

Global Women's Project c/o Karlene Tyler
333 South Lakeside Dr, Unit I
McPherson, KS 67460



GLOBALINKS 2022



Because of the Pandemic, the Global Women's Project Steering Committee carried out the work of GWP for 2021 via Zoom for both their Spring and Fall meetings: (clockwise) Kim Hill Smith (whose term ended in Fall 2021), Sarah Neher, Karlene Tyler, Barb Sayler, and Katie Heishman.

FUNDRAISING FOR GWP!



A Saturday morning in September found a bustle of activity in the social rooms of the McPherson Church of Brethren in McPherson, Kansas. After eighteen months of quarantine and having extremely limited all church gatherings, a group of women led by Jean Hendricks and Jan Hurst readied the social rooms for a salad luncheon where they invited the McPherson Church, as well as the Monitor Church of the Brethren and Morning Star Baptist Church.

This event was months in the planning, and included a silent auction where many items, ranging from piano lessons to several pieces of original art by local artists, to baked items, to home decorative items, had been donated with the proceeds marked for Global Women's Project! Before and after the lunch, attendees had the opportunity to peruse the items donated to the silent auction and submit their bid.

The group who planned this event asked participants to follow the CDC guidelines and asked that everyone who attended wear masks, as well as seating only 4 at each round table. Karlene Tyler, Treasurer of Global Women's Project Steering Committee, gave a presentation about the history of the organization, information concerning the luxury tax concept, and our partner projects around the world.

At the end of the event, the 45 attendees picked up their purchased items which totaled \$3,125!!! Thank you, McPherson and Monitor Churches of the Brethren, and Morningside Baptist Church! What a difference individual churches can make when they work together. We appreciate so much the support for Global Women's Project.

GWP STEERING COMMITTEE REFLECTIONS

As we continue to be impacted by a COVID-19 world, our steering committee shares how music has provided solace and healing in our lives.

Karlene Tyler (McPherson, KS): I'm sitting in the middle of my living room with Christmas decorations strewn everywhere. My anxiety is about to kick into high gear to "get it done," when I hear "Silent Night" coming from the Christmas Pandora station. Immediately, my blood pressure drops, a smile comes to my face, and once again I can breathe easily. Music has the ability to calm or energize, depending on what my soul needs. This morning I need calm, however, last night I had the opportunity to attend a touring show of Beautiful, the musical based on the early career of Carole King. The opening number was a spotlighted Sara Sheperd, the actress who played Carole King, sitting at a grand piano, center stage, singing "So Far Away." A chill ran through me... Until I was seated in the theatre surrounded by many, many people (all masked) I didn't realize how much I had 1) missed being in that setting, which produced so much energy, and 2) how each song in the production seemed to increase the energy in the whole theatre! By the end of the show, the song "I Feel the Earth Move" brought the audience to its feet with thunderous applause. The drive home had me basking in the wonder of what music evokes from the human soul. In this Advent Season, I wish everyone the "Beautiful" gift of music to calm and energize!

STEERING COMMITTEE REFLECTIONS CONT.

Sarah Neher (Kansas City, MO): Music has always been a way to feel and express emotions. After a long 18 months of upheaval caused by the pandemic, political and social unrest, there have been many new emotions for me. It's been easy to get swept up in the fear and anxiety and miss the sweet moments of life. The song that has inspired and tethered me this year is "Magic (In Your Bones)" by Arielle Estoria. This song reminds the listener that we are made of magic and encourages us to see the magic in others. The fact that we are living and breathing in this existence is a beautiful miracle. It's been a soothing balm to remember how precious life is and to savor it.

Barb Saylor (Englewood, OH): A Cappella music has always fed my soul, whether it's a pure unison or a rich, tight harmony or a dissonant chord that eventually resolves. In the last almost two years when live music has been so limited, I have discovered some amazing choral music online. Two songs that have been particularly healing for me: "We Are Not Alone" by Pepper Choplin recorded by Oasis Chorale, and "I Believe" by Mark Miller recorded by the University of LaVerne Singers Virtual Choir. The words, the melodies, the harmonies are reminders of beauty and love, of something deeper than myself. I've also been grateful to experience new (to me) songs and choral groups on the Choral Stream Radio from Minnesota Public Radio, with my new favorite Christmas song "Aguinaldo Carols" by Saunder Choi recorded by Cantus.

