

## **Annual Report**

2018 - 2019



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Working towards a truly just, healthy and peaceful world.



PWRDF's Board of Directors 2018-2019: (front row, left to right) Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Valerie Maier, Will Postma, Rt. Rev. Rob Hardwick (second row) Dan Waterston, Mike Mackenzie, Rev. Gillian Hoyer, Rev. Canon David Harrison (third row) Archdeacon John Clarke, Lillian Newbery, Rev. Margaret Dempster, **Basil Pogue** (top row) David Schulze, Lillian Scorrar-Olsen, Rev. Canon Cathy Campbell, Murray MacAdam absent: Judith Moses

Read bios at pwrdf.org/board-of-directors

### The next 60 years

n October 2018 we marked 60 years since the Springhill, N.S. mining disaster, an event which brought Canadian Anglicans together to help their brothers and sisters in need. Then in July 2019, we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Anglican Church of Canada's General Synod approving a resolution to create a fund "to help those in distress, as a ministry to proclaim good news to the poor, to channel the compassion of Canadian Anglicans."

During our 60th year, PWRDF staff shared stories, revamped a website, welcomed new volunteers, began working with six new partners and rolled out a 60th anniversary video — At Home with PWRDF! We listened to our many donors, diocesan representatives and board members as to how we can do more, with our partners, to live our vision of a truly just, healthy and peaceful world. And we developed a new five-year strategic plan that places even more value on our volunteers, supporters, partners and

achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030.

In this past year, we welcomed three new board members, Bishop Rob Hardwick, Lillian Scorrar-Olsen and Mike Mackenzie. We also thanked and said goodbye to Archbishop Fred Hiltz who has supported PWRDF and served the cause of global justice so splendidly. As we begin our 61st year, we are glad to welcome a new Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, and we look forward to working with her and learning from her many insights.

We are grateful. For our partners. For our donors. For our many volunteers, who work tirelessly to share the stories of our partners. For the many agencies with whom we are proud to collaborate, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the ACT Alliance among many others. Thank you.

GIVPO13

Will Postma
Executive Director

Value Maier

Valerie Maier President

### Our Strategic Plan

WRDF's 2019 - 2024 Strategic Plan continues to hold fast to our vision to work towards a truly just, healthy and peaceful world. It has been shaped by consultation with partners — development partners overseas and in Canada, and you, who steadfastly support and share in the work of PWRDF.

It is also shaped by national and global commitments to development and relief, in particular, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2015 to 2030.

According to the UN, the SDGs are, "an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests."

Each of these five PWRDF priorities target several specific SDGs, including:

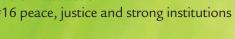
- · #1 no poverty
- · #2 zero hunger
- · #3 good health and well-being
- · #5 gender equality
- · #6 clean water and sanitation
- · #13 climate action
- · #16 peace, justice and strong institutions

### A sustainable future

We will steward our resou wisely through innovative fundraising, volunteer engage sharing our success stories and by working with youth on global iustice issues.

### Strong partnerships

We will leverage our resources by partnering with local development organizations, especially th working to empower wor and girls and respond humanitarian crises.



### Looking Ahead

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We will accompany and support First Nations, Métis and Inuit people, guided by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the priorities of Indigenous communities and organizations in Canada.



### Collaborative approach

We will foster a culture of learning and innovation for staff and volunteers in Canada, as well as for our partners, as we support one another in the pursuit of inclusion, peace and justice.



### Meaningful results

We will strive for improved food security and resilience in the face of climate change, and support programs around gender equality and accessibility to health care, including care for mothers and babies, in the most vulnerable communities.



### Gender Equality and Inclusion



Young people in Tanzania pose for a selfie with a gender promoter in our All Mothers and Children Count program.

Gender Equality and Inclusion are foundational for PWRDF and permeate all of our work. This means listening to and learning from communities about their hopes. It means partnering with organizations to build on and scale up local practices that promote an acceptance of differences and greater respect and dignity for all.





Pictured above left: César Gàmez of CoCoSI, a leading HIV and AIDS prevention organization in El Salvador, leads a gender workshop at PWRDF's National Gathering in Toronto in September 2018.

