



*Helping People  
Help Themselves*

# BUILDING RESILIENCE

**2014  
Annual Report**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER



Dear Supporters,

What began as a dream in 2008, helping indigenous people help themselves, became a reality in 2014 when we were able to garner the resources to implement integrated Population, Health, Environment, and Livelihood initiatives simultaneously with four marginalized tribes in South Omo Zone, SNNP region, Ethiopia. This has been a year of new partnerships (John Snow, Inc., Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, and Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre & Network); new sources of funds (UK's Department for International

Development, and Royal Kingdom of the Netherlands); and solidifying relationships with on-going partners (USAID, Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship, and the Rotary Clubs of Kingston/North Kitsap WA, Duluth MN 25, Snoqualmie WA, and Nor'wester of Port Angeles WA). We continue to be inspired by the generous private donors who faithfully support our Orphans and Vulnerable Children program.

During 2014 GTLI transitioned from a busy little organization of 15 employees working with three tribes to implement water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives and pilot adult literacy and chicken farming to an organization of 38 specialists working across four tribes to provide sustainable clean water and facilitate disease prevention behavior; create demand for Family Planning/Reproductive Health; improve nutrition with Integrated Functional Vocational Literacy, and replenish the fragile environment. All the while continuing to provide loving care and support for 12 amazing children. A diversified, busy year!

It has also been a year of innovation and new experiences . . . designing donkey-based ambulances owned and operated by communities; developing new Community-based Learning in Action curriculum to help communities discover that in order to have more healthy children they need to practice healthy timing and spacing of births; and preparing to cultivate and distribute 135,000 moringa seedlings to 6,250 households in Hamar and Dasenech. You will hear much more about the nutritional value of moringa in the future. Once the trees are mature, we hope to link South Omo moringa producer groups with the western market.

Our South Omo field coordination office moved from remote Wonga Bayno to Turmi town, still in Hamar woreda but better positioned to support activities in Nyangatom, Dasenech, BenaTsemay, and Hamar.

Impact results are showing that by implementing gender-sensitive, integrated, multi-sectoral initiatives, it is possible to help build the resilience of people profoundly affected by climate change and socioeconomic conditions. During the next few years, we hope to develop and prove a multi-dimensional, closed loop model that can forecast the pace of change and the critical factors required to blend the traditional knowledge and skills these amazing people have accumulated over centuries with the scientific discoveries of today so indigenous people can help themselves.

Thank you for being a part of this work,

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Pappas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori Pappas, Founder and Executive Director

# Community Based Learning in Action

GTLI's successful behavior change model, CBLA, has been recognized as implementing principles consistent with The World Bank Report *World Development 2015: Mind, Society and Behavior* at the grass-roots level. CBLA is a highly participatory, visual discovery process that works within the context of the community: paying attention to the way people think, the influence of society, and the individual's choices and actions.



## Define the problem

### Collaborative participation

Each individual is able to share their ideas while working in peer groups. Men, women, teen boys, and teen girls meet to discuss problems they are facing: why they constantly feel sick; why their children are not thriving; how they can improve their ability to feed their families.

### Mapping traditional knowledge

The wisdom of ages has protected these people for centuries but does not teach them how to adapt to climate and socioeconomic change. The community explores their traditional understanding to discover the variables under their control. For example, to understand why they have intestinal parasites, they map where they eat, where children play and where they defecate. To understand why some mothers have children who are not healthy or why new mothers and infants die, they create a problem tree to help identify the negative impact of insufficient nutrition, excess maternal workload, not enough time between births, etc.

## Collect information



## Change behavior

### Blending new information

Modern scientific thinking is introduced in the context of their cultural norms. They discuss how this *new thinking* differs from the teaching of their ancestors and slowly "discover" what is needed to feel better or to have more healthy children. During the CBLA process, a small cadre of men and women who are new to community decision-making emerge as motivated agents of change. As similar projects roll out for their tribe, these early adopters facilitate CBLA in new communities, modeling new behaviors and motivating others to consider the new learning.



## Assume responsibility

### Sustainable agents of change

Each community elects a Community Empowerment Committee (CECO) to ensure the Water Sanitation Committee keeps their water well operating by performing regular preventative maintenance and the water clean by monitoring the defecation-free zone; the donkey ambulance caretaker is ready to provide transportation service to the nearest health facility; and the various cooperatives and/or producer associations are properly caring for their new assets. The CECO eagerly assumes the responsibility to manage the community's new resources and to monitor the community's supporting new behavior.



# Impact

Since 2009, GTLI projects have directly benefited more than 75,000 people with projects that improve health, livelihood, education, women's empowerment, and child welfare.



