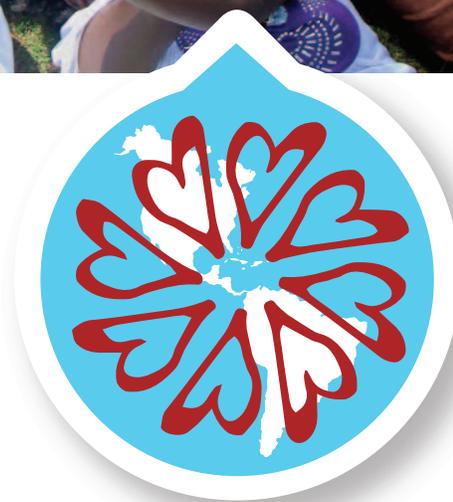




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WORLD CONNECT

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



WHEN YOU
HELP OTHERS
YOUR WORLD
CHANGES
WE MAKE IT SIMPLE



{ "Your corn is ripe today; mine will be so to-morrow. 'Tis profitable for us both,
 that I shou'd labour with you to-day and that you shou'd aid me to-morrow." }
 - David Hume

Kalou Educational Compound, a greenhouse project, Kalou, Kenya

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OUR PURPOSE, MISSION AND VISION

WORLD CONNECT

Women and children are the centerpieces of their communities and when they have opportunities to thrive, their communities thrive. Creating opportunities for women and children to thrive is within our reach, every day.



WE MAKE IT SIMPLE

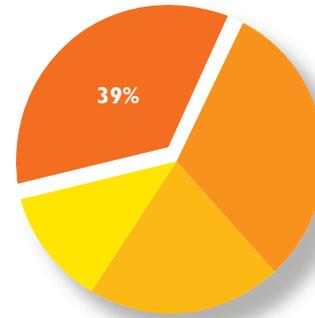
*World Connect has launched **700+** projects to improve health, education and empowerment, the environment, and economic opportunities for women and children around the world. Our work in the field is streamlined thanks to our strong partnerships with local community leaders and Peace Corps Volunteers who allow us to quickly identify local innovations and opportunities to support genuine grassroots development. Our projects are locally led, collaboratively designed, and launched quickly, and they offer sustainable solutions to development challenges around the world. Our projects have helped **50,000+** worldwide.*

International development and the realities of the developing world can often seem distant to concerned citizens. Through our work we bring Americans closer to developing world communities, their challenges, and opportunities for progress, and we build lasting connections between developed and developing world communities. We promote this connectedness in our work to advance global citizenship and highlight the importance of shared global development progress. World Connect's Kids Connect Program engages American youth in real-time international development work, imparting global knowledge, cross-cultural communication skills, and developing a passion for philanthropy and community service in our future leaders. At World Connect we believe in the promise of reciprocity; building a better world for each other today will bear fruit for us all tomorrow.

World Connect imagines a future where women and children, particularly girls, are educated and valued, where their health concerns are acknowledged and treated, where they are respected for their skills, their pivotal roles in their communities, and where they can laugh, love, and enjoy life. The promise of World Connect is to identify and build sustainable, successful projects, and to use the international development projects we launch as a platform to engage Americans in improving lives across the globe. When Americans who care can connect with communities in the developing world that stand to benefit from their partnership and support, we have then fully realized the power of our global community.

EDUCATION & EMPOWERING WOMEN

**WORLD
CONNECT**
LEADERSHIP
EQUALITY
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
INCOME GENERATION



- Education/empowerment
- Healthy communities
- Environment
- Promoting entrepreneurship

In both the public and private spheres, women continue to be denied equal opportunity with men to participate in decisions that affect their lives. Empowering women with essential rights such as health, education, a safe environment, and economic opportunity is one of the best tools we have available in making our world a better, more equal place. To date World Connect has launched 250 projects in support of education and women's empowerment. In this section we feature projects from Kenya and Haiti.