Pictured above right: PWRDF Development team members Richard Librock, left, and Zaida Bastos, right, join hands in partnership with Dr. Denis Mukwege, founder of the Panzi Foundation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and recent winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In PWRDF's All Mothers and Children Count program in Rwanda (Partners in Health), in Burundi (Village Health Works), in Mozambique (EHALE) and in Tanzania (Diocese of Masasi), access to trained birth attendants, obstetric care, contraception and updated health information is critical for women's and girls' health. Supportive men, trained medical practitioners and accessible health facilities also create conditions for the well-being of everyone in the community. As this four-year program — funded with a 6:1 match from the government of Canada — enters its final year, we are proud of the progress that has been made in areas of women's health and gender equality.

Through other partners, we know that gender-based violence is still present and often underreported. Victims of rape are often shunned by members of their own families, with little recourse to sustain a livelihood. **Maison Dorcas** and the **Panzi Foundation** in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, support women recovering from such violence, and **CoCoSI** in El Salvador is a leader in LGBTQ positive education.

With your support, our partners are building healthier and safer communities for women and girls.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians that in Christ there is neither lew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female. What a powerful egalitarian statement at a time of such inequalities. And what a transformational goal for PWRDF to pursue as we work with partners to build communities of gender equality, of inclusion and of respect and dignity for all.

# Our WORK at a GLANCE

180

cultural preservation resources created NEDC, B.C. 2,000

community members attended cultural workshops to preserve Kanien'keha culture KORLLC, Quebec

373

people (including 190 women) trained on agriculture and food conservation CUBAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

**250** 

women were empowered through leadership training IXMUCANE, Guatemala

14,000

adolescents received workshops on sexual and reproductive health, gender identity and violence prevention in 13 schools

CoCoSI, El Salvador

528

female survivors of gender-based violence received medical care and psychosocial support

280

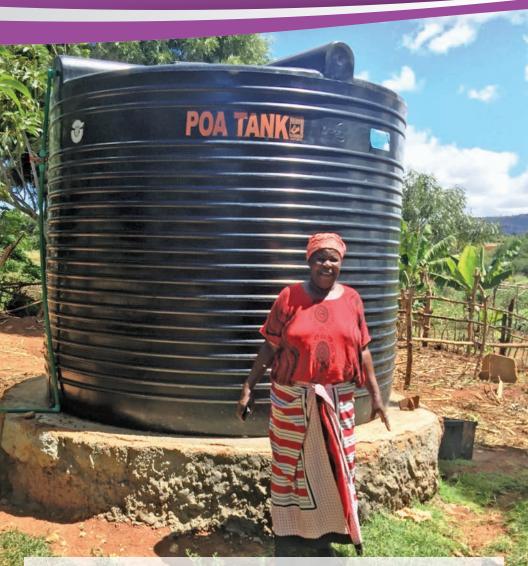
victims of gender and sexual violence safely returned to their comunities MAISON DORCAS, Democratic Republic of Congo

# \$5,003,992 spent on development projects \$513,627 spent on relief and refugee support

140 20,674 adolescents attended sexual and genderbased violence people participated in drug and alcohol prevention workshops ARUWE, Uganda recovery programs DARE, Thai-Burmese border 1,620 people gained access to clean, safe water UDO, Kenya 3,000 households improved their nutrition 5,000 TSURO, Zimbabwe trees planted to

> reforest communities and improve climate resilience ST. JUDE FAMILY PROJECTS, Uganda

### Health



### Clean water improves community health in Kenya

UDO (Utooni Development Organization) has been working toward sustainable development in Kenya since 2005 and was awarded the United Nations Development Program Equator Initiative Award in 2014. UDO is installing water pumps in vulnerable communities and training community members how to conserve and protect clean sources of water. This project means more than 1,500 people will be safe from waterborne diseases that are prominent in the area and more than 1,000 women will not have to walk long distances to collect water for their families.













WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

# Making women's health care a priority in Mozambique

As part of PWRDF's All Mothers and Children Count program, partner EHALE is planning to build three Maternal, Newborn and Child Health dispensaries in Nampula Province. With the first dispensary operational and construction of the other two underway, women's health care is already improving. The dispensaries provide a variety of services under one roof including pre- and post-natal care, vaccinations and family planning services.



