



Bread and Water for Africa®

Providing a Brighter Future for Africa's Children

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

AFRICANRELIEF.ORG



EMPOWERING CHILDREN, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES, TRANSFORMING FUTURES!



BREAD AND WATER FOR AFRICA® MISSION

The mission of Bread and Water for Africa® is to promote positive change in Africa by supporting and strengthening grassroots initiatives for community self-sufficiency in health and education.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporters of Bread and Water for Africa®,

I'm excited to share with you the incredible progress we've made in Fiscal Year 2025 towards empowering children and families throughout sub-Saharan Africa! Thanks to our collaborative efforts with 21 community organizations across 11 countries, we have had the privilege of positively impacting the lives of over 240,000 individuals this year. This report highlights our key achievements in orphan care, education, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), healthcare, food self-sufficiency, school meals initiatives, and essential relief efforts that address the needs of communities across the region.

One of the standout accomplishments of FY25 was the successful implementation of a solar-powered water pump project at the CARILINO Orphanage in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. This remarkable addition to our WASH program not only provides vital resources for the orphaned children living there but also extends its benefits to the surrounding community, promoting shared well-being. Furthermore, we are pleased to announce the completion of the Kagbaima Health Center in Sierra Leone, which is expected to serve over 4,500 individuals from 10 nearby villages annually, significantly improving access to essential health services.

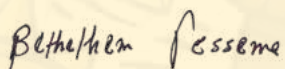
None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors and nonprofit partners in the U.S. who share our vision of uplifting vulnerable populations in sub-Saharan Africa. I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our Combined Federal Campaign and State Campaign contributors, as well as our in-kind partners who generously provide crucial resources, including medications, medical supplies, educational materials, and furniture, to our dedicated teams in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, and beyond. A special shoutout goes to our tireless Board of Directors, whose dedication and oversight continue to fortify our mission year after year.

As we look ahead, we are excited to deepen our collaboration with grassroots partners to foster lasting self-sufficiency within these communities! While we acknowledge the challenges arising from a decline in humanitarian aid, we remain optimistic. Programs vital to HIV/AIDS treatment, maternal health, and child nutrition are facing hurdles, but together, the global community can navigate these obstacles!

On behalf of the thousands of beneficiaries who have been positively impacted—and who may not have a voice in this crucial discussion, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your unwavering dedication and support. With the backing of our Board of Directors and our esteemed international spokesperson, Phyllis Keino, founder of the Lewa Children's Home, I want you to know that your contributions are making a profound difference in the lives of many. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission!

Warm regards,

Bethelhem Tessema



Executive Director

Bread and Water for Africa®



OUR PROGRAMS

For more than 28 years, Bread and Water for Africa® has been dedicated to fostering positive change across the continent. With the generosity of our supporters and partnerships with local grassroots organizations, we are able to assist and empower impoverished communities. Our focus is on promoting self-sufficiency through improvements in health, education, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), as well as orphan care and food self-sustainability programs.



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Support clean water development projects to access life's most vital resources, establish school latrine facilities to promote reliable sanitation, and teach basic hygiene practices that protect students from infectious diseases.



Orphan Care

Provide loving homes for orphaned and abandoned children, including the essentials of food, clean water, healthcare, and education, so they can build a better life as they enter adulthood.



Healthcare

Provide essential medicines, medical supplies, and equipment to save lives and support the operations of clinics, health centers, and hospitals in remote villages and urban areas.



Education

Provide quality education at preschool, primary, and high school levels, as well as vocational training, to give children and young adults the best opportunities for self-sufficiency.



Agriculture/ Food Self-Sustainability

Empower households through sustainable farming by providing seeds and essential tools. This support also enables families to sell surplus produce in local markets, thus generating additional income.



School Meals

Provide meals, snacks, and beverages during the school season at the Seed School, located in one of the largest slums in Africa.



Essential Relief

Provide relief support for unexpected disasters and crises, such as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic since 2020 and the effects of inflation on the economy.

