



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

global strategies

Global Strategies
empowers
communities
in the most
neglected areas
of the world to
improve the lives
of women and
children through
healthcare.

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Message from Global Strategies

Dear Friends,

Our values continue to drive our actions. We believe that access to healthcare is a human right. We believe that communities in conflict and post-conflict settings need more than emergency response to reduce early mortality. We believe that investing in education is part of joining the communities we serve. We believe that digital technology can help us achieve our mission—delivering healthcare to impoverished communities. Finally, we believe that our goals can best be achieved by partnering with organizations of all sizes with shared values.

As a result, this year we have pioneered care in poor countries and supported the leaders who will carry these efforts into the future. Today, children with HIV are on life-saving treatment and preterm babies are surviving in areas of the world where only a few years ago such care seemed a distant dream.

We are proud and delighted that Dr. Denis Mukwege, our collaborator at Panzi Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo, has been awarded the Nobel peace prize. We have collaborated for years with Dr. Mukwege, supporting his efforts to defend the cause of women who suffer from sexual violence. In Dr. Mukwege's own words, "this prize is a recognition of the suffering of women in conflict zones and we should all unite in solidarity with them."

Your generous donations and your trust are invaluable.

Thank you again,

Anne-Marie Duliege

Global Strategies Chair

Joshua Bress

Global Strategies President

Dr. Denis Mukwege

2018 Nobel Peace Prize Recipient



This year's 2018 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to two courageous individuals—Dr. Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad. It was, and will continue to be, an acknowledgment of their pivotal roles in advocating for an end to sexual and physical violence against women. It is a recognition by the Nobel Committee that all forms of violence against women must come to an end.

Dr. Mukwege first witnessed the disparity of healthcare for women in the Democratic Republic of Congo as a young child, observing his pastor father praying for sick and dying women following childbirth. He vowed he would become a physician and make a difference in the lives of girls and women in a region of the world, labeled “the worst place to be a woman.” He did just that and for decades, as a gynecologist, he labored under circumstances many viewed as too daunting or even impossible to change.

Dr. Mukwege's personal beliefs and professional skills resulted in the rescue of thousands of women, transforming them physically and psychologically. He never retreated from the escalating rebel activity, the horror of the violence and its selective impact on women. He worked to unravel a culture of violence woven by men against women that permeated the fabric of his country.

I am privileged to have met Dr. Mukwege and to work with his team in collaboration with Global Strategies, providing much-needed resources and training for preventing HIV, one of the many consequences of rape. One cannot meet him without realizing that his mission is greater than most of us can envision and that his strength lies in his refusal to compromise the rescue of physically and sexually abused women and girls. Dr. Joshua Bress, President of Global Strategies, has referred to Dr. Mukwege as an “uncommon man.” That image is easy to understand when you meet him in person, or when he stands before international organizations pleading on behalf of women whose voices go unheard and wounds remain invisible.

Global Strategies is honored to work with Dr. Mukwege in collaboration with other Congolese physicians and healthcare workers. Intellectual, financial and emotional investment in these healthcare leaders of Eastern Congo, no matter how great the instability, is essential.

Standing alongside Congolese people of principal and compassion is a long-term commitment. The Nobel Prize for Peace is an acknowledgment of past accomplishments and has great potential for impacting the future. For that to happen, there will need to be many who stand alongside Dr. Mukwege and his coworkers in what is certain to be a difficult road ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur J. Ammann'.

Arthur Ammann MD

Global Strategies Founder

Blue Angels in Goma

Neonatal Care on the Frontlines

Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo, 2011. A nurse hurries down a dark corridor carrying a baby in a wet blanket as raindrops pound the tin roof. She pushes open a door labeled “Neonatology” with her free hand, enters a small dark room and places the baby under a warming light. The baby is not breathing. Nurses in blue hospital scrubs and gloves surround the baby. One begins breathing for the baby with a bag and mask, a second listens for a heart beat and a third removes the wet blankets. The tiny chest moves up and down. The nurse with the stethoscope taps out the heart rate with her finger so that the whole team can see that the baby is alive. 90 seconds pass. A muffled cry is heard through the mask. The baby opens her eyes. Blue.