Kids Connect is bringing international development projects into U.S. schools, giving students an opportunity to learn about the challenges that women and children face in developing world communities, and to support the solutions that they and their communities propose. Below is a testimonial written by a student from The Spence School in New York.

"The International Issues Club at Spence aimed to select an interesting project that would capture the attention of middle school students. We spent days looking into different cool things World Connect is doing, and we chose to support a project that would help provide electricity for the Bishop Abiero Girls' Secondary School in rural Kenya. By funding the construction of a wind turbine, we could give students the opportunity to study at night and use a computer lab.

Our first thought was that we needed to raise awareness at Spence about the difficulty of conducting school without adequate power. We hoped to give the Spence students a feeling of what it is like at the Bishop Abiero School. We did this by organizing a day at school where electricity would not be used. For one whole day, all the lights and electronics were turned off throughout the building. The reaction we got from many of the students was complaints about how difficult it was to work without light and computers, and how much they take these things for granted. Judging from that response, I think we succeeded in raising awareness!

Once we had the attention of the middle school students, we needed to raise the funds for the project. We decided to have a glow in the dark wristband sale, which the students loved. By the end, we had raised \$323.00!"

- Marina, International Issues Club

{ KENYA } WIND POWER, GIRL POWER

With a poverty rate at more than 45% nationally, only 54% of the population with access to an improved water source and only 30% of health facilities offering standard labor and delivery services, the challenges in Kenya are myriad. World Connect is working across sectors to build stronger communities that are equipped to care for mothers and babies, to confront the impact of HIV/AIDS, to practice improved agricultural techniques and to provide educational opportunity for young people.

When The Bishop Abiero Girls' Secondary School in Kenya and their local Peace Corps Volunteer applied for a grant from World Connect, the school had no running water and limited electricity provided by a small installation of solar panels. Girls at the school spent a good deal of their time fetching water. Time and resources available for studying were further limited by sparse electricity. In addition, many girls couldn't find the funds for tuition, which drove some to prostitution and others to drop out. The school population was experiencing rapid growth, but this growth was taxing the school's already limited facilities. The Kenya Power and Light Company (KPL) provided electrical service to the nearby village of Magwar, approximately 3 kilometers from the school, but there were no plans to extend service to the school. Because the school is located near Lake Victoria, local leaders determined that the school was a good candidate for wind-generated electricity.

The "Advancing Girl Power with Wind Power" project connected the school with Access Energy, a Kenyan company with extensive experience installing wind turbines in the region, to build a new wind turbine to provide reliable electricity at the school. Increased energy at the school allows the girls to study at night and utilize their computer laboratory. The turbine generates a surplus of energy that is sold to surrounding homes and businesses to cover school fees for girls who previously could not afford to pay; it also allows the school to pump water to the school buildings, cutting down on the girls' daily task of collecting and transporting water. Further, engineering and business education classes have been introduced to teach the girls about the benefits of wind technology for the school, the community and the environment.

[HAITI]

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

In the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, World Connect joined with hundreds of international organizations in contributing to disaster relief efforts and rebuilding. The outpouring of support for Haiti in the international community was historic; however, nearly three years later, many organizations have moved on and promises of aid and support remain unfulfilled. World Connect is committed to working with our strong network of Haitian partner organizations to achieve the goals we set together, including focusing on girls and livelihoods in Port-au-Prince and alleviating the effects of the cholera epidemic through water and sanitation projects.

In Siloe, one of the many tent communities that popped up in Port-au-Prince in the wake of the earthquake, the economic and health implications of the earthquake's devastation offer a bleak future for young women. However, with the support of a World Connect grant, The Center for the Arts has been working to bring hope and opportunity to young girls through arts, education, and empowerment.

The Center for the Arts hired local leaders and teachers to train girls from Siloe in photography, jewelry making, English and writing, and female empowerment. In an area where the trade of sex for food is common, participating girls not only gained skills and found confidence; they created a community they trust. The girls' art has been sold locally and in the U.S., generating income and providing the Center with an opportunity to teach the girls important entrepreneurial skills.