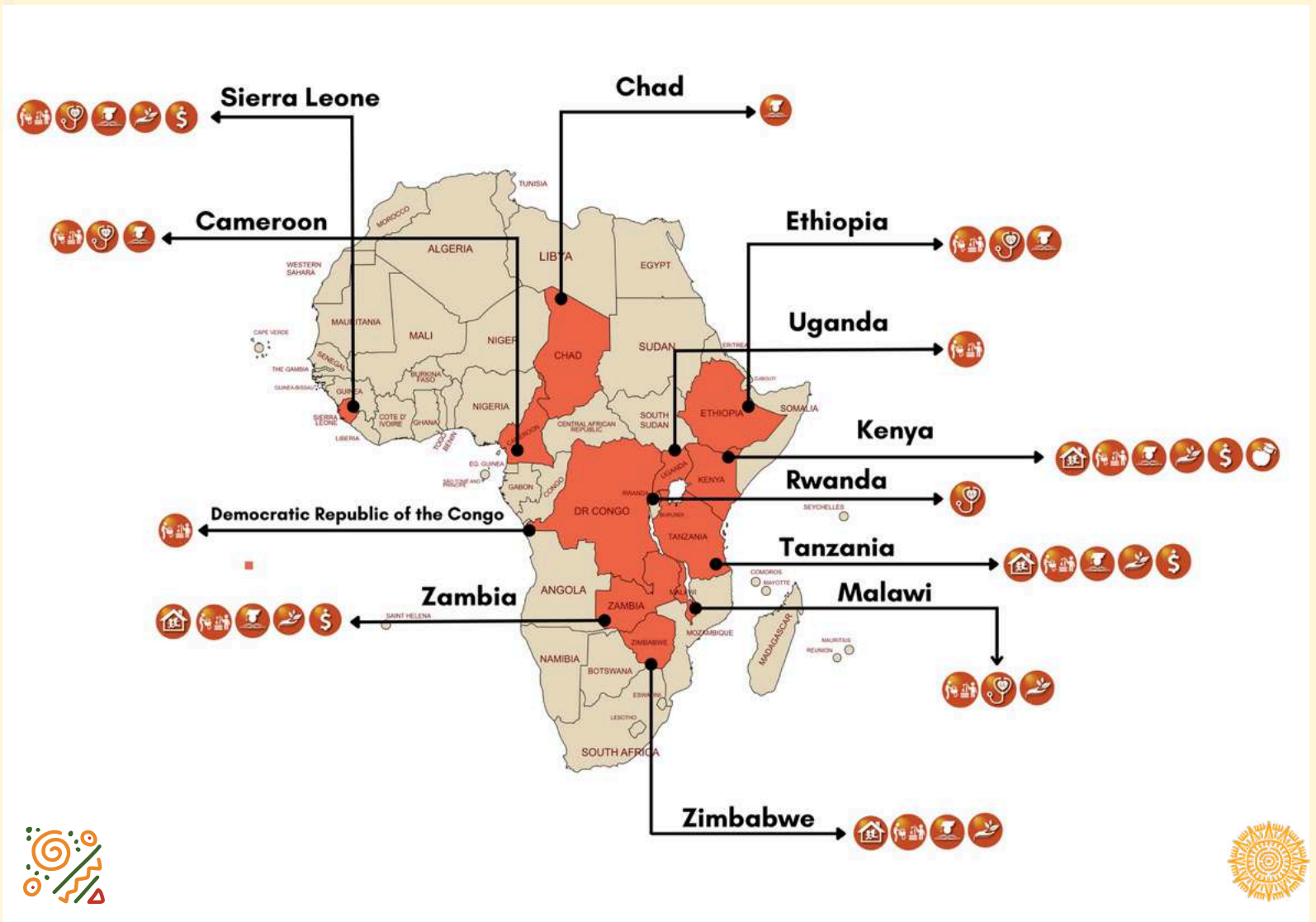


Income Generation

Provide initial funding to our program partners to develop income-generating projects, helping sustain their programs' current and future funding needs.



WHERE WE WORK





Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

The Challenge

Sub-Saharan Africa is on a transformative journey to tackle WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) challenges! With millions still lacking access to safe water and sanitation, the impact of rapid urbanization and climate change presents a call to action to improve public health and combat diseases such as diarrhea.

Our Solution



Our Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program constructs deep water wells and boreholes each year to tap into underground aquifers, providing reliable sources of clean water. We also prioritize repairing nonfunctional wells that have been inactive for years and protecting underground springs from contamination by humans and animals. Additionally, we construct latrine facilities in schools to promote proper sanitation and encourage basic hygiene practices, which help protect children from infectious diseases.

