



People Power

The Advocacy Project strengthens community-based advocacy



***Talley Diggs**, second from the right, was one of nine AP Peace Fellows who supported AP partners in 2017. Talley raised \$7,200 for Children Peace Initiative Kenya (CPI), which promotes peace between pastoralists in northwest Kenya. Talley is seen here with Monica and Jane Kinuya from CPI and a Samburu woman.*

THE ADVOCACY PROJECT 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

www.advocacynet.org

People Power – 2017

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From the Executive Director

One of the perks of my job is to travel. In 2017 I spent over six months on the road meeting with our amazing partners in Kenya, Uganda, Mali and Nepal.

None is more impressive than Sarita Thapa, whose father disappeared in Nepal during the internal conflict in that country (1996-2006). Sarita is a delightful person, but she is also determined to find out what happened to her father. It is this motivation – some would call it obsession – that makes her such a great advocate for families of the disappeared in Bardiya district, where she represents the Network of Families of the Disappeared Nepal (NEFAD). NEFAD has been an AP partner since 2014.

Advocates like Sarita are the real deal. Having directly suffered, they understand the issues like few others. They are in for the long haul. They represent an active constituency – NEFAD comprises two thirds of all (1,450) affected families in Nepal. This makes them powerful advocates for change.

The question is how outsiders like AP can help. The biggest problem with conventional aid is that the agenda and priorities are decided elsewhere. AP follows a different approach. We let groups like NEFAD decide if AP can be useful. If the answer is yes, we **offer a process that is geared to the partner's needs** and begins with an innovative start-up. We use crowd-funding to finance the start-up for up to 5 years in the hope that it will evolve into a larger program and eventually change society.

We supported one program and eight start-ups in 2017. As we explain in this report, the results are encouraging. The program in Mali in particular shows how an inspired idea can produce great results. Over five years Sini Sanumam (our partner) has reached over 50,000 Malian women and now works through more than 200 local women's groups to empower survivors of gender-based and sexual violence (GBV). With the model clear and the partner strong, AP's job should be finished.

Unfortunately this is not the case. Sini Sanumam has still not secured full funding for 2018, as we had hoped. One conclusion is that we must plan for long-term sustainability at the outset **when we launch a start-up**. This is difficult for CBOs like NEFAD and Sini Sanumam which often do not know where the next meal is coming from. But we cannot create demand and raise expectations which cannot be met further down the line. That would be irresponsible.

The good news is that partners like Sini Sanumam in Mali and Sarita in Nepal are in for the long haul, as I noted above. They do not have the luxury of giving up. This motivation is what makes them such great partners for AP and the best hope that together we can eventually produce real change.

Thank you for your interest and support in 2017!



Iain Guest, Executive Director

2. 2017 Snapshot

Stakeholders: AP supported 13 marginalized communities and their advocates.

Storytelling: AP produced 14 news bulletins (16,630 reads), 100 blogs, 1,232 photos (84,553 views) and 65 videos (6,382 views).

IT and tech support: AP trained seven “accidental techies” in partner organizations and created four new partner websites.

Outreach: AP displayed advocacy quilts at 17 events.

Fundraising: AP raised or transferred \$364,068.70 to partners.

Start-ups and programs: AP supported eight start-ups and one program which together benefited 15,412 individuals and family members.

Peace Fellows: AP recruited nine Fellows from eight universities.

Staff and volunteers: 56 individuals volunteered or worked for AP in 2017.



AP raised \$6,320 for Care Women Nepal and enabled CWN to screen over 1,000 women for uterine prolapse at health camps in the district of Dhankuta. Peace Fellow [Rachel Pettit](#) (center) helped Indira Thapa (third from the right) to prepare the Pakhribas camp. Iain Guest [reported on the camp](#) in one of 14 news bulletins published by AP in 2017.

3. The Challenge of Marginalization

AP works for communities that have been disempowered by conflict, poverty, and discrimination. We supported the following 13 communities in 2017:

Agent Orange caregivers in Vietnam; Survivors of sexual violence in Mali; Students with disabilities in Uganda; Wives of the disappeared in Nepal; Child workers in the brick kilns of Nepal; Women at risk from uterine prolapse in Nepal; Children of pastoralists in Kenya; Refugee women in Jordan; Adolescent girls in rural Nepal, threatened by menstrual banishment (**photo below**); Skilled refugees in Jordan and Lebanon; Girl students at risk from sexual violence in Nigeria; Victims of conflict in Lebanon; Young Palestinians in Nablus (through PHF).



Rejecting menstrual banishment in Nepal: Champa, 15, and her mother Dura were forced to live in an animal pen during menstruation until the family ended the practice, which is known as *chhaupadi*. AP took up the case of *chhaupadi* in 2017 at the request of the *Center for Agro-Ecology and Development* (CAED), a long-time AP partner. Iain Guest from AP visited Surket and helped CAED to outline a start-up to support girls like Champa, who have had the courage to reject menstrual banishment. [Read our news bulletin!](#)

4. Partnering with Community-based Advocates

AP worked with 13 community-based partners in 2017: Talent Beyond Boundaries (Skilled refugees in the Middle East); Sini Sanuman in Mali (Survivors of sexual violence); The Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in Vietnam (Agent Orange caregivers); CONCERN in Nepal (Children employed in bricks); Care Women Nepal in Nepal (Women with prolapse); The National Network of Families of the Disappeared and Missing Nepal (Wives of the disappeared); The Gulu Disabled Persons Union in Uganda (Primary students with a disability); The Children Peace Initiative Kenya (Tribal families in conflict); The Collateral Repair Project in Jordan (Women refugees from Iraq and Syria); The Palestinian House of Friendship in Nablus (Palestinian youth and women); Peace Labs in Lebanon (Villages on the front line of conflict); The Centre for Agro-Ecology and Development in Nepal (Women and girls at risk from menstrual banishment); WARIF in Nigeria (Sexual violence prevention in schools).

New Partnerships: Twenty-nine organizations from 19 countries inquired about partnership from AP in 2017. After careful review, we recommended two to the AP Board - The Women Advocacy Project in Zimbabwe and Women at Risk International Foundation (WARIF) in Nigeria. We launched a microproject for WARIF on Global Giving which raised over \$6,000.

Building capacity: AP offers six services that help partners to strengthen their organizations. These are provided through Peace Fellows. We also ask partners to observe good practice in managing grants from AP. This indirect approach to capacity-building has enabled AP partners to strengthen partners like Sini Sanuman in Mali (photo) without imposing an agenda.



Sitan Konate handles accounts for *Sini Sanuman*, AP's partner in Mali. During five years of working with AP, Sitan filed over 4,000 receipts, managed over \$700,000 of grant money, and provided meticulous reports to donors. *Sini Sanuman* will be a good investment for future donors.

What partners said in 2017:

“This year CPI Kenya had one of the best interns since the inception of the organization.” Monica Wanjiku Kinyua, Deputy Director for the *Children Peace Initiative (CPI)* in Kenya.

“Our organization has benefitted [sic] greatly from the continued support of AP and we firmly believe that our partnership will continue in the years to come as well. We have slowly started [sic] to take shape of a proper organization.” Yunesh Pratap Singh, Program Manager for *Care Women Nepal (CWN)* in Dhankuta.

“[Jacob] worked so well with the plan for supporting AO victims...in general, AP peace fellows are very supportive to AEPD.” Nguyen Thi Thanh Hong, Chairperson for the *Association for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD)* in Vietnam.

“[Lauren was] qualified for the job and she put an extra time to ensure that the task was achieved...we agreed on the work plan with the peace fellow and it worked well because the planned activities were achieved.” Patrick Ojok, Program Manager for the *Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU)* in Uganda (below).



Lauren Halloran worked at the Gulu Disabled Persons Union in northern Uganda, where she helped Patrick Ojok from GDPU to install an accessible toilet at the Ogul School. Lauren’s skills with IT and Excel came in useful and helped Patrick and his team to keep receipts, report back to donors, and measure the impact of the new toilets on enrolment and attendance.

