

Annual Report 2017—2018



Global Fund for Children partners with grassroots organizations to help children and youth reach their full potential and advance their rights. Thank you for helping to build a world where all children and youth are safe, strong, and valued.

Letter from **Board Chair & CEO**

WELCOME!

It has been a year of progress at Global Fund for Children. From our refocused grantmaking strategy, to our inviting new office space, to our realigned and unified staff and governance, nothing looks quite like it did a year ago. We're proud of the work we've put in-and even more excited about the road ahead.

As you read this report, you'll notice some common themes:

favorable lease terms, one thing remained steadfast: an unflinching commitment to the rights of children and youth, and to the courageous leaders who fight for them around the world.

This year, thanks to your support, we awarded more than \$2.1 million in cash grants to 135 organizations. Since 1997, we've distributed more than \$42 million to local leaders worldwide, making small but powerful investments in bold ideas that would otherwise go unheard and unfunded.

young people worldwide.

Gunjan Jain Chair, Board of Directors

• Youth Voice, Front and Center: We're listening and responding to our a more effective organization. And on that note...

• Feedback Feeds Progress: We're creating a culture of continual improvement, soliciting input not only from young people but from our peers, our partners, and our donors to maximize learning and progress.

• Networks and Knowledge: We're proactively linking our partners to each other and forging new strategies and connections to increase our partners' access to knowledge and to drive collective impact.

Tragically, this year was also defined by a terrible loss: Juliette Gimon, a longtime supporter and former Board Chair, passed away in February. To honor her legacy, we've established the Juliette Gimon Fund for Courageous Leadership, which will enable us to recognize outstanding leaders who drive positive change for children despite extraordinarily challenging circumstances. Learn more on page 12.

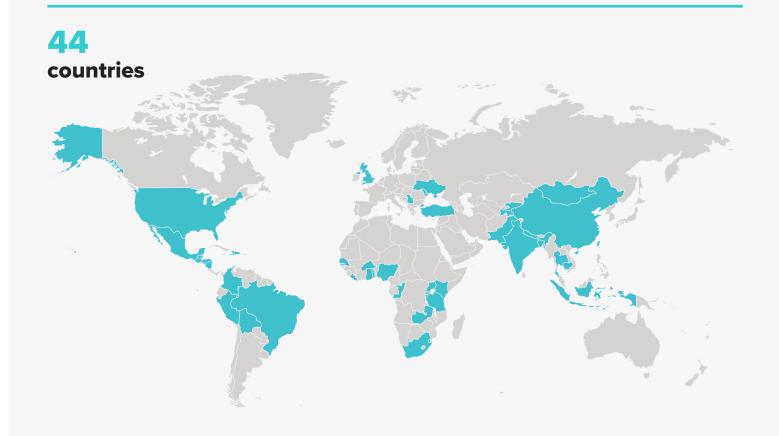
to show the world that pursuing philanthropy and development at the grassroots level is not only the right thing to do but also the most effective way to do it. Thank you for standing with us, and for all you do to advance the rights of

> John Hecklinger **President and CEO**

Year in Review

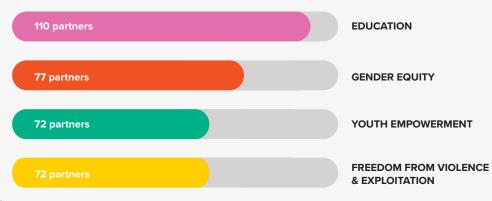
2017-2018

Here's a snapshot of what we accomplished together.



Grassroots Partners by Focus Area

Note: Most of our partners work in more than one focus area to holistically address children's rights and needs.



\$2.1 million in cash grants



135 grassroots organizations



Networks in the Field

With more than 20 years of experience in grassroots grantmaking, we're firm believers in the importance of supporting multiple organizations working together to tackle multifaceted problems. Here are a few powerful emerging networks of organizations you help support around the world:



5 organizations in Uganda using second-chance education and training to transform the future of girls affected by conflict



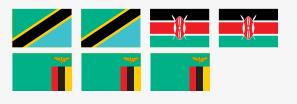
6 organizations in Bangladesh serving children involved in or at risk of hazardous labor



11 organizations in Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States protecting the rights of asylum-seeking and migrant girls



6 organizations in Latin America and the United States advancing the rights of LGBTQ youth



7 organizations in eastern and southern Africa providing locally adapted early childhood development programs











12

new grassroots partners

New Partner Spotlight:

In Dhaka, Bangladesh, **LEEDO** provides education and safe spaces for street children, while working with their families to promote education, health, and hygiene and to help them achieve financial stability. LEEDO's mobile school, informal open-air classrooms, transitional shelter, and long-term shelter are specifically designed to meet the unique needs of children living and working on the streets.

