Dear Friends,

Global Strategies began with a vision—that the benefits of medicine and science must target those most in need. With your help, we are working in some of the most difficult places in the world while creating a foundation for the future by investing in local leaders. In the 2017 Annual Report you will read about how Global Strategies continues to reach beyond hospital walls, developing new models of care and pioneering innovations. You will meet the people on the frontlines—the local doctors, nurses, and community health workers whose hands transform your gifts into care, action and hope. I am sure you take pride in our collective accomplishments and are as inspired as I am to continue to do more.

We could not do this without you. On behalf of our organization and partners, thank you for being a part of Global Strategies.

Anne-Marie Duliege, MD
Global Strategies Chair

Board of Directors
Arthur Ammann, MD
Anne-Marie Duliege, MD
Mike McCune, MD
Nicole Rubin

Theodore Ruel, MD
David Stewart
Craig Waldman, JD
David Wanderman, MD

President
Joshua Bress, MD

Mission

Global Strategies empowers communities in the most neglected areas of the world to improve the lives of women and children through healthcare.

Work

Prevention & Care Our Children’s AIDS Program is part of our family care model focused on preventing and treating HIV.

Education & Training Successful healthcare interventions with field partners are only possible when we work alongside leaders dedicated to transforming their communities.

Health & Technology Our NoviGuide software, a training and decision-support tool, optimizes the care of newborns in resource-limited countries.

Advocacy & Outreach HIV and other sexually transmitted infections can be prevented after sexual violence when healthcare workers are empowered to deliver streamlined emergency care.

Impact

“We with a daily monitoring system, our patients can now be remotely assessed by specialists, which is exceptional. No other organization here is working this way.”

Dr. Denis Mukwege
Panzi Foundation

“In 2012 we started supporting 10 clinics with post-rape medical kits to help women after sexual violence. Now we are up to 16 clinics with many more trained caregivers to distribute the kits and medicine.”

Mme Vira Wasakundi
Supervisor with the PEP project

“Thanks to Global Strategies, the pediatric care that we give our children has enabled us to see the children we healed grow up into adults.”

Dr. Denis Kamabu
Pediatrician at HEAL Africa
The conversation among HIV specialists in the United States and at international HIV conferences is upbeat. There are now more than thirty drugs for the treatment of HIV. Cocktails of these drugs have transformed a previously fatal infection into one of normal life expectancy. The same drugs can be used to decrease HIV transmission from an infected sexual partner to an uninfected partner. There are even now reports of a few individuals who seem to have eradicated HIV infection after treatment.

Data from the United States is also encouraging—the number of new HIV infections in adults has gone from 120,000/year to less than 40,000/year. HIV no longer ranks in the top 10 leading causes of death. Remarkably, there are now fewer than 100 infants born HIV-infected each year in the United States thanks to early diagnosis and treatment of HIV-infected pregnant women.

All of these results are important advances, but they also highlight the marked discrepancies between what is happening in wealthy countries and poor countries. Get on an airplane and visit almost any African country and the picture is very different. The epidemic persists, seemingly unimpeded, as the struggle to access healthcare and life-saving antiretroviral drugs continues. Treatment to prevent HIV transmission is scarce, and that translates into 1.5 million new infections in women and infants each year.

“Women and children in poor countries are equally deserving of the advances in HIV prevention and treatment...”

Women and children in poor countries are equally deserving of the advances in HIV prevention and treatment, and we have set out to prove that they can, and must, benefit equally in spite of perceived obstacles.

Global Strategies has taken on the responsibility of advocating for them and helping them. We do this by establishing models of intervention, working through indigenous leaders, developing sustainable collaborations, and designing new tools for education and training of healthcare professionals in under-resourced areas. We do this with your help in advocacy and your continued generous donations.

