Dear Partners,

Global Health is all about empowerment, collaboration and renewing hope. Our goal is to help the world see that when we work together to address the health challenges in our world, amazing things can happen.

Our focus remains on increasing demand for and access to health services for the world’s poorest people, ensuring greater value for money spent on health services and documenting our impact.

You have taken up the challenge to bring transformation to your communities and to the world through meaningful work, prayers and resources. Through the generous contributions of United Methodist churches, over $5.4 million has gone to support community health programs in 35 countries.

Sustainability of our work is based on community-led action and full ownership at every stage of implementation.

Our commitment to reach 1 million children with lifesaving interventions by 2020 remains firm – we are over halfway there! We are grateful for your partnership as we continue this vital work and achieve our goals.

Promoting, supporting and celebrating Abundant Health

As United Methodists, we are committed to creating opportunities for the holistic well-being of all people: vibrant mental, physical and spiritual health. Our global connection allows us to extend healing through the Abundant Health initiative – both in our communities and across the globe.

Though numbers tell only part of our story, they provide an exciting snapshot of the impact of a global network of United Methodists providing critical services to some of the world’s most vulnerable people, restoring hope and creating sustainable pathways to health around the world.

We do this vital work by:

- Promoting health
- Facilitating healing
- Preventing disease
- Resourcing health ministries

Dr. Olusimbo Ige
Executive Director, Global Health Unit
General Board of Global Ministries
ABUNDANT HEALTH

ABUNDANT HEALTH for 1 million children

As a denomination, we are working together to extend lifesaving health interventions to 1 million children globally as part of the United Nation’s Every Woman, Every Child initiative.

In 2018, we marked the halfway point, reaching over 510,000 children in 16 countries!

Access to lifesaving medication, preventive measures and community education means that malaria, HIV/AIDS, pneumonia and diarrhea are no longer death sentences. Increased access to prenatal services and delivery support has resulted in thousands of women surviving childbirth and raising healthy children.

Integrating water, sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, food security and livelihood support into Maternal, Newborn and Child Health programming has been a key success factor in improving child well-being.

Many of our partner communities around the world are now on track to reduce maternal and child morbidity and mortality with the confidence to provide basic health services for the first time.

We celebrate that we are attaining our lofty goal, which means so much to so many families worldwide.

PROMOTING HEALTH

IMPACT STORY: Mentoring

By the time they are seniors, almost 70 percent of high school students will have tried alcohol, half will have taken an illegal drug, nearly 40 percent will have smoked a cigarette, and more than 20 percent will have used a prescription drug for a nonmedical purpose.

SHIFT, a Global Health grant recipient in Douglasville, Georgia, is fighting against this crisis by partnering with local middle and high schools to offer in-school and after-school substance education and prevention programming to students who are at-risk of substance abuse, educational failure, juvenile delinquency and gang-related offenses.

Program participants experience counseling, mentoring, lessons in life skills and drug-resistance skills, employment assistance and accountability – all of which guide them toward healthy adulthood.

Recent participant Jamail Turner entered the program with “a mindset of dropping out of school,” but SHIFT’s mentoring and nurturing had an impact.

“As a result of [SHIFT], I graduated from high school ... got my driver’s license, enrolled in college and am employed,” he said. “I am also a volunteer in the SHIFT program.”

Jamail shares his gratefulness for the lifesaving SHIFT program.

Madison chooses fresh produce at the Good Neighbor Ministry market.

2,127 teens were reached through positive youth development programs to prevent experimenting with drugs and alcohol

264 regional events were held in the U.S., Germany, Zimbabwe and Philippines to launch Hulapalooza, a celebration of healthy living centered on a hula-hoop theme

1,314 community volunteers were trained as health promoters
IMPACT STORY: Mothers

The Maternal, Newborn and Child Health program extends the mission of Global Health to mothers and babies who need extra support to ensure vibrant health. The program works through health boards, clinics, hospitals, community health volunteers and others to support mothers with hygiene and breast-feeding education, prenatal care, safe deliveries, early childhood health and more.

