





Ph: Estrella Vivanco-Stevenson

**We partner to build
a world where *all*
children and youth
are safe, strong,
and valued.**

Letter from President & CEO

Dear friend,

I'm thrilled to be writing to you as the new president and CEO of Global Fund for Children! On behalf of the entire team, I want to express our gratitude for your support.

In the world of organizations affirming the rights of children and youth, GFC is, in many cases, the only external entity discovering, funding, and mentoring truly grassroots organizations from their most nascent stages of development. GFC's willingness to be the first funder, to make that funding flexible, and to be a partner in capacity building is unique. We empower bold leaders to build organizations with innovative programs that strengthen children and youth. GFC's support sends a strong, positive signal about the growth potential of these organizations and helps them access additional funding, knowledge, and networks to ensure their sustainability.

The global social sector has changed dramatically since GFC's founding in 1993. Emerging economies are developing new philanthropic norms with astounding potential for growth. New communications, crowdfunding, and cryptocurrency technologies present a dizzying array of possibilities, but local organizations continue to need experienced, knowledgeable funders who take the time to understand and steadily support their development, so they can succeed in supporting children for the long term.

This year, GFC is going through several changes. We are shifting our strategy to focus on Education, Gender Equity, Youth Empowerment, and Freedom from Violence and Exploitation. This more targeted focus requires us to refresh our social impact assessment framework to better monitor our performance and to track impact. We are deepening the engagement of our global offices so we can more authentically operate within local contexts and networks, bringing local capacity-building resources to bear. We seek to diversify our funding sources, broadening the network of individuals and institutions committed to supporting GFC's work.

We're also seeing a shift in the leadership of our Board of Directors. Through his many years of service to GFC, including three years as Board chair and co-chair, Jim Sheridan has helped GFC prepare for these important changes and reach new heights as an organization. Jim's contributions to GFC's growth and the young people we serve have been invaluable—we will always be grateful for his steadfast support of our work and our mission.

Looking to the future, we are also excited to welcome Gunjan Jain as our new Board chair. I have great confidence in Gunjan's ability to lead us into GFC's next chapter with energy, creativity, and most of all, a deep commitment to advancing the rights of children and youth around the world.

Today, GFC is stepping out with a revitalized approach to our work, a vibrant message, a truly global presence, and the support of a growing and engaged network of supporters—all so that we can have a greater impact on the children and youth we serve. I look forward to working in partnership with you to make it happen!

Sincerely,

John Hecklinger
President and CEO

Letter from Board Co-Chairs

Dear friend,

For more than 20 years, Global Fund for Children has championed the belief that grassroots organizations have the passion and local knowledge to transform their communities and help children and youth reach their full potential.

Since we made our first grants in 1997, that idea has gained broad acceptance. Grassroots investing is now universally recognized as a critical strategy for creating sustainable social change. At GFC, we're proud of our contributions to this growing movement: we've invested nearly \$40 million in more than 600 innovative organizations worldwide, touching the lives of more than 10 million children and youth.

But until all children have equal opportunity, our work is not done. For their sake, we must do more. So this year, we doubled down on our efforts to critically examine and systematize our work. We took stock of our model, analyzed our metrics, and reviewed internal systems and processes.

Today, we're thrilled to see the first results of this hard work. Our new president and CEO, John Hecklinger, is leading the way through sound, transparent leadership that empowers our global team to be more connected, innovative, and engaged. We have a new website that boldly proclaims our commitment to child and youth rights and that showcases the courageous organizations we support. We are tackling challenges—both old and new—through intensive strategic planning and leadership building.

All the while, thanks to your support, our grassroots partners continue to deliver life-changing programs to hundreds of thousands of children and youth around the world. Your contributions help empower these young people to raise their voices and defend their rights—building a generation of change-makers who will transform our world.

This is just the beginning of Global Fund for Children's next chapter. We are so grateful to have you on the journey. Thank you for all you do to build a better world for us all.

