



WE CARE SOLAR

Annual Report 2014



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.

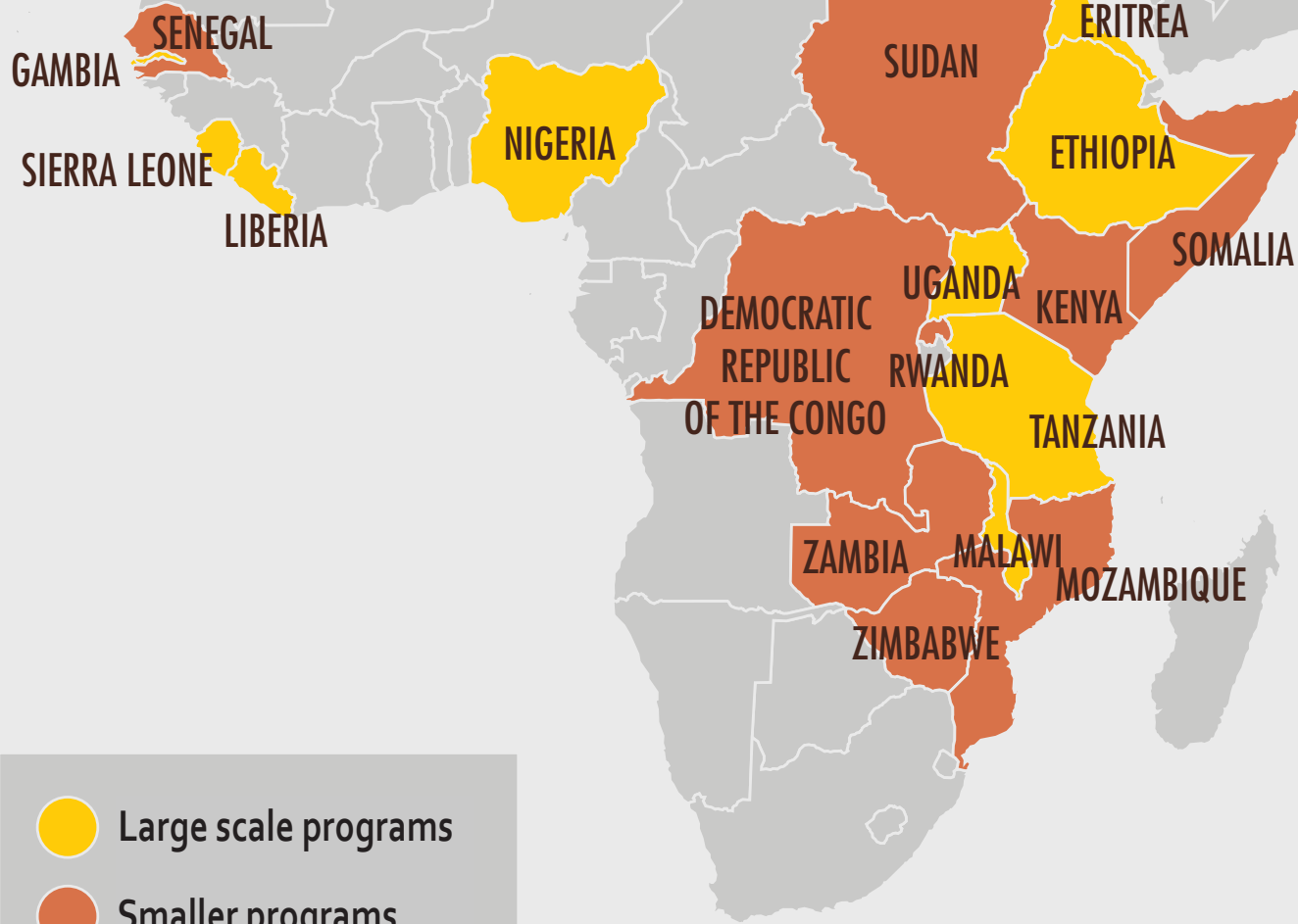
Through designing and delivering Solar Suitcases, leading capacity-building workshops, and providing ongoing technical support....