### Tanzanian clinics go solar

Giving birth in the dark is hard to imagine, however in rural Tanzania it is a reality for many women. Working with the Diocese of Masasi, PWRDF installed a solar energy system at the Ngapa Dispensary, which provides health care to Ngapa village as well as adjacent villages. Now not only do women have light when giving birth at night, the dispensary is also able to run a vaccine refrigerator, allowing them to store lifesaving drugs on site.



### Reducing maternal deaths in Burundi

The maternal mortality rate in Burundi is 712 per 100,000 live births, compared to 530 per 100,000 in other East African countries. Two new Expectant Mothers' Houses, built by Village Health Works, will dramatically decrease the preventable and premature deaths directly related to unsafe conditions during labour. Julie Crowley, Head of Office of the High Commission of Canada in Rwanda, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony.

### Food Security and Climate Adaptation















WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COAL

#### **Growing Hope in Manitoba**

Climate change has caused natural disasters all over the world, wreaking havoc on food supplies. Parishes in the Diocese of Rupert's Land are working together to make a difference. They have raised funds towards growing 15 acres of canola in Pembina Hills, about two hours west of Winnipeg. When the Rev. Chris Lea, the farmer who has donated the land sells the crop, proceeds will go to PWRDF's equity in the



Canadian Foodgrains Bank. PWRDF will use those funds to support food relief all over the world. Says Rev. Cathy Campbell, PWRDF's Board liaison to the Foodgrains Bank's Board: "The kingdom of God is experienced, most often unexpectedly, in moments of connection among people, especially the most vulnerable."

#### Food security through farming in Haiti

PWRDF partner Fondation Nationale Grand'Anse (FNGA) in Haiti continues to support families affected by Hurricane Matthew of 2016. FNGA has targeted the most vulnerable members of the population and has worked to ensure the active participation of women. The project provided beneficiaries with the ability to generate their own sources of food through the rehabilitation of livestock and by providing seeds and plants to grow new crops. In 2018, 135 people (including 90 women) were given sheep and trained on how to raise, breed and distribute to the most in need.

## Making communities more resilient in Cuba

In Cuba, climate change has degraded the soil leading to decreased food production and the loss of trees for timber and fruit. As part of the Episcopal Church of Cuba's Seeds of the Future program, Tania was trained in food security and preservation. "I learned harvesting techniques appropriate



for climate change such as planting tall species like corn and sunflowers around our crops, so the diseases stay up high and don't come down to the vegetables." She also learned to repel invading species by planting strong-smelling herbs like basil and oregano, to use vermiculture, to preserve and pickle food, to use efficient stoves that consume less energy, and how to map the land to protect it from flooding and to create clean water reservoirs. Tania is able to grow enough food to feed her family of six, 25 children and nine elders at the local church and then sell the rest.

### **Empowering Women**



### Women healing together in the DRC

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, women who are victims of violence rarely report the crimes because of fear of repercussions, like being shunned by family or because of the stigma and shame that come with being a victim. PWRDF supports the Panzi Foundation and its Maison Dorcas, a place where women victims of sexual and gender-based violence can recover and start new lives. Women at Maison Dorcas heal together with other vulnerable women in a safe place where they are heard and empowered through learning new income-generating skills of their choice, such as sewing, weaving and hair styling.













WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### Global Affairs Canada visits Rwanda program

In October 2018, Global Affairs Canada Senior International Development Officer Ina Lukac-Orange visited Partners in Health Rwanda. Lukac-Orange met beneficiaries of the All Mothers and Children Count POSER program (Program on Social and Economic Rights). "The attention to detail is extraordinary and it is a comprehensive program," said Lukac-Orange. One beficiary, Safina, was able to

renovate her home and buy a cow thanks to training and income earned through the program.

