

Recovering From The Pandemic



The Advocacy Project Annual Report 2021

www.advocacynet.org

A medical team from Backward Society Education (BASE) tests for COVID-19 in central Nepal with funds from The Advocacy Project. Infections fell sharply within three months.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Year of Rebuilding

Our overriding goal in 2021 was to help community-based partners recover from the pandemic - even as COVID-19 continued to take an unacceptable toll. This is the theme of our report.

We transferred \$62,780 to 27 projects in 11 countries, more than double the amount transferred in 2020. But the pandemic also took a new and frightening turn as life-saving vaccines failed to reach the Global South. The impact was felt most heavily on communities that already lacked access to medical services. This was as much about social justice as health.

We responded by funding community-led vaccination campaigns in Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Bangladesh that resulted in thousands of vaccinations. We also launched innovative start-ups that were not linked to the pandemic. These included a fishing and feeding project for River Gypsies in Bangladesh and composting in Kenya.

Embroidery again showed its value as a source of calm and creativity for women under pressure. We organized stitching training for 50 women survivors of Ebola in Liberia, sexual slavery in Uganda, albinism in Kenya, and migration from Africa. We also commissioned over 150 embroidered stories about COVID-19.

This and more was achieved with an income of \$168,813.33 and help from a community of over 100 creative people. We entered 2022 deeply grateful to them all, but also aware that the COVID 19 tragedy had provided a catalyst for innovation. It is a sobering thought.

The fight Against COVID-19: images of 2021



Vaccine Inequity

A shortage of vaccines adds to fear of the pandemic in the South



**Dolly Oryem,
primary school
principal and
COVID-19 victim.
Emergency
treatment on the
streets of Dang
District, Nepal**

COVID-19 continued to take an unacceptable toll on friends in 2021.

In Uganda, the pandemic took the life of Dolly Oryem, a much-loved school principal who worked closely with GDPU, our partner in Gulu. COVID-19 also invaded Nepal. We received an anxious email from Pinky Dangi at Backward Society Education (BASE), informing us that two BASE Board members had died. Photos from BASE showed women receiving oxygen on the sidewalk because hospitals were overflowing.

The pandemic took a frightening turn across the Global South, as vulnerable communities were unable to access life-saving vaccines. One reason? Many already lacked access to medical services.

Sixty villages in Nepal that were selected by BASE for a project were served by only three health centers. The same was true of the Kangemi settlement in Nairobi. With a population of 53 million, Kenya had received only 1.7 million doses by August. None had reached Kangemi where the health center even lacked the means to store vaccines.

It was a similar story elsewhere. In Northern Uganda, people with a physical disability struggled to reach government health centers in Gulu District. There was no government health post on the island of Mayadip in Bangladesh, which meant that River Gypsies living on the island could neither be tested nor vaccinated.

Such was the legacy of discrimination and neglect - and a cause of vaccine inequity.

Community-led Vaccine Campaigns

AP partners secure 3,045 jabs in 4 countries



"Be Brave!" Abigail, far left, inspires campaigns in Kenya, Bangladesh, Uganda and Zimbabwe

We addressed vaccine inequity by helping communities claim their right to health.

In Nepal we raised \$6,145 for an emergency response by BASE in the 60 villages. BASE trained a community volunteer to coordinate in each village, commissioned women to make 3,000 face-masks for children, and deployed a mobile health team to test and treat. We also purchased PPE sets and oximeters for government health posts, building a partnership between BASE and the local authorities. Infections fell by 75% within two months and a system was in place to administer vaccines when they arrived.

We also funded a vaccination campaign by the Kangemi Advocacy and Self-help Group in Nairobi which had formed in 2020 to make embroidery. When vaccines failed to arrive, the group persuaded a government health center in an affluent adjoining neighborhood to organize a health camp in Kangemi. Members of the group then went door to door to help people get their jab. Medical workers were given a colorful tee-shirt featuring a needle in pursuit of the virus, designed by Abigail Kwamboka, a team member (photo). The group recorded 1,957 vaccinations in Kangemi by the end of 2021.

