



MERCY BEYOND BORDERS  
**2016 Annual Report**



## Dear Friends,

Be proud of what you accomplished in 2016: your generosity spurred MBB to expand our Haiti programs and adapt our South Sudan programs.

In Haiti we opened a Women's Center, christened Lavi Solèy ("Bright Sunny Life") by the local women. Lavi Solèy: a place of their own where Moms ages 18-85 are acquiring literacy, baking, and sewing skills. The number of young women in our scholarship program also continues to grow.

In South Sudan we defied the chaos engulfing the country by keeping 702 girls in school at St Bakhita's and hundreds more in high schools and universities. Despite the ongoing civil war, our alumnae continue to work in-country. When one million others fled the violence, MBB followed them to refugee camps in Uganda where we're now training refugee women to start businesses.

We count on your continued support as we move into our 10th year with energy and new ideas. THANK YOU for engaging in this important work. You're making wonderful things happen!

**Mark Sato Stevens**  
Board Chair

**Sr. Marilyn Lacey**  
Executive Director

**PS: Share the joy! Show this report to friends who don't yet know about MBB.**

**Cover Photo:** MBB grad, Shanas, comes full circle by returning to her alma mater, St Bakhita Girls' Primary School in South Sudan, as a professional teacher. She herself was airlifted to the school as a young orphan after surviving a bombing in the Nuba Mtns.



## A MESSAGE FROM MBB'S LEADERS

# OUR REACH 2016

**THANK YOU** for making **ALL THIS** possible!



### SAFE & SUPPORTED ENVIRONMENTS FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION

- 1,302** Girls supported in 2 all-girl primary schools in Haiti and South Sudan
- 287** Scholarships for young women attending high schools and colleges/universities
- 40** Girls participating in English Language Immersion summer camps in Haiti
- 702** Girls benefitting from resident School Nurse at St Bakhita Primary  
St Bakhita High School transitioned to become an all-girl campus & added 3 female teachers  
Supported and re-enrolled scholars whose schools were attacked/shut down

### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1** Women's Center: Leased, Renovated, Furnished & Opened in Haiti
- 68** Women enrolled in Literacy, Sewing, & Baking courses in Haiti
- 45** Refugee women starting businesses in Ugandan refugee camps

### ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

- 104** Scholars taking part in annual Leadership Weeks
- 25,000** South Sudanese hearing weekly radio broadcasts promoting girls' education and women's health