5. Telling the Story – Producing and Disseminating Information

AP published 14 bulletins which were opened 16,630 times - a 25% increase on 2016:

[*Rape Survivors Struggle as Women Again Bear the Brunt of Conflict in Mali*](#), November 22, 2017

[*Generations Clash Over Menstrual Banishment in Nepal*](#), November 1, 2017

[*Tiger Bags Raise the Morale of Conflict Survivors in Nepal*](#), October 25, 2017

[*Health Camps Offer Relief from Prolapse in the Mountains of Nepal*](#), October 18, 2017

[*New Accessible Toilet Inspires Ugandan School Authorities*](#), September 19, 2017

[*Horror and Heroism as Vietnamese confront the legacy of Agent Orange*](#), September 13, 2017

[*Malian Rape Survivors Defy Terror and Invest for the Future*](#), July 25, 2017

[*Peace Fellows Line up for Peace and Human Rights!*](#), July 20, 2017

[*Toilets Hold the Key to Enrollment at Embattled Ugandan School*](#), July 6, 2017

[*Children Bring Peace to Warring Tribes in Kenya*](#), June 26, 2017

[*Celebrate World Refugee Day by Investing in the Ladies of Hope!*](#), June 19, 2017

[*Peace Fellows to Confront the Legacy of Conflict in Asia, Africa and the Middle East*](#), May 31, 2017

[*Civil Society Drives Earthquake Reconstruction in Nepal*](#), April 24, 2017

[*Refugee Quilts from Syria and Iraq Inspire American Students*](#), March 16, 2017

Blogs – Straight talk from our Peace Fellows

Peace Fellows produced 100 blogs in 2017. In his final blog, [**Jacob Cohn**](#) (Fletcher School at Tufts University) looked back on his work with survivors of Agent Orange in Quang Binh, Vietnam:

“I’ve consciously tried to avoid uplifting, feel-good clichés in my writing, and done my best to just report on what I see and my feelings about it. (That’s included a few details like Mrs. An’s tears when thanking us for [**her new buffalo**](#), which, while powerful in the moment, felt sappy enough when put in writing that I was tempted not to include it at all.) Nevertheless, as unoriginal as this sentiment might be, I truly have found these families’ responses—their perseverance and willingness to keep hoping and dreaming—tremendously inspiring. (AP) told me during our training in Washington that everyone there who’d worked with Agent Orange victims had become emotionally invested in the work, and I’ve certainly found that to be the case.”

Photos – Disempowerment and resistance, told through images: AP produced 2,419 photos in 2017. Of these, Peace Fellows took 1,232 photos (84,553 views).



Turkhana girls in northwest Kenya: This photo was taken by AP during a visit to Baragoi subcounty with CPI Kenya, which is working to build peace between the Turkhana and Samburu tribes.

Videos: Peace Fellow Cynthia Boruchowicz captured her work with children at CONCERN [in this video](#). It was one of 35 videos produced by AP in 2017.

Social media: AP recorded the following data for 2017: Facebook - 446 new posts, 2,881 post engagements, 160 new followers, 116 new likes; Twitter - 624 posts, 1,596 new followers; Instagram: 292 posts, 13,279 impressions, 282 new followers; YouTube: 35 new videos, 63,862 views, 202 new subscribers; Flickr: 1,232 new photos, 84,553 views (Fellow photos only).

Website: The AP website received 169,815 unique visitors and 362,643 total visits in 2017.

6. Advocacy Quilting

Embroidery and quilting have played an important part in AP's support for partners since 2010, and our quilting program continued to expand in 2017. Three communities used embroidery to tell their stories in Nepal, Jordan and Mali. Their squares were assembled into quilts and wall hangings by quilters in the US. AP and friends exhibited quilts in the US, Europe and Jordan. While story-telling and advocacy remained our primary goal, we also stepped up efforts to help partners use their embroidery skills to generate an income.

Telling the story through embroidery: In Jordan, [Peace Fellow Reina Sultan](#) worked through her host, the Collateral Repair Project (CRP), to organize training for over twenty refugee women at the Hope Workshop, an initiative of CRP. Reina enrolled four workshop leaders – Ashwaq, Hiba, Huda and Ameera – at the prestigious Titza museum where they learned new techniques that included the Syrian Raghme stitch, the Iraqi filling technique and Iraqi couching.

As Reina [wrote in a blog](#), the Raghme stitch is dying out across the Middle East, and CRP hopes it can be preserved through embroidery. The four women then trained other women and together they produced 45 superb squares describing their lives in Syria and Iraq. Half of the images were “gentle” and full of hope, while the rest were violent and angry. The squares will be assembled by AP in 2018.

Assembling embroidery in country: Not all squares produced in 2017 were assembled in the US. In Mali survivors of sexual violence produced over 300 squares of village life and camels. Most were made into bags, bed covers and wall hangings by Abi Konate, who trains survivors in tailoring at Sini Sanuman, AP's partner in Bamako (photo).



In Nepal, 25 family members of the disappeared laid the foundation for a sewing business. Under the leadership of Sarita Thapa, and using funds from AP, the women produced Tiger squares for tote bags. Peace Fellows Vicky and Kirstin found tailors in Kathmandu to produce several sample bags, but the cost of each bag was so high that Sarita decided to produce bags herself. She purchased a sewing machine, attended training and began to produce her own bags from the Tiger designs – an important first step on the road to self-sufficiency.

Assembling embroidery internationally: In asking American quilters to assemble embroidery in the US, we are not only ensuring high quality products but also building bridges between women in the Global South and north. This produced three exciting initiatives in 2017:

Bobbi Fitsimmons, a skilled member of *Quilters by the Sea* in Wilmington North Carolina, produced three Tiger quilts from Nepali squares. (AP took a quilt back to the Bardiya cooperative in Nepal.)

Kathy Tweed in New Jersey, Maria Goodwin in Washington (below photo), and Christine Bradford in Washington made squares from Mali into 15 spectacular wall hangings.

The **Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)** took over the assembly of 22 Hope Workshop squares from Jordan. Barbara Buehling, a FAWCO member, turned six squares into a wall hanging in Dusseldorf Germany. Kay Miller will assemble the other 16 squares into a quilt in Michigan. Both products will be auctioned off in 2018. This is an exciting development. Not only will the voice of the Hope refugees now be heard in Europe, but the idea of advocacy quilting has caught on with a dedicated international network of women.



Maria Goodwin in Washington DC was one of six skilled quilters who assembled embroidered squares from Mali, Nepal and Jordan in 2017.

Exhibiting quilts: Quilts have always carried a powerful message, and AP showed advocacy quilts at [seventeen events in the US](#) in 2017. Most events were organized by interns, or Peace Fellows, coordinated by Karen Delaney:

- February 21. The two Middle Eastern Refugee quilts were shown at Georgetown University. Rose Twagirumukiza, a former Peace Fellow in Mali and refugee from Rwanda, was one of the panelists.
- February 23. The two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts were exhibited at the University of Maryland's Hillel's fifth annual Global Justice Shabbat dinner.
- March 08. The fourth Congolese *Ahadi* quilt was shown at an event at the University of Loyala, New Orleans to celebrate International Women's Day.
- March 18. The two Middle Eastern refugee quilts were shown at the St George's Episcopal Church in Arlington Virginia at an event on refugees and migration.
- March 27-31. The first Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt was displayed at the Syria Awareness Week, at Columbia University's School of International & Public Affairs (SIPA).
- April 01. The two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts were displayed at the inaugural gala of No Lost Generation, the student movement that supports refugees, at American University.
- April 22-23. The two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts were among 150 quilts exhibited at the *Quilters by the Sea* guild in Portsmouth, RI. All six quilters who assembled the quilts attended.
- April 26. The two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts were shown by the Georgetown University Arab student's group and chapter of No Lost Generation.
- May 03. The two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts were shown at a student event on refugees and migration at the University of Delaware.
- May 10. AP showed the second Malian camel quilt to HE Issa Konfourou, Mali's ambassador at the UN.
- June 11. AP showed the two Middle Eastern Refugee Quilts at the UNA-USA Leadership Summit at the National Educational Association in Washington DC.
- June 27. Iain Guest from AP presented a wall hanging to His Excellency Tiena Coulibaly, the Malian Minister of Defense in Bamako.
- October 14. Therese Hartwell showed the first Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt in Kansas City at the annual meeting of the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas Alumni USA (FAUSA).
- October 16. The Second Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt was shown at a gala hosted by the UN Association of Orange County and the California State University (Fullerton) to commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the United Nations.
- November 09. The First Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt was shown at a Workshop sponsored by PAIR (Partnership for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees) at the University of Houston.
- November 18. AP showcased the Second Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt at the No Lost Generation Winter Gala at American University.
- December 02. Therese Hartwell exhibited the First Middle Eastern Refugee Quilt at a series of events held at libraries in Houston.

The Future of Advocacy Quilting: AP will continue to offer partners the change to tell their story through embroidery, while actively supporting those who want to use their skill to earn an income and strengthen their organizations. We saw this happening in 2017 in Nepal and in Mali, where survivors of gender-based violence are producing embroidered bags as well as quilts. Half of the squares produced in Jordan will be auctioned in 2018, bringing in income for the artists.

7. Fundraising for Partners

AP helped to raise \$364,068.70 for partners in 2017, through direct and indirect fundraising.

Direct fundraising: AP raised or transferred \$337,068.70 to partners in 2017. Most went to Sini Sanuman in Mali, which received \$238,003 from the German Federal Foreign Office and the Foreign Ministry of Liechtenstein.

In addition to Mali, AP raised \$6,222.70 for AEPD and families affected by Agent Orange in Vietnam; \$5,774 for NEFAD and families of the disappeared in Nepal; \$6,320 for Care Women Nepal and village women with prolapse; \$8,035 for brick children, through CONCERN in Nepal; \$4,682 for students with disability through GDPU in Uganda; \$7,884 for pastoralists in Kenya, through CPI Kenya; \$11,178 for refugee women in Jordan, at CRP; and \$7,170 for girls at risk in Nigeria, through WARIF. AP also transferred \$41,800 to PHF in Nablus, Palestine, to be spent on Palestinian youth.

Seven Peace Fellows launched appeals for their host organizations on Global Giving and raised \$26,990 from 330 donors - more than double the amount raised by Fellows in 2016 (\$12,607).

Indirect fundraising: The cost of deploying a single Peace Fellow runs to around \$3,000 and we count this as an indirect donation to partners. AP spent \$27,000 on 8 partners in 2017: CONCERN; NEFAD; CWN; AEPD; GDPU; CPI Kenya; CRP; and Peace Labs.

The power of individual giving: As in previous years, we relied heavily on the generosity of individuals, and received 661 donations in 2017. We would like to acknowledge the Zonta Club of Washington and the [**Jessica Jennifer Cohen Foundation**](#), which again provided financial support for several Fellows. All donors are listed on our website.



The Zonta Women's Club of Washington has generously supported our start-up for women with prolapse in Nepal. Mary Ellen Bittner, a leading member of the Club, meets Peace Fellows Kirstin Yanisch and Vicky Mogeni, who served in Nepal.

8. Taking Action for Social Justice

AP helps partners to develop an innovative start-up during the first one or two years of partnership. We hope that our start-ups will evolve into long-term programs within 3-5 years and eventually contribute towards removing the root causes of marginalization. We give priority to initiatives launched by advocates who are themselves directly affected.

In 2017 AP supported one long-term program (in Mali), eight start-ups, and three other partnerships. Direct beneficiaries – including family-members – numbered 15,412. We used six indicators to assess results – beneficiaries; AP inputs; evidence of the partner’s growing capacity; outcomes; progress towards producing social change and prospects for sustainability.

8.1 Empowering Survivors of Sexual Violence in Mali through Community Support (Since 2014)

This start-up was launched in 2014 by AP and our Malian partner Sini Sanuman to provide comprehensive support for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). In 2017, we opened two new centers for survivors in Gao and Bamako and supported 210 survivors. AP evaluated the model in a [38-page report](#) in early 2018.

Beneficiaries: Between 2014 and 2017 the program benefited over 55,000 individuals - 645 GBV survivors; 2,212 other direct beneficiaries; 12,285 family members; and around 40,000 marginalized women who attended outreach meetings given by Sini Sanuman animators.

AP inputs: AP helped to design the start-up in 2013 and supported all aspects of the program through Peace Fellows and field visits until 2016. But our share of the program budget fell from 30% in 2014 to 11.4% as Sini Sanuman’s capacity increased and by 2017 our role consisted mainly of evaluation. Iain Guest visited Mali twice in 2017 and traveled to Sini Sanuman’s center in Gao to interview survivors. AP will continue to seek funding for the program in 2018.

Strengthening the partner: In our final (2018) evaluation we concluded that Sini Sanuman possesses all the skills needed to manage a demanding program. The group’s greatest strengths lie in human capital (an experienced staff) and social capital (a wide network of community groups). Sini Sanuman is weakest at approaching donors, using IT, and partnering with other NGOs.

Program outcomes:

- **Individual empowerment:** 210 survivors left Sini Sanuman’s centers in 2017 after six months of training with their confidence restored [as reported in this bulletin](#).
- **Greater understanding of GBV through outreach:** Thousands of vulnerable women met with program animators, learned about avoiding GBV and were directed to services.

- **Emergency and nutritional support:** All 210 beneficiaries received a daily cooked meal and psychosocial counselling. 112 also required medical support in 2017. Most important centers offered the companionship of other survivors, which was therapeutic.
- **Income-generation during training:** Trainees produced 34,576 bars of soap which sold for \$9,216.03. They also made and sold clothing.
- **Finding a job after training** (*reinsertion economique*): The program subsidized several community shops which agreed to employ past trainees.

Social change and sustainability: This program has produced [a community-based model of support](#) for GBV survivors – in the family, in centers, through women’s groups, and after training – that is comprehensive, emerges naturally from the community and is entirely led by Malians. The model could certainly be employed elsewhere in Mali and beyond, but for this to happen the present program must be sustained. This will require significant new funding in 2018.



Between 2014 and 2017, AP helped *Sini Sanuman* to develop an important and innovative program to build community support for survivors of gender-based violence [as described in this AP report](#). The program – which began as a start-up – benefited 7,745 survivors and their families in 2017 and reached another 46,071 vulnerable women through animation sessions. Photo: After soap training, the survivors produced and sold 34,576 bars of soap for the equivalent of \$9,724.50.

8.2 Supporting Agent Orange Caregivers in Vietnam (Since 2014)

This start-up is managed by the Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD) in Quang Binh province, Vietnam. It seeks to build a personal relationship with the parents of children who have been disabled by Agent Orange. This involves telling their story, providing a sustainable income, and following up. AP has funded 8 families so far. [Read their profiles.](#)

Beneficiaries: Three new caregivers received cows in 2017: Mrs Than Thi Thao and her six sons; Mrs Duong Thi Anh and her blind son; and Mr Phan That [whose story is told in this bulletin.](#) Our profiles underscore the courage, resiliency and skills of the parents.

AP inputs: One of AP's main goals with this program has been to highlight the human devastation wrought by Agent Orange through news bulletins, blogs, photos, videos, and profiles. Peace Fellow Jacob Cohn visited all past families in 2017 and was able to raise \$1,500 for Mrs An. The family received a cow later in the year. Jacob also placed an article in the New York Times.