Several other partners followed the Kangemi model. In Uganda GDPU ferried 200 people with limited mobility to the Anaya health center. In Bangladesh, Subornogram mobilized students to accompany 300 vulnerable islanders from Mayadip Island to a hospital on the mainland and secured over 1,000 jabs. In Zimbabwe girls from Women Advocacy Project (WAP) accompanied family members and friends to clinics.

Excluding Nepal, these campaigns secured over 3,000 vaccinations at a cost of \$4,899. But this did not reflect the wider benefits from engaging citizens and restoring their confidence in government medical services. It was a robust response to the pandemic.

Afghan Disaster

The Fall of Kabul opens up a new role for the Oruj Learning Center



Left behind in Afghanistan: Women and girls bear the brunt of Taliban hostility after Western governments withdraw on August 15 2021

We were deeply shaken when the Taliban took over Afghanistan on August 15.

The collapse of US forces redefined a long-running partnership between AP and the Oruj Learning Center in Afghanistan. Founded by Sadiqa Basiri, the Center educated 3,470 girls in six schools and set up four literacy centers for mothers between 2002 and 2010. Sadiqa then moved to Kabul and established a college for women and girls which she later converted into a private university.

Sadiqa escaped to Canada before the fall of Kabul on August 15 but most of her family remained behind. We published [a strong editorial](#) and began helping Sadiqa adjust to life in exile. AP agreed to act as a fiscal sponsor for Oruj in North America, and helped Sadiqa launch an appeal on GlobalGiving which netted over \$12,000. Iain from AP joined a group to advise Sadiqa about establishing a nonprofit in North America.

Sadiqa's importance as an advocate in exile grew as the Taliban imposed a harsh regime on women and girls. Remarkably, her university remained open in Kabul and within weeks over 900 students were enrolled. Sadiqa and her team began to plan for distance learning.

We also turned to the challenge facing the 72,000 Afghan refugees airlifted to the US after August 15. Many did not speak English and had been traumatized by the chaos and violence at Kabul airport. Resettlement in 2022 would not be easy.

Fishing and Feeding with River Gypsies in Bangladesh

AP purchases a fishing boat



Suja and Binod built the *Mayadip*. Their boat caught 9 tons of fish and fed 144 gypsies

In 2021, we renewed contact with one of Asia's most isolated minorities – River Gypsies who live on the rivers of Bangladesh. Our engagement with the gypsies had begun in 2012 when we helped our partner, the Subornogram Foundation, to open floating schools for gypsy children. The group's founder, Shahed Kayes, hosted two Peace Fellows before he was attacked and forced to flee the country.

Shahed returned in 2019 to work with 250 gypsy families who live on the island of Mayadip in the Meghna River. The pandemic was pushing them deeper into poverty and AP offered \$1,000 for a fishing start-up. Shahed commissioned a new boat (*Mayadip*) that was built in 6 weeks. He then hired unemployed gypsies to work as crew members and paid their wages from half of the income earned from fish. The rest went to a feeding kitchen for vulnerable gypsy families.

The start-up changed life on the island. By the year's end *Mayadip* had caught 9 tons of fish, employed 193 crewmen (who changed every 2 weeks), and provided meals to 144. In all, 524 islanders – half the population – had benefited.

Shahed was a disciplined partner who used our partnership to grow his own organization. He uploaded data to our Drive, wrote blogs, and used our weekly Zoom meetings to solicit ideas and share new material. This included recipes for fish curry from the two kitchen cooks, Saleha and Rubpan.

We added services to the project by commissioning embroidered COVID stories from gypsy women and supporting the vaccination campaign referred to earlier. We transferred \$2,496 to Subornogram in 2021 and it was money well spent. By year's end the good ship *Mayadip* had already paid for itself.

Agent Orange in Vietnam

AP buys cows for two damaged families



AP bought a cow for Mrs Luan and her son , both Agent Orange victims, and for Mrs Co, a widowed amputee

As the pandemic eased in Vietnam in 2021, we resumed support for victims of Agent Orange through our partner, the Association for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD), in Quang Binh province.