"The level of the capacity of the girls has increased; we have witnessed change in the community and a sense of hope ... Life is difficult in Haiti ... At the Center for the Arts we are not only showing the girls how to make art and create things, but we are empowering them to get strong, to fight with the impact of life in Haiti."

- Ysmaille Jean-Baptiste, Program Coordinator





[KENYA] NO SEX FOR FISH

On Nwamware Beach on Lake Victoria, Kenya, where fishing provides the primary source of income and is the hub of the local economy, the practice of “jaboya”, women trading sex for fish, is rampant. With the support of World Connect and a local Peace Corps Volunteer, community members established “No Sex for Fish,” a project that is changing economic and power dynamics by empowering women to become a part of the economy as entrepreneurs rather than using their bodies as currency. In the process, the project addresses underlying causes of women’s HIV risk and reduces the risk of domestic violence.

In November of 2012, World Connect provided resources to build three boats to a women’s collaborative, a group of 75 women who were eager to play a role in the local economy. By operating the boats themselves, these women are now making three to four times the minimum wage in Kenya – a fact that immediately gave these women new power and more control over their lives and their bodies. Research shows that increasing women’s economic empowerment changes accepted power and economic imbalances across Sub-Saharan Africa.



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

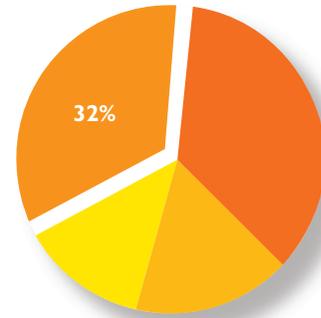
WORLD CONNECT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CLEAN AIR & WATER

SHARED PLANET

REFORESTATION



Education/empowerment Healthy communities
Environment Promoting entrepreneurship

The growth in global emissions of carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas emitted by human activity, is accelerating, and emissions today are more than 46% higher than their 1990 level. Deforestation continues at an alarming rate, and over-fishing and poor farming practices are resulting in diminished yields and food insecurity. Sadly, the overall impacts of climate change and environmental degradation are felt most acutely in the world's most impoverished communities, where women and children are always highest at risk. World Connect has launched more than 200 projects that support protecting the environment. This section features projects from the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica.

{ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC }

EATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT

World Connect has a long history of successful projects in the Dominican Republic. In our early days, we worked directly with Dominican health institutions to improve service delivery for mothers and babies. As our strong partnership with the Peace Corps in DR has grown, we've broadened our focus to a number of sectors including community and household-level health projects, protecting natural resources, and promoting the rights of Haitians living in DR.

In Verón, on the Eastern tip of the Dominican Republic, there was once a vibrant coral reef ecosystem. In recent years, overfishing and the growing influx of lionfish, an invasive species that feeds on the native fish populations that protect the reef system, have caused alarming reef degradation. This project identified an innovative way to deal with this environmental threat - eat the fish!

This project taught young women to cook lionfish and promote their new and rare culinary skills in nearby hotels to increase market demand for lionfish. Participants worked directly with local fisherman to promote catching lionfish, offering a new market opportunity for the fishermen. This project was a model of collaboration: local government officials brokered the use of a kitchen at a nearby hotel, local radio and television stations hosted the young women on their shows to promote the project, local schools welcomed the girls into 7th and 8th grade classrooms to teach students about lionfish, and a local resort restaurant invited the girls to speak with and learn from a professional and celebrated chef who prepares lionfish dishes. The girls at the center of the project have become community leaders, recognized for their unique skills and their commitment to environmental leadership.