Highlight

84 projects completed
+70,300 community members have
access to safe and clean water

A total of 84 WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) projects have been completed, benefiting over 70,300 individuals in rural villages, health centers, and schools. These initiatives include the repair of 19 wells in Ethiopia, the repair of 14 wells in Sierra Leone, the protection of 15 springs in Uganda, the construction of 14 water wells, and two latrine facilities in schools in Malawi. Additionally, this year, 11 new water wells have been established in Zambia, seven in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, one in Kenya, and one in Cameroon.

Success Story

Water Restored, Learning Renewed

Over the decades, the impact of Bread and Water for Africa® WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) initiatives in sub-Saharan African countries such as Ethiopia is substantial, as they have directly contributed to reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases, resulting in improved public health metrics and a higher quality of life in affected communities.

Schools have particularly benefited from these efforts, allowing students to concentrate on their education without the distractions posed by water scarcity.

A particularly notable case from Ethiopia in 2025 involved the Gena Memcha Primary School, located in the Mekit Woreda, North Wollo of the Amhara Region, a drought-stricken and arid region of the country, which operates a school feeding initiative supported by the World Food Programme (WFP).

The WFP selection criteria for participating schools relies heavily on the availability of water on-site, which became an issue when Gena Memcha's hand-dug well malfunctioned, threatening the school's feeding program.

Acknowledging the pressing need for a sustainable resolution, Bread and Water for Africa® intervened by repairing the nonfunctioning well and restoring its operational capacity which was crucial in restoring the school feeding program and alleviating the daily burden on students who were being required to bring five liters (1.3 gallons) weighing more than 11 pounds to school.

As a result, students were able to focus more on their studies, leading to improved academic performance. Beyond addressing immediate operational challenges, Bread and Water for Africa® initiatives, such as at Gena Memcha, yield long-term benefits.







ORPHAN CARE

The Challenge

Sub-Saharan Africa is affected by systemic issues, including poverty, limited resources, and weak government oversight, which hinder the provision of adequate family support. Significant crises, including disease epidemics, armed conflict, and climate change, further worsen the vulnerabilities faced by millions of children.

Our Solution



Since 1997, Bread and Water for Africa® has been providing loving homes for vulnerable children in Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. Here, these children find a “mommy,” “brothers and sisters,” and a true sense of family. Upon arrival, they share a roof, enjoy three nutritious meals daily, and gain access to educational opportunities—free from worries.

Highlight

448 children supported

Our orphan care program supported 284 children in Zambia, 139 in Tanzania, and 25 in Zimbabwe who were orphaned and left without care.

“Thank you, Bread and Water for Africa, for making it possible to provide a conducive environment where children can heal from their past traumatic experiences.”

**Tendai Chimhamhiwa,
Lerato Children’s Home Administrator**

Success Story

Given’s Silent Strength

At the age of 15, Given arrived at the Kabwata Orphanage in Lusaka, Zambia, in August 2015, with the inability to hear and speak.

“Since entering our care, she has successfully completed her education at a school for children with special needs,” reported Kabwata founder and director Angela Miyanda. “Recognizing her resilience and drive, we supported her further by enrolling her in a vocational skills training program where she is now excelling in knitting.”

“Her progress has been remarkable – she currently knits uniforms for students at the Eugene School (named in honor of Bread and Water for Africa® founder Eugene Krizek) as part of her practical training.”

Now 20, Given’s formal schooling progressed up to around 6th grade and based on evaluations of her progress, her teachers recommended that she transition to a vocational training program where she could apply herself more effectively.

And today, when she is not participating in games with the younger children, finding joy in being part of their play, she gives back by taking responsibility for sweeping Kabwata’s courtyard. According to Angela, she “is always glad to help with washing dishes after meals.”







The Challenge

Sub-Saharan Africa's healthcare system faces several significant challenges. These include insufficient funding and resources, a severe shortage of healthcare workers, inadequate infrastructure, and high out-of-pocket costs for patients. As a result, many people have limited access to care. This situation is further exacerbated by geographic disparities and political instability in the region.