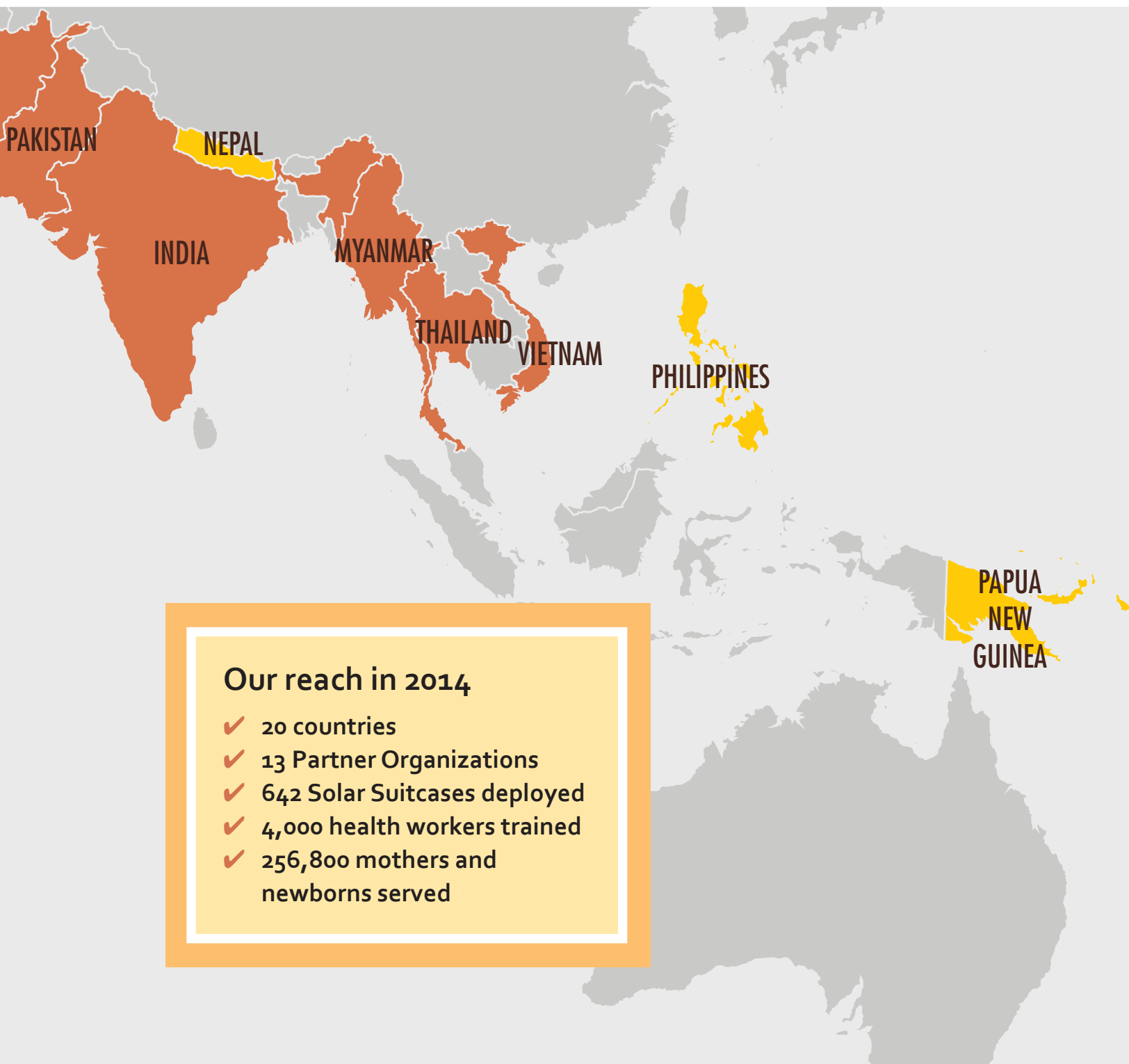
...we give health workers the power to save lives.

