



THE CORNER®

Annual Report 2021



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OUR MISSION

To address communities' pressing needs by empowering current leaders and readying leaders of tomorrow.

THEORY OF CHANGE

We believe that communities around the world face diverse challenges that require unique solutions. Local leaders are not only needed, but they are critical for sustainable, long-term development to enact positive change.

Our role is to provide the next generation with the skills, tools, and support they need to lead positive changes in their communities for generations to come. We invest in human capital to encourage individuals who are passionate about addressing inequalities.

MCW's Africa Programs, Oral Health Care Program, and Young Leaders Program cultivate individuals who are leading community change at a local level in a global context.

WELCOME LETTER

In 2021, the fabric of our humanity was both challenged and strengthened as we collectively worked towards ending a global health crisis that affected world economies and left millions of classrooms vacant. As we navigated our socially distanced lives, we watched as the global pandemic uncovered the inequalities and injustices – bringing them into focus. Some communities teetered out of quarantine after vaccines were rolled out, while others remained vulnerable due to a lack of vaccine equity. Some communities virtually re-entered the classroom, while others' prospects of education were regrettably delayed. And again, some communities had the privilege to economically sustain themselves through remote work and online business, while others had lost the few sources of income they once had. Through it all, it was **the relentless compassion and solidarity of ordinary people** that protected and safeguarded the marginalized and disadvantaged. It was the ordinary person who stepped up to lead themselves and their communities towards the hope of a brighter future, where **economic security, improved health, and greater levels of education** could still be achieved.

MCW continued to pursue a community-centered approach to achieving these ideals. From participants in our MCW Insights webinar series to dental therapists in our Oral Health Care program in Tanzania, we witnessed **leaders from all corners of the world** step up to serve their communities. Our confidence in youth leadership was fortified as we watched young people voluntarily bear the responsibility to improve their communities by participating in our virtual Young Leaders Fellowship. **Women in Zambia improved** their tailoring skills by learning to be entrepreneurs who can self-support and lead their families and communities towards economic security. Out-of-school children were re-integrated into schools, our alumni tackled food insecurity, **young leaders congregated** to discuss social justice, and the world continued to revolve on the axis of compassion.

If anything, the past year highlighted how closely knit the issues of **health, education, and economic security** are. With poor health and wellness, children cannot learn, and adults cannot effectively work. Without work, scarcity and lack prevail. With this prevalence, health safety cannot be guaranteed. This past year, we were able to champion this triad of aspirations with a central commitment to leadership. For all this success, we have you, our friends, donors and supporters to thank. Your confidence in our work made a difference and we look forward to your continued support.



Eddie Bergman
Co-founder & President,
Board of Directors



Khalid Elachi
Executive Director

LEADERSHIP

A core tenet of MCW Global's programs is our dedication to leadership as a concept and as a way of life. The programs we host that promote health, education, and economic security require each beneficiary to have an acute awareness of their capacity to lead. From the fishing village of Chanyanya to the district of Bugesera, there exist leaders young and old who play significant roles in their families, schools, and communities as agents of change.

Our Young Leaders Program underscores the importance of leadership as it equips young people from around the world with the awareness that leadership is an action that ordinary people are called to take.

In the same vein, each one of our interventions in Africa reinforces the importance of leadership training.



YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

The Young Leaders Program, which includes the Alumni Ventures Fund, the Community Leaders in Africa Program, the Young Leaders Conference, and the Young Leaders Fellowship Program, strives to challenge participants in overcoming problems facing their communities of interest. Rooted in the principle of Local Change Through Global Exchange®, the Young Leaders Program ensures that individuals have the necessary skills to face local and global issues and to act as changemakers. These skills come through workshops and discussions surrounding self-awareness, cultural competency, global citizenship, and vision planning.

ALUMNI VENTURES FUND

The Alumni Ventures Fund is open to all graduates of the Young Leaders Programs (Young Leaders Fellowship and/or Young Leaders Conference).

This Fund offers graduates a unique opportunity to scale up their existing community development work in health, education, or economic security, with the aid of a start-up grant of up to \$5,000 coupled with a year of professional mentorship.

In 2021, MCW Global awarded two grants, totaling over **\$9,500** to **Daniel Kwaku Owusu** (discussed under Health) from Ghana and **Lourence Balatbat** from the Philippines. Both Daniel and Lourence are working with grassroots organizations on projects aimed at developing their respective communities.

Since the establishment of the Fund in 2009, MCW Global has granted more than **\$85,500** to a total of **21 global recipients** collectively.

See the next page to learn about Lourence's project. See the Health section to learn about Daniel's projects.

TESTIMONIAL

"We work with communities in the Philippines, Benin, Nigeria, and Papua New Guinea to create more sustainable and inclusive platforms for young people's political participation. The support from MCW Global has **sparked a new movement** for young people's greater involvement in governance that transcends mere attendance in political gatherings and possession of real decision-making power."

- **Lourence, the Philippines**

TESTIMONIAL

"The support from MCW Global has **encouraged the adoption** of peri-urban and urban agriculture development, the effective online presence of the project, youth empowerment, and household food security regarding the household aquaponics establishment."

- **Daniel, Ghana**

\$9,500
awarded in 2021

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

Alumni Ventures Fund

Lourence Balatbat is a social innovator from the Philippines who founded Beyond Three Billion — an initiative that works with communities in four developing countries to address the marginalization of young people in decision-making spaces. From receiving the first Roberta Richin Vision Plan Award in 2017 when he was a Young Leaders Fellowship mentee, Lourence returned as a mentor in 2019 and 2020 and, most recently, he received MCW Global's 2021 Alumni Ventures Fund.

Project in Youth Leadership

VISION

To create youth-responsive and youth-inclusive systems of governance that will guarantee proportional youth representation and decision-making power over matters affecting their present and future civic, economic, political, and social lives.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Beyond Three Billion is a youth-led, not-for-profit organization implementing a community-based project that creates a youth-responsive and youth-inclusive decision-making system. Simply put, B3B works with four target communities in the Global South to ensure that young people under the age of 35 have both proportional representation and adequate decision-making power in community-level governance.



Lourence
the Philippines



YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

Alumni Ventures Fund

Daniel Kwaku Owusu from Ghana is a dedicated natural resources conservationist, effective community educator, and aquaponics farmer with 10 household aquaponics establishments across five different regions in Ghana. Daniel first joined MCW Global as a mentee in the 2019 Young Leaders Fellowship program, and received MCW Global's 2021 Alumni Ventures Fund.

Project in Health

VISION

To use action research and education to drive peri-urban and urban aquaponics to ensure sustainable farming activities among households.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Through the Alumni Ventures Fund, Daniel's project aims to contribute to food security through innovative household aquaponics establishment as an alternative livelihood and climate adaptation strategy. Household aquaponics initiative using locally available materials is an initiative that seeks to promote household adoption of aquaponics (fish and vegetable culture) in a recirculation system as a climate adaptation strategy in urban and peri-urban areas.

The Fund made it possible to establish a subsidized setup for five households in the Ashanti region, for two men, one woman, and two youth households.



Daniel
Ghana



COMMUNITY LEADERS IN AFRICA INTERNSHIP

The Community Leaders in Africa Internship Program is a field-based internship open to all alumni from MCW Global's Young Leaders Fellowship and Conference programs. During this three to six-month internship, selected interns gain practical skills, knowledge and networks in community development through a culturally immersive experience at one of MCW Global's affiliate organizations in Africa: MC-Rwanda, MC-Tanzania, or MC-Zambia.