A \$750 grant was awarded in 2012 to a local Peace Corps Volunteer and an environmental youth group in Verón, Dominican Republic, to address an environmental threat - invasive lionfish - with a creative, sustainable, and collaborative approach - eat them! 🐟



"My biggest satisfaction of this project was working with the young women of my Green Youth Brigade. Many are a decade younger than I and most have lived their whole lives in a poor shantytown, but their leadership amazes me. Take Katerín, who is 17 years old and has just finished 8th grade. Because of documentation issues (she is half Haitian), she cannot attend high school. This is a young woman who has faced racial discrimination her whole life. But she traveled two days to the opposite corner of this island, stood in front of nearly a hundred Dominican youth, and demonstrated how to remove poisonous lionfish spines. Though she will never be allowed to enroll in college, she has given lectures to over 200 students."

*- Sabine, Peace Corps Volunteer,
Verón, Dominican Republic*



In March 2011, Linc Berkley took a trip with his family to visit some of World Connect's projects in Costa Rica, and later that spring he launched his first school fundraising initiative to support World Connect's projects.



CLEAN IT UP! COSTA RICA [**COSTA RICA**]

At its core, each World Connect project is a partnership with a local community-based organization. Our ability to identify strong local partners, in locations typically removed from the traditional development landscape, is the hallmark of our model. In Costa Rica, World Connect partners with schools, health clinics, budding entrepreneurs and local development associations, all of which have demonstrated strong project leadership capacity.

Clean it UP! Costa Rica is a recycling program in Upala, Costa Rica that includes more than 20 schools and more than 2,200 students. With a \$498 grant from World Connect in 2011, the community built a recycling center and students helped increase recycling. In each school recycling bins were introduced and recyclables were brought to a collection center at the local high school. Through this project, Peace Corps Volunteers worked in many of the schools to conduct fun recycling activities to teach students, teachers, and school administrators about the importance of protecting the environment through recycling. Prior to this project, students and their families had no way to get rid of trash aside from burning or burying it. The high school also succeeded in arranging for a recycling company to pick up recyclables from the center, which is generating income for the school.

REFORESTATION

[DOMINICAN REPUBLIC]



For a country full of lush green landscapes, it can be jarring to travel to the west of the Dominican Republic and find significantly deforested communities, particularly those in the Zona Cañera (the sugar cane zone), where the sugar cane fields stretch as far as the eye can see. Most folks living in the Zona Cañera work seasonally in the fields, and most are Haitian immigrants, or the descendants of Haitian immigrants, a population that has been subjected to centuries of discrimination and receive limited rights or benefits in the DR.

World Connect has a long history of working in the Zona Cañera. The communities of the Zona Cañera, called bateyes, receive little to no support from local or regional government. In 2012, World Connect launched a project in Batey 5 supporting local youth in becoming leaders in protecting their environment by introducing trash management and reforesting their community. These young leaders are well on their way to their goal of planting 500 new trees in Batey 5, and are working with youth groups in neighboring bateyes to expand their reforestation efforts. The project is targeting public spaces for reforestation to capture the attention of residents and visitors. These persistent students even established an arrangement whereby the motorcycle taxi drivers, who sit along the main avenue every morning waiting for passengers, protect the newly planted trees from animals and trash buildup. This dynamic group of young people has a vision of the community as a cleaner, better place that they work toward every day and they have come closer to realizing their vision thanks to support from World Connect.

KIDSCONNECT



FENN SCHOOL

Linc Berkley was a ten-year-old student at the Fenn School in Concord, Massachusetts when he was first introduced to World Connect in 2009, and he has been involved with World Connect's Youth Advisory Board ever since. In February 2011, Linc presented World Connect to his school's student government and was awarded a \$175 grant to officially launch a Kids Connect club at the school. Linc organized a coin war at his school where he created two teams of students that competed to collect change over the course of a month; an initiative that raised \$500 for World Connect projects.