“I remember that ‘Neonatology’ sign on the door well,” says Global Strategies President Dr. Joshua Bress, “Neonatology was the name of a shared dream back then—on our toughest days it was a desperate plea—but it was not a reality. If I knew then what I know now, I would have pencilled in ‘Coming Soon.’”

Fast forward seven years. The very same nurses in blue scrubs who saved that child’s life in 2011 are now in a large, well-lit and quiet neonatal unit three floors above Rue Lyn Lusi. Trained and equipped by Global Strategies and our partner Birthlink, they move in silent synchrony, adjusting modern breathing equipment, administering medications and helping mothers with breastfeeding. The room is bursting with babies, but it is also full of nursing students, sent from their hospitals to learn from these Congolese experts and their neonatal center of excellence.

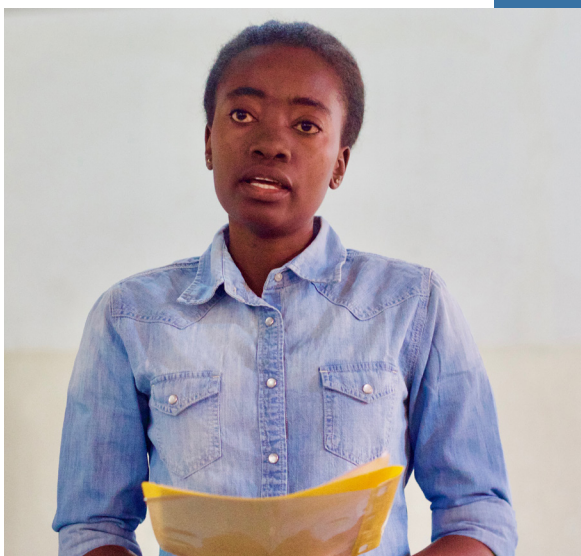
The mortality rate at the hospital has plummeted. Premature babies that would have had little chance of surviving in 2011, are now routinely surviving and thriving. It is an amazing accomplishment, high quality newborn care in an area struggling with some of the highest neonatal mortality rates in the world. But these Congolese neonatal nurses have little time to celebrate. A nurse comes through the door, blanket in her arms.





“Trained and equipped by Global Strategies and our partner Birthlink, they move in silent synchrony.”





A Message of Thanks

From The Youth of the
Children's AIDS Program

“The children in the program have defied all odds, surviving into adulthood despite being born with a deadly disease in one of the most dangerous parts of the world.”

For over 12 years, Global Strategies has fully supported the Children's AIDS Program in the eastern Congo. The children in the program have defied all odds, surviving into adulthood despite being born with a deadly disease in one of the most dangerous parts of the world. In 2006, it was hard to envision a day when a child in that program would grow old enough to express her gratitude and reflect as an adult. In 2018, we traveled to Goma where a young woman, now in her early 20's, shared a message of thanks:

“It is with great honor that we welcome Global Strategies. Thanks to you, we, the children of the Children's AIDS Program, can dream big. We did not ask you, but you loved us, loved us and considered us as graciously as you would your own children. The medical and other care we receive are entirely from you. God has placed you on our path of life. Like parents, you found that health was not enough—you gave us the opportunity to learn through leadership and entrepreneurship training. We have received computers which make us proud. We are aware that in all this we cannot pay you back—we can only say thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your desire to change the world by giving us the chance to live fully with HIV we hold in our hearts.”

