



# WE CARE SOLAR

*The Power to Save Lives*

## Key Impact Data

- 6,600 Solar Suitcases deployed
- 8.9 million mothers and infants served
- 76,794 health workers trained
- 70,640 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> averted
- 75 partnerships established

## 2021 Programs

- Sierra Leone
- Uganda
- Ethiopia
- Zimbabwe
- Mozambique
- Madagascar

## Selected Awards

### 2021

*Kirby Impact Prize, Finalist*

### 2020

*Alliance for Rural Electrification  
Rodenberry Award Finalist  
Million Lives Club*

### 2019

*Zayed Sustainability Prize  
Time Magazine Best Inventions  
Edison Gold Award for Innovation  
Ashden Award Finalist*

### 2017

*UNFCCC Climate Change Award  
Drucker Innovation Prize  
Bloomberg New Energy Pioneer*

### 2016

*National Energy Globe Award,  
Ethiopia*

### 2015

*UN DESA Powering the Future  
Award  
UBS Optimus Award*

### 2013

*Katerva Gender Equality Award  
CNN Top 10 Hero, Dr. Laura Stachel*

## The Problem

Each year, almost 300,000 women and one million newborns die from pregnancy and childbirth complications. Most of these deaths occur in Africa and Asia. COVID-19 has exacerbated these problems.

Obstetric emergencies require prompt, appropriate, reliable care. Unreliable power and communication in health facilities result in:

- Life-threatening delays in care
- Inadequate lighting for obstetric and surgical procedures
- Underutilization of health facilities

## The Solution

We Care Solar designs solar-powered systems to meet essential maternity care needs.

We Care Solar Suitcases are designed to be safe, robust and efficient in powering:

- Critical obstetric and surgical lighting
- Mobile phones
- Fetal heart rate monitors and essential medical devices

Our portable suitcase-size system is immediately operational. It can be used as a mobile system or mounted permanently for long-term medical care.

We Care Solar Suitcases can make the difference between life and death by:

- Increasing the capacity to care for mothers and newborns
- Increasing the safety of medical and surgical procedures
- Reducing delays in care





### Leadership Team:

*Laura Stachel, MD MPH DrPH  
Co-Founder and  
Executive Director*

*Hal Aronson, PhD  
Co-Founder and  
Director of Education*

*Samantha Parsons  
Chief Operating Officer*

*Brent Moellenberg  
Director of Engineering*

*Ambrose Katungi  
Muhwezi MD MPH  
Africa Regional Dir.*

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### Contact

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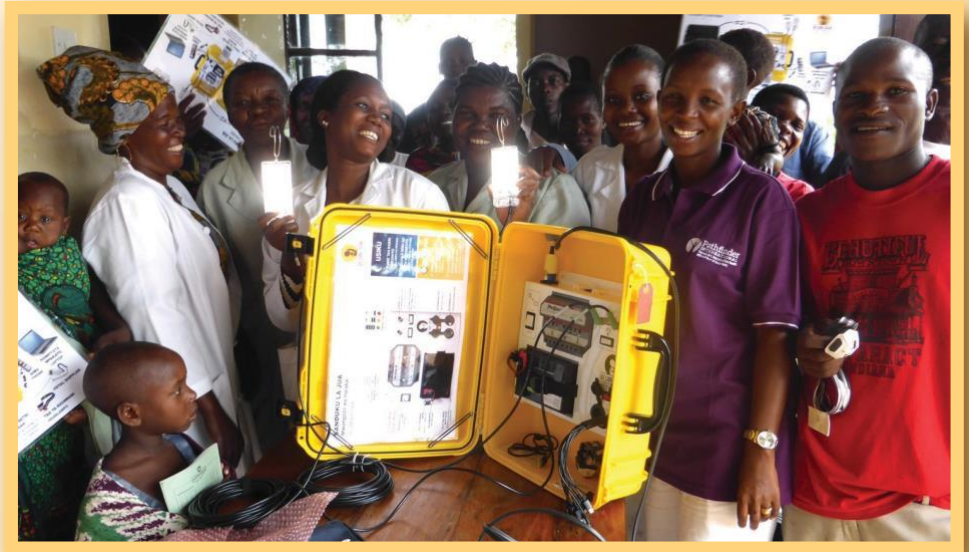
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efforts, please visit our website at  
www.wecaresolar.org/donate/*

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*We Care Solar is a 501(c)3 nonprofit  
organization, EIN 30-0627106*



## Our Technology

The Solar Suitcase is a high-quality, portable and easy-to-use solar electric system designed for low-resource medical settings. It comes with solar panels, a long-lasting lithium ferrous phosphate battery, a charge controller, 12V DC and USB outlets, and the hardware needed for installation. The Solar Suitcase features high-efficiency durable LED lighting for medical procedures, rechargeable LED headlamps, cell-phone charging, and a fetal Doppler and infrared thermometer with rechargeable batteries.

## Our Impact

To date, our award-winning Solar Suitcases have brought lighting and essential power to 6,600 health centers in more than 20 countries. We have trained more than 27,000 health workers, ensuring safer deliveries for more than 8.9 million mothers and newborns. Our Solar Suitcases replace candles, kerosene lanterns, and diesel generators, reducing the risk of fire and averting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## How We Work

We have conducted programs in West Africa, East Africa, Nepal and the Philippines. Our partnerships with more than 75 leading NGOs government ministries and UN Agencies are key to our effectiveness. We collaborate with organizations such as UNICEF, UNFPA, Jhpiego, One Heart Worldwide, and Pathfinder International — organizations that use our Solar Suitcases to augment their existing maternal and child health care programs.

Our training programs, led by our Women Solar Ambassadors, develop local knowledge and capacity in Solar Suitcase installation, maintenance and usage. Classroom trainings are followed by supervised Solar Suitcase installations utilizing a comprehensive multimedia curriculum.

## Light Every Birth

Our new Light Every Birth initiative is ensuring that all health centers have clean energy for safe childbirth, beginning with Liberia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Sierra Leone. We reached every health center in need in Liberia in 2019. We Care Solar programs demonstrate the feasibility of providing reliable lighting and electricity to even the most remote health centers in the developing world.

COVID-19 is eroding recent gains in maternal and newborn mortality and overwhelming health systems in some of the most neglected parts of the world. The need for our services has never been more urgent. Please join us in providing life-saving care.