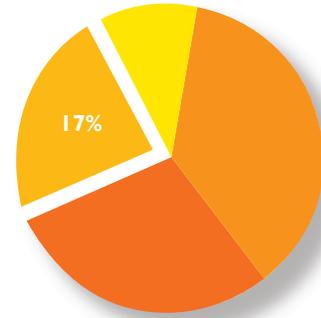
"My son Linc's involvement in Kids Connect has been a wonderful experience for him. The great thing about Kids Connect is that kids are at the heart of the matter: they are looking at where the needs are in different parts of the world, learning to figure out what makes a good project, evaluating grant requests, working with other kids to figure out how to use funds most effectively, and how to get other kids involved and active. Added to that are two other huge learning benefits. The first is the way that Kids Connect exposes young people to other young people who are truly making a difference in areas of need: Peace Corps Volunteers. This gives kids real role models of amazing young Americans. The second big benefit comes if and when kids travel to see some of the projects that World Connect supports. It is such an education to visit first-hand the villages where World Connect is making a difference, to understand the issues that families there face, and to talk to Peace Corps Volunteers about the things that work (and don't work) in making positive change. These are experiences that I wish every child growing up in America could have."

- Marcie Tyre Berkley

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

WORLD CONNECT

IMPROVING NUTRITION
PREVENTION
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
HEALTHY HOMES



Education/empowerment Healthy communities
Environment Promoting entrepreneurship

The challenges to building healthy communities are myriad. Poor sanitation and water supply result in economic losses estimated at \$260 billion annually in developing countries, and nearly 2,000 children die every day from preventable diarrheal diseases. Every year, 300,000 mothers and more than 6 million children die around the time of birth, largely in poorer countries and rural communities. In 2011, only 53% of deliveries in rural areas were attended by skilled health personnel compared to 84% in urban areas. Additionally, while new HIV infections are declining globally, an estimated 34 million people were living with HIV at the end of 2011. To date, World Connect has launched 110 projects in response to these challenges, to promote better health around the world. This section features projects from Peru, Rwanda, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

DIVERSIFYING AGRICULTURE, IMPROVING NUTRITION { PERU }

Nearly 25% of Peru's population currently lives in rural areas, but only 66% of that population has access to an improved water source. World Connect is working closely with Peace Corps Volunteers on rural development projects that lead to improved agricultural practices, healthy homes, and growing small and medium sized, women-led enterprises.

In Tuti, where 90% of the population lives in poverty and the other 10% lives in extreme poverty, the cost of fruits and vegetables is exorbitant, driving many families to subsist on potatoes. These are cheap and widely available but lack needed nutrients. The freezing winters and cold summers prevent families from cultivating their land and harvesting more than once per year, and changes in the climate have also affected the harvest – heavy rains and hail often destroy crops.

This project supported the construction of adobe greenhouses to enable community members to grow more diverse foods, run nutrition workshops at schools, and organize cooking classes for mothers teaching healthier meal preparation and better hygiene. Community members contributed the labor to construct the greenhouses, which accounted for 83% of the project's cost and highlights how World Connect projects encourage collective action. During the course of the project, two water systems and four greenhouses were constructed; a communal one and three that are run by community members that now provide some of their fresh crops to friends, family and local shops. The greenhouses now offer a sustainable method of improving nutrition in this remote region of Peru.



World Connect offers the opportunity for families to engage in philanthropy together. Many families have chosen to learn about an issue or a region together, support a project and in some cases visit the projects that they supported. The Hunt family from New York City is one example. Below, daughter Marina describes their journey to visit the greenhouses in Tuti.



“ When we set out on our trip to visit World Connect’s projects in Tuti, I had no idea what to expect, but I was excited.

Our drive lasted eight hours, the first half on single lane paved roads, and the rest on dirt roads spotted with rocks from recent rockslides and herds of alpaca. We drove through many small and poor villages, past dozens of local indigenous people hitchhiking to and from work, hundreds of stray cats and dogs, and across expanses of desert plain, which is known as the altiplano and looks a lot like the moon. Most of the drive was at an altitude above 12,000 feet, so I had altitude sickness, which they call soroche, most of the time.