Sincerely,

Gunjan Jain
Co-Chair

Jim Sheridan
Co-Chair

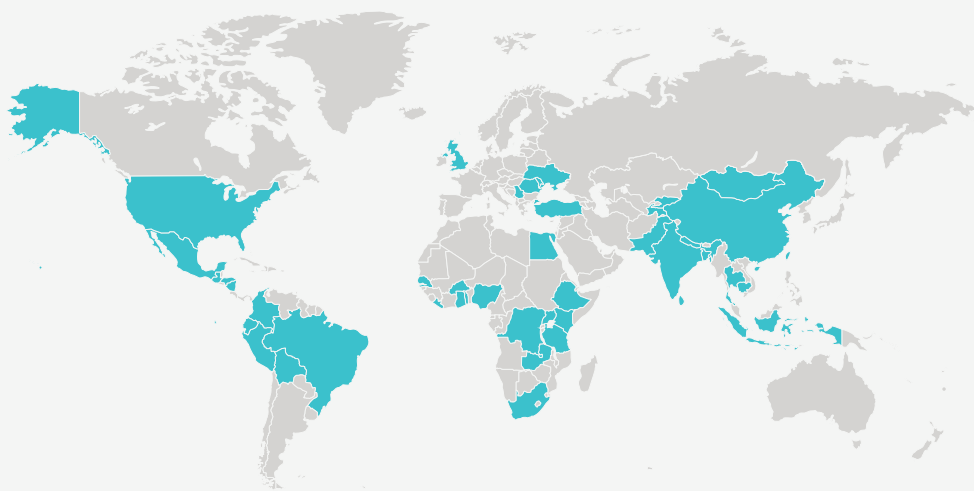


Ph: Kimlong Meng

Year in Review

2016
—
2017

48
countries



179
grassroots
organizations



♥ = 8

256,000
children and youth served



👤 = 2,000

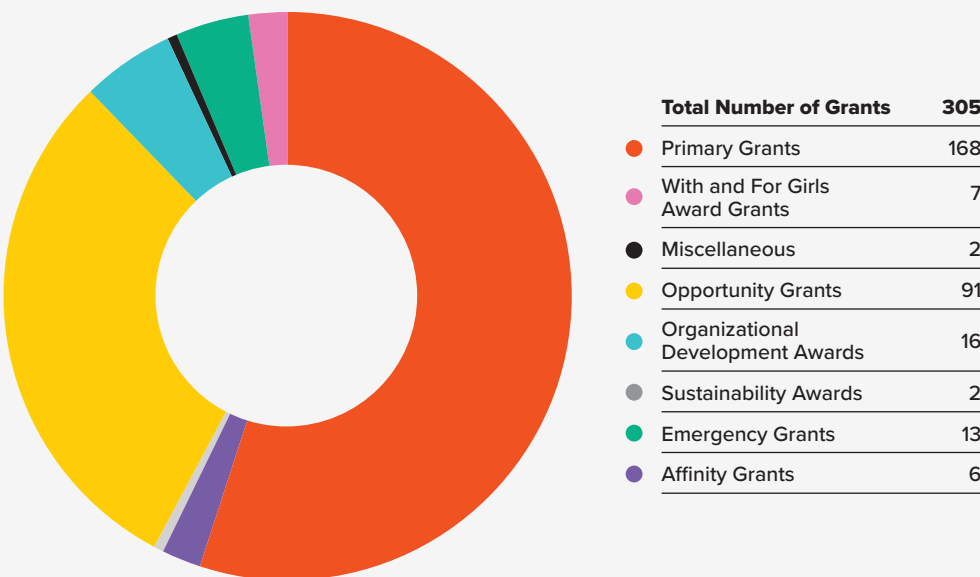
\$2.5
million
in capacity-
building services
and program
support

\$2.1
million
in cash grants

Thanks to your support and the work
of our grassroots partners worldwide,
we have a lot to be proud of this year.

Grants by Type

In addition to primary grants, which fund our partners' life-changing programs for children and youth, we provided a variety of supplemental grants to help our partners weather emergencies, seize opportunities, and build their capacity.



11 new grassroots
partners

9 Knowledge
Exchanges with
84 partners

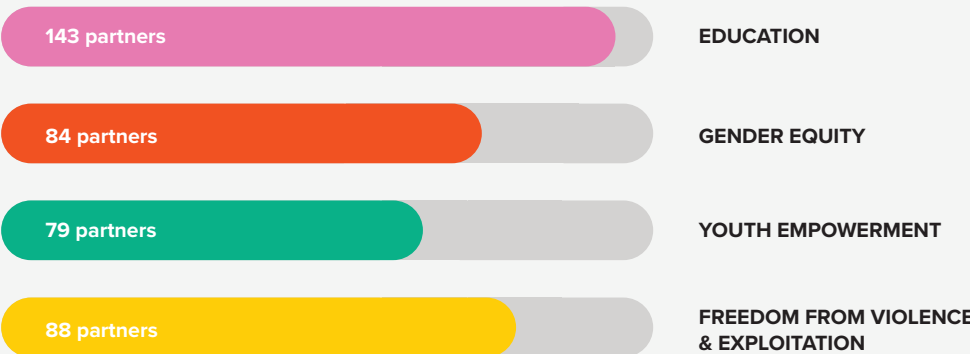
We bring together brilliant minds to
share knowledge, fuel advocacy, and
build movements of social change.

