



All of us together



SOTENI's Mission

Our mission is anchored in the collective well-being of communities and responsiveness to emerging community needs. In 2020, our mission expanded to reflect the work being led by SOTENI community health workers in the field and the emergence of new pandemic, COVID-19.

SOTENI's mission - to prevent and mitigate the effects of disease, especially HIV/AIDS through community-based programs now includes the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19. Our geographic footprint has also expanded and now encompasses Eswatini (formerly Swaziland).

Responsive, Resilient and Resolute.

Our Programs



CLEAN WATER

In partnership with P&G Children's Safe Drinking Water Program, our AIDS Barefoot Doctors provide access to safe drinking water to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families.



AIDS BAREFOOT DOCTORS

The AIDS Barefoot Doctors program allows community health workers to provide home-based care, group therapy, and education to people living with HIV/AIDS in all of our locations.



SWAZI SHEROES

Swazi SHEROES is a holistic economic empowerment program for women and girls living in eSwatini who are at high-risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Villages of Hope are communities in which SOTENI delivers need based programming, such as health clinics, community centers, and income generating activities.

a letter from... **SOTENI International**

SOTENI International has had a year of great success despite COVID-19. Our dedicated staff, volunteers, and supporters have helped us to stay true to our mission of preventing the effects of diseases through community based programs, and online training programs related to infectious disease prevention, including COVID-19. SOTENI International (SI) and SOTENI Kenya (SK) are in excellent alignment and have executed several joint activities. SI and SK board members, and staff from SK toured our Villages of Hope in June 2021 which will

help to nurture our relationship with our beneficiaries. Technology integration in the villages will be accelerated following the grant received from the International Foundation. Swazi SHEROES, a program in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) was designed to combat HIV/AIDS through the economic empowerment of women. We seek your support as we continue to grow.

With deep gratitude,

Hema Krishnan, Ph.D. Chair & SOTENI International Board of Trustees

Jenny Brady, Executive Director



a letter from... **SOTENI Kenya**

COVID-19 has been a challenge but SOTENI Kenya has more than risen to the task! The SOTENI Kenya Board has made great strides in organization and commitment. Thank you donors and supporters for making these strides possible.

We've invested in new computers in the main office, added powerful Wi-Fi modems in each of the villages vastly improving communication between the villages, our clinic and education community center, and our Board and staff in Nairobi and United States. We're proud to share that the Mbakalo medical team received a US Embassy Self-help grant in the amount of \$7,000 to upgrade its maternity ward.

P&G Children's Safe Drinking Water Program must be singled out for support of our current water purification sachets that power SOTENI AIDS Barefoot Doctors. Thank you!

The SOTENI Kenya Budget wisely provisioned our SK Board Members to give up some of their personal time to begin travel to visit our sites. Five members have recently delivered detailed reports to the SK Board about the impact and challenges in our future.

I cannot express enough pride in the work of our Program Manager Noreen Obilo, Program Assistant Luke Baraza and Finance Officer Peter Kihuria in Nairobi. Our team of 40 staff members including our Villages Coordinators, Medical Staff at our clinic in Mbakalo and our AIDS Barefoot Doctors have done amazingly effective work during the worldwide COVID epidemic. Our Board Members demonstrate exceptional leadership with high levels of coordination, strong attendance at SK Board meetings, and excellent financial oversight (we now have online banking processes in Kenya).

On behalf of SOTENI Kenya, I thank our supporters, friends and partners for support and donations in the aid of mitigating the effects and causes of communicable diseases.

We are because you are,

Tyrone K. Yates, Chair

2020-2021 Timeline

APRIL 2020

Joint committee forms between SOTENI Kenya and SOTENI International leaders and key staff to address the safety of our people, program participants and continuity of programs and services in essential locations.

AIDS Barefoot Doctors' (ABD) support groups are disband due to Kenya lockdown. The ABD team devises a plan to ensure P&G clean Purifier of Water packets were distributed with minimal disruption.

SOTENI Digital Photo Gallery Experience is created and launched.

MAY 2020

P&G Children Safe Drinking Water Program supports SOTENI's needs to provide COVID-response training and personal protective equipment to all staff, and ensures distribution of P&G Purifier of Water packets to over 2,500 families living in rural Kenya.