Piloted in 2020 with just one intern stationed at MC-Tanzania, the year 2021 saw MCW with **two interns** selected for the internship program. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both internships were hosted remotely from May to August 2021, with affiliate offices closely collaborating with their respective interns online. Eleni Nanaj was mentored by Zanyar Salih during her internship, while Sharon Matongo was mentored by Hennie Kongsøre.



Eleni, MC-Zambia
Monitoring and Evaluation
Intern

"Being a virtual intern was one of the best chapters of my life as it helped me re-evaluate my long-term goals and values.

It felt good having new people as a supporting system, with whom after every check-in meeting, we would talk about different issues that we were having or even future plans."



Sharon, MC-Rwanda
Communications & Resource
Mobilization Intern

"Working with MC-Rwanda was an incredible experience! My favorite part of the internship was learning how story-telling acts as an effective conduit for greater impact work.

Beyond that, interacting with teams from MC-Rwanda, MC-Tanzania, and MC-Zambia gave me a strong sense of community."



MC-RWANDA INTERNSHIP

Communications and Resource Mobilization Intern

Sharon Matongo from Zimbabwe joined the MC-Rwanda team as a Communications and Resource Mobilization Intern. Sharon joined MCW in 2018 when she participated as a mentee at the Young Leaders Fellowship and returned as a mentor in 2019.

As part of Sharon's role, she established MC-Rwanda's brand identity and online presence while increasing awareness and visibility of MCR's brand and programs. During her internship, some of the highlights were the development and implementation of MCR's Communication Strategy and the development of the Brand Manual and Graphics Standards Handbook to amplify the affiliate's overall communications and brand image. Her Personal Development Plan focused on honing her skills in time management, project management, and learning French.



MC-TANZANIA INTERNSHIP

Monitoring and Evaluation Intern

Eleni Nanaj from Albania joined the MC-Tanzania team as a Monitoring and Evaluation Intern. Eleni joined MCW in 2017 as a mentee in the Young Leaders Conference in Kosovo, and two years later joined the Young Leaders Fellowship as a mentee in 2019.

During Eleni's internship, her work was centered on streamlining the monitoring and evaluation process around MC-Tanzania's development efforts, particularly related to its oral health care model. She supported MCT with tracking projects and outputs for the three oral health care projects, collecting data from various partners and sources, in addition to drafting social media posts. Through her Personal Development Plan, Eleni worked on developing a communication strategy and sharpening her language and graphic design skills.



YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

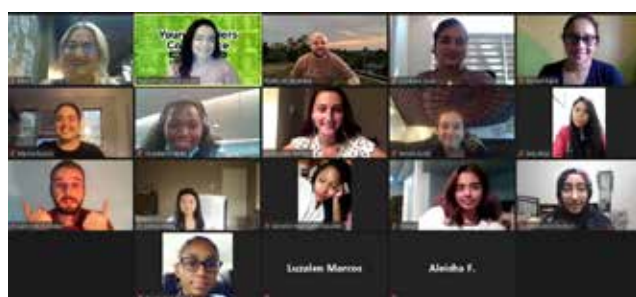
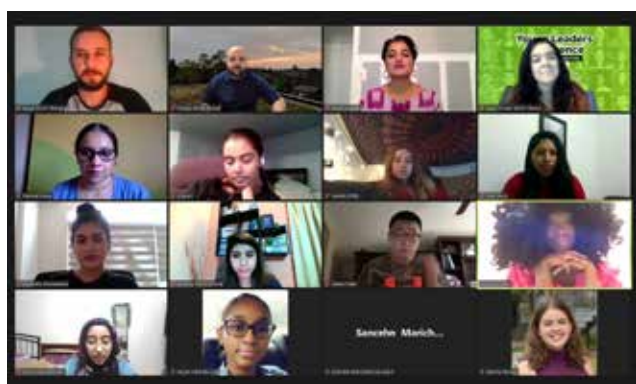
The Young Leaders Conference is focused on leveraging leadership to solve region-specific issues through regional networking and guided discourse about community issues. The conference is held bi-annually in different regions worldwide and is tailored for young community development practitioners.

Over an intensive three-day program, the conference functions as a hub for young leaders within the same geographical region to congregate and carve out solutions to their communities' most pressing needs in the areas of health, education, and economic security.

MCW Global held its 5th edition of the conference virtually between July 30th and August 1st. The virtual program brought together young leaders from the United States and Canada to develop critical skills needed to become community leaders with a focus on **Social Justice** and **Social Entrepreneurship**. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference took place virtually via e-modules and online learning with three primary learning outcomes: Modern Leadership, Social Justice, and Social Entrepreneurship.

During the leadership section of the program, alumni of the Young Leaders Fellowship, Cody Jacobs, Co-Founder of the Open Grange; Alexandria Brady-Mine, Founder and Executive Director of The Human Projects; and Leejoo Hwang Co-founder of Meaningful Work, shared their experiences of helping their communities.

Participants learned from experienced community development practitioners who shared personal stories and knowledge. Some lessons covered using leadership as a tool for social transformation.



“The conversations we have had so far in this conference have been so diverse and rich. It makes me realize that **there is so much important content missing from our social studies curriculums in middle and high school.**”