85% graduate
success rate

85% of this year's graduating
partners met or exceeded our
expectations for growth in the areas
of visibility, organizational capacity,
and budget.

Grassroots Partners by Focus Area

Note: Most of our partners work in more than one focus area to comprehensively
address the needs of each child.



16% revenue
growth

GFC's overall revenue increased
by 16% compared to last year.



Ph: Kevin Ouma



Ph: Estrella Vivanco-Stevenson

Advocacy

Our partners were successful in advancing and protecting the rights of children and youth, impacting thousands of young people. Highlights include:

- **Raising the Legal Age for Marriage in Honduras:** Cooperativa Mixta Juvenil met with the First Lady of Honduras to advocate for increasing the legal age for marriage to 18 for boys and girls—no exceptions. The law passed in June 2017.
- **Official Recognition for Peru's Ethnic Minorities:** Ashanti Peru successfully advocated to include Afro-Peruvian as an ethnic category in Peru's census for the first time, and then mobilized its youth networks to encourage Afro-Peruvians to correctly identify their ethnicity on the fall 2017 census. Preliminary results indicate that the initiative could have a major impact on the official percentage of Afro-Peruvians in the country.
- **Fighting Sexual Violence in Nigeria:** In February 2017, Nayanza Initiative for Girls' Education and Empowerment helped to successfully block a parliamentary bill aimed at reducing the age of sexual consent from 18 to 16.

Strategy

We convened four internal working groups to take stock of where we stand and where we're headed next. Here are a few highlights:

- **We redefined our program focus areas** as Education, Gender Equity, Youth Empowerment, and Freedom from Violence and Exploitation.
- **We embraced a stronger commitment to advancing child rights** and supporting organizations tackling poverty, injustice, and discrimination that affect children and youth.
- **We committed to a more youth-centered approach** that creates spaces for young people to define their needs and raise their voices.
- **We are strengthening and expanding our capacity-building program** for our grassroots partners.

Expanding Our Global Footprint

We now have staff on the ground in Hong Kong, India, Mexico, the United States, and the United Kingdom. This year marked the official incorporation of our affiliate organization in India, Foundation for Rebuilding Childhood.

New Initiatives

- **Migrant Rights:** In partnership with NoVo Foundation, we launched a multiyear initiative to raise the visibility of adolescent migrant girls in Central America, Mexico, and the United States, and to uphold their rights at all stages of their journey.
- **Employee Engagement:** In addition to helping to improve access to quality education for thousands of girls around the world, The Estée Lauder Companies Charitable Foundation and its employees engaged directly with our partners in the United Kingdom and Hong Kong, helping to raise funds, build awareness, and provide career guidance and mentorship to teen girls.
- **New Heights in Building Capacity:** We launched Step Up, our pilot program designed to take a few of our best-performing grassroots partners to the next level of influence, impact, and sustainability, with a special focus on building fundraising capacity. Keep an eye on these change-makers: Arpan (India), Asociación Pop No'j (Guatemala), Asylum Protection Center (Serbia), Heshima Kenya (Kenya), Masoom (India), and Tahaddi (Lebanon).



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Financials

2016
—
2017

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

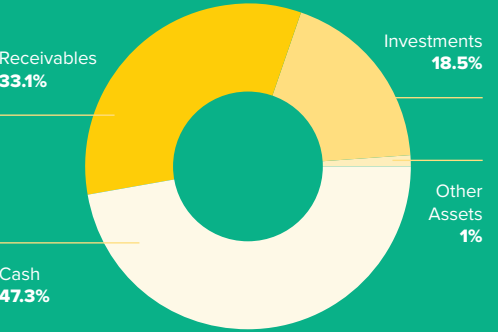
as of June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 4,352,207	\$ 3,829,834
Receivables	3,041,878	1,606,067
Investments	1,704,371	1,544,741
Other Assets	93,675	160,038
Total Assets	\$ 9,192,131	\$ 7,140,680
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 369,930	\$ 168,220
Grants payable	413,019	479,191
Other liabilities	69,826	133,052
Total Liabilities	\$ 852,775	\$ 780,463
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ 3,453,114	\$ 2,855,888
Temporarily Restricted	4,886,242	3,504,329
Total Net Assets	\$ 8,339,356	\$ 6,360,217
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 9,192,131	\$ 7,140,680