The Camphor Clinic in Liberia is one such outpost of healing. Recently, Mardea Green, a mother of four, came to the clinic in the midst of a four-day, prolonged labor. Volunteers carried her for two hours to reach the clinic; she was weak and felt that she was dying.

“I was treated by the nurse, and when I came through by the grace of God, I delivered a bouncing baby boy,” said Mardea. “I am thankful for the [volunteers] for taking me to the clinic and the nurse who treated me. I also give thanks to the Methodist people who are helping to run the program and operate the clinic, without which I was going to die and leave my other children.”

IMPACT STORY: Malaria

Malaria continues to be the leading cause of illness and death in Mozambique. According to the 2016 President’s Malaria Initiative, the disease accounts for 29 percent of all deaths and 42 percent of all deaths in children under 5 years old.

The area surrounding Chicuque Methodist Rural Hospital has some of the worst malaria outcomes in the country. Global Health and the Imagine No Malaria initiative, through the Mozambique Health Board, supports people living in remote locations in this area by providing malaria education, prevention, diagnosis and treatment, not only in hospitals, but also in mobile clinics.

Matilde Marcos Guilundo attended one such mobile clinic with her children in Nhamaxaxa. She learned about malaria and was sent to Chicuque Rural Hospital so that her sick daughter could be tested. The test was positive, but after taking medication, Matilde’s daughter was healthy once more.

Matilde had not previously been active in health meetings at the mobile clinic, but her new knowledge about malaria inspired her to attend meetings, sleep under a mosquito net and encourage others to take their children to a clinic when they need medical attention.

Mardea recuperates from delivery alongside her newborn son. Matilde celebrates her daughter’s improved health.
IMPACT STORY: Nutrition

Kinderson is a sixth-grader at the School of Choice in Haiti, a country that sees only 40 percent of its children complete sixth grade. Kinderson and his six siblings have little or no access to food in their home, and sometimes do not eat for the entire weekend.

Kinderson’s malnutrition was affecting his ability to attend and thrive in school, but this changed with the help of Global Health and its support for the School of Choice. A grant provided the school with a supplemental meal program, water purification system maintenance to ensure clean drinking water, health and wellness care by a full-time nurse and early childhood development activities centering on music, language and play.

Access to healthy food has increased Kinderson’s ability to concentrate. He has gained weight, progressed academically, shown interest in basketball and art classes and is poised to graduate sixth grade!

A School of Choice leader said, “It is the hope that with [Kinderson’s] education, he will be able to search for and then access possibilities to assist in changing his family’s future for the better.”

IMPACT STORY: Community

Improving the quality of life for residents of an entire community is a lofty goal, but one that Global Health grant recipient Community Development 4 All People seeks to achieve in the South Side of Columbus, Ohio, through its Healthy Eating and Living (HEAL) program.

In this neighborhood, deaths from all causes are about 50 percent higher, the rate of death from respiratory disease is 73 percent higher, heart disease is 55 percent higher and the rate of infant mortality is more than triple the average in the surrounding county.

HEAL rises to meet the needs of the community with exercise programs, wellness and cooking classes, gardens, health coaching, social and connection opportunities, and access to a fresh market of healthy foods in the midst of a food desert. Programs make a difference in the lives of thousands of people every year.

Program participants are encouraged to set goals and create action plans that will bolster their health in ways that will empower long-term vibrant living, all with the help of HEAL and community partners who ensure these dreams of health can become a reality.
$8,466,404 was awarded through 81 project grants to support mission partners.

$615,835 was provided for operations of 15 health offices in Africa, Philippines and Peru.

299 United Methodist or Methodist health facilities received support for medication, equipment, staffing and training.

13 new ethnic minority scholarships were granted for health-related degrees.

372 health professionals were trained for service.
Your partnership leads to the transformation of the world. As people receive the support they need to live abundant, healthy lives, they also find grace, community, hope and the love of Jesus Christ.

Join us in our work to promote holistic well-being across the globe! You can inspire vibrant mental, physical and spiritual health wherever you are by donating to Advance #3021770 at UMCmission.org/give.