### Building peace in South Sudan

Since 2013, a civil war has ravaged South Sudan leaving women in its wake, but PWRDF is working with KAIROS to create peace with women at the forefront. Studies show that peace agreements have a 35 percent greater chance of being effective and lasting if women are involved in the process. This is why the KAIROS-led Women of Courage: Women, Peace and Security project is ensuring women contribute to sustainable peace by providing them with human rights training and psycho-social support for women living in conflict zones. This year the project received renewed funding from Global Affairs Canada, with a contribution of \$4.5 million.

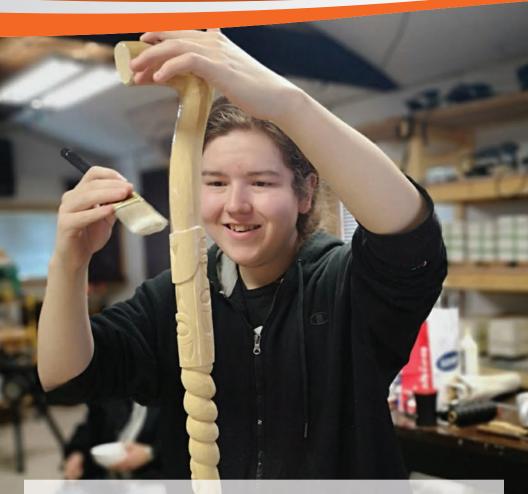
### Supporting Indigenous midwives at the UN

In April 2018 at the 17th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) Cheryllee Bourgeois (right), a Métis midwife, pleaded with member nations to tackle the oppression facing Indigenous midwives around the world. Within Indigenous communities, the rate of maternal and newborn deaths is significantly higher than the general population. Ryerson University's Aboriginal Initiatives in Toronto, Kinal Antzetik in Mexico and CHIRAPAQ in Peru have partnered with



PWRDF to expand and share the knowledge of Indigenous midwives and have been buoyed by the success of the presentation at the United Nations.

### Indigenous Communities



### Investing in youth

The Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC) in Port Alberni, B.C. has been partnering with PWRDF for many years on cultural recovery and preservation. In 2017 it launched the Indigenous Youth Business Strategy program. The program provides mentorship, coaching and microfinance investments to help Indigenous youth grow their small businesses. It is making entrepreneurship a viable option for many local youth who otherwise may not have access to business expertise or traditional financing. "I want to thank my funders for helping me grow my business and become more established in this field," says Richie Brown, a 19-year-old Indigenous artist who is now learning from his father and uncles how to carve Coast Salish design jewellery in silver and gold. "This will benefit me a lot going forward into my line of work."













WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COAL



#### BC Wildfire relief supporting Indigenous community

PWRDF has accompanied communities in southern British Columbia since fire tore through the area in 2017. In February 2018, St. Timothy's, 100 Mile House and St. Peter's, Williams Lake offered two-day ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) courses to more than 25 community leaders, including Indigenous people and middle-aged and older men who have been found to be at greater risk of suicide. "Our goal was for each church to host one ASIST course, and then follow-up with several Safe Talk events in each community," said the Rev. Keith Dobyns, who organized the program with PWRDF support. Safe Talk events are for the entire community and focus on recognizing the signs associated with suicide risk and provide training on how to refer individuals to the appropriate help.

#### Restoring culture through education

In Alberta, the First Nations Adult and Higher Education Consortium (FNAHEC) has been working to preserve Blackfoot culture and languages. PWRDF is in the second year of a three-year program that is developing an Indigenous Studies degree at Old Sun College. Last year, organizations from the Siksika Nations worked with FNAHEC to acquire digital archives from the government of Alberta and to support professional development within the Siksika Board of Education and Child and Family Services.



### Puppets love to tell the story

Since 1978 Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitióhkwa Language and Cultural Centre (KORLCC) has been teaching Mohawk culture, language and history in Kahnawake, Quebec. In 2018, 15 students graduated from the language program and the popular children's puppet television show Tóta tánon Ohkwá:ri wrapped its 14th season. The show teaches Mohawk language but also provides messages about substance abuse and disease prevention.

### **Humanitarian and Disaster Response**













WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COAL

### Food distribution in South Sudan

With an estimated 63% of the population facing food insecurity, the crisis in South Sudan cannot be overstated. Conflict is leading to severe hunger and malnutrition, and the situation has been worsened by years of below average rainfall causing crops to fail and livestock to waste away and die. Thanks to a generous donation from



Calgary Anglican Richard Bird to PWRDF's equity account with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, PWRDF was able to purchase cereal, beans, lentils, vegetable oil and salt for eight monthly food distributions in particularly hard hit areas.