An appeal on GlobalGiving brought in \$1,719 – enough to buy cows for two families. Cao Ngoc Toa and his wife Luan had been exposed to Agent Orange during the war and passed dioxin poisoning to their two sons Toan and Tien at conception. By their early teens, the boys were biting each other so savagely that they had to be placed in tents outside the house. Adding to the family's woes, Ms Luan underwent a spinal fusion. The couple was only able to provide food for 8 months in the year.

Our appeal also purchased a cow for Hoang Thi Co, a widowed amputee with two children, aged 9 and 3. Ms Co became the thirteenth caregiver in Quang Binh to receive support from AP and the AEPD since 2015. All but one family have chosen cows because the animals provide a sustained source of income through milk and calves. Cows can also be rented out for farm work.

Truong Minh Hoc, the AEPD caseworker assigned to the two families, had himself been exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. Well into his seventies he showed remarkable dedication by helping Agent Orange caregivers .

Composting in Kibera

Stella's worms inspire change in inner-city Africa



We were delighted to invest \$4,710 in a composting start-up in the Kibera settlement of Nairobi. The project was the brainchild of Stella Makena (main photo) who had led embroidery training in 2020 and helped trainees to form an association, Shield of Faith.

Composting is hard in Kibera, sometimes called Africa's largest slum, but inhabitants face a greater challenge from pollution, malnutrition and poverty. The settlement produces over 200 tons of garbage a day and most vegetables are grown in sewage water. By the end of 2021 Stella and her team had come up with a rich response:

Composting. The project purchased bins and scales, which allowed each family to measure their compost. By the end of 2021 they had collected half a ton of food waste.

Vermiculture: Stella purchased red wiggler worms which burrowed into the compost and produced a fertilizer known as lecheate. This fluid was certified by a laboratory and given the name of *Lishe-Grow* ("Grow Nutrition"). Delaney designed a label and by the end of the year Shield of Faith had produced around 150 liters for sale.

Food: The ten entrepreneurs created kitchen gardens, which was not easy in such a confined space, and applied their *Lishe-Grow*. This produced 1,189 pounds of organic vegetables and improved nutrition. It also saved money. By December Stella was growing 40% of her food and had reduced her weekly food bills by a fifth.

Organization: As their composting moved forward, so did the association. By the end of 2021 Shield of Faith had been registered by the government. Encouraged, the group invited several mothers of children with albinism to join their composting project.

Barcelona or Death

The perilous migration of young Africans to Europe is captured by footage from the migrants



Traditional fishing in Sendou; Khady's block shows her drowned brother; Ama Ndiaye Thiombane. [Listen to Ama rap about his terrifying voyage](#)

Our work with migrants from West Africa showed how misguided development can trigger a global crisis. Over 23,000 young Africans had reached Spain in 2020. But many more had been turned back and over 2,000 were thought to have drowned.

We were introduced to the issue by Peace Fellow Jeremiah Gatlin, an expert in the region. He focused on Sendou-Bargny, a small fishing village near Dakar and quickly identified one oversized culprit - a Japanese fishing factory that had depleted fish stocks and forced local fishermen out of business. Many had left by boat for Europe.

Working through OPEN-SARL, a social enterprise for women, Jeremiah organized embroidery training for 8 mothers whose sons had drowned trying to reach Europe. Their poignant stories will be assembled into a quilt in 2022.

Jeremiah also secured remarkable video footage shot by migrants that showed them crammed into boats without life jackets, grinning uncertainly at the camera. One migrant, Ama Ndiaye Thiombane (AKA Papa Mbissa Boy) even wrote a rap song that described his horror when migrants died on the boat and were thrown overboard: "Monsters show their face and start to eat people."

Jeremiah shared the footage and rap music with Gio Liquori, AP's video editor in Washington who compiled a dramatic video, [Barcelona or Death!](#)

Telling the Story of Stigma

Survivors of Ebola and Albinism describe stigma through embroidery



(Left) Children with albinism in Kenya are sometimes described as "money" for their body parts. Yvonne Wanjiku's husband left when their son Prince was born with albinism

We asked Matthew Nyanplu, a Liberian student at Tufts University, to investigate the aftermath of the Ebola epidemic which had killed 4,810 Liberians between 2014 and 2016. A second Fellow, Beliz Aluc, was assigned to back Mathew up from the US.