Budget: \$88K Young People Served: 4,091

33 graduating partners

Graduating Partner Spotlight:

A pioneering literacy organization based in Accra, Street Library Ghana (SLG) equips communities to implement their own library programs. Through its mobile library, distribution of learning materials, and mentorship and leadership programs, SLG brings the world of literature to children who would otherwise grow up without books. The Ministry of Education in Ghana has incorporated SLG's innovative ideas regarding teacher orientation into several Ghana schools. SLG's founder, Hayford Siaw, is now Director of Library Services and Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Library Authority.

Budget Change During GFC Partnership: 307% Change in Number of Young People Served: 478%



Major Initiatives

UNITING BORDERS FOR MIGRANT GIRLS

Continuing our migration initiative with NoVo Foundation, we established a network of 11 grassroots organizations serving migrant girls in Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States. In addition to helping fund our partners' programs—including support for children separated from their parents at the US/Mexico border—we focused on establishing connections, sharing resources, strengthening girl-focused programming, and creating a platform for girls to speak out about their experiences and identify their needs.

"Organizations in Guatemala and southern Mexico do not know what's happening in Tijuana, Los Angeles, and Houston. We want to give them a direct line to each other, so they can see the whole picture. We need to understand what is happening with these girls. So, to connect these organizations—using very practical, day-to-day communication is a huge goal."

 Rodrigo Barraza, GFC Program Officer, on GFC's migration network

VOICE OF YOUTH

We are dedicated to placing youth at the center of what we do—informing how we select partners, tell stories, plan events, shape our strategy, and more. Paramount to our youth-centered approach was the establishment of GFC's first Youth Leadership Council, a body of young leaders commissioned to articulate and advance the needs of youth peers, and to serve as advisors to GFC. Council members will also have the opportunity to participate in career counseling, mentorships, and networking and speaking engagements.

"I'm really interested in young people shaping GFC's work and strategy. Youth voice is an important part of that—if you're delivering a service to children and young people, then surely they should have a say in how that work is done."

- Mete Coban, Chief Executive of My Life My Say and member of GFC's Youth Leadership Council

STEPPING UP CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

We continued to advance Step Up—an initiative designed to take some of our best-performing partners to new heights of effectiveness—by convening the first cohort in Mumbai, Nairobi, and Beirut, where partners continued their collective learning and observed the work of participants in those cities. To select our second cohort, we used feedback and lessons learned from this successful pilot, streamlining the selection process and proactively seeking out organizations with common ground in their approach. As a result, our second cohort emerged with a focus on youth engagement and an interest in holistic programs that effect change through movement building and advocacy. **"For us it was so inspiring and encouraging**

"For us it was so inspiring and encouraging to realize that there are people sharing the same values and devotion facing similar challenges across the globe, and to feel peer support, understanding, and enthusiasm from all of [the participants]."

Rados Djurovic, Executive Director of Asylum
Protection Center (Serbia), a Step Up member





Strategy & Impact

In 2018, we committed to aligning Global Fund for Children more closely with how our courageous partners approach their work, bringing their visions to the forefront. Here's how we're walking our talk:

GETTING BETTER AT WHAT WE DO

After streamlining our grantmaking strategy to focus on the critical themes of Education, Gender Equity, Youth Empowerment, and Freedom from Violence and Exploitation, we needed a refreshed theory of change and impact assessment framework to ensure we are supporting our partners to drive change in these areas. Through interviews, surveys, and participatory workshops, we engaged in an intensive, collaborative process to reshape our theory of change, with input from our Board, Youth Leadership Council, current and former staff, donors, and most importantly, our partners. As we enter the next phase, we're rethinking how we measure our partners' organizational strength and influence.

IMPROVING MONITORING, EVALUATION, LEARNING & FEEDBACK

Building on our theory of change process, we wanted to better understand the impact of our work and to create more opportunities for partner feedback. To that end, GFC authorized for the first time a Grantee Perception Survey administered by the Center for Effective Philanthropy; we're looking forward to examining the results with our partners and implementing changes based on what we learn. We also partnered with Constituent Voice methodology pioneer Keystone Accountability to help design regular partner feedback mechanisms to power continual improvement to our services, and we launched

a project with DataKind, which has deployed pro bono data scientists to help us derive insight from 20 years of accumulated data. By adding a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Officer to our team, we aim to collect and integrate this learning into GFC's overall operations and grantmaking strategy.