**2010**

**Tribal Area**

- Project type

**# Beneficiaries**

**Hamar**

**5,200**

- Sustainable clean water
- Education & livelihood



**2011**

**Hamar**

- Sustainable clean water **1,000**
- Education & livelihood **1,850**
- Orphans & vulnerable children **12**



**2012**

**Hamar**

**7,500**

- Emergency clean water

**BenaTsemay**

**5,000**

- Sustainable clean water



**2013**

**Dasenech**

**6,500**

- Emergency clean water

**Hamar**

**3,780**

- Environment & livelihood



**2014**

**Dasenech & Nyangatom** **8,000**

- Emergency clean water

**Dasenech & BenaTsemay** **8,000**

- Sustainable clean water
- Family planning & reproductive health

**Hamar & Dasenech** **27,200**

- Environment & food security

**Hamar** **3,000**

- Economic empowerment of women

**49,500**

people have access to clean water and understand healthy hygiene and sanitation behavior

**>50%**

of targeted beneficiaries transition from open field defecation to using pit latrines

**76**

water wells, refurbished or newly constructed

**450**

community members have become leaders and teachers

**4**

tribes have adopted disease prevention behavior:

- BenaTsemay
- Dasenech
- Hamar
- Nyangatom

# Programming Areas

GTLI programming is focused on five main areas of impact: Population, Health, Environment, Livelihood, and Children. The underlying development hypothesis of our programming is: **If** we understand the process of the mind (paying attention to how people think), the influence of society (understanding how context and history shape thinking), and behavior (targeting human choice and action), and we spend time and resources on experimenting, learning, and adapting our methodologies during the intervention cycle; **then** it is possible for people to gain the understanding, skills, and resources to help themselves climb out of chronic poverty and dependence on food aid.

## POPULATION



*CBLA illustrations, contextualized by tribe, stimulate discovery of why some mothers and babies thrive when other mothers and babies struggle to survive.*

Understanding shared societal and individual beliefs provides a basis from which to contextualize family planning and reproductive health messaging. Illustrations blending scientific understanding with ancestral knowledge helps communities discover that fewer children spaced farther apart results in healthier mothers and children. Increased awareness of the linkage between child survival, nutrition, and maternal health motivates communities to consider the importance of reproductive health behavior.

## HEALTH

The South Omo Zone in Ethiopia where we work has very high rates of water-borne and communicable diseases (86% and 92% respectively). We begin working in communities with initiatives in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). As communities transition to healthy hygiene and sanitation behavior, they quickly begin to feel better and become eager to learn new things.

## LIVELIHOOD

The traditional livelihood of South Omo—seasonal migration of livestock—is becoming more difficult as grazing grounds shrink and agri-business expands. Our goal is to help these pastoralists identify new income sources that are compatible with the challenges they face: prolonged drought, flash floods, reduced grassland, and difficult access to markets.

## ENVIRONMENT



*Dasenech women carrying their moringa seedlings home.*

Our projects integrate rehabilitation and replenishment of the fragile environment with improved food sources. We strive to identify agricultural inputs that support the current landscape and increase consumption of nutritious diversified diets.

## CHILDREN



*Our children learn valuable skills, like tending goats, that will help them become valuable members of their community.*

The Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project began in 2011 at the request of local government. Our 12 children live and learn in a safe, loving environment within a Hamar community. Our goal is to help the children develop skills and self-confidence needed to become model citizens of their tribe.

# Our Partners

Our diversified funding and implementing partners play a vital role in GTLI's growing ability to implement effective, sustainable initiatives.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** supports GTLI projects through multiple funding mechanisms; as a prime grantee implementing WASH initiatives; via OFDA (Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance) as a sub-grantee of IRC implementing Emergency Rapid Response WASH programs; and as a sub-grantee of JSI through their Advancing Partners & Communities.

**The International Rescue Committee (IRC)** partners with GTLI to provide emergency water-related relief in South Omo Zone, where the frequency and severity of flooding of the Omo River in SW Ethiopia has been accelerating year by year. When the highland areas that are extensively deforested receive torrential rains, the Omo River 200 km downstream, floods.

**John Snow, Inc. (JSI)**, and their nonprofit JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., is a public health management consulting and research organization dedicated to improving the health of individuals and communities through the world. JSI is GTLI's implementing partner, seeking to improve the overall health of communities and achieve other health-related impacts, especially in relationship to family planning.

**Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre & Network (HoA-REC&N)** focuses on the environment and sustainable development within the Horn of Africa. An autonomous institution under Addis Ababa University, it facilitates, strengthens and advocates for initiatives related to environmental conservation and natural resource management.

**Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)** is an intergovernmental organization focused on achieving food security for all. FAO is supporting GTLI through its Innovative Agriculture Solutions program funded by UK Department for International Development (DFID), which improves food security and better nutrition, and increases sustainable intensification of crop production.

**Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship**, in collaboration with USAID and Rotary Clubs, has facilitated clean water for 20,500 people and is currently improving economic empowerment and stability of the Hamar women in Wonga Bayno kebele.