#### Earthquake relief in Indonesia

On September 28, 2018, a magnitude 7.4 earthquake hit Central Sulawesi, Indonesia. Those affected found their homes destroyed with insufficient access to food, safe drinking water and hygiene infrastructure. PWRDF contributed \$20,000 to an ACT Alliance appeal and after a needs assessment, ACT responded with health services and the distribution of food and non-food items to 500 affected families.



### Health care support in Gaza

The Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza has been struggling to keep up with the huge number of patients flooding in from the continuing conflict. Many of the patients are children who have been injured and traumatized by recent violence in the region. PWRDF responded to an ACT Alliance appeal with \$20,000, which has been used to fund a team of doctors and nurses from Jerusalem to provide training and lifesaving medical equipment and to perform surgeries.

### **Accompanying Refugees**

















WORKING TOWARDS THESE SUSTAINARIE DEVELOPMENT GOAL



### Rohingya response continues

Since 2017, PWRDF has been supporting food relief to Rohingya refugees living in camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. PWRDF and donors have contributed more than \$95,000 to the ACT Alliance appeal. In November 2018, PWRDF's humanitarian response coordinator Naba Gurung visited the camp and saw how the funds were being used to support food security, livelihood, shelter, hygiene, psychosocial work and more. At left, a counsellor shows the vast number of case files for refugees.

#### Giving Sri Lankan children statehood

The Sri Lankan civil war ended in 2009, but as of December 2017, there were close to 65,000 Sri Lankans still living in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu, India, unable to return home without appropriate documentation. Thousands of these refugees are children who need to be registered with the Sri Lankan Deputy High Commission to avoid being stateless. In 2018 PWRDF received funding from the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC) to support PWRDF partner OfERR (Organization for Eelam Refugee Rehabilitation), in its work preparing and assisting refugees to return to Sri Lanka. The project assisted up to 600 of the most vulnerable children and their parents to navigate the bureaucratic systems to get the appropriate paperwork.

#### Welcoming refugees to Egypt

Cairo is one of the largest urban refugee centres in the world, hosting approximately three million refugees from Africa and 500,000 from Syria. For many coming to this ancient city, their first stop is Refuge Egypt, a ministry of the Episcopal Church in Cairo. It provides services to asylum seekers hoping for UNHCR refugee status determination, voluntary repatriation, resettlement or integration into Egyptian society. Last year PWRDF supported Refuge Egypt's Well Baby and Well Child clinics. PWRDF funds enabled 1,276 children under five to be checked for immunizations, have their weight and height



measured against developmental benchmarks, and to be screened for malnutrition and rickets to make integration into Cairo safer and healthier.

### Sharing time, talent and treasure

September 2018 marked the beginning of a year of celebrating PWRDF's 60th anniversary. Across Canada, people gave generously of their funds and of their time to learn about PWRDF and to share our stories. Here are some highlights:



#### **Dear Prime Minister**

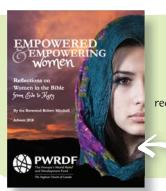
PWRDF participated in the launch of the "I Care Campaign," a Canadian Foodgrains Bank led initiative designed to increase Canadians' awareness of Canadian aid and to advocate with the Government of Canada for increased spending. Approximately 3,100 postcards were distributed.



photo © Michael Hudson

#### Cathedral collaboration

Hundreds of people visited "Seeing Visions, Dreaming Dreams," a 10-day public exhibit and sale of the work of textile artist Hilary Rice at St. James Cathedral in Toronto. PWRDF was proud to benefit from the sales and donations, to display information at the event and to have Executive Director Will Postma speak about PWRDF's work.

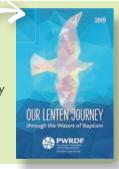


950 Lent subscribers

#### Online learning

During Advent and Lent, people received reflections in their inbox every day, sharing PWRDF stories.