Giving Tuesday Now is launched as a global collective response to securing new funding for nonprofits on the front-lines of COVID-19. SOTENI raises over \$3,500 in new gifts.

SOTENI COVID-19 Campaign is launched and exceeds goal, thanks to the SI Board and supporters, raising \$15,000 for operations and programs.

Advisory Member, Jason Allen continues to drive technology upgrades and cost savings by migrating US and Kenya-based staff to Office365.

JUNE 2020

Cincinnati Magazine article about SOTENI written by Bob Driehaus is released in June "Pride" Issue - the piece highlights SOTENI's work in HIV/AIDS and now COVID-19, and profiles co-founder, Dr. Victoria Wells Wulsin.

SOTENI's first virtual forum is hosted with Cincinnati Magazine, in partnership with MadCap Distance Learning Studio. The interactive panel discussion between Bob Driehaus, John Fox, Editor of Cincinnati Magazine and SOTENI co-founder, Vic Wulsin, and moderated by Judge Tyrone Yates, SK Board Chair, shines new light on HIV/AIDS in the context of a new global pandemic.

US Small business grant secured by SOTENI International.

Interns join SOTENI International to support grant writing, fundraising, and more.

JULY 2020

Partnership with Minerva Health Solutions enables PPE to be continuously supplied to SOTENI Kenya and sent to reach all SOTENI Villages of Hope.

New SOTENI Kenya Board is confirmed in full cooperation with the Government of Kenya's Non-governmental Organizational Oversight Board.

Together, We Grow

AUGUST 2020

Volunteers and supporters ensure communications, training, and funding are in place to support expanded community health outreach in COVID-19.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Swazi SHEROES is launched as a new program of SOTENI International.

Steve Driehaus, Swazi SHEROES founder and chair, and SOTENI International Board Member hosts a screening of the film, LIYANA with the Queen of Eswatini, LIYANA Filmmakers, SHEROES staff in Eswatini.

Global Giving campaign kicks off to support SHEROES fundraising. The program reaches its goal of raising its first \$25,000.

OCTOBER 2020

Inaugural joint Annual Report of SI and SK is created.

Second Annual Midyear Business review is conducted in collaboration with Executive Officers of SOTENI Kenya and SOTENI International Boards.

NOVEMBER 2020

SOTENI staff and program participants remain healthy. Staff continues operations and minimizes disruption to services as COVID-19 spreads.

Annual Campaign launches with great support from new & longtime donors.

DECEMBER 2020

Online gala event is jointly created by Kenya and US-based SOTENI staff, board members and volunteers. Live event is hosted from Nairobi with Kenya-based filmmaker, Albert Theuri, including guest speakers: Pamela Bridgewater, Michael A. Battle, Kate Schroder, Hon. Dr. Patrick Mweu Musimba, Doreen Moraa Morach, and Waihiga Muturi. Sponsored by SOTENI Friend and Supporter, Cathy Willis.

JANUARY 2021

Staff continue their resolve to maintain their health and support of community members.

Dr. Victoria Wells Wulsin leads fourth training session on COVID-19 to all 40 staff members in SOTENI Villages of Hope, Nairobi and the United States as well as volunteers and board members.

FEBRUARY 2021

Second US Small Business Loan secured, adding \$20,700 to the SI Budget.

MARCH 2021

SOTENI Board participates in a joint retreat led by Advisory Member, Sadie Healy. The retreat convened all SOTENI leaders and led staff to reflect on lessons learned of the past year and strategize for the year ahead.

Partner Highlights...

Thank you to P&G Children's Safe Drinking Water for 12 years of partnership. We are grateful for your increase in our latest grant, and your support of reallocating funds toward COVID-19 response and operations.



Thank you to Minerva Health Solutions for your partnership in providing personal protective equipment to Kenya and shipping it overseas.

Thank you to GlobalGiving in matching grants and new campaigns to respond to COVID-19, and powering donations in all major currencies worldwide.



Corporate Responsibility Partner, Indian Wales Group Consulting and Jeff Holbrook for donating a percentage of your online store proceeds to SOTENI's programs.

Swazi SHEROES

Swazi SHEROES, a program of SOTENI International launched in FY 2020–2021. SHEROES strives to build the economic capacity of young women in Eswatini (Swaziland) as a way to help them make healthy choices and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS.