– Sudiksha Devanathan
Ontario, Canada

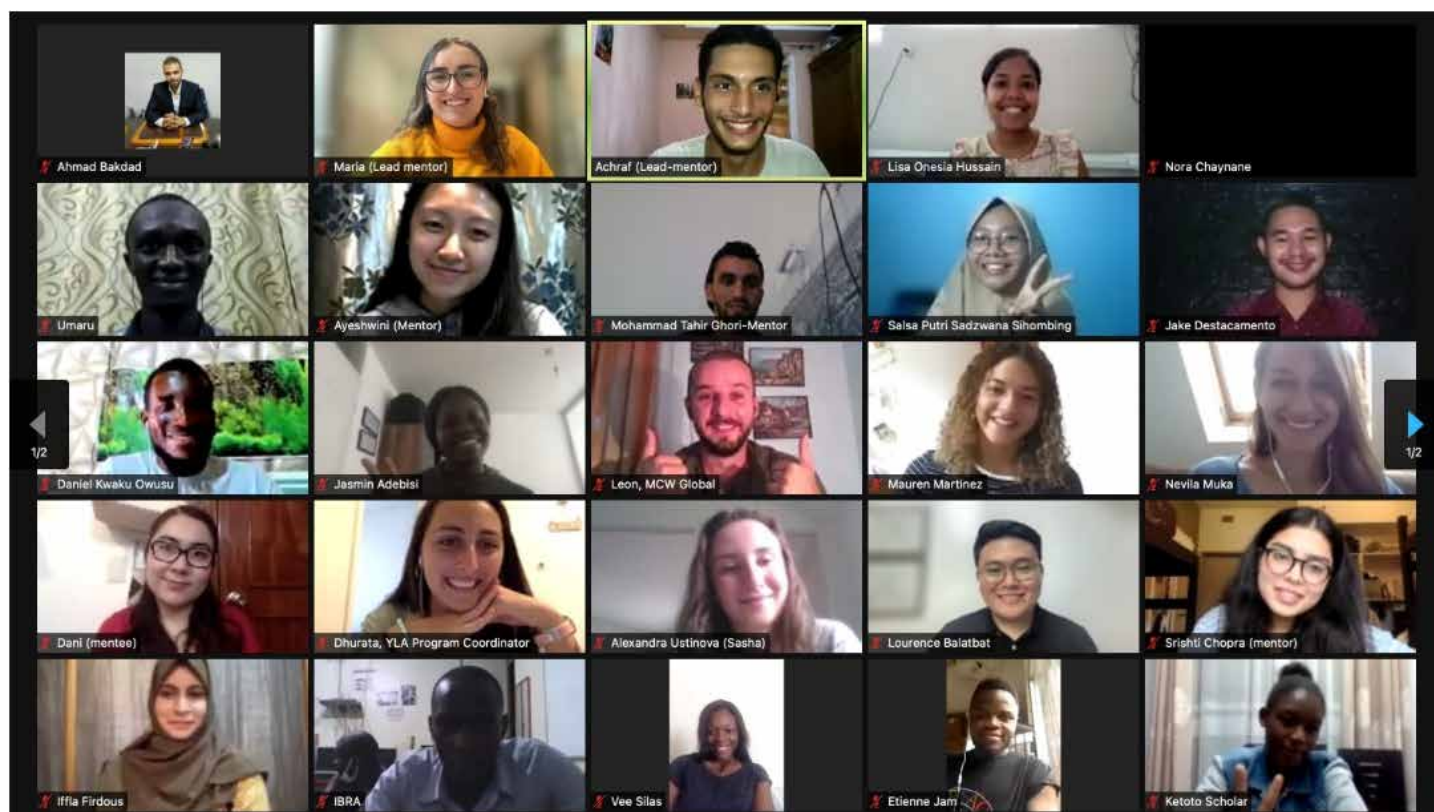
YOUNG LEADERS FELLOWSHIP

The Young Leaders Fellowship Program equips young leaders from around the world with the project management skills and leadership competencies needed to address their communities' most pressing issues. Through this year-long program, young leaders will identify and articulate a challenge in their community in the areas of health, education, or economic security. Participants will be mentored to devise a solution to this challenge by way of an implementable project plan.

In 2021, the Fellowship was once again held virtually due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. This Fellowship brought together 52 young leaders from 32 countries across the world to develop their competence as community development practitioners.

The structure of the Fellowship was divided into two parts, with the first being held from September 2021 to December 2021. During these sessions, participants worked together to define leadership for themselves, coupled with discussions on self-awareness, mental health, gender, and global citizenship.

The second part began in December 2021 and will run until July of 2022. During this second half of the program, participants focused on their workbook development, elevator pitch, fundraising, and impact measurement skills.





Marko Paloski
North Macedonia
Young Leaders Fellowship 2021

"Through the interactive sessions that we had, focusing on the breakout sessions or brainstorming sessions, in **solving and proposing solutions together** with totally different people from around the world. With the final project, you are doing the whole project by yourself with **the help of the mentors** and the activities that we had as homework."



Lisa Hussain
Guyana
Young Leaders Fellowship 2021

"The program **immensely helped me** to improve my self-awareness skills. I believe this is an essential skill for young people because it helps to guide us towards a path that will be fulfilling **no matter the challenges**. In addition, I have engaged in SWOT analysis, elevator pitches, and so much more that I would recommend other young people to develop."



35
mentees



17
mentors



32
countries



55
virtual program hours

LEADERSHIP IN TRAINING

What distinguishes our Africa Affiliates' programs is the focus on leadership. The Skills Development trainings in Rwanda and Zambia, coupled with the Dental Therapists Outreach Training in Tanzania each include a leadership module. Each student and participant takes part in the leadership module in order to strengthen their capacity to lead in their day-to-day lives as tailors, ICT personnel and dentists.

MC-TANZANIA

In promoting MCW Global's commitment to the principle of leadership, MC-Tanzania contributed to a situational analysis for the development of a Higher Diploma in Clinical Dentistry Curriculum carried out by the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders, and Children.

In its role, MC-Tanzania advocated for the inclusion of leadership training in the new curriculum under development. It is particularly essential to include leadership training in all our interventions because we believe that there is no effective community development that takes place without culturally relevant citizen-leadership. It is therefore our goal to cultivate leaders who serve their communities with a commitment to human dignity and interdependence.

MC-TANZANIA'S PRIZE FOR THE BEST FOURTH-YEAR DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (DDS) STUDENTS

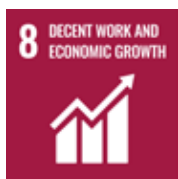
As an extension of its Dental Therapists' Outreach Training, MC-Tanzania has continued its tradition of awarding the best fourth-year male and female Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) students (at the MUHAS School of Dentistry) with the highest marks in a clinical discipline. The award recognizes the contribution of the DDS program and the role it plays in clinical dentistry. The awards were given to Mr. Isaya Magombela and Ms. Joyce Kishimbwe at the prize-giving ceremony held on December 3, 2021, at MUHAS. Each student received TZS 100,000 in prize money. This prize advances the organization's collective vision to empower current leaders and ready leaders of tomorrow.



ECONOMIC SECURITY

Over the last year and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, African countries have seized the opportunity to foster structural and macroeconomic reforms that could pave the way for increased economic growth. While the pandemic set back progress on poverty reduction and key development goals across the region, countries have made significant in-roads in tackling these economic deficiencies.

MCW Global's affiliates located in Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia have equally contributed to alleviating these economic hardships by strengthening efforts in equipping communities with necessary skills and expertise relevant to the job market. In particular, MC-Rwanda and MC-Zambia successfully carried out their Skills Development Programs through technical and vocational education and training (TVET), while MC-Tanzania increased the technical capacity of young dental therapists through their Oral Health Training Programs (discussed under Health).



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

In an effort to contribute to poverty alleviation in **Rwanda** and **Zambia**, MCW Global's affiliates have continued to offer necessary training to young people in their communities with the aim of enhancing employability through Skills Development programs. The Skills Development programs are focused on increasing **digital literacy skills** and **tailoring opportunities** for students as an antidote to the economic insecurity that characterizes their respective communities: **Bugesera in Rwanda** and **Chanyanya in Zambia**.

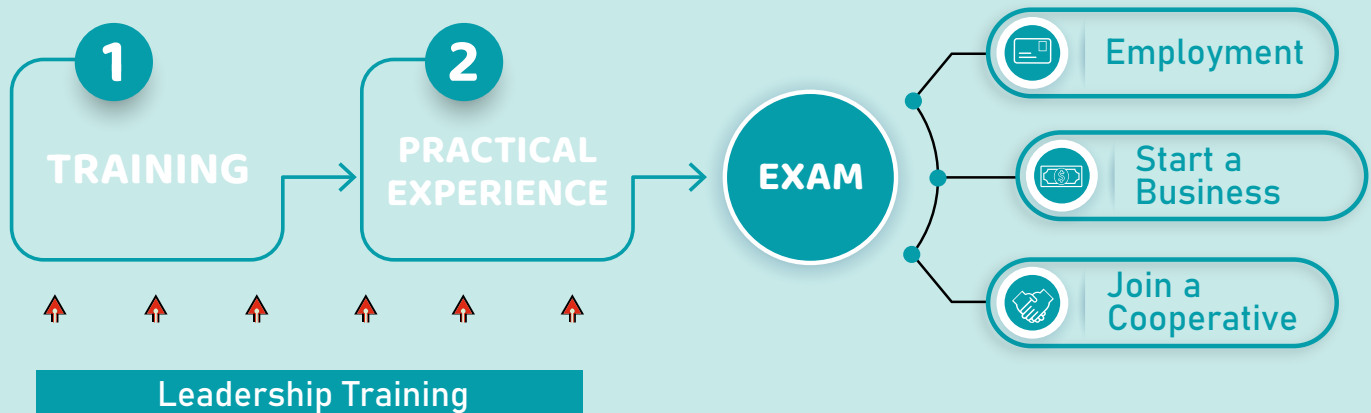
Through the Skills Development (TVET) programs in information and communication technologies (ICT) and Tailoring, both MC-Rwanda and MC-Zambia **increase the market readiness** of youth enrolled in the programs. Research shows that TVET access is still a challenge faced by many young people in rural areas including in the Bugesera and Chanyanya regions. This is a roadblock to the development of many young people in rural areas who cannot afford to pursue higher education opportunities. MC-Rwanda and MC-Zambia's investment in the arena of TVET aims in part at responding to the pressing needs of their communities. In 2021, this was successfully done through the ICT and Tailoring Skills Development courses carried out by both affiliates.