Strengthening the partner: AEPD is a professional organization and AP's main contribution has been to train AEPD staff in website management and help AEPD outreach workers develop business plans. The outreach workers are authentic representatives of their community, having overcome injuries sustained during the Vietnam War.

Outcomes: We want the world to understand the continuing tragedy of Agent Orange and feel this was again achieved in 2017 through Jacob's fine blogs and sensitive reporting. A second goal is to provide caregivers with some financial security and we were pleased to raise \$6,222 to buy cows for three more caregivers. Our reporting suggests that this will provide a sustained income – which is perhaps the most important outcome. An AP mission in January 2018 found that the first four families to receive cows in 2016 had more than doubled their income in one year.

Social change and sustainability: People do not recover from medical conditions associated with Agent Orange, which is why this start-up focuses on caregivers. Cows are currently central to the model, but this approach can only benefit a small number of individual families. We hope the start-up can explore other ways to help caregivers become credit-worthy and benefit more families. More focus will also be placed on reducing the isolation of Agent Orange families.



8.3 Screening and Treating Village Women with Prolapse in Nepal (Since 2015)

This start-up was launched in 2015 by Care Women Nepal (CWN) and AP to provide medical support for village women with prolapse in the isolated district of Dhankuta. In the years since, CWN has organized nine camps and screened 6,420 villagers with funds raised by AP. In 2017 the start-up focused on strengthening CWN as an organization.

Beneficiaries: The start-up benefited 1,085 women who attended CWN camps in 2017 and their families. Other beneficiaries included more than 30 trainee doctors and nurses from the Nobel Hospital in Biratnagar, who staffed the two CWN camps.

AP inputs and services: AP's main contribution has been to provide funds, help CWN to manage the money, attend camps and make recommendations. Peace Fellow Morgan Moses (2016) reviewed the way CWN organizes surgeries. Peace Fellow Rachel Pettit (2017) proposed a year-round schedule for surgeries and helped CWN prepare a plan and budget. Iain Guest met with staff at rural health posts in November 2017 and attended the camp in October.

Strengthening the partner: CWN must rise above the personality of its founder, Indira Thapa, and professionalize if it is to attract the broad funding it deserves. This was a priority for CWN and AP in 2017. CWN developed a strategic plan, clear goals and a budget – and AP was able to reinforce these by funding three staff positions. Yunesh Singh worked with Rachel, the Peace Fellow, to update the CWN website and shows talent as a techie.

Outcomes: AP raised \$6,320 for CWN in 2017. This enabled CWN to hold two health camps, which were staffed by over 50 local volunteers and an experienced medical team from the Nobel hospital in Biratnagar. The result was that hundreds of women who live in inaccessible areas received care, advice, drugs, eye glasses and pessaries. Gynecologists also diagnosed 15 cases of severe prolapse and placed the women on a wait-list for surgery in 2018.

Social change and sustainability: CWN's camps fill the gap left by weak government services in Dhankuta district, where health centers cannot diagnose or treat women with prolapse, as described [in this news bulletin](#). But health camps can only benefit a handful of communities.

Real social change – in the form of accessible medical care for vulnerable women across the district – will only occur when the district government services improve. Our hope is that CWN's health camps can serve as a catalyst by training government personnel, and AP was encouraged when the head of the Dhankuta district hospital attended the 2017 camp. Learning from 2017, CWN hopes to use future camps as a way to train nurses from local health centers, so that they can diagnose and treat women at government centers. After three years, it is essential to identify new funding for CWN. This can only happen if the organization becomes more professional.

8.4 Installing Accessible Toilets at Primary Schools in Uganda (Since 2015)

This start-up was launched in 2015 by AP and the Gulu Displaced Persons Union (GDPU) to improve enrollment and hygiene at primary schools and promote the inclusivity of students with disability. AP and GDPU installed a first toilet at Tochi School in 2015 and a second toilet at the Ogul School in 2017 (photo below).

Beneficiaries: The start-up benefited 4,320 individuals in 2017 - 864 students and their families.

AP inputs: AP raised \$4,682 for the Ogul project in 2017. Peace Fellow Lauren Halloran helped GDPU to manage the funds, oversee the toilet construction and design a monitoring form to measure attendance and enrollment. Iain Guest from AP visited Ogul in August.

Strengthening the partner: GDPU's ability to manage field projects has improved since 2014. Patrick Ojok manages the project for GDPU. Working with Peace Fellows he has issued bids, overseen (and fired) contractors, developed a budget, mobilized parents at Ogul and worked with government officials. Mary-Paul Okot from GDPU managed receipts and reported to AP.

Outcomes: Patrick and Mary-Paul made several visits to Tochi and Ogul schools in the Fall of 2017. Their reports suggest that enrollment and attendance increased significantly following the installation of the accessible toilets – a crucial outcome. This will need to be confirmed in 2018.

Social change and sustainability: This model is innovative in three ways: first, it uses water and sanitation to improve the quality of education and increase inclusivity for students with a disability. Second, GDPU toilets are cheaper than the government models. Third, parents help to dig the latrine pits, in the hope that this will encourage the community to protect the toilet against vandalism. As with other AP start-ups, however, these toilets only benefit one community at a time. The key to benefiting more children is collaboration of the district government. We are encouraged that government officials attended the opening ceremony at Ogul and promised to use the GDPU model when updating schools, [as described in this news bulletin](#).



8.5 Placing 50 Children from the Brick Factories in School in Nepal (Since 2015)

This start-up began in 2015 with the aim of taking 50 children out of brick factories and placing them in school. Our hope was to give the children five consecutive years in school - enough to ensure that their families would never allow them to return to work. Unfortunately it became clear in 2017 that several children had dropped out from the program. Others were continuing to work when they returned home from school.

Beneficiaries: According to the final report of our 2017 Peace Fellow, Cynthia Boruchowicz (photo below), 58 children attended one of the seven participating schools between 2015 and 2017. This brings the total number of beneficiaries thus far to 290 (including family members).

AP inputs: CONCERN has long experience of working on child labor and AP's contribution to this start-up has been story-telling, data collection and fundraising. We have profiled all 50 children and produced videos. Between 2015 and 2017 AP raised \$21,162 with help from three Fellows (Joty, Lauren and Cynthia). Since 2016 we have also followed up with the children and their schools to better understand the forces that lead to child labor and its impact on families. Cynthia (a PhD student) added significant value in 2017 by produced valuable data. AP has also drafted a proposal for CONCERN to eliminate child labor completely from 7 factories.

Strengthening the partner: CONCERN has not recovered from the decision in 2014 by Save the Children International to suspend funding. AP has not been able to make up the money or skills, although Peace Fellows have done their best by working with CONCERN volunteers like Manita who received a stipend from AP in 2017 and updated the CONCERN website.

Outcomes: On the one hand, 58 children have received an education and several have performed well at school. On the other hand, fifteen of the 44 children interviewed by Cynthia in 2017 said they were continuing to work in bricks after they returned from school. It also appears that eight beneficiaries have dropped out because their families moved to other regions.

Social change and sustainability: It is encouraging that this model is providing an education for needy children. But the 2017 data casts doubt on our early assumption that simply putting children in school will protect them from abusive child labor. We will explore this further in 2018. Unless and until this core assumption is proven, the model cannot be shared with donors.



8.6 Supporting Family-members of the Disappeared in Nepal through Embroidery (Since 2016)

This start-up was launched in 2016 to support 25 women who lost family members during the conflict (1996-2006). All are active members of the National Network of the Families of the Disappeared Nepal (NEFAD). The women made several sample bags in 2017 [as described here](#) and formed a cooperative under the leadership of Sarita Thapa.

Beneficiaries: Many of the 25 members of the Bardiya cooperative were young when their relatives disappeared, but they still grieve and are deeply upset that their mothers struggle to pay bills. As a result, their main goal is financial independence, followed by memory, truth and justice. We hope to post their profiles online in 2018.