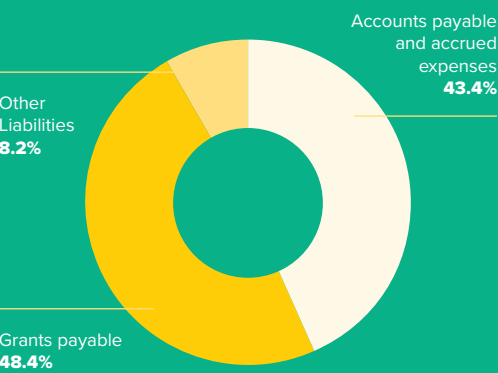
FINANCIAL POSITION



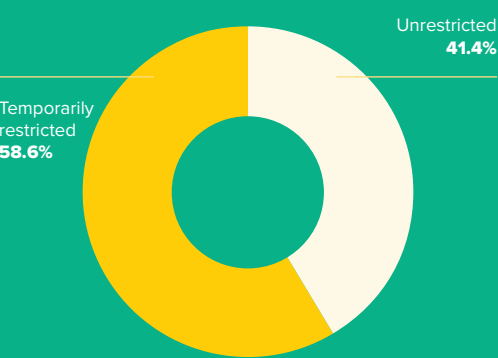
ASSETS



LIABILITIES



NET ASSETS

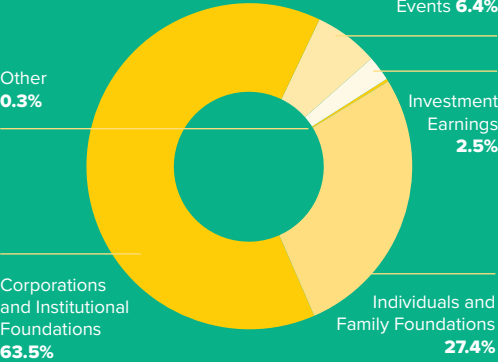


Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Year Ended

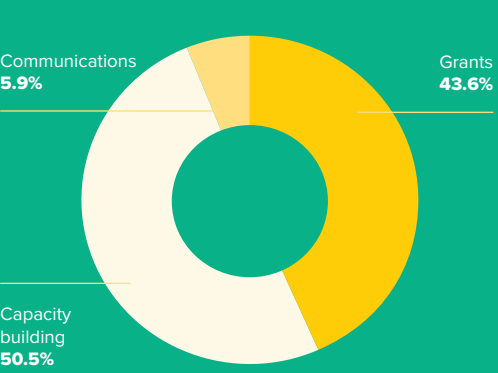
as of June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016

	2017	2016
REVENUE		
Individuals and Family Foundations	\$ 2,442,436	\$ 3,351,080
Corporations and Institutional Foundations	5,668,378	4,100,671
Events	571,895	86,262
Investment earnings	221,292	-
Other	24,685	192,446
Total Revenue	\$ 8,928,687	\$ 7,730,459
EXPENSES		
Program Expenses		
Grants	\$ 2,156,198	\$ 2,450,762
Capacity Building	2,496,029	1,973,416
Communications	291,610	397,946
Total Program Expenses	\$ 4,943,837	\$ 4,822,124
Management and general	\$ 636,241	\$ 657,621
Development	1,369,470	1,407,034
Total Expenses	\$ 6,949,548	\$ 6,886,779
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 1,979,139	\$ 843,680

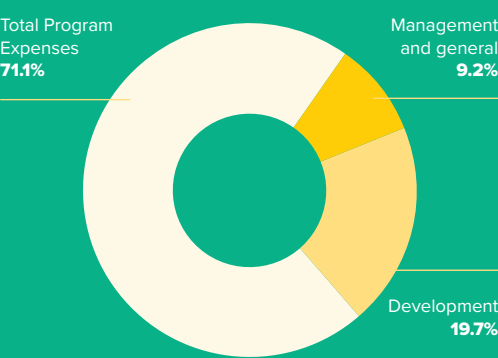
REVENUE



PROGRAM EXPENSES



TOTAL EXPENSES



Ph. Kimlong Meng

Our Donors

Our work would not be possible without you: global citizens who want to make positive, lasting change in the lives of children and youth. Thank you.

We are immensely grateful for all contributions both large and small. This list includes donors at the \$1,000 level and above.

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Tomkins Family Foundation
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VSO International
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Global Impact
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Connections Fund

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Leadership

2016
—
2017

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