Our Solution



We provide medical supplies, equipment, and medicines, including prenatal supplements, to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and save lives. Additionally, we provide financial support to remote healthcare facilities and operate mobile medical clinics.

Highlight

70 Health facilities
+114,109 individuals served

More than 114,109 individuals received healthcare services across 70 hospitals, health centers, and clinics in eight African countries. This included 2,557 people in Malawi, 686 in Kenya, 5,155 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 77,311 in Sierra Leone, and 28,400 in Ethiopia.

Success Story

The Day Janet Could Breathe Again

When Mrs. Adama Sombie noticed her young daughter, Janet, was struggling with a severe cough, she felt a wave of panic wash over her, reported Joseph Kobba, program director of Rural Youth Development Organization-Sierra Leone (RYDO-SL).

"The cough was persistent and alarming, and she knew she had to act quickly," he told us. "Without hesitation, she rushed her to the Bumpe Community Health Center, where dedicated health professionals were ready to help."

Upon arrival, Community Health Officer (CHO) Foday conducted a thorough examination and performed various medical tests to determine the cause of Janet's distressing cough. After identifying the underlying issues, she was admitted for proper medical treatment.

"While at the health center, Janet received the care and medicines she needed and with each passing day, she grew stronger and healthier," said Joseph. "After dedicated treatment, Janet was discharged, free from the cough that had once plagued her."

"Overjoyed, Mrs. Sombie returned to the health center with her healthy daughter, eager to express her heartfelt gratitude."

In her emotional message, she stated, "I cannot find the words to thank RYDO-SL and its donors, Bread and Water for Africa® and MAP International (which provided the donated medicines), for the incredible support we received. The care and dedication of CHO Foday and the entire health team saved my daughter's life. With the help of God, my Janet is healthy again, and I am forever grateful for the kindness shown to us during our time of need."

"Her story powerfully reminds us of compassionate healthcare's impact on families and communities," says Joseph. "With continued support, Mrs. Sombie believes that even more lives can be transformed and saved."

"Before this project, our people were left to suffer in silence. We had no medicines, no doctors, and no means of reaching the health centers. But when the mobile clinic arrived in our village, it was like a miracle. Our children were treated, our women received care, and we were taught how to protect ourselves from diseases. For the first time, we felt seen and valued. We hope this project will continue and reach even more villages like ours."

Mr. Beklola Jean, Chief of the village Lyanda from the DRC





Janet





EDUCATION

The Challenge

Africa's education system faces several challenges, including a learning crisis, a significant shortage of qualified teachers, financial barriers due to inadequate funding, and outdated infrastructure. There are also disparities between urban and rural areas, resulting in limited access to secondary and higher education for marginalized groups.

Our Solution

Through our school fees support program, Bread and Water for Africa® makes it possible for hundreds of orphaned and destitute girls and boys to attend school every year. We provide them with the mandatory school uniforms and supplies necessary to attend classes without fear of being put out due to an inability to pay.

+32,526 youth supported

Our education program supported 297 students in Chad by covering their school fees, providing school supplies, and supplying uniforms. In Ethiopia and Sierra Leone, we provided combo school desks for 1,687 students. We sponsored 53 secondary students from the Kibera slum and built new classrooms for 120 secondary school students from the Keбенeti community in Kenya, and assisted 82 students in Zimbabwe, along with 240 primary and secondary students in Sierra Leone, by supplying them with school materials. Additionally, we supported 47 internally displaced students in Cameroon. This year in Ethiopia, over 30,000 students benefited from donations of primary and secondary books.

Success Story

Takudzwa's Dream Restored

At the Lerato Children Home in Zimbabwe, the Bread and Water for Africa® school fees support program enables 82 orphaned, abandoned, and destitute children to attend school annually.

Among them this year was 15-year-old Takudzwa who lost his father when he was just five years old. After about six months, Takudzwa's mother left him under the care of his paternal grandparents when she remarried, and they took over the responsibility of raising the young boy.

Understanding the value of an education for their grandson, at the age of six, they enrolled him in a nearby primary school. However, this financial strain resulted in Takudzwa being frequently chased out of his classes for non-payment of fees.