They zeroed in quickly on stigma. Beliz found that stigma is driven by fear of the unknown and prejudice against minorities. This was confirmed by Mathew who found that Ebola survivors were derided for having "small brain syndrome."

Once we looked for it, stigma seemed to be everywhere. In Uganda, women who had been forced into sexual slavery by LRA rebels faced stigma when they returned home. In Kenya people with albinism were also often stigmatized.

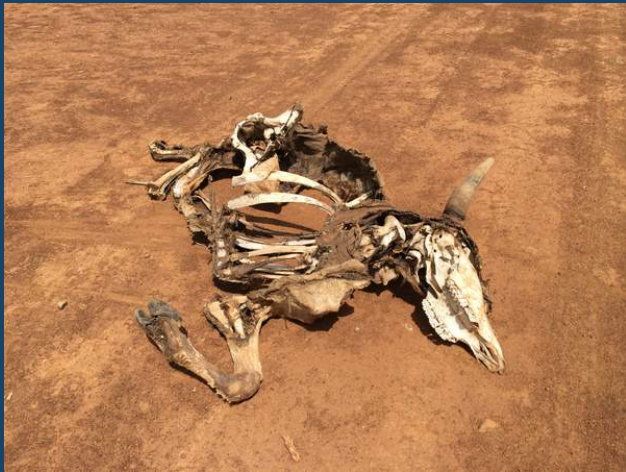
We responded by commissioning embroidered stories. In Kenya, twenty mothers of children with albinism described being abandoned by their husbands and shunned by other mothers who thought albinism was contagious (which it is not). Their children faced constant bullying at school.

We also received powerful stories from Liberia and Uganda about Ebola and sexual slavery. Helena Tarpeh in Liberia described recovering in a hospital next to the bodies of Ebola victims. In Uganda, ten members of Women in Action for Women (WAW) produced harrowing stories about being raped and enslaved by LRA rebels.

These unique stories were sent to AP to be posted online and assembled into advocacy quilts. Read more about story-telling through embroidery on page 15 of this report.

Drought, Conflict and Cows in Northern Kenya

Children Peace Initiative Kenya takes on climate change



Drought kills cows in Samburu County and triggers conflict. Hilary Bukuno from CPIK helps pastoralists share resources and reduces their urge to fight

Children Peace Initiative (CPIK) works to end conflict between pastoralists by bringing children from warring tribes together at peace camps and then working with their families and villages to build economic ties between the communities.

AP has sent several Peace Fellows to CPIK. In 2021 we helped Hilary Bukuno and Monica Kinyua, the CPIK leaders, to broaden their perspective beyond children and into climate change. Preparations were under way for COP 26 – the UN Climate Change Conference – in Scotland. The whole world was looking for answers.

Hilary and Monica were ideally placed to respond. They had seen how drought was forcing pastoralists to seek better pasture and move their cattle onto the land of other tribes, triggering conflict. Helped by \$1,396 from AP, they visited the North and found village elders in a state of desperation. Simply put, their cows were dying.

This was a call to arms. AP distributed a [news bulletin](#) and organized an online presentation for Monica and Hilary that attracted 75 participants and was posted online. CPIK joined the Alliance for Peacebuilding, an influential international network.

By December, AP and CPIK had identified 14 practical ways to build resiliency against climate change and protect pastoralist culture. These would be priorities in 2022.

Monica wrote to express appreciation: "It has been a very turbulent year for us but having the AP team on our side created a huge difference. THANK YOU SO MUCH!"

Girls Make Soap in Zimbabwe

Women Advocacy Project inspires innovation by girls



Trish Makanhiwa's team celebrates a sale of *Clean Girl* soap in Harare. WAP girls sold 16,000 bottles in 2021



Women Advocacy Project (WAP) in Zimbabwe rose above the pandemic with flair and imagination in 2021.

As described in previous reports, WAP trained girls to make their *Clean Girl* soap in 2019 and had sold 3,000 bottles in 2019 before the pandemic put an end to production. Undeterred, the girls distributed unsold soap to poor families during the lock-down. This brought them pledges of \$107,000 over two years from donors.