Humanity is complex. Despite your kindness, life can be cruel, especially to orphans stigmatized just because they are carriers of a virus. Children can be held back, seeking refuge in debauchery and alcoholism, trying in the evening to survive the poverty of illiteracy. It is because of this that many young people have a high viral load or worse, are stalked by death. As young adults, we are working with the Children's AIDS Program and Doctors without Borders to help children fight for a better life. Thanks to you we are counted among the future of the young populations of Congo and the world. We feel privileged and lucky. Know that the blessings will continue to follow you.”

The Youth of the Children's AIDS Program



An Interview with Dr. Marlene Dhuty

“Children deserve access to high quality care.”

Why did you want to become a pediatrician?

My ambition to become a pediatrician started in university. When I finished my medical studies, I had the opportunity to work as a medical resident at HEAL Africa Hospital for four years in the pediatric department. I am drawn to children. The Global Strategies scholarship helped me realize my dream of becoming a pediatrician.

Your training program was in Senegal, quite far from home. Describe that experience.

There were many challenges. I had a 15 month old son when I began, and my husband was still working with MSF (Doctors without Borders) in Goma, Congo. My second child was born during my training. The academics were fascinating, but also rigorous.

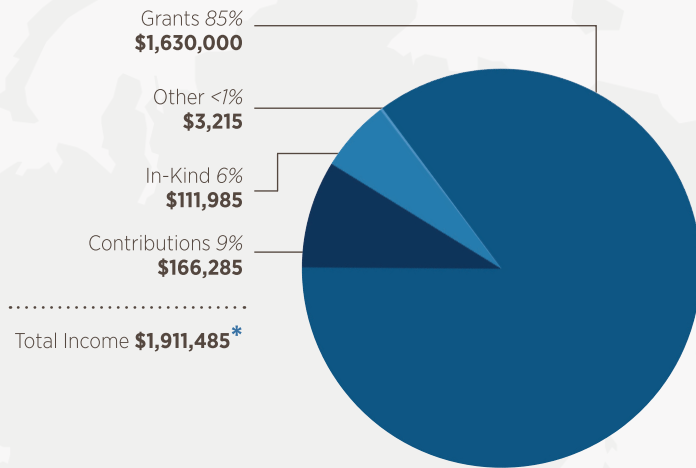
What is your dream for child health in Congo?

I would like to see children have access to immunizations for vaccine preventable diseases. My goal is to reduce neonatal mortality and mortality of all children under five years old. Children deserve access to high quality care.

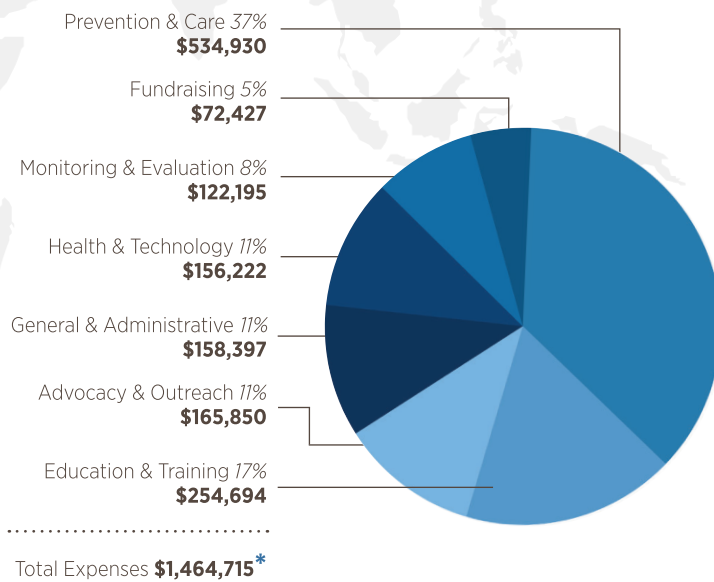
Do you have a message for Global Strategies?

Thank you for supporting my specialization in pediatrics. I won't forget your gifts. I will thank you through my work—delivering great care for kids.

Income FYE 2018



Expenses FYE 2018



*Complete audited financial statements
can be found at globalstrategies.org

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