Tuti is a village of around 500 people at the bottom of a valley at 13,000 feet with a slow river running through it. Most of the homes are made from adobe mud and have dirt or tile floors. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by a Peace Corps Volunteer who brought us to the home of Narcissa, who had bright eyes and a broad smile, was about 45 years old, dressed in traditional, colorful Quechuan Indian clothing, and had a baby strapped to her back. Narcissa built the first of Tuti’s four greenhouses funded by World Connect and to get to it, we passed the family’s cow penned up by the front door and crossed around 50 feet of earth so dry it seemed impossible for anything to grow in it. Like the house, the greenhouse is built near the edge of a steep bank leading down to the river around 20 feet below.

The greenhouse was a simple structure made from adobe bricks with a yellow plastic roof. We ducked into a 4 foot high door and what I saw amazed me; a large room filled with green plants growing – lettuce, tomatoes, and herbs. Narcissa explained that the first harvest had been a challenge due to the lack of water. I asked why since the river flows right past the greenhouse. She explained that the quality of the river water is not good because villagers upstream pollute the water, and a mine there dumps chemical waste. To solve the water problem she dug a well.

Narcissa explained that growing vegetables in Tuti without a greenhouse is very difficult for most of the year because of the dry climate and buying them is too expensive. People survive on potatoes and occasionally cow or alpaca meat. She told us that the greenhouse allowed her to harvest four times a year, and she planned on distributing the crops to her family and community, and selling the excess. Narcissa was clearly a community leader and her main ambitions were to improve the quality of life for her family and her village. She had not received much formal education but sent her daughter to Arequipa, the provincial capital, to study. She is the only provider of vegetables in her village and was hopeful that her greenhouse would serve as a model to other villagers who might try to grow their own vegetables.

Everything I saw in Tuti amazed me. First, the realization of the impact we had made on the lives of these people with such a simple and small contribution to their community. Second, that these people, who had very limited education and resources, were so motivated to improve the lives of fellow villagers. - Marina, age 14

“The trip was amazing, educational, gratifying. Visiting projects offered stunning examples of how you can do much with some knowledge and a little money. My kids, who had altitude sickness on top of fevers, were awestruck and quickly forgot their ailments.” - James Hunt

{ HAITI } EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CHOLERA PREVENTION

More than 650,000 cases of cholera have been documented in Haiti since its introduction in October 2010 following the earthquake that struck earlier that year. More than 8,000 cholera-related deaths have been recorded. Recognizing this rapid and significant health threat, especially for vulnerable women and children, World Connect responded by launching the “Cholera-Free Lafond” project, the goal of which was to control the spread of cholera through community health education, training, and planning, and the regular distribution of water treatment materials to households. Implemented by Haitian community health workers (CHWs), Lafond has remained cholera-free to-date since the project’s launch in February 2011. In 2012, World Connect reinvested in the project, launching Zero Cholera, an effort to expand education, training and planning to surrounding communities and supported a medical mission to the region to address urgent and chronic care needs as well as reinforce health promotion and prevention efforts.

{ RWANDA } HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

Rwanda has one of the fastest growing economies in Africa. Gross domestic product has more than tripled over the past decade and more than a million Rwandans were lifted out of poverty between 2005 and 2010. The turnaround in Rwanda following the 1994 genocide has been remarkable, particularly in the health sector. In the aftermath of the genocide, less than 5% of the country had access to clean water and epidemics of AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and waterborne illnesses were rampant. Life expectancy, however, has climbed from 28 in 1994 to 56 in 2012. World Connect expanded to Rwanda in 2010 to support the strengthening of local leadership and institutions and help ensure progress is sustained.

In Kivu Sector, a rural community of Southwest Rwanda, there is no electricity, the nearest hospital is a 3-hour walk away, and the public water supply is not fluoridated. The prevalence of cavities is particularly bad, with about 95% of the students at Rugerero Primary School reported to have cavities and a high prevalence of dental caries in the broader community. Access to dental care in the region is very limited -- there is only one dental therapist serving the entire region, a population of 287,943.

