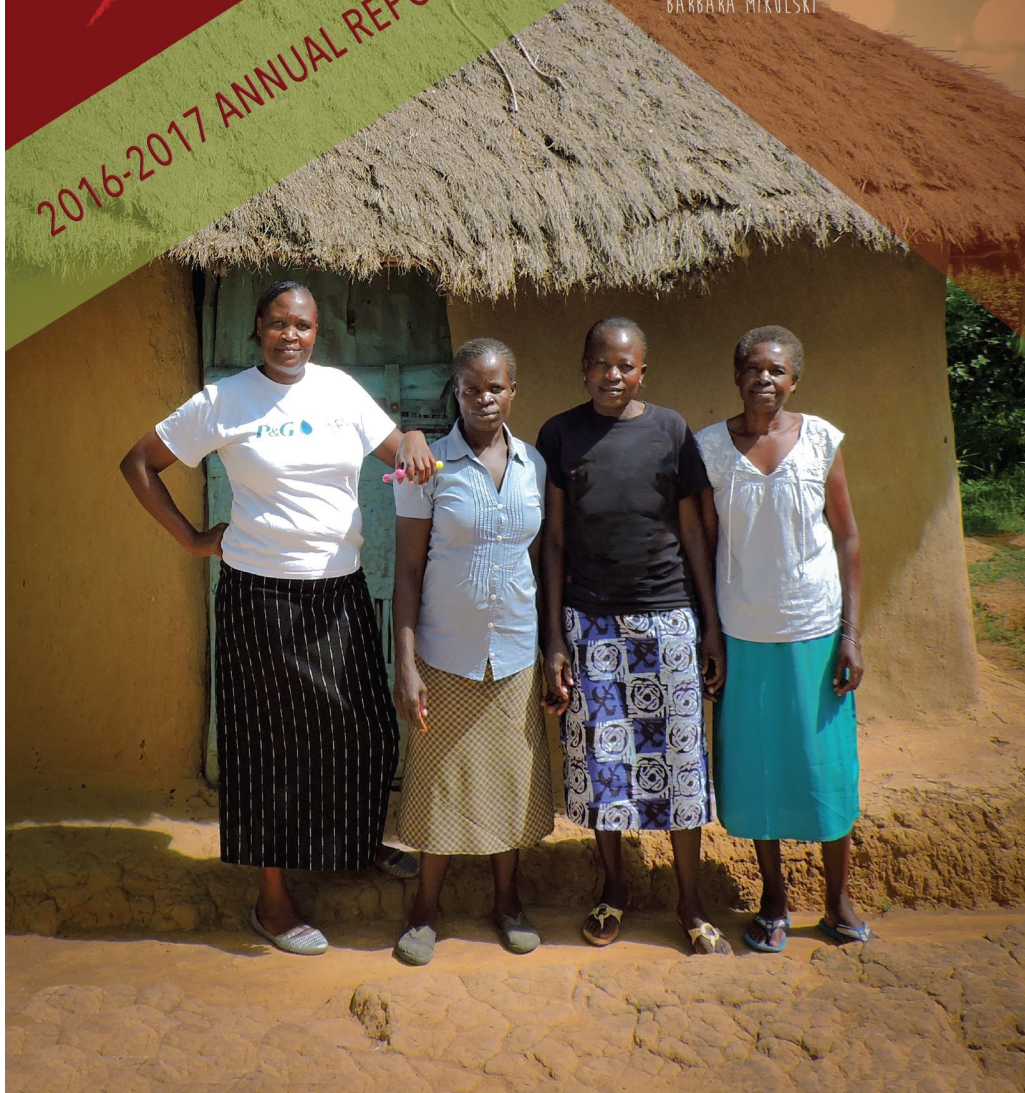


"EACH ONE OF US CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A CHANGE."

BARBARA MIXULSKI



SVH- Mbakalo Dispensary Staff from left to right: Isaac, Florence, Jane, Miriam, and Desmond

SOTENI International Mission Statement

Working to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in rural Kenya and to improve the lives of those affected by HIV/AIDS.

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Umoja ni nguvu, utengano ni- together we are stronger, divided we will fall. SOTENI's community-led approach in all our projects embodies this Swahili proverb. I believe that each and every one has a part to contribute toward the betterment of our people. In my personal experience this is truly embodied in the case of SVH-Mituntu sponsored student John Kirimi, who is a true testament to the power of working together and never giving up. In October 2016, just before he sat for his KCSE, a critical test taken at the end of the high school year, he fell critically ill and had to be hospitalized for the better part of the preparation period for his exams. Everyone connected with him worked tirelessly to ensure that he had what was needed to make him better. This included his extended family, SK, SVH-Mituntu, SJ, his sponsor and even the hospital that showed compassion and care above and beyond routine. From the sleepless nights, to the frantic efforts to ensure finances were ready at all times for his care, SOTENI staff and his sponsors seamlessly worked to get him to where he is today. John is healthy and life is full of promise for him as the day draws closer for him to join the Meru University to pursue a course on Information Technology. His case for me embodies the SOTENI spirit "Sisi sote ni pamoja".

Just as everyone pulled together for John, our ABDs (AIDS Barefoot Doctors) pull together for their clients, often going above and beyond routine care. They offer education in clean water, family planning, nutrition, group capacity building, and offer moral support and lend an ear when needed. Together we can make the world a better place than we found it.