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

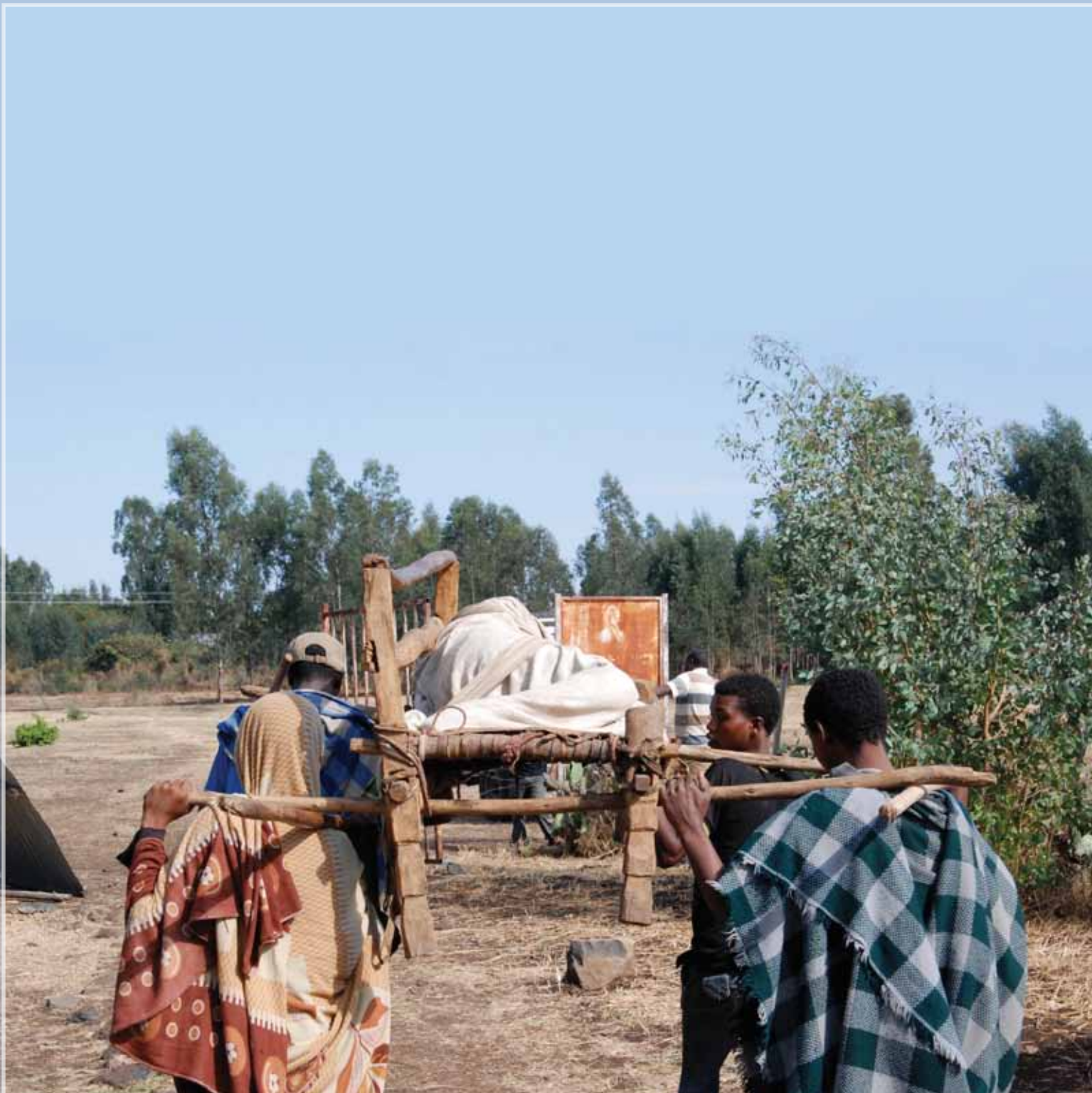
Hamlin College of Midwives

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.