850 Advent subscribers



PWRDF Youth Council members visited partner Nuu-Chah-Nulth Economic Development Corporation in Port Alberni, B.C. to learn more about Indigenous Youth programs.



#### 'Tis the season

During Advent 2018, St Paul's, Bloor Street in Toronto partnered with PWRDF for their annual Advent Ask campaign. Parishioners gave \$25,000 to

annual Advent Ask campaign.
Parishioners gave \$25,000 to
support sustainable farming, food security and
nutrition programs with PWRDF partner the

Anglican Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania.



### Hatching an idea

The 125th anniversary celebrations at St. Michael's in Canmore, Alberta's were warm and fuzzy. To raise funds for PWRDF's World of Gifts, they sold little fuzzy chicks for \$10 each, to honour the memory of a loved one. Word spread all over town and by September, hundreds of little chicks adorned St. Michael's altar and a cheque for \$2,156 was delivered to PWRDF.

#### **Ride for Refuge 2018**

38
cyclists and
walkers

19 cities \$13,500 raised to support women entrepreneurs in Guatemala

\$25,000

raised for

work in

Tanzania

\*13,500
raised to support
PWRDF's equity
in Canadian
Foodgrains
Bank



#### \$550,000 raised through World of Gifts!

In 2018, PWRDF continued to be a one-stop shop for Christmas gifts. Almost 9,100 gifts were purchased from the World of Gifts guide, raising close to \$550,000 for partners and programs around the world. Once again, goats were the top seller with 1,141 purchased. Six dispensaries were also purchased for \$7,500 each!

### Financial Report

Supporting the work of PWRDF improves the quality of daily life for vulnerable populations by promoting global justice & self-sustainability. Your commitment is transforming lives.

### Contributions to PWRDF by Diocese

DIOCESE	2018	2017	2016
Algoma	81,446	111,225	97,703
The Arctic	16,670	12,200	20,899
Athabasca	17,053	18,204	24,329
Brandon	42,294	36,404	35,540
British Columbia	264,926	289,491	205,988
Caledonia	11,173	21,782	12,120
Calgary	334,805	304,417	167,587
Edmonton	102,144	120,138	87,912
Fredericton	90,636	181,865	71,552
Huron	327,104	377,148	427,024
Kootenay	211,138	151,003	110,358
Montreal	73,193	87,890	79,836
Moosonee	8,400	16,527	8,002
Central Newfoundland	138,868	147,949	124,314
Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador	120,447	137,512	124,605
Western Newfoundland	77,795	93,113	94,620
New Westminster	283,300	364,877	285,009
Niagara	273,394	308,272	227,167
Nova Scotia & P.E.I.	267,366	259,390	263,762
Ontario	152,924	159,524	113,785
Ottawa	287,675	344,198	329,138
Qu'Appelle	59,018	85,831	57,984
Quebec	19,709	35,018	22,822
Rupert's Land	95,928	105,625	94,246
Saskatchewan	11,458	22,338	7,735
Saskatoon	43,233	40,050	36,980
Territory of the People	39,229	34,676	36,031
Toronto	527,659	560,188	500,764
Yukon	10,030	14,329	13,621
Anonymous/Other	44,138	119,204	128,047
At end of calendar year	\$4,033,153	\$4,560,387	\$3,809,478



Revenue		
(financial statement April 1, 2018 - March 30, 2019)	Actual	% of Revenue
Global Affairs Canada (All Mothers and Children Count)	\$ 3,645,530	43.07
Parish/Individual Donations	3,569,798	42.17
Bequests	728,219	8.60
Interest and Dividends	225,227	2.66
Increase in Fair Market Value	-,	
of Marketable Securities	174,047	2.06
Other	106,150	1.25
Realized Gain on Sale of Marketable Securities	15,449	0.18
Total Revenue	\$ 8,464,420	100.00%
Expenses (Program Allocation)	Actual	% of Expenses
Program		•
Global Affairs Canada and PWRDF co-funded programs	\$ 3,829,338	43.27
Relief and Refugees	513,627	5.80
Africa and the Middle East	402,001	4.54
Latin America and the Caribbean	373,547	4.22
Canadian Anglican Partnership Program (CAPP)	287,762	3.25
Canada - Indigenous Communities	223,896	2.53
Asia and the Pacific	175,208	1.98
Ecumenical Relations	137,948	1.56
Sub-Total: Program Grants	\$ 5,943,327	67.16
Program Delivery		
Program Personnel	\$ 1,635,850	18.49
Program Occupancy and Office	204,445	2.31
Travel/Monitoring/Evaluation	71,382	0.81
Sub-Total: Program Delivery	\$ 1,911,677	21.61
Total Program:	\$ 7,855,004	88.76
Administration		
Personnel	\$ 514,124	5.81
Occupancy and Office	104,302	1.18
Governance	72,593	0.82
Travel	21,873	0.25
Professional Fees	20,351	0.23
Total Administration:	\$ 733,243	8.29
Fundraising	\$ 260,721	2.95



