



mercy
beyond
borders



FY2021 Annual Report

WE ARE HERE NOW

October 2021

Dear Friend,

What a year! As our world wrestled with viruses and violence, climate crises and economic challenges, YOU helped women and girls rise from extreme poverty.

“We are here now.” That’s what the nomadic cattle keepers in Africa say when someone inquires, “Where are you from?” Instead of explaining where their journey began or the sufferings they’ve endured along the way, they simply say, **“We are here now.”** That’s what matters.

The women and girls of MBB were born into extreme poverty. They have survived wars, natural disasters, abuse, marginalization. But they refuse to fixate on the past. They say instead, **“Thanks to YOU, we are here now.”** And they walk toward a future that is brighter because YOU brought MBB’s programs into their lives.

Whether dodging bandits on the roads or donating generously from afar, **we are all one, together lifting up women and girls in rural Haiti, South Sudan and Malawi, and in the refugee camps of Kenya and Uganda.**

Here. Now. There is resilience despite setbacks. Hope amidst heartache. Joy that surges, as you can see in the exuberance of Rose Mirtha on her high school graduation day in Gros Morne, Haiti. **YOU are making it all possible.**

We remain grateful, always, for your marvelous engagement in our mission,



Bill Coats, Esq.
Board Chair



Sr Marilyn Lacey, RSM
Executive Director



Cover: The exuberance of Ading Ajang, a refugee woman who now runs her own restaurant in Oluah Camp, thanks to an MBB micro-enterprise loan.

753 girls at St. Bakhita Primary in South Sudan became friends across traditional tribal divisions as they studied & grew together at the only safe primary school campus for girls in South Sudan.



FISCAL YEAR 2021

Prevention

Educated 3,890 women & girls about Covid-19 virus protection & distributed hygiene equipment and masks in 5 countries.

PANDEMIC RESPONSES

Home Visits & Cash Assistance

Visited the homes of over 400 women and girls to distribute food and \$100 emergency cash gifts, alleviating Covid-19 impact.

EDUCATION OF GIRLS

Scholarships

Supported 393 Scholars on high school & university scholarships this year.

Enhanced Learning

Provided computer classes, lending library, school nurse, and tutoring sessions.

Leadership Workshops

Hosted monthly leadership workshops for 181 Scholars in Haiti.

Forced Marriage

Protected & supported 50 orphans & forced marriage survivors at St. Bakhita Girls School.

New Dorm

Began construction on a girls' dorm and computer classroom at St. Bakhita Girls School.

Paying It Forward

Engaged more than 300 Scholars as volunteers serving in their local communities.