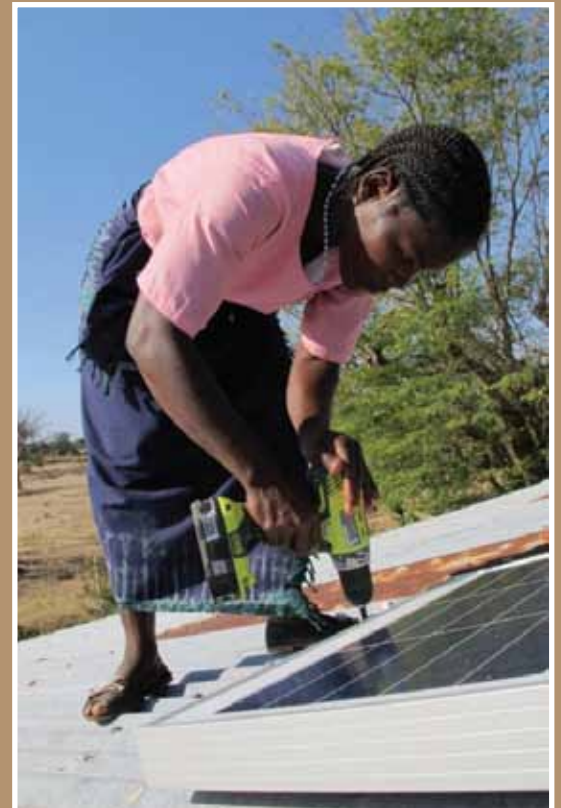
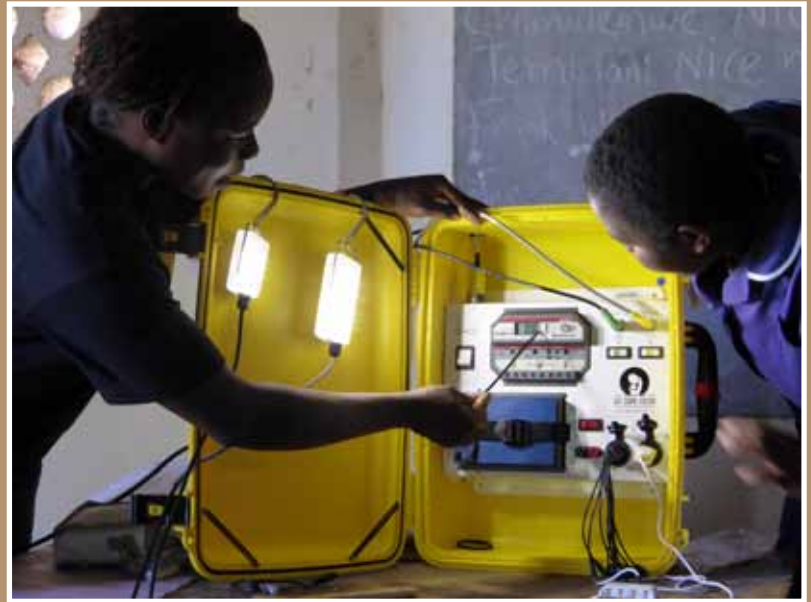
When the road ends, the only way to deliver a suitcase is to carry it.



Nepal

Reaching last mile health centers is never easy, and no where 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.”

Partners

Jhpiego
Save the Children
CARE
Every Mother Counts
Segal Family Foundation
42 Solar Suitcases

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.