However, in 2019, Takudzwa's life took a transformative turn when Lerato, with the grant funding it receives from Bread and Water for Africa®, recruited him into their school fees assistance program so he could now focus well on his studies without worrying that he could be sent back home at any time.

Takudzwa told us recently, "The threat of being sent home for unpaid fees was always present in my mind, and it made me sad."

And all his hard work is paying off for the hard-working, intelligent youth, as he was recently awarded a prize for being outstanding in his class.

To the supporters of Bread and Water for Africa®, Takudzwa says, "Thank you for supporting my dream and giving me hope."







AGRICULTURE & FOOD SELF-SUSTAINABILITY

The Challenge

Sub-Saharan Africa's agriculture faces escalating challenges, including climate change-induced extreme weather, low productivity due to poor infrastructure and limited access to inputs, persistent soil degradation, and structural socio-economic issues like weak economic conditions and gender inequality.

Our Solution



Through our training programs, men and women learn sustainable farming methods to provide food for their families and surplus to sell at local markets. Our programs also provide seeds and essential farming tools.

Highlight

+27,000 individuals supported

More than 27,000 individuals have benefited from our agriculture and food self-sustainability program across various countries. In Malawi, we trained 350 people in soil conservation methods, which indirectly helped over 1,400 others. In Sierra Leone, 75 rural women and youth were trained in vegetable and crop cultivation, benefiting over 25,200 residents. In Tanzania, 142 individuals, including children and caregivers at the Watoto Wa Africa Orphanage, directly benefited from our food self-sustainability projects. Additionally, in Zimbabwe, more than 30 individuals benefited from the redevelopment of the food self-sustainability project at Lerato Children's Home.

"Through farming, I found my strength and my future. With the help of the Rural Youth Development Organization and Bread and Water for Africa, my garden not only feeds my family but has also helped me pay my school fees. I celebrate farming as the seed of hope for every young girl's dream."

Sierra Leone Farmers Training Program Participant, 2025

Success Story

Empowered Through Skills

Hawa Sillah, 22, lives in the Kpetema community in Sierra Leone with her two children, ages four and two years old.

Hawa, who has no formal education, has been living with her parents, who are both traders. With the farming and business skills she has received, she is now able to follow in their footsteps, selling her produce, including groundnuts (peanuts) and beans, at the local market.

After receiving training and support, including funds, seeds, and farming tools, she embarked on selling groundnuts by packing them in plastic bags for hygiene. Today, she is able to maintain her business and farming activities in the community.

As for Hawa herself, "I appreciate the training and support, as my business is improving because I am using the business techniques I learned from the farming and business skill training program I attended.

"Thanks to Rural Youth Development Organization and Bread and Water for Africa® for conducting the training program in our communities. Before, I was struggling to plan and trace my profit, but it is easier to keep records of my daily business."

And based on her own personal success, she adds, "I am appealing for more training of traders in my community."







In 2025, sub-Saharan Africa's school meal programs face challenges from declining external aid in addition to climate-induced food insecurity, conflict-driven disruptions, and the need for sustainable funding mechanisms and improved infrastructure to ensure consistent access to nutritious meals.

We provide school meals for children at the SEED School in the Kibera community who benefit from two nutritious and filling meals each school day.

224 children from the SEED School received two meals each school day in the Kibera slum of Nairobi, Kenya



Happy's Transformation Through Nutrition

"Often, she went to school hungry, which affected her focus and energy levels," reported Patrick Odongo, founder of the SEED Foundation, which operates the SEED School in Kibera, where 5-year-old Happy, a pre-primary school student, is enrolled. "Her grades were consistently poor, and her teachers were concerned about her overall well-being."

"With regular meals, Happy was more attentive in class and started showing a keen interest in her studies," said Patrick. "Over time, her grades improved dramatically, and she became one of the top performers in her class. Her parents were overjoyed and expressed that the school meal program had given their daughter a chance for a better future."

"I love coming to school because I know I will learn and not feel hungry anymore."

Patrick commented that the school meal program not only helped Happy overcome the immediate challenges of hunger, but also provided the foundation for her educational success, offering her a pathway out of poverty.

Rose Apondi a parent for a student from the Seed School



Statements of Activity-year ended June 30, 2025. The financial results depicted here are derived from the Bread and Water for Africa® June 30, 2025, audited financial statements. Our complete audited financial statements can be obtained at www.africanrelief.org; or by calling 1-888-371-6622 and requesting a copy.