Micro-Enterprise Businesses

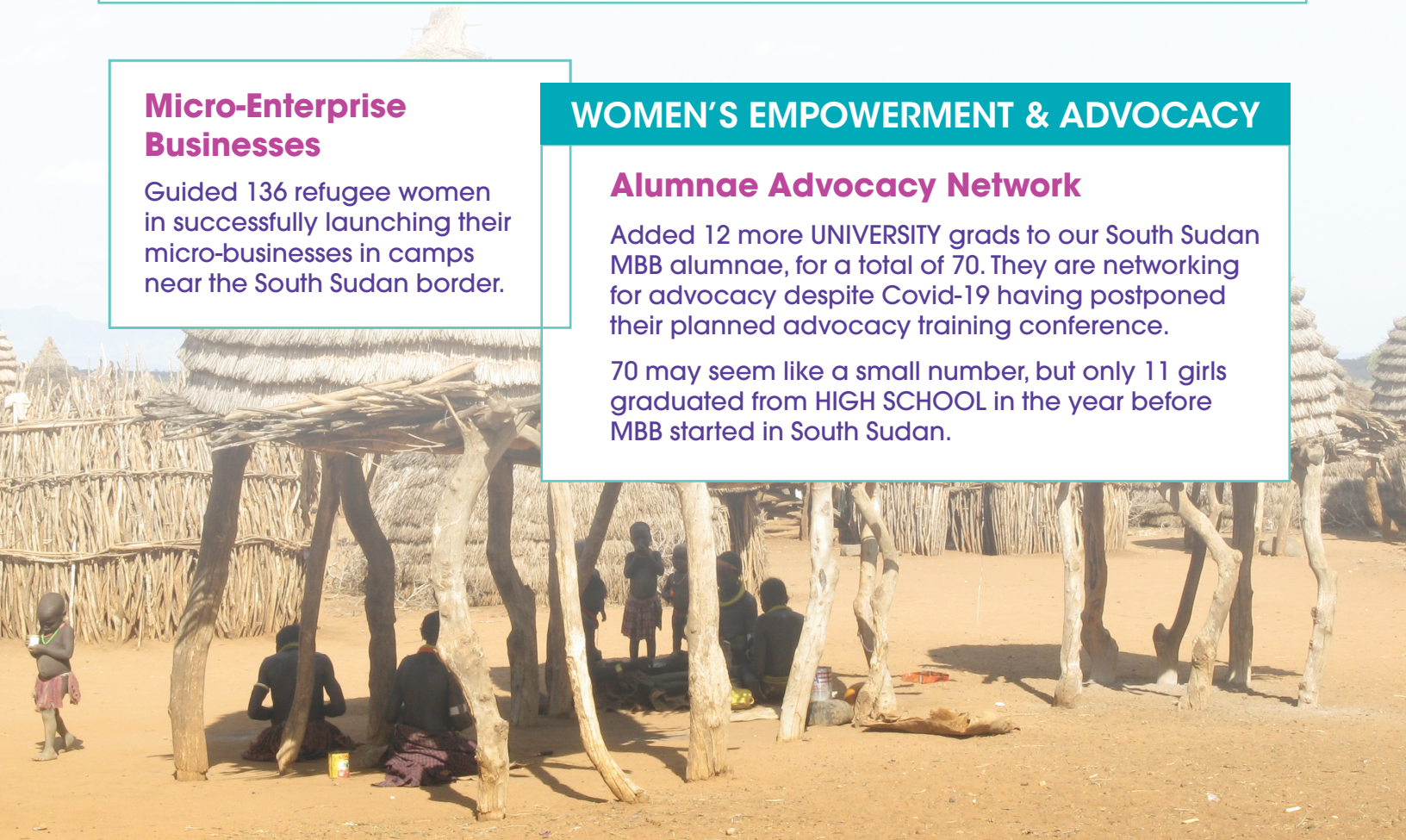
Guided 136 refugee women in successfully launching their micro-businesses in camps near the South Sudan border.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & ADVOCACY

Alumnae Advocacy Network

Added 12 more UNIVERSITY grads to our South Sudan MBB alumnae, for a total of 70. They are networking for advocacy despite Covid-19 having postponed their planned advocacy training conference.

70 may seem like a small number, but only 11 girls graduated from HIGH SCHOOL in the year before MBB started in South Sudan.



OVERSEAS GLIMPSES

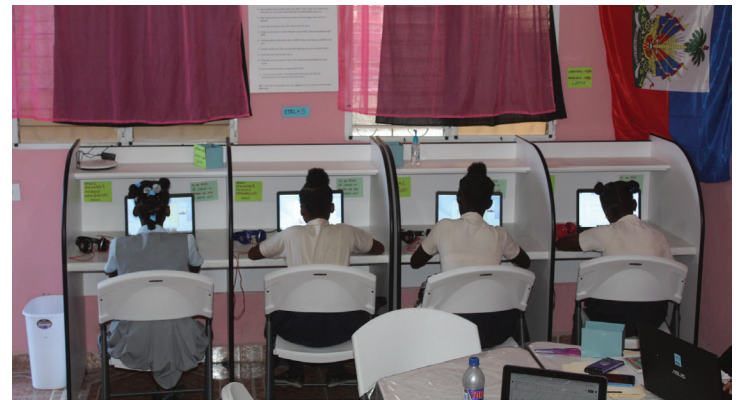


HAITI

Sthefane lives with her father, grandparents and cousins in Gros Morne, Haiti. Their family's cinderblock home, sandwiched between a medical clinic and a dry goods store, is an oasis of greenery because of her grandfather's gardening skills.

When her mother moved to Port-au-Prince to find work, Sthefane inherited the household chores. She rises before dawn to cook and clean before heading to her high school classes. She dreams of becoming an accountant at a hospital, bank, or school—a job with a real paycheck that could support her family, especially her grandmother whose health is failing.

Despite the interruptions imposed by Covid-19, economic stress, Haiti's political dysfunction, and the gang violence that threatens everyone, she feels very fortunate to be a 9th grader in a good school thanks to a scholarship you make possible. Education for most of her peers ended at 6th grade for lack of money to pay school fees. "Thank you", she says, "to everyone at MBB."



MBB HAITI FACTS

- 181 MBB Scholars studied in Haitian high schools this year.
- 100% of MBB Scholars passed the national exams, given only to 9th and 13th graders. (Nationwide among all Haitian students in 2021, only 77% of 9th and 51% of 13th graders passed.)
- MBB Scholars visited our Haiti Learning Center 3,843 times to access our counselors, library, computers, tutoring and workshops.
- 100% of MBB Scholars participated in 2 or more leadership trainings this year.

