new households to repeat the process. Some piglets also are sold to support YPU costs.

The cyclical, sustainable program will support this entire community of impoverished Ugandan families for generations.



Dairy cow production

Githunguri, Kenya

Three high-grade dairy cows purchased with TGE donations provide Divine Mercy Hope (DMH) Children's Home with milk for the abused, neglected, abandoned or orphaned infants and toddlers in its care. The cows are a start to replacing seven big cows and 34 goats the Home lost in 2020 when the area was hit with foot and mouth Disease. Before the outbreak, the Home earned \$500 from milk every month and used goat milk for the children.



We give thanks to The Giving Exchange for the support they have given us. They bought for us three cows, seven goats and the hay feed. The milk production has increased, as well as the dung waste, which we use for the bio-gas system that has existed in our home for five years. We really appreciate you all.



Sister Esther, Founder, DMH



The three new cows provide a source of income for the Home through the sale of milk, which is expected to reach \$1,000/month. At least half of this amount will be set aside in a special reserve fund to pay off debts and provide a backup for monthly expenses. The rest of the profit will be used to purchase other animals for the farm to generate more revenue. The TGE donation also covers three months of veterinary services and insurance for each cow for one year.

Solar-Powered Water Pump

Matapato region, Maasai land, Kenya

TGE partnered with a community home for young girls rescued from forced marriage or genital mutation in the vast Matapato region of Maasai land in Kenya. This rescue center provides the girls with food, shelter, education, and more recently with weekend guidance and counseling lessons. TGE provided the rescue center and Maasai village with a solar-powered pump to go into an existing borehole to improve the community's water collection. The previous pump was unsafe and inefficient and impacted school attendance and community safety. The TGE donation covered the cost of the pump, solar panels and installation.



This is the second project TGE funded for this center. In 2018, TGE funded the construction of a community greenhouse, which provides fresh vegetables for young girls living in the home. The remaining vegetables are sold to generate income to cover the girls' school fees and daily expenses.

What a wonderful day! Our community is very happy to get clean water back again, especially during this dry season. Your willingness to help to install back our borehole in our center provides the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission.



Maasai Village Community Leader



Bottle-Brick Water Tanks

Butakoola Village Association for Development,
Uganda

After successfully collaborating with the Butakoola Village Association for Development (BUVAD) on building bottle-brick water tanks in 2020, The Giving Exchange funded an additional 10 tanks in 2021. Much of Eastern Africa is enduring severe drought, and almost every one of our beneficiaries in both Kenya and Uganda is suffering. Access to clean water and good hygiene is essential for students to safely continue their education.



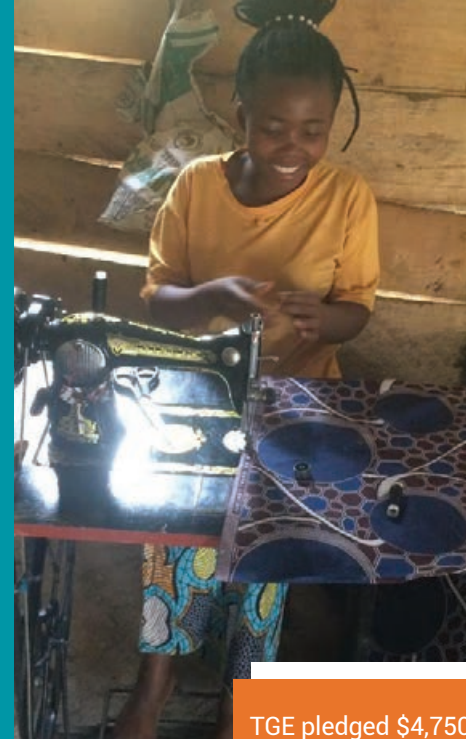
The Giving Exchange is proud to have funded a total of (20) bottle-brick water tanks for schools around Uganda. Bottle-bricks are plastic bottles stuffed full of trash and plastic waste until they are compact and sturdy as bricks. They are a simple and accessible technology used to build houses, school buildings, and now, water tanks! Each waste-plastic bottle-brick rainwater harvesting tank holds 10,000 liters of rainwater at a primary school and serves more than 600 pupils. The durable and mendable tanks can last between 50 and 100 years.