In September 2021, SHEROES held an online kick-off event with the screening of LIYANA, raising \$25,000 toward the start-up in Eswatini. This was accompanied by the establishment of an advisory board in the United States and partnership with the Imbeleko foundation in Eswatini. The program launched, opening a workshop in Manzini training its first cohort of young women.

In addition to training the young women in the skills of sewing and craft design, SHEROES staff have been working with advisory board members and local professionals to design and deliver wrap around programming for the participants that includes psycho-social support and life skills training.

Despite COVID restrictions and political unrest, SHEROES has managed to emerge as a safe haven for the young women of Eswatini and looks forward to growing rapidly this coming year.

We thank you for your support!

*Steve Driehaus, Swazi SHEROES
Founder and Board Chair*



**The screening of LIYANA raised \$25,000
for the start of Swazi SHEROES in Eswatini**

A safe haven for young women!



Village of Hope: UGUNJA



Strengthening agriculture resources for health...

For the past 11 years, Village of Hope Ugunja has been able to serve a growing number of HIV/AIDS support groups (drug adherence, time management, COVID-19, nutrition, water treatment procedures, sanitation, and hygiene). SOTENI AIDS Barefoot Doctors [ABDs] conduct monthly health education sessions and supply and demonstrate how to properly use condoms during support group. The pandemic made it impossible to conduct support groups following the directive issued by the Government of Kenya prohibiting gatherings. However, the ABDs managed to serve their clients through community contact persons appointed by the group members, delivering P&G sachets and condoms and distribution sheets.



374,257

P&G sachets distributed

19,888

Condoms distributed

669

Clients served cumulatively

506

Women served cumulatively

163

Men served cumulatively

66

HIV support groups served

8

Staff virtually trained on COVID-19

*Much appreciation goes to our Ugunja AIDS Barefoot Doctors, supervisor and community contact persons who were brave enough to make sure all SOTENI clients received P&G water purifier packets and condoms despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Appreciation also goes to SOTENI Kenya and SOTENI International leaders and supporters that made sure **no staff was laid off** due to the pandemic and that we maintained our operations.*

Calvin Aloo

SVH Ugunja Coordinator

Serving a growing number of support groups each year.



Village of Hope: MITUNTU

Mituntu ABDs conducted **419 home visits** across the **43 support groups**.

473 educational sessions were conducted, improving awareness and access to updated HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 information, medication adherence, nutrition, clean water, sanitation & more.

Some group sessions were made possible in conjunction with **income-generating and table banking activities**.

ABDs delivered **112,701 P&G sachets** to **5,603 people**, and distributed **100 liters** of hand sanitizer to the support group members to reduce infection.

SOTENI Student Sponsorship Program in Partnership with Friends of Kianjai Kenya (FKK)

SVH Mituntu in partnership with FKK paid **\$5,000 USD in school fees** to 55 students.

Helped reduce the financial burden on the parents and the rate of school dropouts.



We greatly appreciate the support of all SOTENI supporters over this past year despite having challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you!

Kelly Mutwiri
SVH Mituntu Coordinator

Making a bigger impact!

Village of Hope: MBAKALO

The SOTENI Village of Hope Mbakalo Health Clinic served over 3,000 patients:

2,223

Outpatients

881

Children at Child Welfare (vaccination) Clinic

326

Students from Mbakalo Boys School

162

Maternity Cases (all mothers delivered safely)

117

Prenatal Care Mothers



7,000 female clients and **766 male clients** received P&G water purifier packets plus training on various topics from medication adherence and nutrition to how to reduce the social stigma and alienation of people living with HIV/AIDS. They also received individual economic empowerment education, and COVID-19 information.

Over 1600 vulnerable children (OVC) received services from SOTENI OVC program implemented by our site partner, CREADIS. The children received school fees subsidies and new school uniforms. Additionally, **100 families** of the participating children received cash transfers for their financial security and empowerment.

Thank you to our local partners: US Embassy Ambassadors Self-Help Grants, Catholic Relief and CREADIS. My sincere appreciation goes to the Mbakalo Clinic Team and AIDS Barefoot Doctors who worked tirelessly to ensure that we provide quality services to the community. My other appreciation goes to SOTENI donors and friends that continued to give and extend their support which made everything possible for us this past year despite the challenges from COVID-19. May we continue together to provide quality services to the community.