20 out of 25
ICT students
graduated in 2021

22 out of 31
Tailoring students
graduated in 2021

50
Women and youths
were supported with
start-up capital and
assisted in running
their own business

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT MODEL





MC-RWANDA

ICT TRAINING

To exist in the present era requires a recognition and appreciation of the penetration of technology in every dimension of life. Without ICT literacy, communities run the risk of trailing behind as the world rapidly evolves socio-culturally and developmentally with the aid of technology. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the necessity of digital literacy as businesses, education systems, and health institutions relied heavily on solutions bolstered by technology. MCW Global's commitment to reducing economic insecurity would be found lacking if it excluded education and training in ICT from its core intervention areas in communities that are often marginalized in the conversation about development.

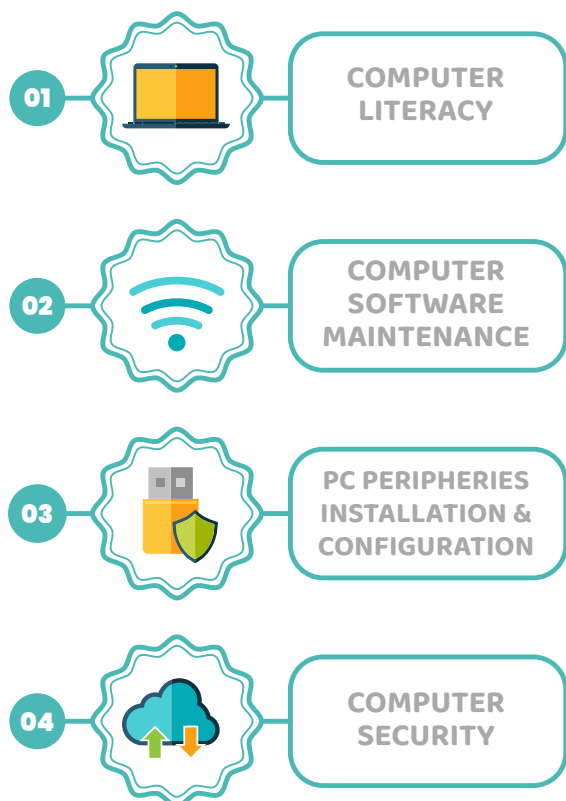
For this reason, the ICT Training courses at MC-Rwanda prioritize equipping students from the rural community of Bugesera with the necessary tools to participate in the global technological evolution in spite of their community being located on the fringes of technological modernity. The training focuses on the acquisition of basic competencies to use computers, to specific learning on hardware and software and its use for the improvement of productivity and employability. In gaining these competencies, the students' capacity is enhanced, increasing their opportunities to secure and retain decent work, to progress within and between jobs, and to cope with changing technology and labor market conditions.



Without ICT literacy, communities run the risk of trailing behind as the world rapidly evolves socio-culturally and developmentally with the aid of technology.



ICT Courses



In 2021, **20 out of 25** ICT students graduated during the 2020-2021 cohort.

The **2021-2022 cohort** also began their **training** with four planned modules being completed in the first term. This cohort is set to complete their training and graduate within the 2022 training calendar.



Success Story: Koperative Tuzamurane Media Center

The 2021 graduates of the ICT Training program **formed a cooperative**, Koperative Tuzamurane Media Center, which **provides IT support and maintenance services** mainly to schools. The cooperative's services include the bulk printing and photocopying of district tests and exams for schools, thus meeting a need to enhance teaching. Through their work, **the cooperative received a youth grant** from the Business Development Fund of USD 3,500 and a loan of USD 900 from a local financial Institution (SACCO) which allowed them to scale their work and provide services to more schools. The cooperative later **applied for and won 3 separate tenders** to offer ICT services to schools including hardware maintenance, software maintenance, and supply of school materials. Members of this cooperative are more economically liberated **using skills gained under MC-Rwanda's Skills Development Training**.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

ICT Course



Christophe Habihirwe
MC-Rwanda
ICT Course

"My names are **Christophe HABIHIRWE**. It is good to me to start by **giving thanks to Miracle Corners Rwanda** which has strengthened the opportunities for the students who have disabilities. I was excited to be offered the chance to continue my studies in the ICT program as I was wondering how I can work on my dreams of having my own business. In fact, my family was unable to help me to complete my studies even though I was studying [...] Biology, Math and Chemistry due to the poor life that we were living in, and consequently I was expelled from school without graduation. This tremendous situation hit me deeply as a person who had disabilities, and my family was not supportive which made me feel depressed, lonely and felt of worthlessness but after being given the opportunity [through MC-Rwanda's Skills Development Training] and means of learning **made me feel confident, calm and re-assured** that the hope of life still exists.

I felt much better to see our best learning outcome become even beyond others who do not have disabilities. This shows me that learning competencies may not differ in every inclusive learning environment. I wish to take this opportunity to **call upon other people who have disabilities** to be ready and act accordingly in the regard of their life. We are capable and **we can achieve** more and flourish in our life. I was excited to see how we are studying well and I am glad because I joined this class without having knowledge and skills about ICT but now I can do hardware and software maintenance; I can use Photoshop app and other programs. **I am looking forward to creating my own businesses."**



TAILORING

MC-Rwanda & MC-Zambia

In discourse concerning the overall success of skills development, it has been widely observed that **better training outcomes are reported for men compared to women**. Women and girls are not only less educated than men in their communities, they are also typically more constrained in their decision making and flexibility to economically self-support. Skills development courses that are designed to **accommodate women and girls' diverse socio-cultural obligations** often yield better results, and tailoring courses have proven to meet this need. To this end, MCW Global, in conjunction with **MC-Rwanda**, supports the **skills development tailoring course** which is attended by mostly female students from the Bugesera district. On the other hand, the **Women Empowerment Program at MC-Zambia** continues to enhance women's capacity to self-support by providing entrepreneurship and leadership skills. This helps students from previous cohorts to successfully run businesses post-training.



MC-RWANDA



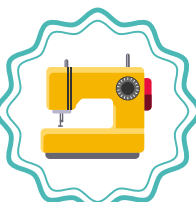

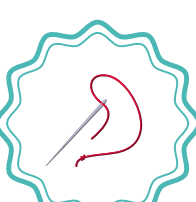
Through MC-Rwanda's tailoring course, students gain basic, mainstream, and technical sector competencies in tailoring with the aim to increase their employability and exercise their agency. The training significantly contributes to lessening gender inequalities while advancing the economic needs and leadership potential of students through a combined model of teaching, practical internship work, and leadership enhancement. The students' skills allow them to participate in the labor market, both formal and informal, as their competencies increase in sewing, stitching, hemming, and embroidery.



In the 2021 cohort, students acquired skills such as **sewing Kitenge blouses** with embroidery, bags, and different styles of shirts using **varied designing skills**.