AP inputs: AP supports this start-up through story-telling, fundraising, Peace Fellows and advocacy quilting. The original idea was conceived by Ram Bhandari, the founder of NEFAD, and Iain Guest in 2015. In 2016 Megan Keeling, our NEFAD Fellow, helped Sarita train the women to sew. Our 2017 Fellows, Kirstin and Vicky took their squares to tailors in Katmandu who produced several sample bags from tiger designs. But the production cost was high and the artists decided to produce their own bags. Iain purchased cloth in the US and AP paid for a sewing machine and training for Sarita. We also began paying a monthly stipend to Sarita and Prabal Thapa, an AP associate. AP has raised around \$11,000 for the start-up since 2015.

Strengthening the partner: We value the partnership with NEFAD because Ram and Sarita are inspiring and authentic representatives of the families, but our ability to strengthen the organization has been limited by Ram's absences abroad on studies. As a result, we have focused mainly on the Bardiya cooperative which in 2017 elected a treasurer and president; opened a bank account; and adopted legal articles. Sarita Thapa learned new skills as a trainer, bag-maker, and cooperative secretary. Her motivation holds the group together and will remain its greatest asset.

Outcomes: This start-up met three important goals in 2017 by producing embroidered squares, selling the first bags, and launching the cooperative. But after three years it is important to identify a market in Nepal, and the coop members hope to sell 50 bags next year. If the bags can be sold and the profits reinvested, the artists may qualify for government and other credit.

Social change and sustainability: This model enables family-members of the disappeared to organize, learn skills and earn an income – a combination that is almost never offered to families of the disappeared. As they become more empowered through working together, the Bardiya beneficiaries may also want to pursue a larger agenda. This could mean confronting the UN, which [has boycotted the transitional justice process in Nepal](#). AP stands ready to help.

8.7 Finding Jobs for Skilled Refugees in the Middle East (Since 2016)

Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) was set up in May 2016 by Mary Louise Cohen, an AP Board member, to find jobs for Syrian refugees in the global marketplace. AP offered administrative support until TBB acquired legal status in 2017.

Beneficiaries: By the end of 2017, TBB had developed a catalog of 10,000 refugee profiles in Lebanon and Jordan and helped 38 refugees prepare for job interviews. Two received job offers.

AP inputs: TBB used AP's 501c3 status to secure a grant from the US State Department. AP then provided help with administration and accounting during TBB's transition to a 501c3 organization in September 2017. Iain Guest served on the TBB board of advisors in 2017.

Strengthening the partner: TBB has built a talented and professional team in 2017 without input from AP in Washington and the Middle East.

Outcomes: By end 2017, TBB had secured provisional agreements with the governments of Canada and Australia; entered into a partnership with UNHCR; and participated at several major international conferences, including the launch of the Global Compact on Refugees. More than a dozen companies are actively recruiting refugees through TBB.

Social change and sustainability: By finding jobs for talented Syrian refugees in the global marketplace and facilitating their transition from refugee camps, TBB fills a major gap in the international system to protect migrants. TBB is now completely independent from AP and has secured several pledges of long-term funding.

8.8 Empowering Women Refugees in Jordan (Since 2016)

This start-up is managed by the Collateral Repair Project (CRP). It uses embroidery as an entry-point to a larger program of training that will help women refugees in Jordan learn new skills and earn an income. The start-up exceeded expectations in 2017.

Beneficiaries: The start-up benefited around 360 family members in 2017, including 72 refugee women who attended trainings at the Hope Workshop which operates under CRP. Most of the women came from Syria and Iraq and have painful stories to tell.

AP inputs: The start-up began in 2016 when we asked a Peace Fellow, Allyson Hawkins, to help the Hope ladies tell their stories through embroidery. Allyson raised \$500, which covered the cost of embroidery by 12 Workshop members. Their squares were [assembled in Rhode Island into two spectacular quilts](#) which were widely exhibited in 2017 by AP from Washington and Therese Hartwell, a CRP Board member in Texas. Reina Sultan, our 2017 Peace Fellow at CRP, raised \$10,600 in 2017 – enough to cover the cost of four trainings and 40 more squares. We also paid the stipend of Anisa Alawi, an AP associate who supported Workshop activities.

Strengthening the partner: CRP is run by a skilled professional team and has little need of AP's services. As a result, our focus has been on the Hope Workshop. For example, we were pleased to see four refugees volunteer for embroidery training in 2017 and one (Dhamya) took responsibility for helping younger women. But three stopped attending and are thought to have been resettled.

Outcomes: AP's support in 2017 helped to produce several important results. First, it gave the refugees a chance to express themselves in the company of other women. Second, their quilts helped advocates in the US to make the case for refugee protection at a time of intense debate over migration. But perhaps the most important outcome in 2017 was the evolution of the Workshop into a professional training center. The number of refugees attending Workshop trainings tripled to 72. CRP offered four trainings (embroidery, sewing, calendars and crocheting) and trainees sold handicrafts for \$9,482.22 in 2017. While the Hope embroidery has yet to find a market, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) and its Alumni association (FAUSA) in Houston commissioned 25 squares which they plan to turn into wall hangings for sale in 2018.

Social change and sustainability: The Hope Workshop is providing a model for empowering women refugees in the informal sector in Jordan, a country where refugees are forbidden to work. The importance of this was demonstrated in 2017, as opportunities for resettlement abroad shrank and the Jordanian government came under pressure to create opportunities for its huge population of refugees without creating resentment among local Jordanians. AP is delighted that CRP plans to place the Hope Workshop on a more sustainable footing in 2018 by renting new premises, introducing new trainings, and hiring new staff.



8.9 Building Peace Between Pastoralists in Northwest Kenya (Since 2016)

This start-up helps Children Peace Initiative Kenya (CPI) to organize peace camps for children on both sides of tribal conflict in Samburu County, northwest Kenya. The camps build friendships between the two communities that translates into economic cooperation and eventually peace. In 2017, the start-up funded the purchase of 50 heifers.

Beneficiaries: 500 individuals (100 families) from the Pokot and Samburu tribes will raise the heifers jointly. They include former enemies who raided each other's cattle.

AP inputs: AP launched the start-up with CPI in the summer of 2017 after Peace Fellow Talley Diggs and Iain Guest travelled to Samburu County with a CPI team and witnessed the impressive results of CPI's peace-building between the Pokot and Samburu tribes. AP raised \$7,884 to purchase the 50 heifers. Iain helped CPI submit a proposal to the German Foreign Office in Berlin.

Strengthening the partner: Hilary Bukono and Monica Kinyua, the two CPI directors, have a deep understanding of conflict in Samburu County and roots in the community. Hilary comes from the Gabra, one of seven tribes in Samburu that have fought over cattle and land, while Monica is a former teacher. More than most AP partners, the CPI team has welcomed AP's brand of organization-strengthening and used our help to produce an annual report, a new website, and a major proposal. CPI also used AP funds to bring in a Kenya student, Barbara, to develop a new website. After Talley left, Monica wrote to AP to express appreciation: "This has been a great moment of learning. We have learnt so much from you."

Outcomes: The most important results to emerge in 2017 were the reinforcing of ties between the Samburu and Pokot, through the gift of cows. CPI's growing professionalism and ability to work with international donors are also significant outcomes.

Social change and sustainability: CPI's model has the potential to produce major social change by stopping conflicts that have taken countless lives and retarded development across northwest Kenya. It evolves through three different stages: building friendships between children and their families; creating economic ties through *Heifers for Peace*; and finally, reinforcing structures that will strengthen peace, such as the police and justice system. As AP witnessed in 2017, this approach has helped to end fighting between the Pokot and Samburu – a remarkable achievement.

CPI now wants to take its peace-building model to Baragoi sub-county, where much blood has been spilled between the Samburu and Turkana tribes. This would both scale and sustain CPI's model. AP looks forward to helping in 2018.

