Candles light a labor and delivery room in a Ugandan health center.
A letter of appreciation

“For everything you do, you need light,” explained Ugandan midwife Esther Madudu. “You need to wash, clean and disinfect ... and there’s no light. You postpone what you’re doing. If you have a cervical tear, you must postpone to tomorrow. It is so painful to postpone the procedure to the tomorrow. A midwife feels it until tomorrow.”

On the 5th anniversary of We Care Solar, we reflect on the stories echoed by health workers around the world. Stories by midwives and doctors in Uganda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Malawi and the Philippines.

Without reliable electricity, midwives struggle to provide life-saving care by kerosene lanterns and flashlights. Doctors rush to finish emergency c/sections before they lose power. Health providers live in fear of nighttime deliveries, knowing they may not be able to treat complications if the sun is down.

Thanks to you, We Care Solar is changing that. To date, more than 1,000 health centers have been illuminated by our Solar Suitcases. More than 300,000 expectant mothers and their babies have been served. In addition to around-the-clock lighting, our Solar Suitcases charge cell phones, headlamps, fetal heart rate monitors, and computers. Our Solar Suitcase training programs have reached more than 5000 health workers.

This annual report highlights several programs and partnerships that you made possible, including programs in Southwest Uganda, Malawi, The Philippines, and Ethiopia.

Lighting up a health center is transformative for patients and health workers alike.

“It feels so different! “ exclaims Esther Madudu. “It is very comfortable working at night. I’m not worried about anything.”

“There is a huge difference!” exclaims Malawi midwife Seda, “We are working under the light...suturing, performing episiotomies, performing resuscitation of babies...everything is just fine!”

“The staff is happy, the patients are happy. It’s like being at a big hospital!” midwife James Naitha, tells us from Mase Health Center.

Thank you for lighting up lives in childbirth. While there is much work to be done, there is also much to celebrate. We hope you enjoy this Annual Report, highlighting the accomplishments that YOU made possible.

In gratitude,

Laura Stachel, MD MPH
Executive Director, We Care Solar
We Care Solar® brings light and essential energy to healthcare.

Safe childbirth is the foundation for healthy families and communities. Hundreds of mothers in the developing world die each day giving birth in dark and unsafe conditions. Midwives and doctors struggle to provide life-saving care in health centers lacking electricity.

Through designing and delivering Solar Suitcases, leading capacity-building workshops, and providing ongoing technical support, we give health workers the power to save lives.

With the We Care Solar Suitcase®…

- Midwives can provide routine and emergency obstetric care around-the-clock.
- Health providers can detect fetal distress during pregnancy and labor.
- Surgeons can conduct emergency procedures through the night.
- Emergency referrals and consultations can be made without delay.
- More mothers can access skilled care.
In 2014 we achieved a major milestone by deploying our 1000th Solar Suitcase.
Our reach in 2014

✔ 20 countries
✔ 13 Partner Organizations
✔ 642 Solar Suitcases deployed
✔ 4,000 health workers trained
✔ 256,800 mothers and newborns served
Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, 676 childbearing women die for every 100,000 live births. Part of the problem is that few women utilize the skilled birth attendants; only 10% of deliveries occur in health centers with skilled providers. In partnership with Hamlin College of Midwives, We Care Solar embarked on a multiyear program to bring lighting and better midwifery care to 160 health centers in Ethiopia. We conducted a successful pilot program in February 2014. We returned in November to conduct a health technician training and launch an ambitious program to equip 145 health centers with Solar Suitcases. In 2015, we will continue our program with Hamlin College, and we will work with WEEMA International to bring light to 28 more health centers.

Partners
Hamlin College of Midwives
WEEMA International
Greenlamp Foundation
UBS Foundation
145 Solar Suitcases
A woman is being transported to a clinic.
A Solar Suitcase training session for health care center staff
Uganda

Four districts of Southwest Uganda received the gift of light when a Saving Lives at Birth Grand Challenge enabled 100 health facilities to receive Solar Suitcases. AMREF Uganda partnered with We Care Solar and White Ribbon Alliance to promote Safe Motherhood in this underserved, mountainous region. Working with AMREF staff and district health officials, We Care Solar conducted multiple Solar Suitcase trainings, teaching health technicians to install expanded Solar Suitcases and new computers! Midwives in this program received lights, computer training and continuing education in order to improve healthcare for mothers and babies. In addition to our program with AMREF, we also collaborated with Pathfinder International, Ugandan Private Midwives Association, and Save the Children.

Partners
AMREF Uganda
Save the Children
Safe Mothers Safe Babies
Pathfinder International
Music for Relief
147 Solar Suitcases
Philippines

When Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines in 2013, we knew that maternal health care would suffer. Hundreds of clinics were damaged; midwives were without light and power. Thanks to support from the MacArthur Foundation, we provided 100 Solar Suitcases to emergency health workers and health centers affected by Typhoon Haiyan. Our first Solar Suitcase was delivered by midwife Robin Lim to a maternal health clinic near Tacloban. The midwife in that clinic had climbed up to the rafters with a new mother and baby when the typhoon struck. Another Solar Suitcase illuminated hundreds of deliveries in a maternity tent erected in a broken school. We heard stories of courage and determination from dozens of midwives and held Solar Suitcase trainings in Manila and Cebu. Our in-country implementation partner for this ambitious program was Stiftung Solarenergie. We will be expanding this program in 2015 with the support of UBS Optimus Foundation.