**Total Expenses** 

Carried Forward:

21.61% Program Delivery

43.27% Global Affairs Canada & PWRDF co-funded programs

8.29% Administration

4.54% Africa and the Middle East

4.22% Latin America and the Caribbean

\$8,848,968

\$ (384,548)

2.53% Indigenous Communities in Canada

2.95% Fundraising

1.56% Ecumenical Partnerships

3.25% Canadian Anglican Partnership Program

1,98% Asia and the Pacific

100.00

### Looking ahead: Climate Change



#### By Zaida Bastos, Director Development Partnership Program

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) calls climate change the defining issue of our time. From shifting weather patterns that threaten food production, to rising sea levels that increase the risk of catastrophic flooding, the impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. Without drastic and immediate action, scientists warn that changes to major ecosystems, the planetary climate system and food supplies are irreversible.

Perhaps nowhere are these changes more brutally felt than in many of the vulnerable communities where PWRDF partners work with people who do not yet have the knowledge or infrastructure to cope. Small holder farmers struggle to feed their families. Soil degradation and expanding deserts decrease food security, increase poverty and drive migration. Climate-related disasters, such as drought, floods, cyclones and tropical storms, increase food insecurity, both in the

immediate aftermath of a disaster and in the long term.

In 2018, climate and natural disasters — so-called climate shocks — jolted 29 million people into acute food insecurity. Nearly 23 million people in 20 African countries and 3.8 million people in Central America and the Caribbean (mainly in El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua) were affected.

In March 2019, cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical cyclones to hit Africa and the Southern Hemisphere. The long-lived storm tore through Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi, leaving hundreds dead and affecting close to two million people. PWRDF, with the support of our donors, promptly responded.

As scientists sound the alarm over climate change, there is also reason to see hope. There are small changes afoot. As part of PWRDF's 2019-2024 Strategic Plan and our commitment to Sustainable Development Goal # 13 (Climate Action), we are working with partners in Tanzania, Bangladesh, Cuba, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Colombia on strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change.

Farmers in affected communities are learning permaculture techniques like minimum tillage and soil disturbance, covering soil with crop residues and live mulches, rotating crops and planting different crops together, using natural pesticides and fertilizers, and harvesting and managing scarce water resources. The new approaches will restore and protect the soil and make it more productive, thus improving food security and nutrition for families.

These may be small changes, but many small changes add up.

### Find Yourself with PWRDF

### Promote PWRDF in your Parish or Community

From coast to coast to coast, Canadian churches host bake sales, bike rides, hymn sings, educational events and more, all to raise funds and awareness about the good work of PWRDF. Order free brochures, bookmarks, placemats and donor envelopes, or download booklets and presentations for your group. Visit pwrdf. org/resources to learn more.

#### Volunteer with Us

If you would like to become a parish representative or a diocesan representative for PWRDF, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Kim Umbach at kumbach@pwrdf.org.

#### **Share Our Stories**

We regularly publish stories about the life-changing programs we support.

- · Subscribe to our newsletter at pwrdf.org/subscribe
- · Like us on Facebook @pwrdfcan
- · Follow us on Twitter @pwrdf
- Follow us on Instagram @pwrdf\_ justgeneration
- Look for our newsletter Under the Sun, published in the February, June and September issues of the Anglican Journal.

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