Together we can make that change. Thank you for being part of it!

Peter Kihuria was SOTENI Business Manager for 3 years. He currently is Grants Manager. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance), Certified Pupil Accountant, CPA 6, Master of Business Administration & Project Management - University of Nairobi - ongoing.



Pictured in photo from left to right are: Peter Gitonga, SVH-Mituntu Coordinator, John Kirimi, and Peter Kihuria

SVH-Mbakalo dispensary has served 2933 patients, ran 2655 lab test, tested 788 clients for HIV. SVH-Ugunja provided 1754 women with HIV counseling and testing and 709 were provided family planning services.



SVH-Ugunja Ligega support group

The SVH-Ugunja Ligega support group is one of SOTENI's largest support groups, with approximately 50 active members. The group, which meets twice monthly, has created a successful "table banking" operation that helps to support the group members. Table banking is a common practice within SOTENI's support groups. Each member of the group contributes some money so that the group can give members loans and collect some interest. The Ligega support group has gone beyond this traditional model, using some of the money to purchase two converted storage containers that are rented out as storefronts, and a motorbike (piki-piki) that is rented by a local driver. Using revenue from both of these enterprises, the group has created a life insurance policy where if any group member dies, their family will receive 25,000 KSH to help pay for the funeral expenses.

"I have benefited a lot from receiving P&G water purification sachets, which allows me to treat my drinking water. As a result of that, I have not been experiencing cases of intestinal illnesses. SOTENI has also provided us with condoms and lessons on safe sex practices. Without SOTENI and the support that it provides, I fear that most of my support group would be dead."

Maria, SVH-Ugunja support group client



Each month SOTENI provides over 1550 vulnerable people with P&G sachets to purify their drinking water. Indirectly over 7750 people are provided with clean drinking water. SOTENI was able to provide 7,329,990 liters of clean drinking water during the 2016-17 year.



SVH-Ugunja support group

Water Purification Education in Action



After adding the contents of the sachet, stir the water rapidly for five minutes.



Wait another five minutes for the contents to settle.



Slowly pour the water through the filtering cloth into a clean bucket.



Carefully remove the filtering cloth with the sediment. Properly dispose of the sediment. Let water sit for 20 minutes.



The clean purified water is now ready to drink.

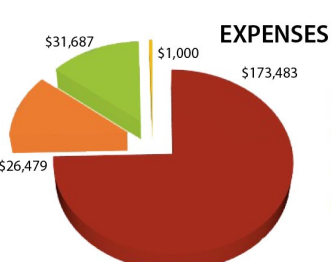
April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2016 Financial Information

Timothy Deasy Treasurer

SOTENI International met all 20 Standards for Charity Accountability according to the Cincinnati Better Business Bureau.

NET Assets \$83,898

In-Kind Donations \$26,805



**9 Volunteer/interns in Cincinnati office
2584 Volunteer hours
Trips to Kenya - 1 by Intern,
1 by Volunteer, 2 by Staff,
3 by Board Members**



Randie Marsh with her namesake, Randie Barasa

I scroll through the list of all those that have contributed this past fiscal year and see the generosity of so many people. Just as our theme says each one of you have made a difference, but when I am in Kenya and witness our accomplishments in the SOTENI Villages of Hope I am touched by the change that collectively we have made. The lives of thousands who live in the rural villages are enriched because of the education received on preventing HIV transmission and staying negative. The lives of hundreds in a small rural village have improved because of a health center that offers good quality professional services with compassion. These changes could not have happened without all of us coming together - *sisi SOTE NI pamoja*.

Randie Marsh, Executive Director, SOTENI International, Treasurer, SOTENI Kenya

I am very pleased to have a chance to say "thank you" for your support to SOTENI. I've been involved with SOTENI for five years, and have been constantly encouraged and motivated by the wonderful donors, supporters, volunteers and staff who have: *Each one of us can make a difference. Together we can make a change.*

With your involvement and partnership, we can make a change to improve the lives of those we serve in Kenya who are touched by HIV/AIDS.

Alex Vrazo, SOTENI International Board Chairman



Alex Vrazo participating at a Support Group Meeting



Victoria Wells Wulsin with baby she helped deliver

Greetings to you, without whom SOTENI would not be improving the lives of thousands of persons living with HIV/AIDS, their households, and their communities. I wish you could visit and see for yourselves how you have provided the foundation for grassroots positive change.

Thanks to you, the village government SOTENI's land to design and open "SOTENI Mituntu Mixed Day Secondary School," already partnering with the government of Kenya to teach 48 students, with fees of \$90/year, waived for those who cannot even afford those fees (compared to \$360- \$1500/year for other day and boarding schools).

Thanks to you, SOTENI in Ugunja is helping to improve health and food security throughout the region - teaching about improved farming and providing households with seeds and fertilizer for nutritious gardening.

Thanks to you, the SOTENI Village of Hope - Mbakalo dispensary is now humming with activities: jammed with moms and babies for immunizations: safe deliveries (I was blessed to assist with two); six inpatient beds, often overflowed. Recent training of our team and upgrades of the dispensary - thanks to you - have made it a beacon of dependable health care, laboratory tests, medications, and follow-up.

Thanks to you, lives are being saved, enriched, and fulfilled. Including my own. Thank you from all the SOTENI family.

Victoria Wells Wulsin, SOTENI International Co-Founder, Vice Chair, SOTENI Kenya (SK) Board Chair