Partners
Stiftung Solarenergie Foundation
Bumi Wadah Foundation
Engender Health
Zuellig Family Foundation
Andres Soriano Foundation
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

100 Solar Suitcases
After delivery in the Solar Suitcase lit tent in the photo on the left, this woman returns home.
When the road ends, the only way to deliver a suitcase is to carry it.
Nepal

Reaching last mile health centers is never easy, and nowhere was this more apparent than in Nepal, where Solar Suitcases traveled by jeep, motorcycle, footbridge, and human shoulders to reach midwives working in remote clinics surrounded by stunning landscapes. Our partners at One Heart Worldwide illuminated 10 health centers in 2014, and plans are underway to expand this program in 2015.

Partner
One Heart Worldwide
Montei Foundation
11 Solar Suitcases
Malawi

Despite its beauty, Malawi has some of the highest rates of maternal mortality in Africa. In 2014, we joined with Jhpiego, Save the Children, and the Ministry of Health to power dozens of maternal health centers. We trained 23 health technicians in Solar Suitcase installation and maintenance and optimal usage through our “Train the Trainers” program. After two days of classroom training, we fanned across the country to install Solar Suitcases in health clinics. We met with midwives in several districts who were thrilled that mothers would no longer need to bring candles as part of their birthing kit or face a labor in darkness. Every Mother Counts provided major support for this program, and featured one midwife in their video, called “Seda’s Light.”
Liberia
When Liberia increased surveillance for Ebola, there was a need for around-the-clock activities at holding centers and checkpoints. We Care Solar donated 15 Solar Suitcases to Liberian Institute of Biomedical Research (LIBR), a group we had worked with in 2011, and Last Mile Health. LIBR delivered Solar Suitcases to checkpoints, holding centers, and transit centers, where guards and health workers gave thanks for night time lighting.

Sierra Leone
Even before Ebola, Sierra Leone had one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. As a result of Ebola, childbearing women faced the double threats of the Ebola virus and a fractured health care system. Health workers and patients both abandoned rural health centers, and the need to restore skilled obstetric care was paramount.

To address this situation, Sierra Leone is planning to rehabilitate rural health centers to improve access to skilled maternal and child health care for patients without suspected Ebola. These facilities are usually without a source of power. Working with Direct Relief and Medical Research Center (MRC), We Care Solar aims to equip maternal health centers with Solar Suitcases. Direct Relief will supply medical kits containing essential items for midwifery care. Our objective is to support governmental efforts to create medical “safe zones” so mothers and midwives will be able to utilize health facilities again.
Responding to Ebola
Since inception, We Share Solar has been part of 33 educational programs engaging more than 1000 American students. 156 Solar Suitcases have been assembled, giving 7000 youth in Africa and Asia access to solar lighting.
We Share Solar®

We are inspiring the next generation of solar innovators through our student education program, We Share Solar®. Students learn about solar technology, engineering and global energy issues. They assemble Solar Suitcases designed to light rooms and charge cell phones and other devices. Finally, they donate their Solar Suitcase to schools, orphanages and community centers.

In 2014, 470 students from 20 schools participated in We Share Solar educational programs, resulting in 84 Solar Suitcases designed to improve condition in schools and orphanages. 57 Solar Suitcases were placed in Uganda, Haiti, Peru, the Philippines and other countries, bringing light and better opportunities to 3617 young people.
Financials

**Functional expenses**
- Solar Suitcase program: 14%
- Education programs: 6%
- Research: 8%
- Management: 1%
- Fundraising: 1%

**Revenue by category**
- Grants and donations: 68%
- Program revenue: 18%
- In-kind revenue: 7%
- Contracts: 6%
- Other income: 1%
## Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 (Audited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>2014 Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and donations</td>
<td>$189,028</td>
<td>$1,475,733</td>
<td>$1,664,761</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program revenue</td>
<td>158,876</td>
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<td>158,876</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind support</td>
<td>184,779</td>
<td></td>
<td>184,779</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts</td>
<td>431,158</td>
<td></td>
<td>431,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>20,439</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of program restrictions</td>
<td>1,135,384</td>
<td>(1,135,384)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$2,119,663</td>
<td>($340,349)</td>
<td>$2,460,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>1,746,577</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,746,577</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>146,390</td>
<td></td>
<td>146,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>22,914</td>
<td></td>
<td>22,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$1,915,881</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,915,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>203,782</td>
<td>(340,349)</td>
<td>544,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>600,324</td>
<td>686,080</td>
<td>1,286,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>$804,106</td>
<td>$1,026,429</td>
<td>$1,830,535</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Raising visibility worldwide in 2014

Media

- THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
- WSJ
- TechRepublic
- unicef
- HUFFPOST IMPACT
- HUFF POST
- GLOBAL MOTHERHOOD
- nature
- Forbes
- Bulletin

Awards

- SUSTAINIA
- FOA
Advocacy

UN Foundation Sustainable Energy for All meeting

Speaking at the United Nations

Saving Lives at Birth Development Xchange

UN panel with WHO, UNF and Nigerian minister

Keynote address at USAID TechCon 2014

IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology keynote
"We Care Solar...is sunshine saving lives."

Dr. Margaret Chan
Director-General of World Health Organization

Thank you

We are grateful for the generous support of individual donors and the following foundations:

**Lead Funders**
- Blum Center for Developing Economies
- Every Mother Counts
- Greenlamp Foundation
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Starr International Foundation
- UBS Optimus Foundation

**Major Supporters**
- Annenberg Foundation
- Baughman Family Charitable Fund
- Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association
- Clif Bar Family Foundation
- Direct Relief
- Edgewater Foundation
- Global Health Foundation
- Good Gifts
- Jewish Women's Foundation of New York
- Montei Foundation
- Music for Relief
- Newman's Own Foundation
- Osprey Foundation
- Segal Family Foundation