MALAWI

This is a story of Mercy within Mercy. Mercy, pictured here, is poised to begin university studies in Malawi on a full scholarship provided by the partnership of Team Lift Inc and Mercy Beyond Borders.

She graduated from high school last year in the top 6% of her class, her attendance made possible only by the kindness of strangers.

Mercy's mother suffers debilitating seizures. Money was always tight; school fees often out of reach. Mercifully, just as Mercy was on the verge of dropping out from high school for lack of money, a donor stepped up to support her through graduation. And now YOU have stepped up with a university scholarship!

Mercy has set her heart on becoming a nurse midwife. With her smile, her academic excellence and her inner strength, we're confident that your investment in her higher education is a sure bet.



MBB MALAWI FACTS

- 45 University scholarships have been awarded by Team Lift Inc, with case management and leadership training provided by Mercy Beyond Borders.
- The majority of these scholarship recipients are choosing STEM majors.
- MBB also offers afterschool computer classes for girls at St. Mary Girls' Secondary School in Karonga, the feeder school whose top grads receive university scholarships.



EAST AFRICA (SOUTH SUDAN, UGANDA AND KENYA)

"Little did I know there was a 'life support machine' for me in Olua refugee camp in the name of MBB. I now have a business, though greatly affected by the Covid virus. MBB, it is only you that understands women's sorrows."

—Regina Mesiku, Seamstress



MBB EAST AFRICA FACTS

- New dorm & computer center being constructed at St. Bakhita Primary for its 753 girls.
- 132 young women studying via MBB's high school & university scholarships.
- 136 additional women started small businesses in their refugee camps in Uganda.



MBB Scholar Mary Mading graduated this year with a university degree in Civil & Structural Engineering. Another 1st for women in South Sudan! She is the 70th MBB Scholar to graduate from university.



THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN!

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“Thank you for creating a safe space for us to live... I would be lost without it.”

—Esther, MBB Scholar

“It often breaks my heart and yet makes my heart rejoice when I read these real stories about these amazing girls.”

—Colette, donor





“This leadership program that you created is doing great things.... When young women work together with other young women, we can realize great things together. Thank you for helping us discover this power that we have to create change.”

—Midiaelle, MBB Scholar



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“Now I am sending my daughter to school. I place her in your hands, because she can have the future that I never had due to early marriage.”

—A mother in South Sudan



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Heidi & Dominic Manson
Jeanne O'Rourke
Mary & Dave Oslund
James Powers
Jean M Sazevich
Aaron Schmit
Catherine Scofield
Terri Sorenson
Jennifer Taplin
Joseph & Lorraine Trouba
Michael V. Ciresi

Mary Pat Conlin Roy

Kitty & Don Speranza

Mrs. Kay Davis

Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Mary Lou De Natale

Kathryn Miley Denham

Karen Downen

Irene Donais

Judy Hulme

Mark Dunn

Patricia Dunn

Michelle von Emster

Ernest & Bernadette von Emster

Richard & Elizabeth Ervin

Carolyn M. Ervin

Sal & Joey Lu Fasone and Anthony & Mary Fasone

Joseph & Jean Marie Fiorello

Patricia Firenze

Stephen Firenze

Dorothy A. Flanagan

Patricia Ann Flanagan

Evelyn Fogle

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Jo Marie Guastello

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Sr. Janet Ruffing, RSM

Sr. Josephine Gonzalez, RSM

Cindy & Andy Schoorl

Lauren R. Goodenow

Robert & Janette Fiala

Rose Marie Vigliaturo Guastello

Jo Marie Guastello
Rosemarie & Joe Wurtz

Christopher Halloran

Catherine Cook

Sr. Virginia Hasson, RSM

Brigid O'Brien

Heather

Kathryn J. Hamel

Brother Hiep

Thuy Nguyen & Thomas Treutler

Amy Hoey, RSM

Ellen Vopicka

Ila Lacey

Jo Marie Guastello

Jack O'Connor & Greg Lewis

Mary Jeanne Lewis

Frances & Ross Lipari

Jo Marie Guastello

Bill Majerle

Patricia Majerle

Sr. Marietta McGannon, RSM

Regina M. Bailey

Sr. Miriam Michael, O.P.