Haiti Women's Center

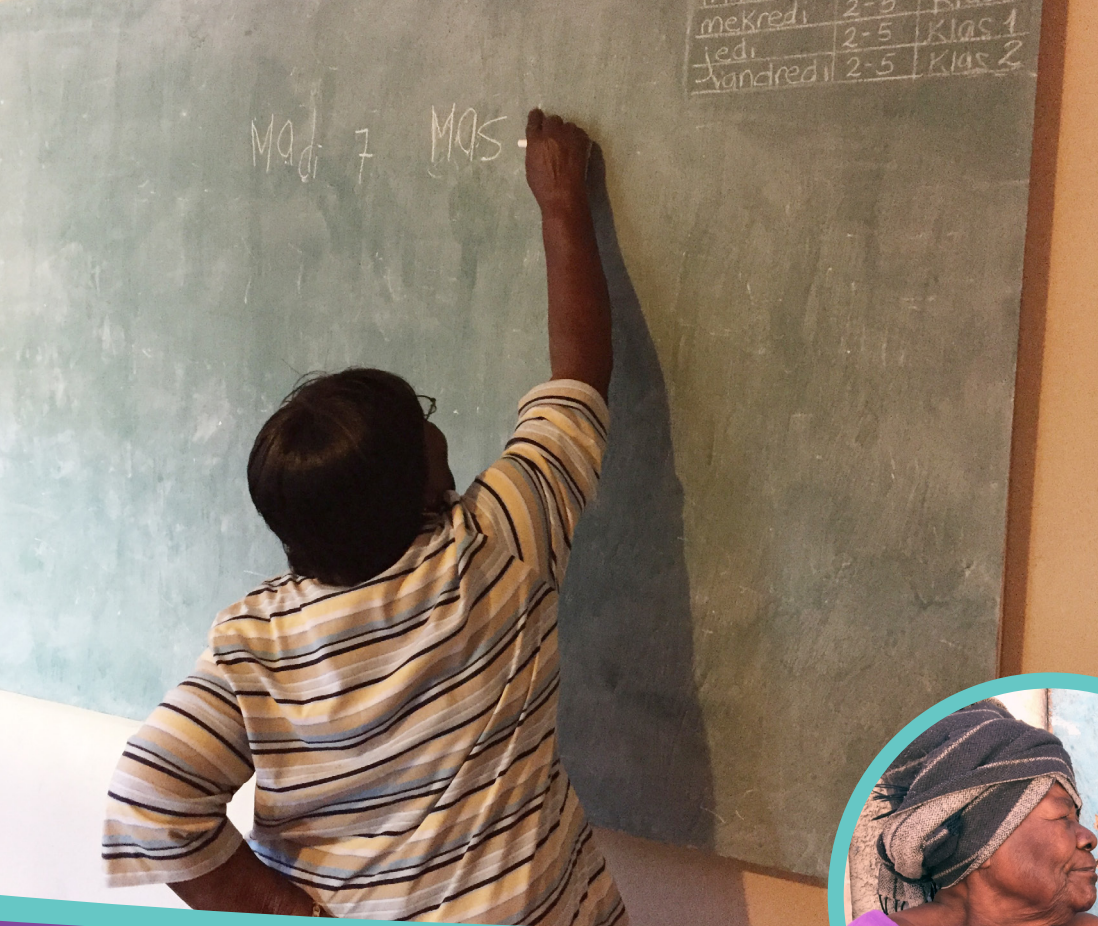


Baking Class Grad



Women Receive their Business Loans



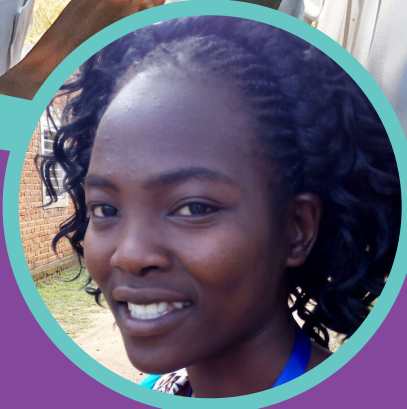


## ASHA KAKA

*One of our 287 Young Women Scholars*

Asha is not easily discouraged despite being displaced as a child from her homeland during South Sudan's long war, living as a refugee, and finishing high school on her own. She then volunteered in a medical clinic near St Bakhita School, seeking some way to become a nurse. MBB recognized her desire and rewarded her determination with a scholarship to Kajo-Keji Health Training Institute (KKHTI) in South Sudan. She studied there until Sep 21, 2016, the day armed militia attacked the school, killing students and looting the campus. Everyone scattered.

She describes the panic: "Without realizing, I found myself in the bush, barefooted, having run for a distance of two hours which I have never done in my life. I was not even properly dressed because it was early and I was not prepared for moving outside our dorm. After many more hours – I lost track of time – I came back to school and found students dead and everything looted...."



Asha hid there with three other MBB Scholars for several days without any food. Eventually they made the dangerous trek across the border to Uganda, where they registered at a refugee camp. They were hugely relieved when MBB Scholarships Coordinator, Sister Edvine Tumwesigye, discovered them. She helped them until KKHTI administrators relocated the college to a new campus in Uganda, where our students resumed classes.

"I have faced many troubles in my life," says Asha, "but, thanks to MBB donors whom I never met, my goal of becoming a nurse is now near. Nothing will stop me!"