Constance Mugari, the founder of WAP, set an ambitious target of 16,000 bottles in 2021 and selected 12 girls to produce the soap. They met the target with ease. The remaining 68 girls divided the bottles as they became available and sold them locally. By the end of 2021 they had sold all 16,000 bottles, at a dollar per bottle. Half was shared among the girls and half was reinvested in the program.

In the US, meanwhile, AP was helping WAP to fulfill its reporting obligations to Dining for Women (DFW), one of its donors. DFW selected WAP as grantee of the month in March. Iain and Abby from AP held thirteen meetings on Zoom with DFW chapters across the country to describe WAP's heroic efforts to empower girls.

These meetings produced some great suggestions. One came from a chapter in California which urged WAP to use less plastic in making soap. AP shared this with Constance who promised to explore recycling in 2022. It showed how a committed donor with its own roots in the community can spur innovation in the Global South.

Disability and Dis-empowerment in Uganda

The Gulu Disabled Persons Union and Women in Action for Women



Supporting survivors
of the Lord's
Resistance Army:
WAW members tell
their story of forced
into sexual slavery.
Ojok Simon
established HIVE
Ugandan after being
blinded by LRA rebels

Last year's report noted the launch of two promising start-ups to make soap and face-masks at the Gulu Disabled Persons Union (GDPU), our partner in northern Uganda.

Both projects were put on hold in 2021. We had hoped to sell the soap and masks at schools, but schools remained closed. Ugandans were also anxious at the lack of vaccines. Emma Ajok at GDPU asked AP to fund vaccinations for 300 high-risk GDPU members and designed a lively tee-shirt to motivate team members and health workers. By the end of the year GDPU had accompanied all 300 individuals to health centers and procured vaccinations for them all.

We took on two new partnerships in Uganda. Women in Action for Women (WAW) supports women who survived forced marriage by LRA rebels. Ten WAW members jumped at our offer to tell their stories through embroidery.

We also invested \$500 in HIVE Uganda, which helps people with visual impairment to make honey. HIVE's founder Ojok Simon (who lost his sight after being beaten by LRA rebels) made plans to help five HIVE novices sell 150 kilos of honey by May 15, 2022.

We recruited Peace Fellow Anna Braverman to support the three Ugandan start-ups. Anna struck up a close friendship with Victoria and Emma before being pulled out ahead of a nation-wide lock-down. She continued to work from the US and produced strong blogs about vaccine inequity. Her [tribute to Dolly Oryen, a COVID-19 victim](#), was co-written with Emma Ajok and was particularly effective.

Embroidery as Story-telling

Survivors in Africa and Bangladesh take to stitching



Telling the story of COVID-19: Rekha's design (left) symbolizes the virus devouring River Gypsy fishermen in Bangladesh. Anne grieves at the grave of her father in Kangemi, Nairobi

We gave women and girls several opportunities to tell their stories in 2021.

First, as noted earlier, we organized embroidery trainings for new partners in Senegal, Liberia, Uganda and Kenya. Their images were beautiful but dark. The WAW team in Uganda produced harrowing images of rape and abuse. Twenty mothers with children with albinism in Kenya described stigma and bullying. Eight mothers in Senegal commemorated family members who had drowned while trying to reach Europe.

We also commissioned over 150 stories about the pandemic. For the most part these were also deeply sad. One poignant story from Anne Kihui in Kangemi showed Anne kneeling at the grave of her father with the words: "I lost my best friend."

But some COVID stories were quirky. Abigael Kwamboka, also from Kangemi, stitched a needle in hot pursuit of the virus and gave her team an iconic image for their successful vaccination campaign. In Bangladesh 20 young River Gypsy women used their stories to show how COVID-19 threatened all aspects of life on the river. One striking image by Rekha symbolized the virus as a big fish gobbling up fishermen.

We also put out the call for COVID stories in Wilmington, North Carolina. Over 120 artists responded by painting their stories onto cloth. Connie Moser appliqued a blue heart onto cloth in memory of her mother, who had been diagnosed with COVID two days before she passed away at the age of 95. Blue was her favorite color.