22 out of 31 students graduated from the 2021 cohort

Tailoring Courses

- 01  **SEWING CHILDREN AND ADULT CLOTHES**
- 02  **BASIC POINT IN SEWING AND HOSIERY**
- 03  **BASIC MAINTENANCE OF SEWING MACHINE**
- 04  **TRANSFORMING AND REPAIRING CLOTHES**
- 05  **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

MC-Rwanda continued to support the tailoring alumni by providing technical **equipment maintenance** of their personal sewing machines. This helped alumni to reduce expenses allocated to maintenance and maximize working time, in turn **increasing their profit**.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Tailoring Course



Nadia Uwimana
MC-Rwanda
Tailoring Course

"My name is **Nadia UWIMANA**; I live in Nyamata Sector. I was happy to join a tailoring class which is a program that helps young people to grow their business through training. I am delighted to be among the 2020-2021 tailoring cohort of MCR Programs. I joined the program without even having skills of putting thread in a needle but **now I can sew any style I want.**

For example, **the dress that I am wearing now** is a model that was copied from social media and I achieved to sew it. As of now I encourage other youth to get marketable skills since the skills I acquired will **help me to create business** and get out of the circle of poverty. I advise young people, especially young girls to **be open to technical training** trades since confidence comes with time but they have to make the first step of accepting and believing in their capacity of acquiring new knowledge and skills.

I thank our teachers and their tireless efforts which push us forward in tailoring and fashion designing. I believe that the skills acquired will contribute to **increasing my future revenue.**"

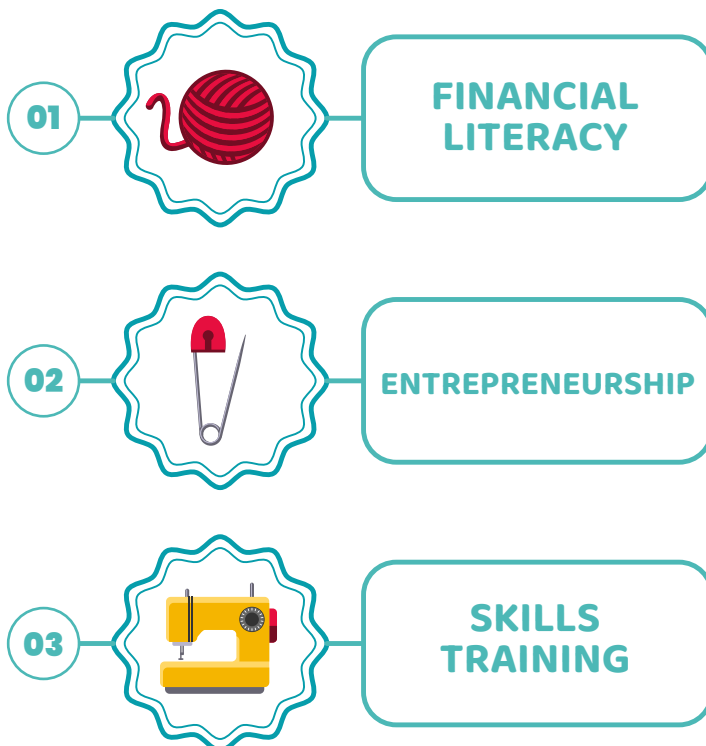


MC-ZAMBIA

The Women and Youth Empowerment Project is an economic security initiative designed for alumni of MC-Zambia's Design, Cutting, and Tailoring (DCT), and Information Communication and Technology (ICT) training programs. This initiative emerged in response to the challenges faced by graduates of skills development programs by strategically harnessing their skills to generate income. Having gained competencies in tailoring and ICT, alumni reported difficulties in navigating the market and particularly, in practically translating the skills gained into businesses and enterprises.

The incubator class of 50 alumni are trained in Entrepreneurship skills, Financial Literacy and Leadership training to bridge the gap between skills acquisition and employment and work opportunities. The training significantly contributes to lessening gender inequalities while advancing the economic needs and leadership potential of students through a combined model of teaching, practical internship work, and leadership enhancement. The students' skills allow them to participate in the labor market, both formal and informal, as their competencies increase in sewing, stitching, hemming, and embroidery.

MODULES TAUGHT



An end-of-year assessment determined that all the targeted beneficiaries felt confident in running their businesses & could:

- develop business plans
- assess markets
- innovatively approach customers and cater to customer needs while establishing themselves to further increase their income

22 out of 50

women and youths began successfully running their own businesses

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

Young Leaders Fellowship 2021

Beyond our programs with our affiliates in Rwanda and Zambia, MCW also invests in young people whose impact-work advances the pillar of economic security. Below is one example of a participant from our Young Leaders Fellowship whose project underscores the theme of economic security.

Projects in Economic Security

VISION

A safe and stable community where **social and economic activities** thrive.

MISSION

To give ex-drug users a chance to achieve their life aspirations and get involved in the community.



Jesse Nkwiri
Nigeria

PROJECT SUMMARY

Recognizing the high rate of drug consumption and its negative effects on his community and its members, Jesse decided to work on a project to give ex-drug users a second chance. He took action because he saw this issue crippling his community's chances for development. Tackling this problem, one drug user at a time, Jesse is using the support of programs that carry drug users through the process of recovery. In pursuit of his mission, Jesse hopes to mobilize his community to fight drug and substance abuse with a sense of shared responsibility.

EDUCATION

The role of education as a conduit for development can never be understated. Particularly within Sub-Saharan Africa, the advancement of education is increasingly vital in order to achieve greater levels of economic security, social progress, and reduced inequalities.

From the basics of literacy to tertiary education, the vast realm of formal education is undeniably a cornerstone of growth for many countries, including where our affiliates are located: Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia where the literacy rates are currently at 73%, 78% and 92% respectively.¹

By investing specifically in literacy programs and initiatives at MC-Rwanda and MC-Zambia, our commitment to co-lead community development with local actors through education is fortified.



¹ **World Bank**, 2022, "Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) – Tanzania: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (uis.unesco.org). Data as of June 2022"; **World Bank**, 2022, "Literacy rate, youth total (% of people ages 15-24) – Zambia: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (uis.unesco.org). Data as of June 2022"; **World Bank**, 2022, "Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) – Rwanda: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (uis.unesco.org). Data as of June 2022".



MC-ZAMBIA

EDUCATION IN ZAMBIA

Despite education being a universally recognized human right, **a large percentage of children in Chanyanya lack access** to early primary education. As this fishing village strives for economic development and poverty alleviation, young people's school attendance is jeopardized by the economic 'opportunities' that activities such as fishing and early childhood marriage offer them and their families. To curtail this academic regression, MC-Zambia serves the community **by providing literacy programs** which teach literacy and numeracy to school children and adolescents in Chanyanya. At the completion of these literacy classes, MC-Zambia formally links and enrolls the students into government schools.

In 2021, the literacy project enrolled 98 out-of-school children into the Numeracy and Literacy classes. Through this program, **children learned how to read, write and solve basic mathematical problems**. By the end of the year, children were successfully integrated into school and financially supported for the next school year.

MC-Zambia also supported 5 government schools with reference books in order to promote learning and increase the book-to-learners ratio in classes. In an effort to keep the literacy intervention active throughout the year, a book library was managed where youths, women, men and children were able to access and borrow books as needed. Over 128 children and youths utilized the library during the period.