8.10 Empowering Palestinian Youth and Women in Nablus

This program is managed by the Palestinian House of Friendship (PHF) in Nablus. Its main goal is to ease the pressure of the Israeli occupation on young Palestinians through holiday camps, volunteering, training for women artisans. AP provides fiscal sponsorship for PHF.

Beneficiaries: PHF's main activities in 2017 benefitted 727 individuals – 3,635 including family-members: a) 520 children aged 6 and 14 attended summer camps; b) 35 PHF staff and volunteers ran the camps; c) 10 men and women received civic education training in political participation; d) 10 women artists were trained by PHF to produce artefacts consisting of painted glass and embroidery; e) 152 girls volunteered as Girl Scouts; f) The entire Nablus community, particularly those in need, benefited from the service of the Scouts and other PHF voluntary efforts.

AP inputs: AP served as a fiscal sponsor for PHF in 2017 and transferred over \$50,000 from PHF's American donors. In the process, we helped Mohammed Sawalha, PHF's founder, to manage his donations, develop a budget, use Excel and report to donors. Mohammed expressed his gratitude in a Skype call: "I always know your support will be professional and really help us."

Strengthening the partner: Mohammed is an inspiring leader, but he is also the first to agree that PHF is too dependent on him personally and must become more professional. Some progress was made in 2017 by developing a disciplined budget and producing an annual report.

Outcomes: PHF's report lists some key results achieved in 2017:

- **Empowering children under occupation:** Three summer camps helped 520 children to escape the hardship of occupation and express themselves freely through theater, sports, planting gardens, painting, crafts, and traditional dancing (*Debka*). The children also took field trips. (Due to water scarcity in the West Bank, swimming pools were appreciated);
- **Civic education training:** helped young future leaders to participate politically and defend democratic values;
- **Handicrafts training:** allowed talented women to express themselves through art and learn skills that could bring in an income;
- **Strengthening community service:** PHF's Girl Scouts program fostered a spirit of volunteerism among young women and produced benefits for the community by helping farmers to harvest olives, distributing warm clothes and tutoring children with learning difficulties. The community of Nablus was able to see the concrete benefits of such service.

Social change and sustainability: PHF achieves change by allowing young Palestinians to develop as individuals under occupation and avoid the risks that would come from open resistance. This strengthens Palestinian society as a whole and reinforces core values such as civic engagement and respect for rights, at an extremely difficult time for Palestinians. Each of PHF's four main program areas has the potential to expand, but much will depend on PHF's future capacity.

8.11 Ending Menstrual Banishment in Nepal

In 2017 AP began to explore a new start-up in western Nepal that would end the practice of banishing women and girls to an animal pen (*chhau goth*) during menstruation. Known as *chhaupadi*, the practice is abusive and dangerous and has caused the deaths of several girls from exposure, snakebites and asphyxiation.

AP's partner in Surkhet, the Centre for Agro-Ecology and Development (CAED), has developed an innovative response that involves empowering girls and training them to resist their parents and refuse to enter into *chhaupadi*. The support of local schools is critical.

Our 2016 [Peace Fellow Dorothy Khan](#) produced several strong blogs and raised \$1,000 to pay for a room at the Gutu School where girls could rest instead of going home to the cow shed. Iain Guest from AP followed up in November 2017 by visiting Gutu and meeting with several courageous girls and families who have rejected *chhaupadi*.

A new law will take effect in August 2018 outlawing the practice. CAED hopes to take advantage of this new legal tool to open up a new line of attack against *chhaupadi*. AP hopes to recruit a Fellow to support and expand CAED's campaign.

8.12 Conflict resolution in Lebanon: AP recruited Peace Fellow Alberto Gimenez to work at Peace Labs in Lebanon, at the suggestion of Alberto's professor at Columbia University. Peace Labs is much respected in the world of conflict resolution but had little use for AP's services. Peace Labs later wrote that Alberto had been a positive influence and made an important contribution to the organization's planning.

8.13 Women and Girls at Risk from Sexual Violence in Nigeria: AP responded to a request from Kemi DaSilva, a prominent advocate for women's rights in Nigeria, to serve as a fiscal sponsor for an initiative to educate girl students against sexual violence in a large Lagos school. The project was launched by Kemi's organization, the Women at Risk International Foundation (WARIF) and hoped to reach 200 students. AP raised \$7,223 for the project. WARIF subsequently reduced the number of beneficiaries to 100 and decided to implement the project at a second school – The Surulere Senior Secondary School.

9. Fellows for Peace

In 2017 we deployed nine graduate students from eight universities to serve as Peace Fellows with partners, bringing the total number of Fellows recruited since 2003 to 294. Peace Fellows enable AP to provide ten weeks of technical support, at no cost to the partner. As in past years, we took great care in recruiting and monitored results carefully.

9.1 Recruitment and Training

AP staff advertised the nine fellowship positions online and followed up with on-site visits to seven universities - Georgetown, Maryland, Columbia, Fletcher, George Washington, George Mason, and Johns Hopkins. We received 52 applications from 29 universities and colleges in 20 different countries on 5 continents (Asia, Africa, North and South America, and Europe). We offered a guaranteed slot to four university programs, on the understanding that they would help us to recruit strong candidates: Columbia University (School of International and Public Affairs – SIPA); University of Maryland (School of Public Policy); Tufts University (The Fletcher School); Georgetown University (Master of Science in Foreign Service).

As in previous years, we offered a week of training in Washington at Georgetown University to all Fellows and AP summer interns. We are deeply grateful to the following fourteen trainers: Blogging - Jennifer Adach, (Communicator and Content Creator); NGO capacity-building - Dr. Luisa Boyarski, (Georgetown University, Center for Nonprofit leadership); Websites - Carson Collier, (Website specialist at Georgetown University); Women’s reproductive health - Sarah Craven, (Director of the Washington Office of UNFPA); Administration - Karen Delaney, (The Advocacy Project); Hosts and work plans - Iain Guest, (The Advocacy Project); Crowd-funding - Emma Hersh, (Global Giving); Photography - Holly Koch, (Georgetown University); **Podcasting - Ash Kosiewicz, (The UN World Food Program, photo below)**; Social Media - Amy Richards (Georgetown University); Monitoring and evaluation - Lorea Russell (Global Communities); Insurance - Matt Tuman (Clements International); Videography - Kate Wagner (The Advocacy Project) and Gregory Walsh, (Documentary Filmmaker and Video Journalist). According to our evaluations, the most popular trainings were on podcasting and work plan design.





9.2 Deployment

AP deployed 9 experienced graduates to partner organizations. As seen in the photo, from the left:

- *Vicky Mogeni (Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University)* served at the *National Network of Families of the Disappeared and Missing Nepal (NEFAD)* in Kathmandu and Bardiya. (Vicky previously worked with Citizen Schools).
- *Alberto Gimenez (Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs)* served at *Peace Labs* in Beirut, Lebanon.
- *Rachel Petit (Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs)* served at the *Care Women Nepal (CWN)* in Kathmandu and Dhankuta, Nepal. (Previously - advocated for the homeless, refugees and at-risk youth in Calgary and Paris).
- *Reina Sultan (University of California, Santa Barbara)* served at the *Collateral Repair Project (CRP)* in Amman, Jordan. (Previously - successful fundraiser for the UC Santa Barbara).
- *Kirstin Yanisch (Wellesley College)* served at the *National Network of Families of the Disappeared and Missing Nepal (NEFAD)* in Kathmandu and Bardiya, Nepal. (Previously - American Refugee Committee, Minnesota).
- *Talley Diggs (Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University)* served at the *Children's Peace Initiative Kenya (CPI)*. (Previously worked at The UN Foundation).
- *Cynthia Boruchowicz (Maryland's School of Public Policy)* served at *CONCERN* in Kathmandu, Nepal. (Previously - The Inter-American Development Bank).
- *Jacob Cohn (Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University)* served at the *Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD)* in Dong Hoi, Vietnam. (Previously - The International Institute of Minnesota and AmeriCorps).
- *Lauren Halloran (Middlebury Institute of International Studies)* served at the *Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU)* in Uganda. (Previously - Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity and AmeriCorps).