## OVIL CHARLES

*One of our Women Learners*

Meet Ovil, mother of 6 grown sons. She's the first student to arrive for literacy class. She's ready, pencil in hand, brimming with energy. Ovil is 85 years young; a hard-working widow for 37 years harboring one secret dream: "All my life," she says, "I have wished to learn how to write my name before I die."

Ovil never had a chance to go to school as a child in Haiti, but she is a quick learner now. She squints her eyes to concentrate while carefully shaping the O, the V, the I, and the L. Then she sits back with a smile to admire her name. She's done it. It's beautiful.



Her next goal? "In my group at church, we sing. We have papers with music words written. I wish to be able to read those words, too. I hold the paper and pretend to read it, but truthfully I am only remembering what I hear. I think that I am the only one in the church who is not able to read that paper, but soon I will know how...."

It's for women like Ovil that MBB opened its Women's Center in Gros Morne. May her joy be yours, too.



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

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*“Through Apple Corporate Matching we are able to double our donation to further support women and girls in Haiti and South Sudan.”*

—Paul and Deb Baker





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*“As a South Sudanese woman myself, I know that opportunities to learn or own a business are extremely difficult for women and girls in South Sudan. I am a recurring donor with MBB to help create opportunities.”*  
 — Theresa Samuel Boko





*“We give to MBB because we believe in education for girls and women. My heart aches for all people in war-torn countries. I want to help. I believe the money we give to MBB is used for this purpose and is used well.”*

— Kitty & Don Speranza



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**In honor of 2016 Jubilarians**  
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**In honor of my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild**  
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**In memory of Brigitte**

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# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## REVENUE

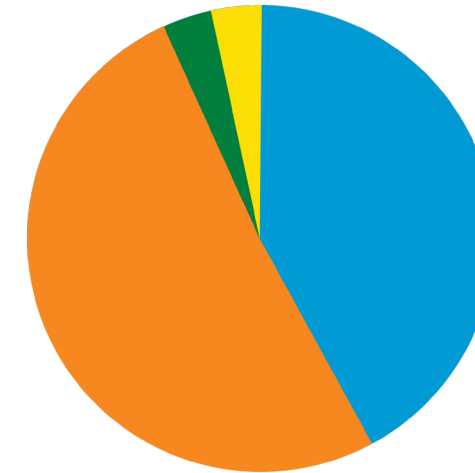
Individuals	\$333,841.06
Foundations & Trusts	\$407,581.76
Corporate Matching & Other Gifts	\$28,001.30
Legacies & Bequests	\$25,818.03

**Total Revenue \$795,242.15**

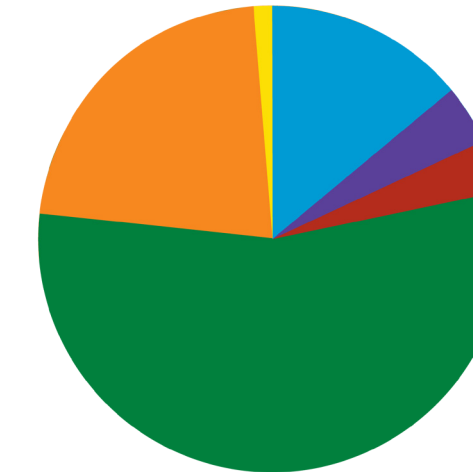
## EXPENSES

Personnel	\$94,026.82
Fundraising	\$27,417.89
Office	\$24,323.15
East Africa Programs	\$369,096.49
Haiti Programs	\$147,598.33
Other	\$8,061.42

**Total Expenses \$670,524.10**



- Foundations & Trusts (51%)
- Individuals (42%)
- Corporate Matching & Other Gifts (4%)
- Legacies & Bequests (3%)



- East Africa Programs (55%)
- Haiti Programs (22%)
- Personnel (14%)
- Fundraising (4%)
- Office (4%)
- Other (1%)



*"I donate to MBB every year in memory of Brigitte, who was passionate about MBB's mission."*

— Frank Winiarski



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