Training Tools for Skills College

Bwera, Uganda

Ekisande is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower vulnerable communities such as Bwera, Uganda through education, vocational training, and healthcare. Ekisande previously started the Van Merode Skills College for the 3,500 members of the Bwera community. The Van Merode Skills College is targeted towards teenage single mothers, school dropouts, and youth who completed college but are unable to find jobs due to lack of marketable and competitive skills.



TGE pledged \$4,750 for five tailoring machines, two knitting machines, one computer, one printer, one router, and electricity connection and wiring in classes. Ekisande provides TGE with student progress indicators, including the number of enrolled trainees, trainees enrolled in the last 12 months, those who completed the course, overall completion rate, percent of trainees employed after six months of training (or who have started their own business), and the number of clothing orders filled by trainers and trainees in the past 6 or 12 months. The goal is to graduate 50 youths per year in a variety of employable skills programs.



Greenhouse Repairs

Two schools, Kiambu, Kenya

The Giving Exchange funded one greenhouse at Kangoya Primary School in 2018 and one at Saint Ann's Secondary School in 2020 to provide students with nutritional meal supplements. A small portion of the vegetables were sold to the local markets to generate income for the schools. The greenhouse projects also strengthen family bonds as students and parents learn basic agricultural skills together.

Unfortunately, both greenhouses suffered loss. Government restrictions closed the Kangoya School during the COVID-19 pandemic during which time the vacant school experienced vandalism. The greenhouse was damaged and some pipes were stolen. In early 2021, a storm caused a tree from a neighboring property to fall onto the greenhouse at St. Ann's school, rendering the greenhouse unusable. Both schools sought TGE support for repairs.



The Giving Exchange gladly provided funds for the needed repairs. We're proud to partner with beneficiaries who are passionate about and invested in their projects, and offer them support along the way to long-term success.



Student Education Sponsorship

Children's Home, Kiambu, Kenya

The Morning Star Children's Home of Kiambu, Kenya is particularly close to our hearts. That's because The Giving Exchange was founded in 2013 following an encounter between our founders and the Home. Over the years, the mission and reach of TGE has expanded, but Morning Star will always be a beloved partner. We will continue to support the home through sponsorships for the children and various sustainable programs.

Currently the 45 children of Morning Star attend either government or private schools at all levels. Their school placement is based on test scores and available funds. On average, the cost per student is \$250 per year.

Giving exchange
Morning Star

16/17/2021

RIES FOR THANKING THE GIVING EXCHANGE
I wanna take this opportunity to thank you the giving exchange for paying for my school fees. And am I am improving because last time while I came for midterms I had a 227 but now I have 344. I promise that I will work hard to reach for my goals. And I pray that God my bless you and may He shower you with his blessings.



The students who qualify for private school are required to maintain a C average in order to continue receiving financial support. In 2021, TGE donors sponsored 12 of these students' educations. We are currently working with the Morning Star staff to find a manageable and profitable income-generating project to add to their existing sustainable programs, as a lasting and independent means to provide for the children's education.



Emergency & Disaster Relief

Kenya

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to rampage the communities we support in Kenya and beyond. Due to the disease and the subsequent lockdown, parents were out of work and children out of school. For some students, school was the one place they could depend on receiving food and water.

In a remote village in Amboseli National Park, the pandemic resulted in the immediate loss of all tourism, which was its sole source of income. To make matters worse, the ongoing drought in the region led to a severe water shortage, forcing tribespeople to choose between water for themselves or their animals. The unique and traditional way of life of the Maasai people in this region is based on bartering and animal husbandry.



We continued our emergency and disaster relief this year to schools, children's homes and rural Kenyan villages where we have had working relationships over the years. During 2021, The Giving Exchange provided food and sanitary supplies to 5,000 individuals through five separate relief distributions.