9.3 Supporting Start-Ups

Peace Fellows made important contributions towards the start-ups supported by AP in 2017:

- Jacob Cohn raised funds for a family affected by Agent Orange in Vietnam.
- Rachel Petti designed a strategic plan to strengthen the Dhankuta district medical services.
- Vicky Mogeni and Kirstin Yanisch helped to launch the Bardiya cooperative of weavers and commissioned the first Tiger bags.
- Cynthia Boruchowicz evaluated CONCERN's program to place 50 brick children in school in Nepal, drafted a proposal to scale up the model and made the case for extra tuition.
- Lauren Halloran supported the installation of a second toilet at Ogul school and began the process of bringing the Gulu district government into GDPU's program to provide accessible WASH facilities in schools.
- Reina Sultan funded the training program of the Hope Workshop for refugees in Jordan (over two years 2017 and 2018) and commissioned embroidered squares for CRP's partners in Washington and Houston – a first step towards opening a market in the US.
- Talley Diggs funded the cow-sharing program of CPI Kenya, evaluated CPI's peace-building model in northwest Kenya, helped to post a new CPI website, and helped to draft a proposal for the German Foreign Ministry.

9.4 Fundraising

Eight Fellows launched appeals for their host organizations in 2017 and raised \$26,990 from 330 donors, more than double the amount raised by Fellows in 2016 (\$12,607):

- Jacob Cohn raised \$6,222.70 from 44 donors for the Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD) in Vietnam.
- Vicky Mogeni and Kirstin Yanisch raised \$5,774 from 124 donors for the National Network of Families of the Disappeared and Missing (NEFAD) in Nepal.
- Rachel Petit raised \$6,320 from 135 donors for the Care Women Nepal (CWN) in Nepal.
- Cynthia Boruchowicz raised \$8,035 from 162 donors for CONCERN in Nepal.
- Lauren Halloran raised \$4,682 from 29 donors for the Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU) in Uganda.
- Talley Diggs raised \$7,884 from 76 donors for Children Peace Initiative (CPI) in Kenya.
- Reina Sultan raised \$11,178 from 72 donors for the Hope Workshop under the auspices of the Collateral Repair Project (CRP) in Jordan.

9.5 Story Telling

Peace Fellows produced 100 blogs; posted 1,187 photos online (which were viewed 84,553 times); produced 65 new videos which received 6,382 views. This was the second year that AP has made use of podcasting to tell the story of partners. Two Fellows produced 8 podcasts.

9.6 Strengthening Organizations

According to their evaluations, the nine Peace Fellows provided 36 services to their host organizations. These included:

- **IT support:** Fellows helped 4 partners (CWN, GDPU, CPI, PHF) to build new websites and helped three more (SINI SANUMAN, NEFAD AEPD) to update their site. Fellows trained techies at seven host organizations in Vietnam, Kenya, Mali, and Nepal to maintain a website after they returned home.
- **AP Associates:** Fellows trained six graduate students at host organizations, to continue their good work after they left, which included Anisa in Jordan; Barbara in Kenya; Prabal and Manita in Nepal; Dat in Vietnam; and Marypaul in Uganda. AP paid a small stipend to all associates until the end of 2017.
- **Annual reports:** Fellows helped one host organization (CPI Kenya) to produce an annual report.
- **Managing money:** Six Fellows helped their hosts to develop budgets (for 2017) and collect receipts. In total, AP helped 8 partners (GDPU; CPI; CWN; NEFAD; PHF; CONCERN; CRP; and WARIF).

9.7 Advocacy Quilts

Three Fellows helped women to produce squares for quilts:

- Kirstin and Vicky helped the Bardiya cooperative to produce tiger squares
- Reina helped refugees at the Hope Workshop produced 40 squares for a third refugee quilt and the Hope wall hangings commissioned by FAWCO

9.8 The Impact on Fellows

Rating: All nine Fellows completed a final evaluation and graded their experience on a scale of 1 (bad) to 10 (good): Overall fellowship experience - 8.6; Satisfaction with their own deliverables - 8.4; Recruitment process - 8.5; Quality of training - 9.1; Work plan usefulness - 7.4; Security during deployment - 9.5; Overall communication with AP - 8.1; AP support in the field – 8; Support from host organization - 9.3; How much the fellowship improved skills – 9; How well AP meets organizational goals - 8.6. Eight out of nine would NOT have done the fellowship without the AP stipend (\$1,000) ALL fellows (100%) said their fellowship was worth the expense.

Personal: We asked Fellows to let us know how they had been personally changed by the experience. On a scale of 1 to 10: Improved skills – 9; More confident - 9.3; More inclined to do service - 9.3; Helped with career goals – 9. ALL fellows (100%) said they would have joined the program after knowing what they now knew. “The fellowship made me more confident, more inclined to do service, humble, and grateful. Field experience is invaluable for professional

growth.” Peace Fellow Talley Diggs, after supporting conflict resolution between pastoralists in northwest Kenya.

Academic: Our hope is that Fellows will acquire material for their studies from their work in the field. On a scale of 1 to 10, Fellows provided a combined grade of 8.2. “I got to see the impact of the Syrian conflict first hand and realized how important it is for grad students to get out of the classroom and experience development on the ground.” Peace Fellow Reina Sultan, after working with Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Jordan at the Collateral Repair Project.

Professional: Several Fellows advanced professionally with help from AP in 2017:

- Reina Sultan (Jordan) secured a position at Global Communities in Washington DC.
- Rachel Petit secured an internship at the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.
- Talley Diggs secured an internship as Foreign Policy Congressional Fellow for Senator Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada.
- Cynthia Boruchowicz advanced to the final round of the Young Professional competition at the World Bank.
- Jacob Cohn placed an article in the New York Times on his experience in Vietnam.

9.9 Alumni

Peace Fellows sign on for ten weeks, but we hope they will stay engaged with AP and track their professional accomplishments with pride. We also do what we can to help them secure jobs and in 2017 we wrote 24 letters of recommendation for past Fellows and were delighted that eight former Peace Fellows donated to our Nepal appeals on Global Giving.

[Click here to see where past Fellows have gone on to work](#)



Karin Orr served as Peace Fellow in Peru in 2010 and worked at AP between 2010 and 2014. Karin is studying for a PHD at George Mason University and is the Program Director for the Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management at Johns Hopkins University.

10. People of AP

AP drew on 56 committed staff, board members, and volunteers in 2017:

- **Staff:** Iain Guest, Karen Delaney;
- **Interns:** Langston Alexander, Elifnaz Caliskan, Kirsten Drew, Brianna Goetzek, Talia Hoch, Angelique Palomar, Natalie Roberts, Nola Tolsma, Day Vidal, and Kate Wagner.
- **Contractors:** Josh Nichols, webmaster; Beverly Orr, accountant; Eric Bolin, auditor; Greg Walsh, video editor; and Lisa Petrovich Smith, website design;
- **AP Board:** Scott Allen, Mary Louise Cohen, Devin Greenleaf, Iain Guest, Lawrence Ingeneri, William Lorie, Bayo Oyewole, Cristy West, and Scott Zeman;
- **US quilters:** Bobbi Fitzsimmons, Merry May, Kathy Tweed, Christine Bradford, Maria Goodwin, Kay Miller and Barbara Buhling;
- **Fellowship trainers:** Jennifer Adach, Luisa Boyarski, Carson Collier, Sarah Craven, Karen Delaney, Iain Guest, Emma Hersh, Holly Koch, Ash Kosiewicz, Amy Richards, Lorea Russel, Matt Tuman, Kate Wagner, and Gregory Walsh;
- **Peace Fellows:** Cynthia Boruchowicz, Jacob Cohn, Talley Diggs, Alberto Gimenez, Lauren Halloran, Vicky Mogeni, Rachel Petit, Reina Sultan, and Kirstin Yanisch.