BREAD AND WATER FOR AFRICA, INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025
(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended June 30, 2024)

	2025			2024
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Contributed nonfinancial assets	\$ 25,730,194	\$ -	\$ 25,730,194	\$ 27,308,345
Contributions from affiliate	500,000	-	500,000	500,000
Other contributions	105,782	150,994	256,776	182,173
Workplace campaign contributions	-	51,404	51,404	54,311
Wills and bequests	35,595	-	35,595	102,915
Investment income, net	101,612	-	101,612	91,761
Other income	-	-	-	11,511
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of time restrictions	58,439	(58,439)	-	-
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	154,464	(154,464)	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	26,686,086	(10,505)	26,675,581	28,251,016
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
International programs	26,552,785	-	26,552,785	28,103,346
Total Program Services	26,552,785	-	26,552,785	28,103,346
Supporting Services:				
Management and general	50,885	-	50,885	28,796
Development and fundraising	157,411	-	157,411	104,249
Total Supporting Services	208,296	-	208,296	133,045
TOTAL EXPENSES	26,761,081	-	26,761,081	28,236,391
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(74,995)	(10,505)	(85,500)	14,625
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	911,352	305,137	1,216,489	1,201,864
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 836,357	\$ 294,632	\$ 1,130,989	\$ 1,216,489

Board of Directors

James J. O'Brien, Esq., Chairman
Bryan L. Krizek, President
Thomas M. (Tom) O'Brien, Treasurer
Robert J. Hisel, Jr., Director
Frank Stitely, CPA, Director
Rear Admiral Eric C. Jones, USCG (Ret.), Director
The Right Rev. Ketlen A. Solak, Director
Colonel John F. Williams, USA, (Ret.), Director
Elayne Silversmith, Director
Loretta Afraid of Bear Cook, Director
Ashley Shultz, Director

Corporate Officers (non-voting)

Paul E. Krizek, Esq., Vice President/General Counsel
Bieu Do, Chief Financial Officer
Nhi Ho Cao, Secretary

Executive and Key Staff

Bethelhem H. Tessema, Executive Director
Dave Frank, Fulfillment Manager
Steve Hunt, Communications Coordinator

WE WOULD LIKE TO TANK YOU

We extend our gratitude to all federal and military personnel who have supported our organization through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and various state, local, United Way, and corporate campaigns nationwide.



WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO:

- All Blessings Flow for the support of the healthcare program.
- Bread and Water for Africa's Board of Directors.
- Bread and Water for Africa's community partners across sub-Saharan Africa.
- Donors of Bread and Water for Africa®, a Christian Relief Services project.
- Catholic Medical Mission Board for support of healthcare programs.
- Eugene and Addy Krizek (Late), Bread and Water for Africa® founders.
- Alethia E., for years of support to Bread and Water for Africa's programs.
- Give Lively Foundation Inc.
- Jeanine Reeves's years of support for different Bread and Water for Africa® programs.
- Jim Foote Foundation Inc. for the support of the Kibera School Meals Program.
- J. Ward MacArthur for years of support for different programs.
- Kathrin Franzluebbbers.
- Landis Family Trust for support of education and healthcare programs in Kenya.
- Lee Anne Arslan Trust.
- Market Development Group for creative work in promoting Bread and Water for Africa's programs.
- Medical Assistance Programs (MAP International) for support of healthcare programs.
- Michael and Delane Salkeld (ParaWest Management) for their support of orphan care programs in Zambia.
- Missionary Expeditors & Cargo Logistics, Inc.
- Peter Thomson for the support of education and healthcare programs in Kenya.
- Phyllis Keino, Bread and Water for Africa® international spokesperson.
- Paul McDaniel.
- Ruth M. Smyth-Stahl Trust
- Robert Adamo
- The Winston-Salem Foundation- Carr Family Fund for years of support to different Bread and Water for Africa® programs.
- University of Virginia Hospital Medical Inventory (MERCi) Program.
- And so very many individual donors, from school children collecting pennies to runners logging miles (and dollars) as they raced for proceeds directed to Bread and Water for Africa®.

thank
you





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