Raphael Barasa

SVH Mbakalo Coordinator

Financials

SOTENI INTERNATIONAL

SOTENI KENYA

Together We Raised: \$321,320

\$267,291

\$84,503

\$190

In Gifts, Grants & Contributions for Programs/Operations in Kenya & US

Fundraising Events

Investment income

Total Revenue: \$176,497

Grants:
\$176,497



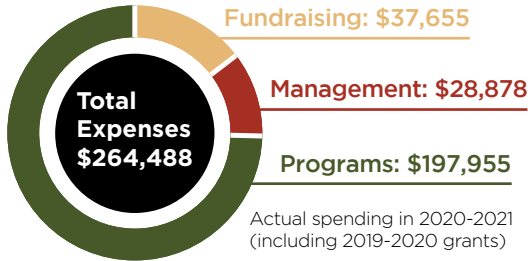
Total Expenses: \$159,625

Administrative:
\$35,182



Programs:
\$124,470

April 1, 2020–March 31, 2021



Leadership

SOTENI INTERNATIONAL BOARD

Hema Krishnan, Chair
Victoria Wells Wulsin, Vice Chair
Bryan McCleary, Secretary
Joseph Ruter, Treasurer
Ellen Bowman
Ashley Clonchmore
Lynn Deasy
Steve Driehaus
Daniel Odipo
Andrea Schaaf
Immaculate Wanyonyi
Tyrone K. Yates

SOTENI KENYA BOARD

Tyrone K. Yates, Chair
Boaz Chimasia, Treasurer
Gilbert Wangalwa
Churchill Saoko
Ann Ichungwa
Lynnette Njeri Mugai
Waihiga Muturi
Kathy Burlew
Immaculate Wanyonyi
Consolata Wambui Mureithi
Victoria Wells Wulsin
Noreen Obilo, Secretary Ex Officio
Jenny Brady, Ex Officio

SOTENI HEADSTAFF

Jenny Brady, Cincinnati Executive Director
Noreen Obilo, Nairobi Program Director
Luke Baraza, Nairobi Program Manager
Peter Kihuria, Nairobi Business Consultant
Calvin Aloo, Ugunja Village of Hope Coordinator
Raphael Barasa, Mbakalo Village of Hope Coordinator
Kelly Mutwiri, Mituntu Village of Hope Coordinator



SOTENI INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jason Allen
Jerry Bedford
Kathleen Burlew
Timothy Deasy
Joseph Dehner

Sadie Healy
Charles Hollis
Inayat Malik
Jennifer Mooney
Michael Nugent

Sandra Spinner
Musa Wafula
Lawson Wulsin
Alexandra Vrazo

This year ushered hope as the Government of Kenya eased COVID-19 related restrictions which had paralyzed most organization. As the African proverb states "When the roots are deep there is no need to fear the wind," despite the effects of the pandemic the purpose and resilience of the support groups prevailed and we are slowly resuming project activities. This has allowed convening of monthly support group meetings which are instrumental in providing psychosocial support which in turn instill hope among members. We were fortunate to have won the US Embassy Self-help grant, which was used to upgrade the maternity and laboratory in the SOTENI Village of Hope Mbakalo Health Clinic. We are happy to announce that our vision of adopting technology in its field operations was realized through a grant won from The International Foundation. The pandemic forced the organization to reevaluate



new moods of engagement which strengthened relationships of SOTENI autonomous bodies via adoption of virtual engagements which reduced distances to only a phone call away.

We also suffered loss, as has everyone around the world. SOTENI lost a dear friend and a founder board member, Mr. Muthee Katheru to COVID-19. This loss was devastating for the SOTENI family and all who had an opportunity to work with him. He will be dearly missed.

Noreen Obilo
SOTENI Kenya Program Director

SOTENI believes in working together to affect change. Your support makes us part of the same village, united in a common vision and cause.

7,000

Volunteer hours of leadership, capacity building, operations and communications support



259

Donors helped sustain the programs and meet operation expenses between 2020-2021

Become part of our village... 

MAKE A GIFT

Our collective efforts for global health are more important than ever! Your gift will directly support our programs mitigating HIV/AIDS and COVID-19.

Visit soteni.org/donate today!

GET INVOLVED

Be part of our growth and outreach by visiting soteni.org/get-involved.

 www.facebook.com/SOTENI

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 www.twitter/SOTENI