**Rotary**—22 individual clubs, five Rotary Districts, and Rotary International—has supported initiatives in sustainable clean water, livelihood, education, and children since 2009.

**Carleton College**, Northfield MN, established a multi-year fellowship grant through their Initiative for Service Internships in International Development in 2013, funding student internships that provide impartial annual impact assessments of GTLI programs.

# Financial Summary

During the last five months of fiscal year 2014, GTLI received funding for five new initiatives:

- **Building Pastoralist Resilience Network in SW Ethiopia**, a WASH project funded by USAID and Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship
- **Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Enhance Pastoralist Resilience by Conserving Buska Massif Mountain Forest**, an Environment project funded by HoA-REC&N
- **Water Supply Emergency Response to flood-affected people in conflict-prone Dasenech & Nyangatom woredas, South Omo Zone, Ethiopia**, funded by USAID/OFDA through IRC
- **Increasing Pastoralist Resilience through Healthy Timing & Spacing of Birth**, as part of USAID's Advancing Partners & Community Program through JSI
- **Moringa Production Builds Resilience and Reduces Agricultural Disaster Risk in South Omo Zone**, funded by DFID through FAO's Innovative Agricultural Solutions initiative

Ongoing funding for our Orphans and Vulnerable Children project has been faithfully provided by generous individuals.

For the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2014

## Support & Revenue

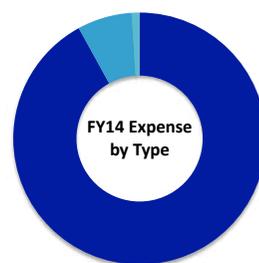
2013-2014

Contributions & grants	462,133
Other income	7,883
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>470,016</b>

## Expenses

Program	367,581
Management	26,264
Fundraising	3,004
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>396,849</b>

**Change in Net Assets 73,167**



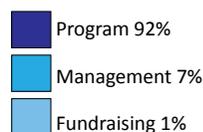
## Asset, Liability & Net Asset Summary

Cash, grants receivable, inventory, and prepaid expenses	173,653
Net fixed assets	38,980
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>212,633</b>

Liabilities	
Payables & payroll liabilities	20,273
Deferred revenue	93,460
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>113,733</b>

Total Net Assets 98,900

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets 212,633**



## Looking Ahead

Our growth in fiscal year 2015 will continue to be multi-sectoral, encompassing WASH, environment, reproductive health, adult literacy, and livelihood initiatives. WASH and environment projects will add 40,000 new beneficiaries. Reproductive health, literacy and livelihood initiatives will enable 11,000 previous WASH beneficiaries to flourish on their own.

We constantly measure the impact of our integrated programs. Our aim is to equip South Omo Pastoralists so that within five years, they will have the ability—health, livelihood options, and leadership skills—to thrive. GTLI interventions are geographically focused, targeted, and finite, and they promote community responsibility and accountability. This approach allows us to constantly impact an ever-increasing number of beneficiaries while at the same time, drive a sustainability model that may become an inspiration for other NGOs.

# Our Supporters

We are grateful for the grants and contributions from our supporters during this fiscal year, July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Our Orphans & Vulnerable Children program is dependent on private donors for support. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please accept our apology and alert us to any errors by emailing [info@gtli.us](mailto:info@gtli.us) or calling 612-201-9476.

## **\$200,000+**

IRC (USAID/OFDA)

## **\$50,000–\$199,999**

Boeing GCC

HoA-REC&N

JSI (USAID/APC)

USAID

## **\$5,000–\$49,999**

Anonymous (2)

## **\$1,000–\$4,999**

Anonymous (2)

Borinstein, Samantha

Carleton College

Hatfield, David & Linda

Himango, William

Kingston North Kitsap WA

Rotary Club

Krieger, Julie

Nor'wester Rotary Club of

Port Angeles WA

Sozial-Fair Kauf

Sprengeler, Bob & Margo

Tanamly, Mellen

## **\$200–\$999**

Beitel, David

Carlson, Kathleen M

Christensen, Joan

Donner, Robert

Duluth MN 25 Rotary Club

Elias, Misrak

Hagberg, Neal & Leandra Peak

Himango, Shannon

Howland, Ursula

Loree, Shayla

Lovold, Linda

Monge, James

Rice, Janet

Rotary Club of Snoqualmie WA

Strom, Philip

Watson, Wendy

Whitaker, Nancy B

Wolff, Bonnie

## **\$100–\$199**

Antoniotti, Nina

Compathos

Ethen, Janet

Fischer, Maureen G

Hood, Margaret B

Johnson, Juliet

Maule, Robert W

Murphy, Joanne

Nestaas, Roberta

Walsh, Christine

## Our Board

**Lori Pappas**

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Help Themselves*

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