The COVID stories amounted to a unique time capsule of the pandemic. We made plans to assemble them into quilts and produce a catalogue, with exhibitions to follow.

Embroidery Empowers Individuals and Communities

A group activity that builds social capital and triggers social change



Kangemi artists comfort each other while stitching COVID stories. Sadie, 4, missed her birthday party but starred at the Wilmington quilt show

2021 showed again that stitching can provide women and girls with a psychological boost when they are under pressure – at three different levels.

Individual: Story-telling is a way to take control of a hostile narrative. Liz Awor in Nairobi used her block to express love for her son Rick, born with albinism, and reject the horrifying superstitions surrounding albinism. Less dire but also heart-felt, Sadie Thomas, 4, and her mother Dorothy used magic markers to record their disappointment at the cancellation of Sadie's 4th birthday party in Wilmington.

Many artists fell in love with stitching and wanted more. The WAW team in Uganda decided to depict African breads through stitching for their next project.

Group: Stitching with other survivors creates social capital. The two teams in Nairobi both formed associations that secured legal status and took on new challenges in their neighborhoods. The Kangemi team launched a successful vaccination campaign and provided a blue-print for campaigns in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Bangladesh. Shield of Faith in Kibera took on composting.

Community: COVID story-telling also raised morale in communities. One beneficiary was the Cameron Art Museum in Wilmington which commissioned the 120 stories and exhibited the finished quilts. Museum administrators said that the project had reinforced the museum's role as a center for the arts and source of comfort for an anxious community. The museum remained open throughout the pandemic.

Assembling and Exhibiting Embroidery

The pandemic leads to our first virtual exhibition



Beth Suddaby assembled the Arlington COVID quilt. Four artists accompanied their quilt to the Wilmington event. Jiashan Wun made NFTs from Nepal COVID stories for our [virtual exhibition](#) and raised funds for our Nepal appeal

2021 was a year of creation and experiment for our quilt program.

Assembly: Forty quilters in North America made quilts from Kenyan embroidery for a second Sister Artists challenge. They included Bobbi Fitzsimmons who also made three quilts from the Wilmington COVID stories. Colleen Ansbaugh also made a fine quilt for Sister Artists 2 and assembled the 15 COVID stories from Zimbabwe into a quilt. Anne Watson, recently recovered from COVID, assembled the Nepal COVID quilt, while Beth Suddaby made the Arlington COVID quilt. By the spring six wonderful COVID quilts were ready for display.

Exhibitions: The six COVID quilts were shown at the Cameron Art Museum in Wilmington beginning on April 22 before museum patrons, artists, and the local media. Bobbi Fitzsimmons coordinated the event and was joined by Anne Watson and four of the Arlington quilt artists - Layla Kherbouch, Stephanie Achugamonu, Kate Lanman and Natalie Manlove. All spoke movingly about how stitching had helped them get through the pandemic.

Following the Wilmington event we teamed up with Givology, the online giving marketplace, to hold a virtual exhibition of the COVID stories. Led by Anika Saraf, 17, 37 talented individuals uploaded the stories to a new website which was unveiled at a virtual event on June 3 moderated by Abby Hack from AP and Anika from Givology. The timing was fortuitous because COVID was advancing at terrifying speed in Nepal. Jiashan Wu, a digital artist, made six non-fungible tokens (NFTs) from COVID stories from Nepal and offered them for auction. Joyce Meng from Givology pledged \$5,000. This enabled us to launch the successful project in Nepal described earlier on page 5.

Fellows for Peace

Graduate students return to Africa



Jeremiah Gatlin was one of three graduate students from The Fletcher School at Tufts University who worked in Africa and navigated the pandemic

Our fellowship program started to return to normal in 2021. We sent Fellows abroad for the first time since 2019 and recruited 13 more to back them up from the US. The cohort was also nicely diverse: 5 graduates, 9 undergraduates and two High School students from 12 universities and schools. The group included nationals from Turkey, Iraq, India and Liberia as well as first-generation Americans from Vietnam and Ukraine.