NEW LOOK, NEW SPACE

We launched a fresh look and mission this year, which came together in a revitalized website that brings our partners' powerful voices and perspectives to the forefront. Meanwhile, after more than a decade on 14th Street, we packed up our headquarters and moved around the corner. Our vibrant new space is designed to encourage openness and collaboration as we strive to improve the lives of young people around the world. Let us know if you want to stop by!

EMPOWERING INDIA'S YOUTH

After its official incorporation last year, our knowledge partner Foundation for Rebuilding Childhood expanded its board of directors, received its 80G certificate (allowing donors to make tax-deductible donations), and made its first grants to seven innovative, India-based NGOs advancing the rights of children and youth.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Maya Ajmera **Sustainability Award**

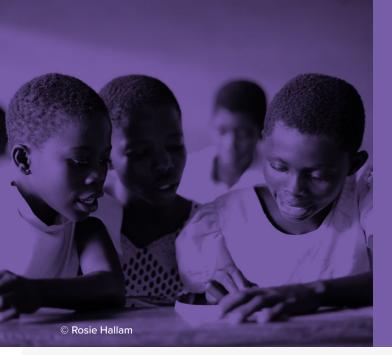
In 2018, we conducted an in-depth assessment of one of GFC's signature grants, the Maya Ajmera Sustainability Award. We examined how the awards were used, how effective they were, and how we can achieve even better results going forward. Here are the highlights:

SINCE 2005

1<u>1</u>1 recipients

countries





ABOUT THE AWARD

Global Fund for Children strives to create lasting change for children and youth worldwide. The Maya Ajmera Sustainability Award—named in honor of our founder-is a testament to this goal, recognizing our partners' accomplishments while enhancing their long-term stability.

GFC began offering these awards to highachieving partners in 2005, most often as a competitive capstone grant. These grassroots all-stars have achieved exceptional success in organizational development, progress in social change, and regional or global visibility over the course of their GFC partnership. Our goal is to offer a meaningful investment in their future success, on their own terms.

"GFC is an ideal donor in the sense that its support is very strong, but it does not interfere with its partners, nor does it make unwelcome demands or apply pressure which negatively affects the working environment. It was GFC, which laid the foundation of our current advanced work for child protection."

- Meraj Hamayun Khan, Chief Executive of De Laas Gul Welfare **Programme** (Pakistan)

TOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE AWARDS

Keep it flexible our partners say flexibility and autonomy are crucial to the award's success.

02.

Increase funding the need for operational funds remains high.

03.

Extend the grant period to allow more time for guidance, implementation, and improvement.

04

Enhance coaching by providing strategy development, technical support, feedback mechanisms, and

05.

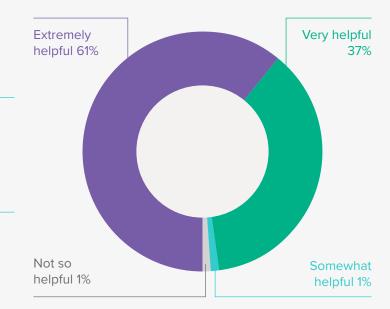
Boost connections—

other services.

to additional funders, media, and peer organizations for maximized support and visibility.



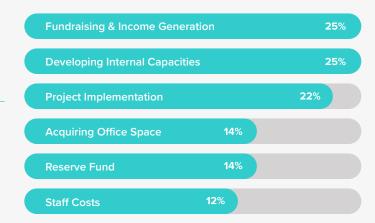
98% of respondents found the award extremely or very helpful.



Not at all helpful 0%

HOW FUNDS WERE USED: TOP SIX ANSWERS

A guarter of respondents used the award to bring in more funds, while another guarter focused on developing their teams' knowledge and skills.



Juliette Gimon Fund for Courageous Leadership

On February 24, 2018, Juliette Gimon, a longtime supporter and former Board Chair of Global Fund for Children, passed away. Her legacy endures through a new fund dedicated to outstanding grassroots leaders.



Juliette joined the Board when she was just 30 years old. Her wisdom, insights, and profound concern for children helped shape Global Fund for Children, changing hundreds of thousands of young lives across the globe.

To honor Juliette's brave and passionate spirit, Global Fund for Children established the Juliette Gimon Fund for Courageous Leadership, a more than \$1 million endowment made possible through support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and other donors. Annual awards from the fund-the Juliette Gimon Courage Awards—will recognize innovative grassroots organizations anywhere in the world that are positively impacting children in especially challenging economic, cultural, political, or environmental contexts.