98 out-of-school children enrolled into Numeracy and Literacy classes

5 Government schools supported by MC-Zambia with reference books

MC-Zambia Computer Lab made **accessible to out-of-school children** and youths as well as the entire community

56 youths (16 to 25 years) and **22 adults** (above 25 years) accessed the computers and **made use of internet services** at the MC-Zambia Center in Chanyanya.



MC-ZAMBIA

IMPROVED COMPUTER LITERACY

As the world continues to become ever more dependent on computer technology, the gap between those who engage with and learn using technology and those who don't is widening. Rural schools are often the last to access modern technology, despite standing to benefit the most. Schools in Chanyanya, Zambia are no less affected. At present, the national consensus is that ICT is the future of the education system in Zambia.

In 2019, the government through the Ministry of Education directed all schools to teach ICT subjects in all government schools. However, this pronouncement came with its own challenges as the government struggles to provide schools with corresponding ICT equipment. Worse still, there are very few teachers with ICT knowledge in Zambian schools.

The research carried out by MC-Zambia and other partners revealed that only two teachers in the seven schools had ICT knowledge but were not qualified to teach ICT in their respective skills, so most of the teachers only teach what they can manage; this has affected the performance of the learners. It is this particular problem that MC-Zambia's Improved Computer Literacy Project seeks to address.

In 2021, MC-Zambia worked with a total of seven schools in Chanyanya under this project. The goal of the initiative was to improve computer literacy in schools by training teachers in ICT in order to enhance the teaching of ICT for the children and youth that they teach. This was done in collaboration with the Computer for Zambian Schools' organization who conduct ICT Training for free to train teachers in computer and leadership skills.

In doing so, teachers improve their understanding of ICT as a subject as well as their capacity to take a leading role in spearheading the formation and management of functional computer labs within their respective schools. As a result, the ICT literacy of their students is enhanced and their ability to participate in the digital world is strengthened.



MC-Zambia Improved Computer Literacy Project

14

teachers
trained

4

computer labs
establishd in 4 schools

15

ICT Clubs formed in
schools

7

ICT clubs established
in 7 schools

20

computers donated
to 4 schools

2,000

learners benefit

EDUCATION IN ZAMBIA

Improved Literacy Project



Gwen
MC-Zambia
Improved Literacy
Project

Gwen is a jovial young girl. She is 11 years old and is currently in grade one at St Anne Community School in Chanyanya Community (MC-Zambia's Project target site for the Improved Literacy Project). Although Gwen is jovial, she has mood changes sometimes due to a developmental disability that she was born with. This disability has caused a lag in how she has progressed through school and where she is now.

Gwen's parents are both in the fishing business. Her father is a fisherman and her mother has a stand at the local market where she sells the fish. They have five children and Gwen is the second youngest.

Before joining the literacy and numeracy classes at the MCZ center, Gwen's parents had never enrolled her at any school and in 2020 January she began taking classes under the MCZ improved Literacy Project. Gwen lagged behind in her learning and it took her two years instead of one year in order for her to learn how to read and write!

By December 2021, Gwen was able to count, solve basic mathematical calculations, read a grade one text book and also write her own name! In January 2022, at the start of the school year, Gwen was enrolled at St. Anne Community School and the Literacy project paid for her year's school fees, purchased her a school uniform, bag, and books.

Gwen is progressing well in school. Her teachers comment that although she has a series of breakdowns and mood shifts on some days, Gwen never misses a school day and she enjoys playing with her friends every day.



COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND ICT LAB

MC-Rwanda & MC-Zambia

Both MC-Rwanda and MC-Zambia operate a community library and ICT lab which functions as a vibrant hub within the Bugesera and Chanyanya rural communities where increased learning and educational exploration are made possible with computer technologies and literary resources open to the public.



MC-RWANDA ICT LAB

MC-Rwanda's ICT lab serves as a valuable resource for **increased ICT literacy for members of the Bugesera rural community**. By allowing free access to the ICT lab, MC-Rwanda has over the years facilitated the ICT literacy of local primary school students, teachers, and community members who use the lab for desktop research, practical courses and internet access.

Many schools within Bugesera grapple with a multitude of **barriers to quality education**, including a lack of adequate learning resources such as computers. This is a particularly significant challenge as it would result in a deficiency in knowledge about a subject that is incredibly crucial to know in the present world – ICT.

One such school is the Nyamata Primary School which made use of the ICT lab in 2021 to deliver practical courses to their students from first to fourth grade, with four classes being held each week. Through its use of the ICT lab, the school **enhanced their students' education** in ICT.

MC-ZAMBIA

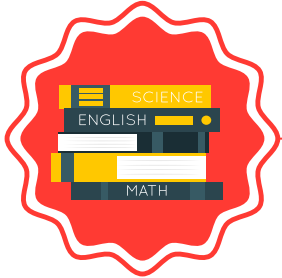
MC-Zambia's Community Center, when not hosting skills development and literacy trainings, continued to support the community through public computer lab and library facilities.

2021 **saw an influx** of community members coming to access the computers and internet services at the Center. The Center was also used to host ICT final exams by two local primary schools Magoba and St. Anne.

The Community Library at the center has become a regular place for children from nearby schools and the community to study and read the books in stock. In 2021, the center **recorded a total of 128 children**; 71 were girls and 57 were boys. Children who used the library were between the ages of 9 and 18 years.

128 children used
the MC-Zambia
library

MC-RWANDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY



MC-Rwanda hosted community members of all ages in the library for reading sessions.

COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS



MC-Rwanda received a generous donation of **700 books from the Kigali Public Library.**



300 students' books for nursery and primary students were donated by **Save the Children Rwanda** through their Reading Ready program. These books include audio, soft, and hard books with the open license for multiplication.

MC-Rwanda's community library was also used by youth from the Bugesera community where access to books and learning resources is scarce. The library was accessible from Monday to Saturday, with **more than 150 students** using the library on a weekly basis.

The Nyamata Primary School reported that their **students achieved high reading competencies** compared to other students from other localities. The library became increasingly popular throughout the year, with weekly visitors **increasing from 30 pupils to 260** by year end.



YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

Young Leaders Fellowship 2021

PROJECTS IN EDUCATION

VISION

A world where all girls have access to **education** and are able to cultivate their own future.

MISSION

To promote **education for girls** by providing skill set based programs and raising awareness in the communities regarding the importance of educating girls.



Jasleen Kaur
United States of America

PROJECT SUMMARY

From an early age Jasleen noticed that there were different expectations of her because she was born a girl. Nevertheless, these expectations pushed her work to influence her society's perception of girls. Charged to accomplish her mission, Jasleen is targeting **girls in junior high or high school** (adolescents) who are generally **forced to leave their education** to either get married or work to support their family financially, especially in areas like Bihar, India. Recognizing that the lack of financial resources is one of the major factors in perpetuating her community issue, Jasleen aims to bridge this **wide gender gap in literacy** by providing skill set-based workshops for women and creating **more educational opportunities for girls**, so that they can become financially independent and pursue their respective career choices.

HEALTH

If there is anything the global COVID-19 pandemic uncovered, it is that poor health constitutes suffering and deprivation of the most fundamental kind. Around the world, it became increasingly apparent that poor health and well-being are not merely ailments of the physical body, but also translate to an ailing social and economic fabric.

Poverty and ill health are intimately linked, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa where public health services are severely strained. This has been true for the most disenfranchised communities for generations and is equally true today in Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia where we operate. Strategic investments in health therefore, are all the more necessary to our work at MCW Global. Investing in health is a vital economic and societal catalyst and our efforts in the last year aimed to catalyze this socio-economic development.