We worried about sending Fellows to Africa because vaccines were not available to their hosts but COVID-19 continued to surprise. Jeremiah Gatlin (fully vaccinated) came down with the virus in Senegal, yet hosts were unaffected.

All 2021 Fellows were assigned to a specific project. We then asked the entire team to use our Google Drive as a virtual office and meet every week on Zoom. This allowed us to ensure good practice and to transfer \$63,815 to partners without a hitch.

The quality of work was outstanding. Our three African Fellows built new partnerships in three countries; deepened our understanding of highly topical issues (migration from Africa, stigma, and sexual violence in conflict); oversaw three embroidery trainings; produced stories for four new quilts; and wrote strong blogs.

Our talented team in the US also contributed to projects and learned much in the process. Savannah Kopp took on climate change. Beliz Aluc became an expert in stigma. Working remotely with Agent Orange helped Ryan Pham to better understand the country that his grandparents had left behind. Nina Thakur, 17, organized friends at High School to make soap and earned \$567 for the girls in Zimbabwe. In the process, she also gave us a blueprint for future projects with High Schools.

Several Fellows stayed with AP beyond their ten weeks. See the next page for photos.

Our 2021 Fellows



Jeremiah Gatlin
Senegal



Anna Braverman (right) Uganda



Matthew Nyanplu
Liberia



Savannah Kopp
CPIK Kenya



Ryan Pham, AEPD
Vietnam



Nina Thakur
Outreach



Delaney Rogers
Project support



Sarina Maina
WAP Zimbabwe



Beliz Aluc and Saliha Gozel



Grace McGuire
Design



Dan Alpert
Uganda



Miriam Correia
Quilts



Avyan Mejdeen
Liberia



Anastaseya
Kulikova Uganda

Dissemination

Bulletins, videos and blogs mix hard news with partner profiles



[Barcelona or Death! Watch our video about migration by boat from Senegal to Spain](#)

We used three different ways to promote the work of partners in 2021.

[Online news service](#): We published 16 bulletins that were opened 17,973 times and widely shared. We were pleased to see many former Peace Fellows among readers. Our most widely-read bulletin **[reported on CPIK's work with pastoralists in Northern Kenya](#)**. Our commentary about the US retreat from Afghanistan in August (**[Afghan Betrayal](#)**) attracted the most comments. Soren Jessen-Petersen, a former Assistant-Secretary General of the UN, summed up the mood of many when he wrote: "Great piece. Finally, an article with the right focus on the people of Afghanistan and what they have lost because of the incompetence, greed and lies of the politicians."

[Blogs](#): Fellows wrote 59 strong blogs which gave us their personal insights while explaining crisis through the eyes of those directly affected. Matthew Nyanplu gave voice to long-ignored Ebola survivors in Liberia. Anna Braverman showed how the vaccine shortage was pushing desperate Ugandans to use dangerous local substitutes. Jeremiah Gatlin changed the narrative about migration from Africa. Back in the US Ryan Pham (UCLA), whose grandparents had left Vietnam as refugees, wrote about racism against Asian Americans. Beliz Aluc explained how the LGBTQ community is often the first to suffer from stigma. These were valuable, well-written insights.

AP partners also contributed blogs. Shahed Kayes in Bangladesh (a well-known poet) offered a haunting poem about Mayadip Island: "Red scratch of fire in sleepless eyes....On the shores of this rushing Meghna river....."

[Website](#): Our tech director Abby Hack posted **[pages on five new COVID quilts](#)** that carried almost 150 profiles and stories. More pages on migration from Senegal, war rape in Uganda and albinism in Kenya were underway at the end of 2021.

Money

Individuals donate \$114,411 and we transfer \$63,815 to partners



Three former
Fellows who gave in
2021. Our thanks to:
Mona Niebuhr
(2013), Matt Becker
(2012) and Talley
Diggs (2017)

The support of individual benefactors has been crucial during the pandemic. Our friends have understood the disaster that has befallen marginalized communities and responded generously. This allowed us to increase support for partners.

Income: We received \$168,813 in direct income in 2021. Of this, \$114,411 came from individuals. Sixty benefactors gave \$29,600 to our core program. We also received \$5,952 from US government employees and another \$59,013 from staff-members at the World Bank (through the Bank's Community Connections Campaign). 185 friends donated another \$19,847 to five AP appeals on GlobalGiving.