Some recipients will have overcome considerable obstacles to pioneer an innovation that transforms circumstances for children and youth. Others will demonstrate the courage of resilience, thriving amid unusual contextual challenges; still others will have leaders who have navigated personal hardship and channeled adversity into their organization's cause. Our first selection process is underway, and we're excited to present the first awards in 2019.

We are profoundly grateful to Juliette for her years of leadership and dedication, and to the many generous donors who contributed to this tribute to her legacy.

"I believe Juliette lived for others-not in the clichéd sense of that phrase but in the true essence of selfless love, the need to be connected to what and who was around her, and the commitment to do whatever she could, whatever her advantages permitted, to create something better and to change the lives of those struggling."

- Maya Ajmera, Founder and Former President of Global Fund for Children

Anonymous (1) Ruthie Abel Susan Adamsen Maya Ajmera & David H. Hollander Jr

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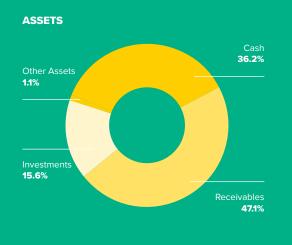
Financials

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

as of June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2017

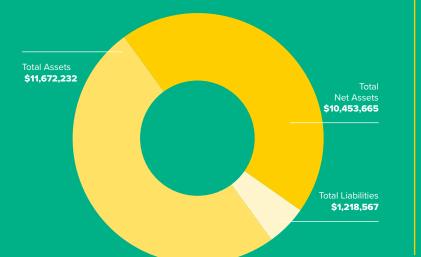
FINANCIAL POSITION

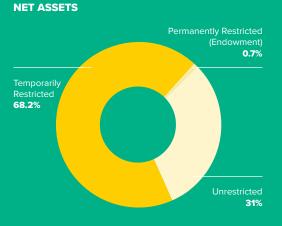
	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 4,225,630	\$ 4,352,207
Receivables	5,497,208	3,041,878
Investments	1,815,337	1,704,371
Other Assets	134,057	93,675
Total Assets	11,672,232	9,192,131
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 128,694	\$ 369,930
Grants Payable	178,299	413,019
Other Liabilities	911,574	69,826
Total Liabilities	1,218,567	852,775
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ 3,245,280	\$ 3,453,114
Temporarily Restricted	7,131,297	4,886,242
Permanently Restricted (Endowment)	77,088	
Total Net Assets	\$ 10,453,665	\$ 8,339,356
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 11,672,232	\$ 9,192,131











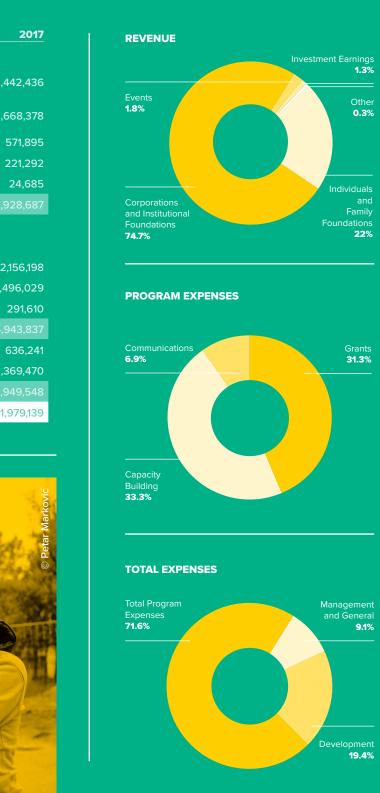
Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2017

		2018	
REVENUE			
Individuals and Family Foundations	\$	1,992,690	\$ 2,
Corporations and Institutional Foundations		6,776,183	5,
Events		165,066	
Investment Earnings		115,501	
Other		24,156	
Total Revenue		9,073,596	8,9
EXPENSES			
Program Expenses			
Grants	\$	2,181,729	\$ 2
Capacity Building		2,318,871	2,4
Communications		480,528	
Total Program Expenses		4,981,128	
Management and General	\$	630,417	\$
Development		1,347,742	1,
Total Expenses	\$	6,959,287	\$ 6,9
Increase in Net Assets	\$	2,114,309	\$ 1



Other **0.3%**

Grants **31.3%**



Development **19.4%**

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.

Anonymous (7) Joachim Ackermann Audry Ai & Tom Morrow Maya Ajmera & David H. Hollander Jr. Jennifer & Peter Altabef Karen Ansara Esther & Michel Antakly

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