In 2021, MC-Rwanda carried out nutrition and climate resilience projects to strengthen the Bugesera community's health and well-being. On the other hand, MC-Tanzania continued to be a leading force within the oral health care arena in Tanzania through its Dental Therapists' Outreach Training and the Dental Club Pilot Initiative. Through the Young Leaders Alumni Ventures Fund, food insecurity in Ghana was tackled by a young leader's innovative Household Aquaponics Project.





MC-RWANDA

NUTRITION PROJECT

It cannot be overstated how critical nutrition is to overall health and development. By improving nutrition standards in underserved communities, the prospects of development increase as the overall health and wellness of the community is preserved. Healthy children learn better. People with adequate nutrition are more productive and can create opportunities to break the cycles of poverty and hunger. To invest in the education and economic security of a community and ignore the health needs of the same would be to engage in a counterproductive model of development. For this reason, MC-Rwanda has begun to incorporate nutrition projects in its interventions – catering to the communities' intersectional needs.

In 2021, MC-Rwanda developed a nutrition garden project on its land with the broader purpose of addressing community malnutrition. The pilot reached its first milestones in the fourth quarter of the year:



A nearby public school received **15 kgs (33 lbs)** of vegetables from the cultivated land



200 fruit trees were planted in the MC-Rwanda garden including tomato, guavas and avocado trees, which are expected to continue supporting nutrition efforts for years to come.



10 teen mothers received vegetables for their children on a weekly basis

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Much of the world has begun to acknowledge that climate change and natural disasters pose a grave threat to the well-being and development prospects of everyone. The threat, however, is magnified for vulnerable communities. From deforestation and flooding, to erratic rain patterns and drought, climate change severely jeopardizes food security, health and labor productivity. Vulnerable communities especially in low- and middle-income countries, such as Rwanda, are disproportionately impacted by climate change and disaster. The poorer communities are, the more climate change will affect them. The converse is also true: as people come out of poverty, they are less vulnerable to climate impacts thanks to higher savings, better education, and access to more resilient infrastructure services and health care. Being fully aware of this, it became imperative that MC-Rwanda invest in climate resilience, alongside its existing initiatives in education and economic security.

TREE-PLANTING PROJECT

In 2021, MC-Rwanda stepped up to play a role in the conservation of the environment and to take a proactive approach to climate change. Given the vulnerability of the Bugesera district, MC-Rwanda conducted a 7-day tree planting campaign in the buffer zones of Rweru and Batima (located within the Bugesera district). This tree-planting initiative, made possible through a generous donor, serves as an antidote to the over-flooding and seasonal drought which affect that area due to climate change. In addition, the fruit trees planted were shared with the residents and farmers to plant in their own gardens.



Impact of the project

20,000
trees planted.

Increases the Bugesera residents' health status through:

- climate resilience
- fresh air to neighboring communities
- preventing soil erosion
- reducing floods that were destroying crops
- improving the nutrition status of the families that received the fruit trees





MC-TANZANIA DENTAL THERAPISTS' OUTREACH TRAINING

The Dental Therapists' Outreach Training project is a year-long project conducted by MC-Tanzania twice a year in the Mbeya and Tanga regions in collaboration with the Colleges of Health and Allied Sciences. The goal of the Dental Therapist Outreach Training project is to **develop and strengthen community dentistry** by improving the ability of dental therapy students to set up and carry out Dental Outreach (i.e., **education, screening, and treatment**) for primary schools.

MC-Tanzania provides both **theoretical and practical training in community dentistry and leadership** to dental therapy students to better prepare them to carry out preventative community-based oral health care in the country.

The 2021 cohort of dental therapy students



Dental therapy students from Mbeya joined by MC-Tanzania team members Fredrick Meena and Rabia Mkamba



APRIL TRAINING

28 dental therapy students

89 students received restorations

184 students received extractions

2,265 students educated, screened and treated

April

From April 12-23, 2021 dental therapy students underwent an intensive 2-week training project within the Tanga region. The project worked with **28 dental therapy students**, to conduct dental outreaches in **four primary schools** in that region. At the schools, **2,265 students** were provided with oral health education, oral health screening, and dental treatments.

The project also **provided sanitation and hygiene awareness** to primary school students to help prevent outbreaks and the spread of contagious diseases in their communities.

NOVEMBER TRAINING

52 dental
therapy
students295 students
received
restorations217 students
received
extractions3,275
students educated, screened
and treated**November**

In November, the project continued offering practical training opportunities to third-year dental therapy students from Tanga and Mbeya Colleges of Health and Allied Sciences. From November 1-12, the project worked with **52 dental therapy students** to conduct dental outreaches in **six schools** within these two regions. At the schools, **3,275 students** were provided with oral health education, oral health screening, and dental treatments.

In addition, the project partnered with the **Global Dignity Foundation** to deliver sessions on dignity to the pupils and distributed poem/coloring books and coloring pencils to help children understand dignity. The Global Dignity Foundation donated **USD \$9,600 worth of poem/coloring books and coloring pencils** to MC-Tanzania.



WORLD ORAL HEALTH DAY

Annually, MC-Tanzania commemorates World Oral Health Day (WOHD) through activities that promote oral health care. In 2021, MC-Tanzania held a campaign under the theme “**Be proud of your mouth,**” through which **oral health education, oral screening, and free treatment** were provided to community members from the Tanga region who needed dental treatment. This took place in two schools and at one prison, reaching a total of 821 individuals. The WOHD program is an opportunity to further **hone the skills of young dental therapists** who are trained under MC-Tanzania’s Dental Therapist Training Program. Further, the WOHD activities **increase the awareness of oral and dental health** to the community members, while simultaneously raising the profile and credibility of the College of Health and Allied Science as overseers of oral health.



Oral health education, oral screening, and free treatment were provided to community members in **two schools** and at **one prison**, reaching a total of **821 individuals**.

COMPLETION OF DENTAL CLUB PILOT INITIATIVE

In an attempt to provide a holistic approach to training dental therapists (under the Dental Therapy Outreach Training Project), the Dental Clubs initiative was set up. While the Dental Therapy Outreach Training Project visits new primary schools each outreach, we know that **changing health behaviors requires regular reinforcement**. The Dental Clubs therefore provide a way to continue to reinforce the education provided to the children visited at the schools. **12 Dental Clubs were formed in 12 schools** in Tanga and Mbeya and since 2018, MC-Tanzania’s Program Officers and a cohort of dental therapy students have visited the schools annually. The project reinforced oral health education and **provided toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste** to primary school students.

More than 17,000 toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste have been distributed since 2018. At the end of the project, 1,085, primary school students completed the initiative. The project, which ran from 2018 to 2021, reported positive progress on awareness of oral health education, proper oral health behavior among primary school students.



More than **17,000 toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste** have been distributed since 2018. At the end of the project **1,085, primary school** students completed the initiative.



MC-ZAMBIA

HIV/AIDS AWARENESS IN ZAMBIA

HIV/AIDS is affecting the global human development of African countries through its devastating impact on health and demographic indicators such as life expectancy at birth, healthcare assistance, age and sex distribution, economic indicators like income, work force, and economic growth, education and knowledge. Over the past decade, **Zambia has made progress** in the HIV response. According to UNAIDS, annual HIV infections (for all ages) in Zambia have declined from 60,000 in 2010 to 51,000 in 2019. Despite the progress, the HIV burden remains high. To curb the increase of infections, **MC-Zambia carries out HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention** activities in Chanyanya.