Joan Fry

John O'Connor

Mary Jeanne Lewis

Fr. Charles O'Rourke

Jo Marie Guastello
Jeanne O'Rourke
Annette Johnson

My Parents

Marilyn Gottemoeller

Lee & Bill Parrish

Maria & Herbert Dempsey

Evelyn Pepper

Neal A. Pepper

Susan Presta Pippin

Jo Marie Guastello

Katie & Chester Presta

Jo Marie Guastello

Frances Keys & Frances Riebel

Sandra Gomersall & Ralph Keys

Jan Robertson

Paul & Cheryl Robertson

Robert & Mary Anne & Roby

Linda Roby

Kenneth Scheel

Mary Louise Scheel

Carol Schrimsher

Paul Schrimsher

Johanna M. Schwed

Mrs. Rita & Ms. Therese Gubbels

Sr. Mary Ann Scofield

Richard and Natasha Hughes

Ann Slavensky

Laura Beyer

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard and Elaine Sova

Elaine Sova

George Stafford

Conor Dalton and Lizzie Hancock

Nancy Thompson

Shirley Ann Thompson

Sr. Edvine Tumwesigye

Julie Ann Lynch
Becky Yackley

Jim & Vita Vigliaturo

James & Kathryn Vigliaturo

Michael Ward

Rachel Barnes
Ben & Betsy Bartlett
Judith Blood
Jill Solomon & Alan Blumner
Athos Bousvaros
Jane W Carey
Julia Collins
Michael Comeau
Karen Darcy
Emily Jean Davidson
Rose De Luca
Marie Dechane
Mary Ellen Devereux
Bonnie Dougherty
Anne & Chad Gifford
William Stephen Grogan
Jo Marie Guastello
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Deborah L Haynor
Marie Hilton
Mitzi Kaitz
Patricia Kemp
Anne Marie Litchfield
Marilyn Marx
Daniel Salera & Michael McCay
Maurice W. Melchiono
Patricia Murray
Linda Colleen Nelson
Jeanne O'Rourke
Wendy Olin
Elizabeth Anne Page
Lori Parker-Hartigan
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Menno Verhave
Erin Ward
Mary Jeanne Ward
Ted Ward
Andrea Purcell Wong
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Allan Wellman

Barbara Wellman

Diana Petz and Patricia Williams

Patricia Wampler

Don Wolf

Regina & Donald Wolf

My Dear Mom

Lucie Newcomb

Libby Fitzgerald's Mom & Dad

John & Libby FitzGerald

Matthew

Robyn Lynn Nolta

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Teresa M. Angier

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Susan & Dave Arms
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Michele & Kirk Caya & Family
Sue Brenner
Michele & Kirk Caya & Family
MaryAnn & Mike Pietro

Sr. Judith Carle, RSM

William & Juna Carle

Julie Carrig

Beth Wissing-Healy

60th Jubilarians Chicago 2020

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Sherri Coats

Claire Starry & Kenneth Whyburn

William Coats

Joanne Kagle

Madeleva Comiskey, RSM

Martha & Brad Wastler

Pat Conlin

Kathe Marron & Tom Conlin
Kip Hamilton
Kitty & Don Speranza

Sr. Brian Costello, RSM

Nancy Arnold



*“An incredible charity!
(MBB is) supporting schools for
girls, fostering community across
traditional tribal boundaries and
educating women on starting
their own businesses as well as
offering micro loan programs.
Seriously extraordinary!!”*

— Megan, donor



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June Anselme

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Irene Donner
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Bill & Nadine Downs
Mary Sheehan

Sr. Bernadette Duross, RSM
Jennifer Zandier

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Robin & Erin
Celeste Marie Nuttman

Dazols Family
Charlene Marie Dazols

Libby Fitzgerald
John & Libby Fitzgerald

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Peg & Jim Griffin
Mary Sheehan

Carmelo "Chee Bay" Guastello
Jo Marie Guastello
Cynthia Braun

Giavanna RoseMarie Guastello
Jo Marie Guastello

Jo Marie Guastello
Mary Drey
Michael & Mary Warner
Cecilia Vigliaturo

Gretchen Gunderson
Jennifer Guethlein

Lizzie Hancock
Carol & Charles Nike

Joy Hayter
Roy G. Hayter

Judy Donais Hulme
Marilynne Lazaneo Homitz

Thai Ngoc Huong
Truc Dam

**2020 Omaha Mercy Jubilarians
of the Sisters of Mercy**
Mary Ellen Devereux

2020 West Midwest Jubilarians
Janet Rozzano

2020 Chicago Jubilarians
June Anselme

Mercy Jubilarians
Celeste Marie Nuttman

Marshall Makala Kozo Hattori
Pavi and Viral Mehta

Elizabeth Grace Krogman
Elizabeth Krogman

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Wilma Reichard & Gordon Howie