Katie Heishman (Richmond, VA): Music has been a joyful part of my year because I have been able to share it with my daughter, Phoebe. She turned two this year and experiencing music with her has been a delight. She's enjoyed learning "Wheels on the Bus," "If you're happy and you know it," and "La Vaca Lola" (The Cow Named Lola). Sometimes we'll walk by her room and hear her singing any one of these songs as she falls asleep at nap time. Music is joyful, but it's also a comfort. Studies have shown that babies who heard their parents singing a particular song in the womb will find that song comforting and soothing outside of the womb. This year, I have found joy and comfort in Taylor Swift's albums "folklore" and "evermore" which were recorded during quarantine and released in 2020. Talented musicians have created piano versions that I enjoy listening to while I squeeze in work around parenting. We're expecting a baby boy in March 2022 and I look forward to seeing whether he is soothed by "Wheels on the Bus" or the folksy melodies of Taylor Swift.

GWP FINANCES AT A GLANCE

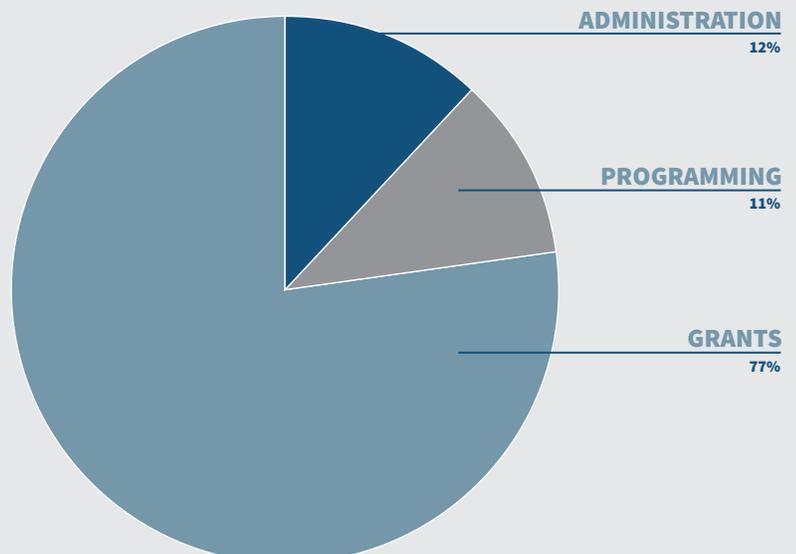
WHERE EXACTLY DID YOUR MONEY GO WHEN YOU CONTRIBUTED TO GWP IN 2021? HERE'S A SUMMARY AS OF 11-30-2021:

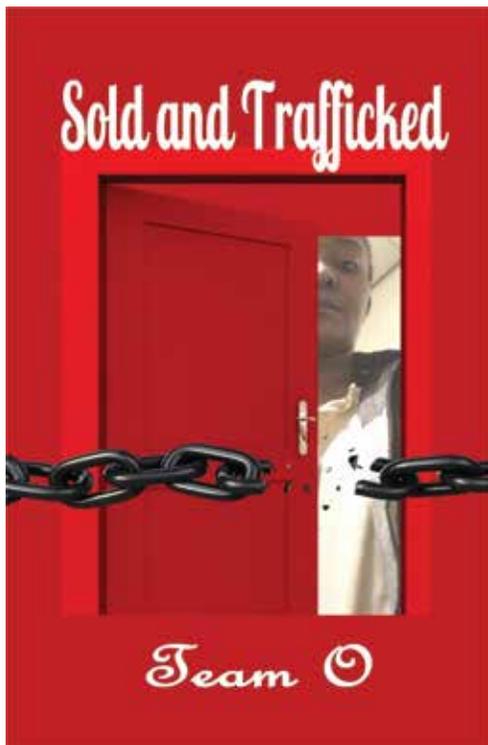
Beginning Balance on 1-1-2021:	\$16,550.93
Donations through 11-30-2021:	\$30,111.93

EXPENDITURES

Administration:	\$2,787.91
Steering Committee Travel:	\$0.00
Programming:	\$2,243.31
Grants to Projects:	\$17,000.00

