

# AFRICAN ROAD

## YOUR 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

*Giving Thanks to You*



# AFRICAN ROAD

Friends of African Road,

It is my honor, as African Road Board Chairperson, to share this Annual Report with you. The Board seeks to generate the greatest impact with the funds and volunteer resources we receive. We value taking time and care so positive change lasts for the long haul. Sometimes this means not rushing to make a big splash. Meaningful change driven by our Changemaker partners and their local communities, built on a foundation of strong friendship, has the greatest integrity and stands the test of time and circumstance.

Over the past four years, I have taken one step at a time on this African Road. I participated in a Learning Trip, became an individual donor, developed a key project partnership, joined the board and served as a gala table host and speaker. Most importantly, I built relationships with our East African Changemaker partners.

Involvement with African Road continues to be one of the most gratifying experiences of my life. I believe we all long to participate in real, grassroots change. Through African Road, we each can be part of change and transformation every day. Thank you for your shared belief in this way of working.

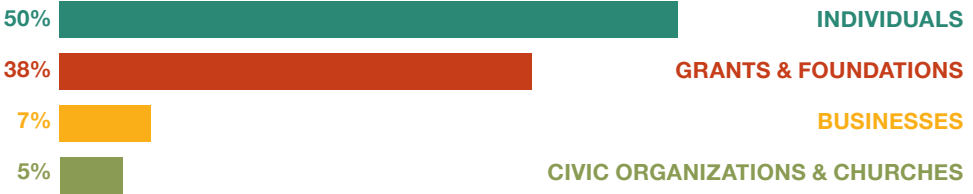
Your partnership and generosity took us deeper and wider this past year. Please take time to review and celebrate the ongoing, positive impact you made possible. I hope you are encouraged by what the power of friendship can do. See yourself in these stories, for you are the friends who complete the circle and give us reason to say, “turi kumwe” ...we are together.

Jenny Warner



# 2017 FINANCIALS

## YOUR DOLLARS RECEIVED



## YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

In 2017, African Road leveraged \$502,000 to bring positive change across Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania. Your donations made 23 projects for sustainability possible. 2017 was a noteworthy year for deepening relationships with Changemakers from across the region, expanding our partnership in Burundi alongside the Batwa indigenous people and taking new steps toward sustainability for Changemakers in Tanzania. Your greatest investment was in Rwanda, where we partnered with two Changemakers for 11 projects.

## 2017 ACTIVITIES

**234** 

Batwa indigenous children were equipped to attend school in an historic step forward for their people.



**32** young survivors of modern slavery were empowered with a stable and safe place to live for the future.



**42** community leaders came together to share successes, challenges and stories of hope.



**75,000** pounds of crops were grown and harvested by one of the most food-insecure people groups in the world.

  
**600**

Batwa indigenous people now have two sturdy multi-purpose community rooms to share.

**1** brand new bakery opened serving hundreds of community members.



## AFRICAN ROAD



### Income and hope for young survivors of slavery in Tanzania

#### A PATH TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Consoler and Eliya Wilbert create a safe, healing home for girls escaping modern slavery. Your generous gifts funded a sewing supply shop to bring income that helps sustain their vital work.

“Thank you so much for your kind hearts. For us, it is more than an honor to see you gathering together for us.”  
— Eliya, New Hope for Girls co-founder



### The power of friendship in East Africa

#### UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Eight travelers from across the USA journeyed to Tanzania and Rwanda. They shared meaningful conversations with Changemakers and community members, while enjoying local food and culture. The trip highlighted the African Road model of relationship-based development.

“I found the trip to be an evolution in my life, giving me a new understanding of what people can do for themselves and others when they work together.”  
— Kathryn, 2017 Learning Trip participant



### Employment and nutrition for women in Rwanda

#### A BAKERY BUSINESS START-UP

The young women of Togetherness Bakery are selling 60 pounds of delicious bread every day! Thanks to your friendship and funding, Togetherness members are providing nutritious bread for their entire community.

“Now I have skills and dignity. I have something good I can do each day.”  
— Faida, Togetherness Cooperative member and bakery employee



### Land ownership in Burundi

#### EMPOWERMENT FOR THE BATWA INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

There was much rejoicing and dancing in the small village of Gahombo when the dream to own land for farming was fulfilled. This was possible thanks to a “Village to Village partnership” with an Oregon church community and Changemaker Evariste Ndikumana.

“People did not imagine that we could acquire such a property. We worked as laborers on these lands for 15 years, and I never imagined that they could one day belong to us. I cannot find adequate words to express my feeling and I am in tears of joy.”  
— Alice, Gahombo village citizen



### New vision with Changemakers

#### PARTNERSHIP WITH GRASSROOTS LEADERS

African Road gathered 42 Changemakers and VICOBA small business training graduates from across East Africa, to learn from their successes, challenges and stories of hope. Their valuable feedback informed our work and the time spent together deepened friendships and community partnerships.

“VICOBA helps people realize who they are, their abilities and their gifts. It has helped us to get the courage to do the things we were afraid of.”  
— Bendrix, Burundi Pilgrims VICOBA group member

#### YOUR IMPACT IN KENYA

women’s sewing school • sustainable livelihoods business trainings • clean water well development • VICOBA small business training assessment • continued partnership with VICOBA women’s groups

#### YOUR IMPACT IN RWANDA

land expansion for orphans and surrounding village • preschool teacher training • education for orphaned youth • cassava mill installation • soccer for conflict resolution training • successful harvests • water well pump replaced to serve hundreds of people

#### YOUR IMPACT IN BURUNDI

ID kits project launch for 1,000 people • access to health care • nutrition and farming training • first-time students • leadership training for indigenous leaders • vehicle purchase for project implementation • VICOBA small business training

#### YOUR IMPACT IN TANZANIA

business start-up to support survivors of modern slavery • \$7,000 in savings by VICOBA women • housing stability assistance • access to health care