Scott Allen, a long-time friend of AP, returned to the Board in 2017 after serving as the US Director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London. He is seen here with a freed child worker during a visit to AP partners in Nepal in 2012. Board members donated \$37,500 to our program in 2017.

11. Financials (year ending December 31, 2017)

INCOME

Unrestricted Contributions: \$108,241.40

Restricted Contributions: \$71,971.72

Unrestricted Grant: \$20,000

Program Service Income \$23,040.65

Rental Income: \$9,423.20

Total Revenue: \$212,676.9

EXPENSES

Personnel Costs: \$60,628.91

Contract Services: \$14,080.19

Project Officer stipend: \$17,600 (includes fellow stipend + associate stipend)

Office Expenses: \$7,734.04

Occupancy Costs: \$21,276

Insurance: \$4,578.73

Subgrant Expenses: \$33,735.17 (money sent to partners)

Travel and Lodging: \$18,790.89

Meetings and Conferences: \$2,700.27

Information and Technology: \$3,289.21

Other expenses: \$1,085.55 (depreciation expenses)

Total Expenses: \$185,498.96

CHANGE IN NET ASSET: \$27,178.01

12. Benefactors

With Thanks To...

Organizations: Boeing Company Gift Match, The Brimstone Foundation, Humanity United, Interactions for Peace, The Journey Fund, The Zonta Club of Washington Foundation

Individuals: Scott Allen, Barbara Ayotte, Katharine Baker, Eric Biel, Mary Ellen Bittner, Wing Bittner, Fred Bliss, Joan Bliss, John Bruggen, Elifnaz Caliskan, Katerina Canyon, Jeff Carmel, Nancy Caswell, Mary Louise Cohen, Sandra Coliver, Sarah Craven, Teresa Crawford, Mary Daly, Heather Dolstra, Charles Dougherty, Melissa Fairgrieve, Lloyd Feinberg, Barbara Fitzsimmons, Mathew Gerhardt, Devin Greenleaf, Rosa Goldsmith, John Hirshboeck, Kim Ingeneri, Larry Ingeneri, Noriko Iwase, Teunis Kamper, Mei Ling Klein, Erin Lapham, Luigi Laraia, Joyce Leader, Judith Leff, Maureen Li, Rita Lo, Diane Lorenz, Will Lorie, Susan Martin, Merry May, Matthew McFee, Bayo Oyewole, Funke Oyewole, Herbert Parsons, Martha Randal, Tim Rieser, Glen Ruga, Sandra Shaw, Eileen Shields, Alison Soldano, James Soldano, Maria Sulcer, Niel Tetkowski, Tonya Tolsma, Thijn van Eldijk, Annelieke van de Wiel, Katharine Wagner, Carol Webber, Lukas Weitbrecht, Cristy West, Richard Westlake, Kanako Yamashita, Scott Zeman.

World Bank Community Connections Campaign: Kanako Allen, Natalia Antsilevich, Olakunle Oluwadamisi Atanda, Patricia A. Bliss-Guest, Barbara Geiser, Marguerita Hicks, Shaanti Marie Kapila, Kai Kawabata, Luigi Laraia, Maria Carolina Monsalve, Claudia Mordini, Mona Luisa Niebuhr, Bayo Oyewole, Olufunke Oyewole, Christian Albert Peter, Adrian Poffley, Asuka Sato, Bowen Patrick Uhlenkamp, Miriam van Dyck, Claudia Zambra Taibo.

Combined Federal Campaign: Deidre Cunningham, Jonathan Crittenden, Fadi Hage, Michael Jones, Melinda Merritt, James O'Brien, Victoria Ruiz-Labrit, Christopher Sigle.

Global Giving Appeals: Olatunde Akerele, Clark Alexander, Langston Alexander, Rayah Al-Farah, Kanako Y. Allen, Kathy Allen, Sara Allen, Scott Allen, Sara Al-Thani, John Altin, Fergus Anderson, Nicole Anderson, Susan Aries, Brooke Ashland, Katherine Baker, Natalie Balents, Jamie Ball, Holti Banka, Carter Banker, Jack Barksdale, Marian Barksdale, Sujita Basnet, Kent Bastell, Daniele Battiston, Caroline Battle, Matthew Becker, Henry Berry, Penelope L. Bezenar, Eric R. Biel, Jocelyn Bishop, Marrison Bishop, H.E. Bittner, Mary E. Bittner, Sharon L. Blackett, Anna Bliss, Anthony H. Bliss, Frederick Bliss, Lisa S. Bliss, Patricia Bliss-Guest, Nancy Boelter, Carolina Boruchowicz, Cynthia Boruchowicz, Martin Boruchowicz, Nora Boruchowicz, Pablo Boruchowicz, Cesar Bouillon, Kilby M. Brabston, Noga Bracha, Katherine S. Brooks, David Burton Perry, Catherine Butz, Elifnaz Caliskan, Ian W. Campbell, Jeff Carmel, Kimberly Chang, Rishav Chatterjee, Naga Ran Cherukuwada, Tay Parng Chien, Fumbi Chima, Alessandro Ciccolo, Cheri Cohn, Gabriel Cohn, Roger Cohn, Seth Cohn, Tyler Colliou, Caroline Conley, Kathleen Conroy,

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Priyankara Sanjaya, Patricia Saur, Valerie Scarborough, Renate Schambock, Andrew Schmaus, William Scott Jr., Richard Scribner, Victoria Shoemaker, Shea Silva, Dorcas Siwoku, Paul Smyke, Molly Smyrl, Debra Snyder, Jiahui Soh, Navjot Sohi, Daniela Sol Perez Mayo, Alison Soldano, James Soldano, Jane Somers, Low Hock Soon, Anne Spencer, William Spencer, Katya Spicuzza, William Spicuzza, Alison Stalker, Pamela Stanley, Emily Stapp, Jiri Stavovcik, James R. Steadman, Austen Stranahan, Adam Swertz, Oyeyinka Taiga, Melisa Tammi-Cheah, Maria Tavella, Eric Termuende, Neil Tetkowski, Charels Thompson, Ida Thyregod, Elizabeth Tinsman, Peter Titelman, Areal Tolsma, Art Tolsma, Nola Tolsma, Tonya Tolsma, Melissa Tooley, James Tuttle, Kelsey Tuttle, Victoria Valente, William Valentine, Anneliekel Van de Wiel, Elvira Velasco de Rivarola, Castillo Vianney, Rosa Vidarte, Diego Villalobos, Christina Wagner, Katherine Wagner, Polly Wang, Brian Waweru, Carol Webber, Lucile Weigel, Barrie Welty, Cristy West, Eileem Shields West, Richard Westlake, Trevor Lee Wilson, Nathan Wineinger, Jennifer A. Wolfe, Ivana Wong, Lee Wood, Blake Woodward, Carol Yanisch, James Yanisch, Kay Yanisch, Jefferson Yarborough, Raymond Yates, Kathleen Young, Lillian Yu, Maria Aldrina Z Territo, Scott C. Zeman, Anna Ziersch.

The Last Word...in praise of multiculturalism



AP Peace Fellows have come from 45 different countries that include Syria, Belarus, Mongolia and Saudi Arabia. We are proud of the inter-cultural bridges they have built. Photo: Peace Fellows Corey Black (Canada) Chantal Uwizera (Rwanda and the US) and Mealanny Purwaningrum (Indonesia) served in Nepal in 2011. Mealanny, our first Fellow from Indonesia, now works for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in northeast Nigeria. She wrote to AP: "AP has been very instrumental in shaping my career path and I will never thank you enough for that!"