ENDING BALANCE:	\$24,631.64
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NARUS SEWING COOPERATIVE

NARUS, SOUTH SUDAN – The Narus Sewing Cooperative in South Sudan helps young women who have fallen victim to forceful marriages against their consent. They help young girls enroll in school, and the teenage girls are enrolled in practical skills learning programs, like tailoring and embroidery. This year, our contact Mama Gladys requested additional funds to support an initiative for women farmers. This grant will help provide resources for farming practices as well as help the women to work communally and provide healing processes to work through their trauma. The Narus Sewing Cooperative is a force that works for peace in the midst of warring parties and a fragmented society. Mama Gladys requests prayers that all in South Sudan may have access to the good things South Sudan has to offer and the opportunity to live a decent life.

FRIENDS OF JITOKENZE INTERNATIONAL (FOJI)

WEST POKOT COUNTY, KENYA – Originally from this area in Kenya, Pini Kidulah founded FOJI in 2012 after hearing about the impact of climate change on her homeland. Pini decided to focus on women as the main force in her programs of training and development. Pini wanted single and married women to be an economic entity within families by being able to earn money as well as participate in decisions concerning family economics. The earnings would come about through raising chickens, improving agriculture, and learning tailoring as a trade. FOJI has raised funds 1) to create self-help groups for women 2) for sewing machines 3) to design and install a sand dam near a girls’ school in this area. GWP made a one-time donation and will keep in touch with FOJI.

SHIFTING IDEAS THROUGH EDUCATION FOR AFRICAN WOMEN (SITEAW)

UGANDA – GWP is pleased to continue its partnership with Sister Stella Sabina, Director of Shifting Ideas Through Education for African Women (SITEAW), for a record 18th year! As the name suggests, SITEAW ardently believes that education and skills training are the best tools to empower and free girls and women from oppression. Thanks to Sister Stella’s good work, much female genital mutilation has been eradicated. However, Sister Stella reports that it has been replaced by girl trafficking. So much of their work this past year has been spent rescuing girls that have been sold into slavery and sent to Abu Dhabi.

Sister Stella reports that they are writing a book about one girl survivor, as well as trying to make a documentary so they can raise awareness about this situation. With help from their GWP grant, SITEAW is continuing to provide programming for girls in Kampala, as well as providing physical and emotional support to those girls they have rescued. Sister Stella says, “We are trying to help them heal and become survivors, but it is a long winding road for them.” She asks, “Please pray for us.” We are grateful for Sister Stella’s steadfast and tireless commitment to the SITEAW girls and women in Uganda.



TCNN SCHOOL BUS PROJECT

BUKURU, NIGERIA – GWP received a one-time request to help purchase a school bus for the Theological College of Northern Nigeria Staff Nursery/Primary School. A bus would allow them to pick up and return girls and boys to school safely in this time of COVID and abductions by Boko Haram. In addition to GWP’s one-time grant, gifts from individuals, congregations, and the Southern Ohio District of the Church of the Brethren, the school received over \$15,000 for purchase and maintenance of a bus and had leftover funds to purchase playground equipment for the school.



WOMEN'S INTEGRATED HEALTH

CHIAPAS, MEXICO – This year the Snajtaletik (common house of our becoming) Collective focused on how to support their community physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually during Covid, which has proven to be a difficult task. One of the inspiring workshops they offered their community was introducing tinctures and how to identify different plants and their medicinal properties. In addition, they gave plants to those in attendance for their gardens. Familial stories were also shared about using the plants. Director Elena Gomez Martinez describes the history of these practices, "Before knowing pharmaceutical medicine, the diseases were cured and treated medicinally with plants, people had a lot of respect and faith along with a connection with mother nature, and kept in balance and enjoyed a harmonious life." Their goal is to help families develop a medicine cabinet filled with what they need to prevent diseases and strengthen the immune system.

They continue their work of sharing the wisdom of women following the lunar cycle. They work to strengthen spaces for women to have sacred space for sharing together and drawing on the women that came before them. They have also installed a community oven that helps save money for families, decreases the fumes that impact respiratory tracts, saves on fire wood, and helps the environment. Education has also been offered on how to use food as medicine.