In 2021, MC-Zambia engaged its surrounding communities, sensitizing and raising awareness about HIV/AIDs. The goal was to (1) enhance the access of **quality HIV/AIDs services** and (2) **disseminate information** on HIV awareness and preventive measures. In order to achieve this, **MC-Zambia worked with the Ministry of Health** through the Rural Health clinic and also **worked with the 10 village headmen** within the area in order to verify the HIV and preventative measures.

10

Community Health workers
trained for HIV Awareness

16

door-to-door outreach
activities conducted

10

bicycles provided

10

villages visited

17,200

condoms distributed

ANTIRETROVIRAL (ART) BLOCK CONSTRUCTED AT CHANYANYA RURAL HEALTH CLINIC

In the same period, **MC-Zambia constructed an Antiretroviral (ART) block** at the Chanyanya Rural Health Clinic in order to provide a space for the clinic to conduct testing, counseling and treatment services within their premises.

Before the construction of the block, the clinic was providing these services through the Outpatient Departments (OPD) services because **it did not have a standalone or specific HIV/AIDs service provision site.**

This made it difficult for the clinic **to provide privacy to HIV patients** who were there to seek treatment or information.

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

Young Leaders Fellowship

Project in Health

VISION

A community where Senior Secondary school students have access to timely **mental health administration**.

MISSION

To accelerate **access to mental health administration** in secondary schools across Nigeria by encouraging youth engagement in Mental health education and Teleconsultations.



Veronica Silas
Nigeria

PROJECT SUMMARY

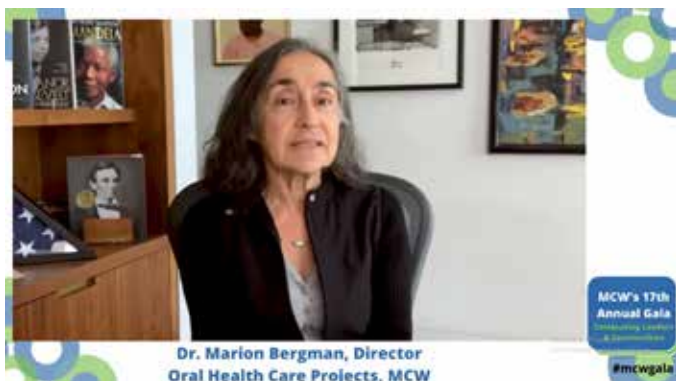
After dealing with the challenges of getting into Medical School, Veronica started to experience depression. However, due to the lack of knowledge and **stigma surrounding depression**, she was unaware of her situation. After defying the norm to seek professional help and now being aware of the importance of mental health, Veronica decided to be the change she wanted to see. She formed the **In-My-Head (IMH) Mental Health Administration Program**.

This program targets students in boarding schools in **Calabar Municipal, Nigeria, aged 14-19 years** who are suffering from mental health challenges in schools where mental health education and care are unavailable. From her personal experience, Veronica is working **to ensure that young people dealing with mental illness** have access to a safe space where they can share their experiences, get support, and help each other with their recuperation stories.

VIRTUAL GALA

On October 6, 2021, MCW Global held its 17th annual gala virtually. The event was able to raise \$952,037 to support MCW Global's programs and affiliates. MCW honored King & Spalding with the 2021 MCW Community Partnership Award for their commitment to contributing to the greater good of global communities. The award was accepted by King & Spalding partners, Sally Yates and Ted Hester.

Longtime friend and supporter, Ali Velshi, Host, MSNBC "Velshi" kicked off the event and welcomed guests. During the gala, MCW young leaders from across the world - including Canada, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, the Philippines, Rwanda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe - shared stories of how MCW impacted their lives and communities. We also heard from board and team members as well as champions of MCW's critical work.



LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE: MCW 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED

Following approval by our Board of Directors, MCW Global released a 5-year strategic plan which will commence in 2022. The plan reaffirms MCW Global's commitment to developing communities around the world in the areas of education, health, and economic security with leadership at the core of its interventions. It highlights five strategic objectives: Leadership and Inclusivity; Leveraging Modern Technologies; Brand Realignment; Forming Diverse Partnerships; and Investing in Collaborative Governance.

MCW INSIGHTS

MCW Insights is a webinar series where thought-leaders congregate to deconstruct the most pressing community development issues of our time. Curated for an audience of community development practitioners, university students, academics and young leaders, the series brings together bright minds to have conversations that are idea-focused, and on a wide range of community development and leadership subjects, to foster learning, inspiration and wonder – and provoke conversations that matter.



IN MEMORIAM



In memory of Dr. Ruben Cohen, a longtime friend and supporter of MCW Global and our Oral Healthcare Program, a special fund was created to support MCW's oral healthcare programs in Tanzania. Dr. Cohen, who tragically passed away in July 2021, played a significant role in introducing Oral Health Care programs to MCW in 2001 as a response to the needs of the Arusha community, where MCW's first community center was established. Fast forward to today, MCW has reached over 10,000 Tanzanian children who received oral health education, screenings, and treatment during our dental outreaches. With Dr. Cohen's initial MCW introduction, his impact in Tanzania is exponential and inspires our continued efforts to improve access to oral health.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Edward Bergman

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Executive Chair, Advancing Eco Agriculture



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Former Associate Dean, Student Affairs, Alumni Relations, NYU SPS



Mark Kemper

Former President, North Atlantic Region, UPS



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Kabinga Pande

Founder, MC-Zambia



Humera Qazi

Managing Director, Morgan Stanley



Dr. Charles L. Robbins

Professor, School of Welfare; Executive Director, Center for Changing Systems of Power Stony Brook University

TEAM MEMBERS



Dr. Marion Bergman

Director,
Health Care Projects
(Volunteer)



Khalid Elachi

Executive Director



Regina Lechner

Director,
Strategy and Impact



Leon Gojani

Director,
Young Leaders Program



Anusha Somani

Program Associate,
Africa Programs



Dhurata Berisha

Coordinator,
Young Leaders Fellowship
Program



Noor Imran

Coordinator,
Young Leaders Conference



Sharon Matongo

Coordinator,
Media and Communications

FINANCIALS

MIRACLE CORNERS OF THE WORLD, INC. STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION

Year ended December 31, 2021

Support and revenue:		
Contributions:		
Restricted	\$	162,971
Unrestricted		991,404
Total operating revenue		1,154,375
Expenses:		
Program services:		
Africa Programs		668,014
Young Leaders Program		49,035
Support services:		
Management and general		34,286
Fund-raising		42,377
Total expenses		793,712
Operating income		360,663
Nonoperating revenue:		
Investment income		56,676
Unrealized gain on investments		67,344
Payroll Protection Plan		62,800
Total nonoperating revenue		186,820
Change in net position		547,483
Net position at beginning of year		1,859,697
Net position at end of year		\$ 2,407,180

Notes

1. Cash and Cash Equivalents: MCW considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

2. MCW receives in-kind support from various sources in support of its projects. In-kind contributions are reported as contributions and expenses in the accompanying statement of revenue, expenses and changes in fund net assets at their estimated fair value at date of donation. MCW received \$116,960 of dental equipment for the Oral Health Care Program in the year ended December 31, 2021. In-kind contributions of volunteer time or technical assistance are not included in these numbers.

3. The Statement of Financial Position was prepared by an independent auditor, Peter J. Bertuglia (Certified Public Accountant, P.C.). Copies are available on file at MCW's office in New York City.



THE CORNER®

Annual Report 2021

MCW Global

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MCW (Miracle Corners of the World, Inc.) is a U.S.-registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All contributions to MCW are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



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