Liberia Partners

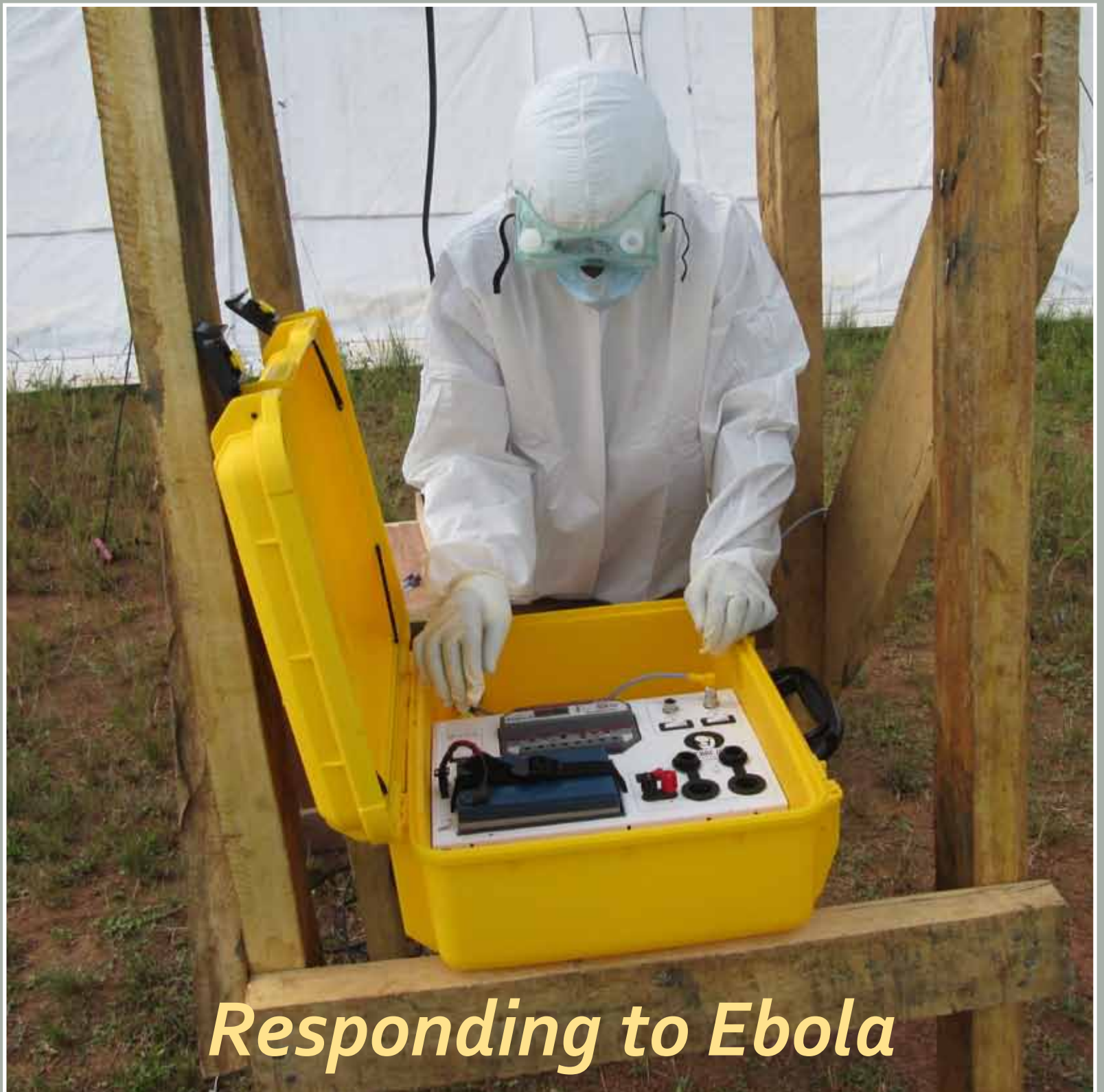
Liberian Institute of Biomedical Research
Last Mile Health
UBS Optimus Foundation