Funding by institutions came from Humanity United; the Zonta Club of Washington; the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Dublin, Ohio; and the Rotary Club of North Kingstown. Four universities gave \$14,000 towards the cost of peace fellowships.

Benefactors are listed on page 24. We are deeply grateful to them all.

Expenditure: We transferred \$63,815.38 to 16 partner organizations. Our largest grants went to the Shield of Faith Association in Nairobi (\$7,484.50); Backward Society Education in Nepal (\$6,288.55); and Women in Action for Women in Uganda (\$4,325). We also served as fiscal sponsor for Women Advocacy Project in Zimbabwe and the Oruj Learning Center in Afghanistan. We made 65 transfers to partners and ensured good practice by reviewing new expenditures with partners at weekly Zoom meetings. Transfers were recorded in an online database and checked by our auditor.

Operating with five part-time employees and supporting almost 30 projects left us little time for core fundraising. We made an exception on Giving Tuesday, which raised over \$17,000 for AP from 22 generous donors starting with our Board. Iain from AP presented at several virtual events for the CFC campaign and for GlobalGiving.

People of AP



Gill Rebelo coordinated our quilting work in Nairobi. Mary Ellen Cain managed accounts. Tom Carver joined the AP Board

Staff and contractors: Iain Guest (ED), Mary Ellen Cain (Accounts and administration), Gio Liguori (Video), Josh Nichols and Matt Heinrich (Web maintenance), Beverly Orr (Accountant), Jonathan Bramell (Design), Ray Conlon and Ed Suarez (Auditors).

Board: Scott Allen, Tom Carver, Karen Delaney, Colleen Denny, Talley Diggs, Bobbi Fitzsimmons, Devin Greenleaf, Iain Guest, Larry Ingeneri.

Peace Fellows (graduate and undergraduate): Anna Braverman, Jeremiah Gatlin, Matthew Nyanplu, Delaney Rogers, Savannah Kopp, Cara Adams, Ryan Pham, Dan Alpert, Anastaseya Kulikova, Salihah Gozel, Miriam Correia, Avyan Mejdeen, Sarina Maini, Nina Thakur, Beliz Aluc, Grace McGuire.

High Schools: Layla Kherbouch, Stephanie Achugamou, Kate Lanman, Elena Cura, Nathalie Manlove, Sofia Reecer, Ann Kumashiro, Ainsley Pollock, Leah Aiken.

Quilters: Bobbi Fitzsimmons, Merry May, Gill Rebelo, Beth Suddaby, Anne Watson, Colleen Ansbaugh, Dawn Piasta, July Miller, Juandamarie Gikandi, Ellen Fisher, Sue Willows-Raznikov, Cathey Lebonte, Glenda Mah, Rhonda O'Keefe, Tricia Deck, Julie Zacccone Stiller, Veronica Mayes, Eleanor Levie, Deborah Weir, Linda Kim, Hope Barton, Nairn Stewart, Carol Churchill, Peg Sullivan, Jessica Arends, Victoria Rugo, Christine Danler, Mary Harned, Aarti Ravi, Lynn Flaherty, Kathleen Springer, Kathy Franks, Linda Warschoff, Patti Fried, Jane Cancilleri, Karin Pulaski, Stephanie Adams, Diane Clapes, Donna Bergman, Sandra Cronauer-Mitra, Karen McCann.

2021 Financials

Income

Unrestricted Contributions:	\$103,070
Restricted Contributions:	\$41,399
Publication sales:	\$40
In-kind contributions:	\$54,430

Total Revenue and support	\$198,939
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Expenses

Salaries	\$50,360
Payroll taxes	\$4,336
Fundraising	\$3,022
Grants	\$64,017
Information technology	\$7,492
Insurance	\$3,587
In-kind services	\$54,430
Miscellaneous	\$2,991
Office expenses	\$7,918
Rent	\$12,773
Stipends	\$14,325
Travel	\$2,861

Total Expenses	\$228,112
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CHANGE IN NET ASSET:	\$29,173
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