Arthur Ammann, MD
Founder
Beyond Hospital Walls

Supported by the Jones Day Foundation, Global Strategies established The Newborn Home Visit Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2017.
High-risk babies, cared for at the HEAL Africa neonatal intensive care unit, now receive home visits by a nurse who ensures that the mother and baby are transitioning to life outside of the hospital.

The nurse asks the mother questions to determine whether she and the baby are healthy. The visit helps the nurse prevent problems that may arise and address problems that may have developed before they become severe.

The mother’s answers are entered onto a tablet which synchronizes with a database when connected to the Internet. This information helps neonatal nurses at HEAL Africa understand this fragile transition time and better prepare mothers in the neonatal intensive care unit for going home.
In eastern Uganda, Dr. Mary Muhindo is studying the NoviGuide, a software program designed by Global Strategies to help nurses care for sick babies. She recently presented her work at UNICEF to global health leaders working to reduce child mortality. She shares her experience and vision for the future.

**How would you explain the NoviGuide to someone who has never seen it?**

NoviGuide is a tablet-based application with simple engaging features designed to help nurses care for newborns. It gives step-by-step guidance by asking the nurse questions about the newborn’s history and examination findings. It is a dynamic checklist—it opens up lines of questioning depending on what the nurse enters.

**How does NoviGuide help newborns?**

The NoviGuide empowers a nurse to care for newborns. In settings like mine in Uganda, nurses are the main care providers for newborns and yet they lack confidence and knowledge in newborn care. Changing practice is hard, but nurses love the NoviGuide. Why? Because NoviGuide eliminates something nurses loathe—the tedious and time-consuming weight-based calculations for fluids and medications. One fascinating result from my work is that NoviGuide not only helps a nurse, it changes a nurse. Using the NoviGuide, the nurse gets more confident and improves her knowledge. Babies are dying from conditions with known treatments, but a treatment only works if there is someone empowered to give it.

**What are the next steps?**

First, Global Strategies has a strong tradition of educating healthcare workers—I believe this is the future of that tradition. It is a scalable way to train nurses globally. Second is the data. When a nurse uses NoviGuide she tells us what kind of babies she is seeing, what she has to treat those babies and even areas where a targeted intervention could improve care. The data NoviGuide collects at the clinic can improve care at a system level.
The Plague of Violence

“We must treat survivors of sexual violence with the best care possible,” says Global Strategies President Dr. Joshua Bress, “Our next step is to share our approach so that this care is available to anyone who needs it.”

In a beautiful green valley in the eastern Congo, Mme Vira Wasakundi and Mr. Darius Kulondwa stare at a computer screen. On the screen is a map with blue and yellow pins, each containing a number. Darius frowns and clicks on the pin with the lowest number—10—turns to Vira.

“It’s Kamina Hospital,” he says.
“We still have time before they run out,” she responds.
“And there are 26 at Munya.”
“Call them and see if they can spare 8.”

Darius calls Munya Clinic. He then calls Kamina Hospital. They collectively decide that someone from Kamina will take a motorcycle to pick up the 8 kits. Darius hangs up the phone and looks at Vira. They have worked together for nearly five years, distributing, tracking and redistributing simple cardboard boxes containing life-saving medications for women who have been raped in eastern Congo. Welcome to the frontlines of the global effort to stop violence against women.

Since 2012, Global Strategies has worked with Vira, Darius and Panzi Hospital—led by three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee Dr. Denis Mukwege—to get time-sensitive medical care to victims of gender-based violence living in one the most remote areas of the world. When given within 72 hours of violence, this treatment can prevent HIV, sexually-transmitted infections and pregnancies. We have treated over 5,000 women and developed a model that can be adopted by anyone who treats rape survivors.

**Our method has three pillars:**

- Educate women about the treatment at prenatal visits and through the radio
- Use modern medications to limit side effects
- Track the medications using technology

“We must treat survivors of sexual violence with the best care possible,” says Global Strategies President Dr. Joshua Bress. “Our next step is to share our approach so that this care is available to anyone who needs it.”