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Joe & Lesley Schooli
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Kathie Lowry
Diane Jacobson

Michelle Manning
Thomas & Jane David

Sisters of Mercy
Gwen Cote

Kay Myklebust
Jennifer Guethlein

Nieces & Nephews
Susan Anne Tierney

Nellie Newman
Neal A. Pepper

Xuan Nguyen
Anne-Reneé Heningburg

Craig & Mary Noke
Tim Noke

Jeanne O'Rourke
Cynthia Braun
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Gillian Power

Patricia Lane & Betty Jo Rance
Jessie Fay

Rev. Richard Rento
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Louis & Sherron Sandrini

Sr. Ellen Ryan, RSM
Nancy Arnold

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Rose Mary Williams

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Beatrice Soliz
Thomas & Jane David

Cecilia at St. Bakhita's
Cecile Ehrmann & Rolando Castro

Bill Stoesser
Margreta Purcell

Brad & Carol Stoll
Garrett Hannon

Brandon Stoll
Carol & Bradley Stoll

Emma-Leigh Stoll
Carol & Bradley Stoll

Mr. Stoll
Malar Bala

Maiah & Tea
Rosario Ballew

Erin ter Kuile
Janine Ter Kuile

Sr. Suzanne Toolan, RSM
Diane Fahrner

Marian Clare Valenteen
Judy Rogers & Roland Bianchi

Our New President & Vice-President
Mary Sheehan

Kaley Wissing
Beth Wissing-Healy

**Hari Bhimaraju, Vivian Jin,
Stephanie Shen, Sophie Wang,
Meilin Ye**
Carol & Bradley Stoll

Ann & Karen
Kathryn Minogue

Katie and Sarah
Karen Downen

Laurel & Chloe
Marilyne Tron

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 2020 – June 2021



REVENUE: \$1,414,692

- Foundations & Corporations: \$647,560
- Individuals: \$702,268
- Federal grants: \$40,250
- Investments: \$24,614

EXPENSES: \$1,535,777

- Programs: \$1,301,257
- Fundraising: \$87,613
- Admin: \$146,907

ASSETS

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Cash | \$1,169,837 |
| Accounts Receivable | \$438 |
| Prepaid Expenses | \$9,101 |

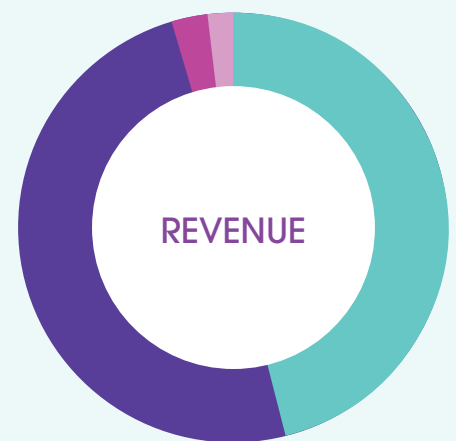
Total Assets **\$1,179,376**

LIABILITIES **\$52,318**

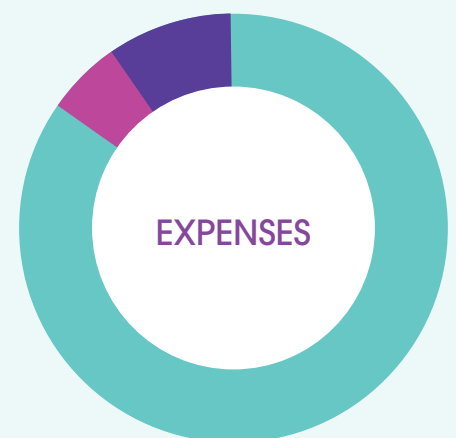
EQUITY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Net assets without donor restrictions | \$988,236 |
| Net assets with donor restrictions | \$259,907 |
| Change in net assets | (121,085) |

Total Liabilities & Net Assets **\$1,179,376**



49% 46% 3% 2%



85% 9% 6%



Haitian Scholar, Evena, demonstrates her confidence and communication skills during our Leadership Week.

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OUR MISSION

Forging ways for women & girls in extreme poverty to learn, connect and lead.

OUR VISION

A world where all women are educated, connected & influential.

OUR CONVICTION

When women learn, women matter. Then everything changes!

mercy
beyond
borders



1885 De La Cruz Blvd. #101
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