Business Training for Teen Mothers*

Dagoretti, Kenya (*financed in FY20)

TGE raised the needed funds to enable young mothers from the Njoo Dada Trust, a rescue center for pregnant teenagers in Dagoretti, Kenya, and other women in the community, to receive five days of business training from the ROSE Women's Foundation. The girls, aged 13-24, studied and participated in business-building exercises. Training focused on business idea creation, finance and bookkeeping, profit making, sales and marketing fundamentals, and savings and emergency preparedness. On the final day of training, the girls presented their business pitches.

The girls said the training changed their lives. They experienced growth personally, professionally, and even spiritually. Many now have the confidence to run a successful business, from hairdressing to tailoring to baking. They are on the path to control their futures.

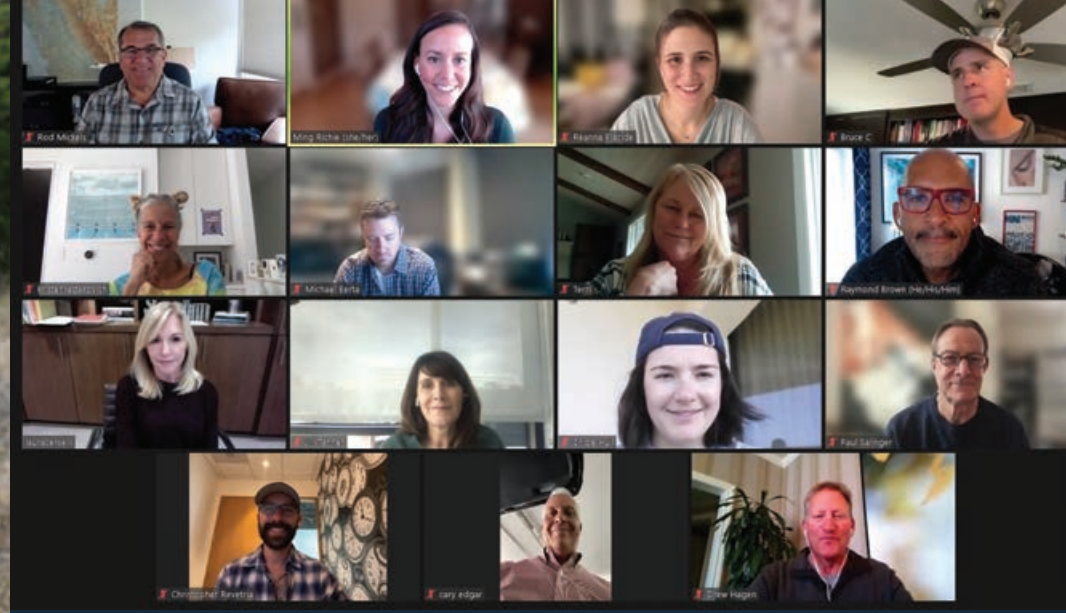


The training was full of great energy. Early on, the Njoo Dada girls were shy and not very active, but by the end of the training, the girls were singing the 5 P's of marketing – the core element of this training. They have grown to always participate and understand the strength of their own voices.



ROSE Administrator





Over the last nine years, we have seen the impact The Giving Exchange has had on the people and communities we serve. It's a wonderful feeling to know you've made a difference in someone's life.

To see our current projects, apply for support, or make a donation, please visit our website at www.thegivingexchange.net.

The Giving Exchange exists through private and corporate-sponsored donations for the sole purpose of helping others. If you are interested in contributing time, resources or funding for our projects, please contact us at info@thegivingexchange.net.

Thank you!

The Giving Exchange is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization established to improve the lives of impoverished people around the world. All donations are tax-deductible. We cover all administration costs, so that 100% of every donation goes directly to support the people and communities we serve. We also certify that all projects are satisfactorily completed, ensuring that your generous donations fulfill their promise.



455 Summit Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 USA