15 Solar Suitcases

Sierra Leone Partners

Medical Research Centre
Direct Relief
UBS Optimus Foundation

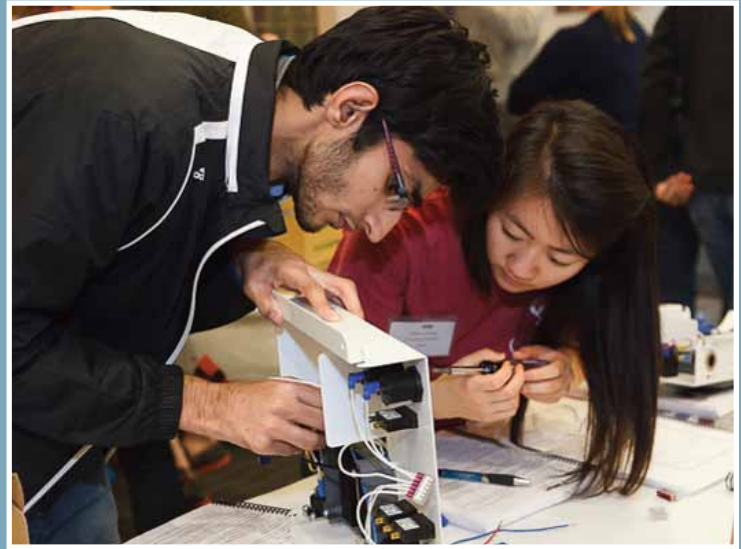
50 Solar Suitcases



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.





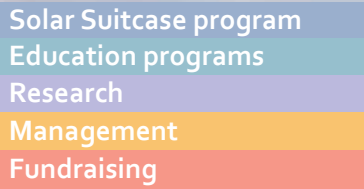
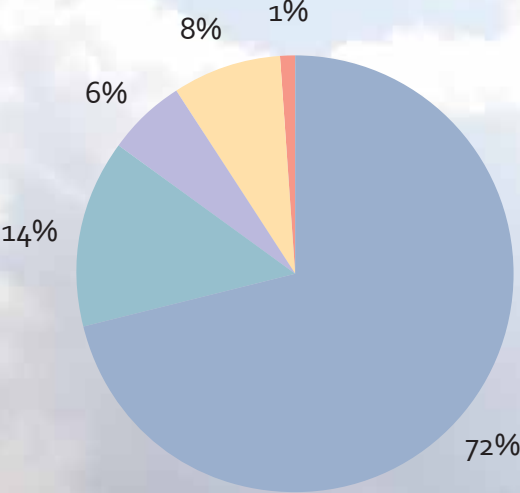
We Share Solar®

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.

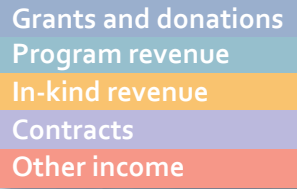
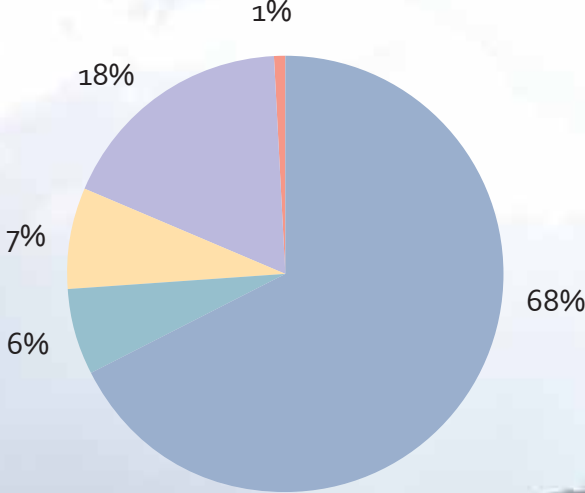
In 2014, 470 students from 20 schools participated in We Share Solar educational programs, resulting in 84 Solar Suitcases designed to improve condition in schools and orphanages. 57 Solar Suitcases were placed in Uganda, Haiti, Peru, the Philippines and other countries, bringing light and better opportunities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