In September of 2012, World Connect launched a project to provide fluoride to kids in Kivu Sector. Community Health Workers from the Kivu Health Center administered two rounds of fluoride varnish to 1,000+ students. Prior to the implementation of this project, no oral health prevention programs existed, and knowledge of oral health was very limited.





Public health nurse Marie Renee speaking to a group of community members from Lafond, Haiti in 2012 about how cholera is spread and how they can take measures to prevent disease transmission.

{ **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** }

IMPROVING HYGIENE AND SANITATION

An impressive retired husband and wife Peace Corps team has been working with World Connect on improving sanitation in the neighboring communities of Los Callejones, La Vigia, Colonia Japonesa, and Kilometro Cuatro, which sit about four kilometers from the Haitian/Dominican border. The local population is a mix of middle class (mostly Dominican) and low-income (majority Haitian) families. Lower income families struggle to put food on the table and live in poorly constructed, dilapidated wooden homes where electricity and water access is inconsistent at best.

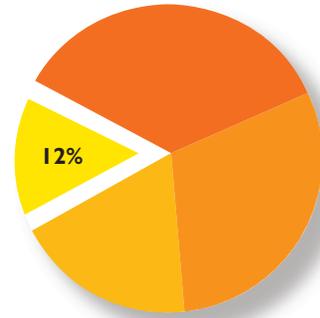
A majority of the poorest households in the four communities have either no sanitation (no toilets) or poorly constructed, overfilled latrines. Latrines are fundamental to development and without proper latrines, communities are at risk of contracting a number of diseases. In addition, latrines bring a sense of pride to communities for whom hygiene and sanitation issues have not previously been addressed.

"Before this project, the local chickens were eating the human refuse that was scattered around the community and no one would buy our chickens. Now we are able to sell our chickens because there is no more human waste for them to eat." - Domingo Gomez, 67

PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WORLD CONNECT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITY
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
GLOBAL SOLUTIONS



- Education/empowerment
- Healthy communities
- Environment
- Promoting entrepreneurship

Globally, children and adolescents from the poorest households are at least three times more likely to be out of school than children from the richest households. Girls are more likely to be out of school than boys among both primary and lower secondary age groups, even for girls living in the richest households. Creating opportunities for youth, through education and economic opportunity, not only gives individual youth a greater chance for success in their own lives, but has been noted by the United Nations as fundamental to community development.



[MOROCCO]

TRAINING YOUTH JOURNALISTS

World Connect expanded to Morocco in 2010, around the same time as the Arab Spring was sweeping through North Africa and the Middle East. Our goals in Morocco are twofold: first, to improve upon the country's comparably low level of human development for the region; and second, to abet the diplomatic efforts of our Peace Corps partners, who are working to promote sustainable development and cultural exchange.

The Training Moroccan Youth Journalists project began as a small, youth journalism workshop, led by a Peace Corps Volunteer with 20 years of experience as an international journalist, and grew into a sustainable, Moroccan youth-run media company, establishing a cadre of young Moroccan journalists. Their company, Ouarzazate E-News, has been extremely successful in providing new skills and opportunities for participants to grow as journalists and professionals. In 2012, the project achieved an important milestone, passing the baton from the original Peace Corps Volunteer who launched the project to a new local leader, a young Moroccan who was a participant in the original workshop. World Connect's continued support of these impressive young people enables them to bring their creativity and energy into the field of journalism and their local news coverage.

"My goal for this project was to inspire Moroccan youth to take an interest in citizen journalism and learn how to use it to give voice to issues in their community."