GROWING GROUNDS

WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA, UNITED STATES – Growing Grounds “strives to provide a new start for women, men, and families in Wabash County whose choices have become limited by the impact of life circumstances or past incarceration, but who are motivated to improve their quality of life, expand their work and educational options, and build on positive relationships.”

Growing Grounds is working to have their own housing and continues to renovate two apartment buildings. A six-unit residence for homeless and housing insecure women and children opened in late October which provides short-term housing instead of putting them up at a motel. The Host House for women, children, and men will open later in the year. In addition to housing, this ministry provides food, furniture, clothing, household items, financial assistance, and education which is so vital in this challenging time with COVID-19 and the coming winter.





CULTURAL ACADEMY FOR PEACE

KERALA, INDIA – Cultural Academy for Peace (CAP) was established in 1984 and has been a GWP partner project since 2015. CAP is committed to nurturing a society based on peace, justice, reconciliation and respect for life. This holistic mission is lived out through providing shelter to women and children escaping unsafe situations, uniting activists, educating leaders and the community, and lobbying for nonviolent social change.

This holistic vision continues to expand to creating a Community Peace Village. They have been raising money the last couple years and continue to inch closer to the goal. The hope is that this village will provide a healing place for those recovering from trauma. They would offer programs like counseling, occupational therapy, life skills education, art therapy, meditation, gardening, and skill development.

LIFE IS EXPENSIVE

RWANDA – Communication has been limited from our partner project in Rwanda, Life is Expensive. Their greatest challenges have been the effects of COVID-19 and the floods which impacted their area in 2019. GWP’s grant has helped to boost the income of their farmers, whose businesses were severely impacted by COVID-19. Last year, when borders were closed, they were unable to sell their produce across the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo. Life is Expensive has also supported their community by distributing food to help feed those facing starvation because of the economic impacts.



ADVENT & LENTEN CALENDAR UPDATES

We rejoice for all who unwrapped the luxuries in their own lives while working through the Advent calendar. This is our third Advent calendar, and we have appreciated the response from the community through the years. Your gratitude for the luxuries in your lives has become generosity. Your donations to GWP will be used to support projects around the world that benefit and support women and girls.

WE HAVE A NEW LENTEN CALENDAR!

GWP’s Lenten desk calendar has become a seasonal staple for many looking for a meaningful, educational spiritual practice. This year we’re excited to share a new, updated version. Our new Lenten calendar features new images from our partner projects, educational reflections and challenges from Anna Lisa Gross, and a new design. You can utilize the new virtual version of our Lenten calendar this Lenten season by signing up on our website. At Annual Conference 2022, you will be able to pick up a physical copy. We hope you’ll join us on a meaningful Lenten journey.



MOTHER'S DAY GRATITUDE PROJECT

This May, GWP invites you to honor or memorialize your mother, or another special mentor in your life, by participating in our annual Mother's Day Gratitude Project. Here's how it works: you send a donation and a note to GWP with the name and address of the person(s) you want to honor, and we send a card to that person letting them know that you gave a gift in their name. Instead of buying your loved ones material gifts, you'll be showing them love through a gift that directly benefits our partner projects. We are so grateful to all those who have participated in this project in the past, making it our most successful fundraiser during the year.

Interested in participating this year? In April we'll e-mail a reminder to mail your contribution to: Karlene Tyler, 333 South Lakeside Dr, Unit I, McPherson, KS 67460 (write checks to GWP). For any donation received by May 1, 2022, a card will be guaranteed to go out before Mother's Day. We look forward to helping you surprise your loved ones this year!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GWP!

Thank you for your generous support of Global Women's Project during this year. Because we are 100% donation supported, we could not carry out our mission of educating people here in the U.S. about global inequality and partnering with women led and run projects around the world focusing on empowering girls and women, without your financial contributions. From January 1 through November 30, you contributed \$30,111.93, including another record Mother's Day Gratitude Project total of \$7,420. And, as noted in another article in the newsletter, the McPherson and Monitor Churches of the Brethren held a GWP educational event which resulted in contributions of over \$3,100. Because of the pandemic, the GWP Steering Committee chose not to travel for our semi-annual meetings which allowed us to not only fund our current partner projects but enabled us to fund special one-time projects in Nigeria, South Sudan, and Kenya. Our partner projects will benefit greatly from your generosity, and we can't thank you enough for supporting this important work!

SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE

To memorialize a loved one:

Please write the check to GWP and use the enclosed envelope, including a note saying who you're memorializing. We will list the names of all people memorialized throughout the year on our website, www.GlobalWomensProject.org, and in our annual newsletter. (We do not list the names of the donors or the amounts of the donations—just the names of the people who are honored through a memorial gift.)

To honor someone special in your life:

Please write the check to GWP and use the enclosed envelope, including a note saying who you're honoring. If you want a note sent to the honoree on behalf of GWP acknowledging your donation, we ask that you also send an email to cobgwp@gmail.com with the name and address of the honoree.

2021 MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following people were honored through memorial gifts to GWP in 2021:

Barbara Alley
Beulah Mae Baile
Louie and Phil Baldwin Rieman
Kathy Burkholder
Rosalie Snipes Schell Elwell
Louise Erbaugh
Rowena Frantz Flory
Mary Wine Fruth
Doris Eller Heisel
Elizabeth M. Irlle
Mattie Jackson
Sharry Kinney
Peggy Mason
Letha Miller McKinnell
Ellen Divine Miller
Olga Solvieg ("Susie") Norton
Barbara R. Plunkett
Minva Reid
Esther Sampson
Dorothy Shaeffer Miller Saylor
Ruth Witt Seese
Edna Shreves
Phillies Stern
Peggy Sargent van Asselt
Jane Winebrenner

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO GIVE

No matter what time of year, it's never too late to give to Global Women's Project. Use the enclosed envelope any month of the year or mail your donation made out to "Global Women's Project" to GWP, 1451 Dundee Ave, Elgin IL 60120. Thank you!

You can also give online at: www.brethren.org/globalwomensproject

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

There are many ways you can support GWP throughout the year. Check out some of these opportunities to engage with our work:

JANUARY/FEBRUARY – Sign up to have the new Lenten Calendar sent daily to your email to guide your spiritual journey this year. Email us at cobgwp@gmail.com to be added to the daily Lenten Calendar email list. Lent begins Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

MARCH – Celebrate International Women’s Day with your faith community this year on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Check out the amazing collection of worship resources and reflections on our website written by women across the country.

APRIL/MAY – Begin thinking about the women you would like to honor on Mother’s Day through our annual Mother’s Day Gratitude Project. Donate in honor of someone, and we will send that person a lovely card, letting them know you have honored them with a gift to GWP. Mother’s Day is May 8, 2022.

JUNE/JULY – Stop by our booth at Annual Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, July 10-13, 2022. We always enjoy connecting with you.

DECEMBER – Join us for a time of Advent reflection by checking out our annual Advent Calendar filled with scripture, prayer prompts, activities and taxes, along with a color-by-day Christmas image.

ANYTIME/BIRTHDAYS/HOLIDAYS – To celebrate a special day or any day, go to www.GlobalWomensProject.org and click on “GIFTS” to see how you can donate to GWP.



GET CONNECTED!

Follow us on **Facebook**:
www.facebook.com/globalwomensproject

Subscribe to our monthly email newsletter, **Global e-Links**, at the email below.

Visit our webpage:
www.GlobalWomensProject.org

Email us at: cobgwp@gmail.com

Clip and send to GWP

SEND US YOUR CONTACT INFO ... AND WE’LL SEND GWP TO YOU!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

- This is a change of address
- Enclosed is my donation to continue the work of GWP!

- Add me to the monthly Global e-Links list.
- Add me to the annual paper Globalinks mailing list.
- Send me the Lenten calendar one day at a time by email.
- Send me a new Lenten calendar by mail. (How many? _____)
- Contact me about honoring a special woman through GWP.
- Contact me about hosting a GWP steering committee meeting.
- Contact me about serving on the steering committee.
- Contact me about other ways I can connect with GWP.
- Please remove me from your mailing list.

Return this form and your donation to GWP's partner projects in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your generosity!

Please make checks out to Global Women's Project.

Mail donations and address info to:

GWP c/o Karlene Tyler
333 South Lakeside Dr, Unit 1
McPherson, KS 67460

Print more newsletters from our website and fill out a second form for your church or women’s group!

www.GlobalWomensProject.org
Email us at: cobgwp@gmail.com