



# ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

www.groundsforhealth.org

It is a pleasure to be writing my first report as Executive Director of Grounds for Health. Many thanks to Board members Mike Dupee, Bob Fulmer and Dan Cox, also a co-founder of Grounds for Health, for providing our leadership during 2017. Their help and commitment have ensured that we continue to be one of the most respected and effective programs in cervical cancer prevention in the countries where we work.

We have reached our 23<sup>rd</sup> year and are excited to report that we have also reached the magic number of **100,000 women screened**! Our goal is to ensure that women receive treatment when needed; half of the women who received treatment through Grounds for Health over the past 23 years did so in only the past five. We are growing—in both efficiency and outcomes.

Given the professional strength of our field staff, including the very capable leadership of Program Manager Dagmawi Iyasu, we have been successful in achieving our goal of having substantially more local in-country staff than we have in our US headquarters here in Vermont. While intercontinental communication challenges remain, we have found it to be a hugely effective model in terms of both cultural understanding and relationship building. Our seven staff members in Ethiopia and Kenya continue to grow their skills and successfully achieve the goal of screening and treating more women every year.

In fiscal year 2017-18, Grounds for Health finished up its work in Peru as we started to reach full coverage of target-aged women in the communities where we worked. As a result, the total number of women screened for cervical pre-cancer dropped by 4% to 14,251. However, programs in Ethiopia and Kenya continued to grow during this period with a 29% increase in the number of women screened. The total number of women receiving treatment for cervical pre-cancer across all programs rose by 12% to 1,635 in 2018. Between Kenya and Ethiopia, an additional 28 new clinicians have been trained.

This was a banner year for us in the coffee world as well. In 2018, Ground for Health was honored to be the first-ever recipient of the **National Coffee Association Charity of the Year Award**, as part of its "Coffee Gives Back" program. "Our judges felt that Grounds for Health earned this honor because of their accomplishment, their efficiency, and their commitment to improving the lives of female coffee farmers by addressing women's health in underserved coffee communities," said William (Bill) Murray, President & CEO, National Coffee Association. We are deeply grateful for the NCA's recognition of our work, as we are grateful to the wide coffee industry that supports our mission.

And, as always, we have some exciting big ideas for the coming year. We are planning to move forward with our efforts to increase efficiency and effectiveness in screening and treatment through the use of new technologies. Of special interest to us is a screening tool in the final stages of development that uses an algorithm to provide a diagnosis through a simple picture of a cervix. It has the potential to be a **global game changer in screening technologies.** We also will be slowly phasing out our use of cryotherapy for treatment as we introduce the faster, less expensive and more robust treatment method, thermal ablation. On the Vermont side, we shall invest in our resource generating arm, and recruit a part-time development professional to join our administrative team.

Fiscal year 2017-18 has been an exciting year as we continue to focus on new and better ways to do our important work. Our mission has not changed. The needs of the women we serve have not changed. And, our friends and supporters remain as committed as ever to ensuring that no woman living in the most rural areas of the world, dies needlessly of this preventable disease.

Thank you for your commitment!



#### Ellen Starr, Executive Director

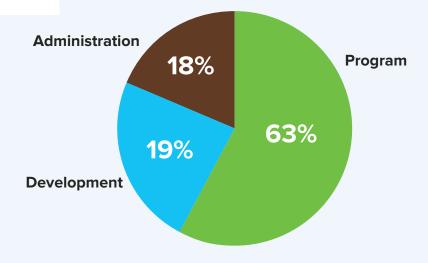
## FY2017/18 FINANCIALS

INCOME	FY2017-18
Donations	\$511,974
Coffee Auction	\$23,636
Subtotal Cash:	\$535,706
In-Kind	\$38,096
Total:	\$573,706

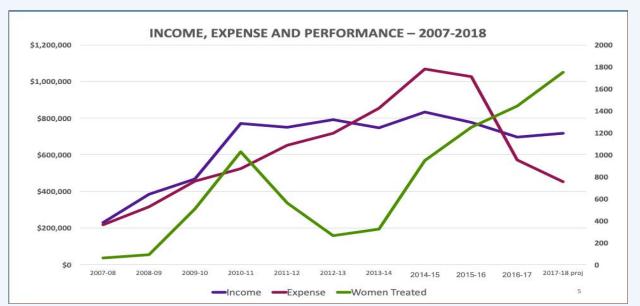
EXPENSES	FY2017-18
Program	\$328,317
Development	\$100,414
Administration	\$96,501
Total:	\$525,317

\*All financials audited





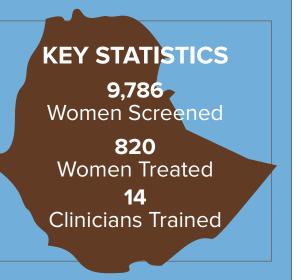
Expenses include in-kind



## **ETHIOPIA**

As we close out our fourth year working in Ethiopia, we have become one of the most established and respected programs in cervical cancer prevention in the country. Grounds for Health has screened close to 30,000 women in Ethiopia representing over 12% of the women ever screened in Ethiopia despite our having been operational only since 2014. We currently support 30 health facilities and have developed strong relationships with the hospitals where patients are referred for more extensive pre-cancer and cancer treatment.

This fiscal year, we signed a new project agreement in SNNP Region, and are reaching women in West Shewa, Southwest Shewa and FinFine zones in Oromia region as well. While we continue our work in Sidama Zone, our hope for the coming year is to increase our presence in Gedeo, which includes the coffee-growing communities of Yirgacheffe. With over 10 million women in the screening and treatment target age group, we have our work cut out for us.











XEY STATISTICS
3,236
Women Screened
732
Women Treated
14
Clinicians Trained

## KENYA

Our smaller program in Kenya supports seven facilities and their providers who have successfully screened 5,725 women and treated 1,184 since we started three years ago.

Our program is known for its high quality training and performance. As a result, many women previously screened in Nyeri County have been referred to us for re-screening. We have just been given permission from the regional ministry of health to begin a demonstration project using an exciting new treatment technology called thermal ablation that is faster, less expensive, and equally effective.



## **PERU**

In 2018 Grounds for Health completed its work in Peru in the San Ignacio and Jaén Provinces of Cajamarca Region. Martha Pineda Guerrero oversaw our program, which was ultimately responsible for the screening of 15,588 women, the treatment of 1,236 women, and the training of 82 new health providers. As Martha finally returns to her family in Lima, we wish her well. While our focus is now on East Africa, we look forward to our return to Latin America sometime in the near future.



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### **THANK YOU**

The coffee industry has been behind our success since our humble beginnings in 1996. Thank you to all.



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