Financials

Functional expenses

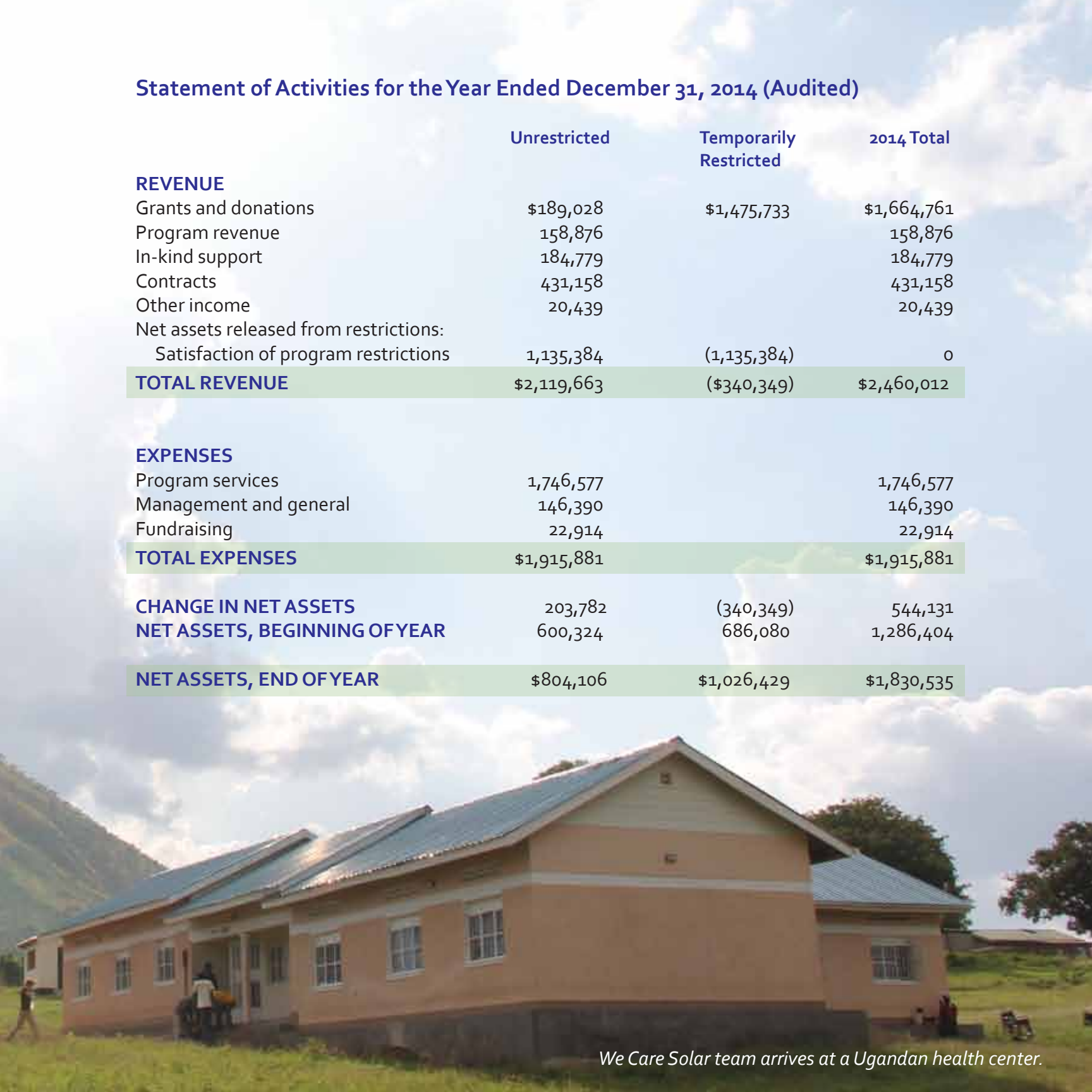


Revenue by category



Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 (Audited)

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



We Care Solar team arrives at a Ugandan health center.

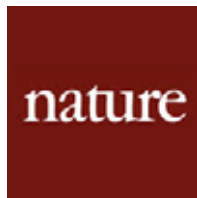
Raising visibility worldwide in 2014

Media



HUFFPOST IMPACT

HUFF
POST



Forbes



Awards



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

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