message from the chairman

In 2013, Global Strategies for HIV Prevention merged with the International Pediatric Outreach Project to become Global Strategies. This event brought together two organizations that each had over a decade of experience working in some of the most challenging settings in the world. The merger has catapulted Global Strategies forward. Through innovative programs and dynamic partnerships we are seeing our impact grow. Traveling through countries devastated by poverty, our programs and the local people behind them stand out for their quality and for the way they engage and involve local populations. We could not do this work without the help of individuals and groups committed to improving the lives of women and children. As we highlight some of our accomplishments, we are already looking forward to an exciting new year.

Dr. Theodore Ruel

70,000 women HIV tested 2,000 PEP kits distributed 140 healthcare workers supported

our work

Advocating for women and children worldwide
Caring for children affected by HIV
Creating a neonatal training center
Delivering post-rape healthcare
Helping clinicians publish original research
Implementing real-time monitoring
Informing youth about health
Preventing HIV transmission from mother-to-child
Training nurses in essential newborn care
Treating severely malnourished children
Using tablets and wifi hotspots to deliver healthcare education

taking a stand | PEP Kits

Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo suffer an estimated 20,000 to 400,000 rape cases annually. Victims of such terrible sexual violence deserve the best medical treatment. Global Strategies, together with Panzi Hospital, is redefining the global standard for medical care after rape. We are addressing this horrible problem through PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) kits. A PEP kit is a combination of medications that when taken within 72 hours after rape can prevent pregnancy, treat sexually transmitted infections and prevent the transmission of HIV.

This is challenging work. PEP is maximally effective in the first 72 hours after violence. This means that survivors must (1) know PEP kits exist (2) be able to walk to get one and (3) be able to tolerate the medicines. Global Strategies is addressing each of these challenges. Together with Panzi Hospital, we are educating populations about PEP. We have moved the PEP kits from urban hospitals and into rural clinics. Lastly, we have designed a much more advanced PEP kit--one that is pre-bundled and uses newer medications that are easier to tolerate and simpler to take. To ensure that PEP is always available, we track the kits using a web-based program linked to a Google map.

The Logistimo Inventory Software showing the location of PEP kits in eastern Congo
Global Strategies is like our second family
--Dr. Givano Kashemwa

I consider these children as my own. When the children return healed the parents tell me 'God will thank you.'
-Ariette Community Health Worker

the biggest challenges

Newborn Care

Though it has long been known that children are the most vulnerable in the first five years of life, new data shows that an astounding 41% of all child deaths that occur in this period occur in the first four weeks after birth.

“Child mortality is becoming increasingly newborn mortality and that requires a change in our approach,” according to Global Strategies founder Dr. Arthur Ammann. Global Strategies is leading the efforts to solve this problem by combining the expertise of US neonatal nurses and the newest advances in cloud-based technology and real-time monitoring.

There is no mystery behind newborn deaths in low-resource settings. Babies die most commonly from three conditions--birth asphyxia, prematurity and infection--that can be addressed with simple low-technology solutions. The challenge is how to efficiently train providers and create durable changes in practice. We have learned that a sustained impact is achieved when the providers can see the benefit of changes in their daily work. Working with nurses in Liberia and Congo, our focus is thus not simply to convey knowledge, but also to develop a generation of neonatal nurses who can see the power of their own skills in saving newborn lives.

joining communities

Malnutrition

Each of our initiatives is the result of a dialogue between Global Strategies and our local partners. In 2012 our partners came to us to ask for help. Our work in Pediatric AIDS was saving lives, but it was also attracting patients with severe malnutrition. Partnering with UNICEF and training local community health care workers, Global Strategies set out not only to treat the patients who were presenting to our clinics, but also to use local people to actively search for children who needed help.

In the populations we work with, severe acute malnutrition is often the result of a cataclysmic event that triggers a negative cycle--a child displaced by war or stricken with untreated HIV. In 2013 our program returned over 400 critically ill Congolese children to health.
Global Strategies’ innovative and successful maternal-child health initiatives were forged and tested through longstanding partnerships with local people working in challenging places. Our long-term goal is to implement our care models, education initiatives and technological innovations in other sites throughout the world that face similar challenges. Using cutting edge remote monitoring and cloud-based education interfaces, we are in daily contact with our partners and can effectively track and analyze our work in real-time. The success of our programs is already being recognized. This year we have been invited to speak at several international conferences and participate in larger initiatives. Over the next five years, we will collaborate with other organizations and government health ministries to implement our models at additional sites and in larger scale to improve the health of women and children worldwide.

Global Strategies is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization and we have an audit performed annually. The complete audited financial statements and additional information can be found on our website: www.globalstrategies.org
Dear Friend of Global Strategies,

- Seven years ago you joined Global Strategies in a bold endeavor--to create a Children's AIDS Program in the remote and war-torn eastern Congo--and the first child, a ten-year-old girl, was started on life-saving therapy. Today she attends the local university.

- Five years ago you sent US neonatal nurses to train African nurses in the care of sick newborns. Today those students are instructors for the Global Strategies Newborn Nurse Training Program.

- Three years ago you advocated for the prevention of new HIV infections in children. As of today, we have tested over 150,000 pregnant women and provided treatment to infected mothers, improving their health and preventing transmission of the virus to their newborns.

- Two years ago you invested in local Congolese healthcare providers and enabled them to create innovative programs. Today they will present their research at one of the largest international medical conferences in Africa.

- One year ago you responded to an urgent need to treat malnourished refugee children. Today we are partnering with UNICEF to deliver life-saving treatment to 675 children per year.

Just think what we can do together tomorrow.

We are so grateful for the support you have given Global Strategies and the people that we serve. I am writing today to ask for your help to continue this work. Global Strategies empowers communities in the most neglected areas of the world to improve the lives of women and children through healthcare. We do this by working side-by-side with the people living in these settings, learning from each other, and joining in a common effort to help the most vulnerable. We do not reinvent the wheel and we are careful with our resources. Your gift helps women and children in need, while investing in the education of healthcare workers and the prevention of illness to create durable improvements in health.

As you read through the annual report, I hope you will feel pride in having made a difference in the lives of people living thousands of miles away.

Warmest regards,

\[Signature\]

Dr. Joshua Bress

P.S. Enclosed you will find a return envelope. You may also give a gift online through our website: www.globalstrategies.org