- Maureen Sieh, Peace Corps Volunteer



[COSTA RICA]

COSTA RICA'S FIRST YOUTH RUN COFFEE COMPANY

After completing an 18-week business course, developing a sound business plan for a theoretical company and winning a national competition for youth entrepreneurship, a group of inspiring youth from Biolley, in southern Costa Rica, decided to make their dream a reality. With World Connect's support, BioCafé has become Costa Rica's first youth run coffee company.

The project is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable, creating jobs for youth, utilizing biodegradable packaging and promoting sustainable coffee farming practices. A number of larger businesses and coffee-focused organizations in this coffee producing region mentored the youth, ensuring they were properly trained to process, roast and bag the coffee, and introduced them to potential buyers.

{ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC }

CITIZEN RIGHTS IN THE BATEYES

The “Bateyes” are communities in the southern region of the Dominican Republic that were originally designed to provide residency to migrant sugar cane workers from Haiti. In modern times, the sugar cane industry has greatly declined, leaving many of these people unemployed and often undocumented despite their birth in the Dominican Republic. A lack of knowledge and understanding of the process, fear of government officials, and the expense, keep families from documenting their children. Without documentation, a person cannot travel, pursue an education, gain access to healthcare or vote. Through the “Documentation Promotores Program” community leaders accompanied families through the legal system by implementing a series of workshops aimed at educating women and young people about human rights and Dominican laws. By cultivating leadership within the communities, awareness about rights is spreading and fear of the legal system is diminishing. Expansion of this project in the coming years will lead to far fewer undocumented Haitians in DR, and a corresponding increase in access to education, healthcare and travel, and a radically new course of life for the people of the bateyes.

“Before, when we started this project, most of the participants knew very little about human rights...after graduation, they all had a great knowledge of the process and were better able to share the information with their communities.”

- Jairo D’Polo, 25, Project Leader

{ PERU }

BELIEVE PROJECT

Reque is located in the department of Lambayeque, Peru, an area where most families have traditionally focused on agriculture for income. There has been significant population growth in recent years as families come from the surrounding mountainous regions in search of jobs and economic opportunity; migrants often come without resources and build one room adobe houses on the outskirts of Reque without running water or trash pickup, and most young people in the area do not attend university because of the cost.

Given this difficult context, most people are not interested in environmental and/or sustainable farming solutions, but rather in approaches that can get them the most crops the fastest. The “BELIEVE” project introduced residents to new agricultural and entrepreneurial opportunities, training young people and women in a variety of areas, such as how to raise guinea pigs, bee keeping, dairy product production, organic gardening, and cultivation of sweet potatoes. The project and the trainings were widely successful, reaching hundreds of young people and women, resulting in the launch of four new small businesses and one community association dedicated to raising guinea pigs. The four businesses are selling vegetables, juice, cheese, yogurt and honey, and the income they generate is being distributed amongst participating families. Income is also used to fund continued trainings so that more community members will be able to benefit from these entrepreneurial opportunities.

{ WORLDWIDE } KIDS CONNECT

Kids Connect is an initiative of World Connect that introduces young Americans to global issues and engages them in international development work. Designed to complement school curricula and community service programming, Kids Connect promotes global awareness, enhances cross-cultural communication and understanding, and inspires kids and teens to become directly involved in international, philanthropic, and community service work. Kids Connect has been implemented in schools around the country, including schools in New York, Washington D.C., Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, California and Nevada.



Twice per year, World Connect sends participating student groups a menu of projects that align to each school's stated interest areas. World Connect staff present to students about the issues addressed by each project, walking them through the steps of designing sustainable development projects and offering students ideas about how they can help by increasing awareness and funding. Students select one project per semester, lead their own original fundraisers, and communicate with project leaders via World Connect and our Peace Corps Volunteer partners, providing students in the U.S. with a direct connection to the community they are supporting. In the process, students develop a greater understanding of geography, languages, culture and socio-economic issues, as well as a deep appreciation for philanthropy and charitable work. Participating students report that Kids Connect has increased their knowledge of the developing world as well as their desire to lead lives of service.





Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present you with this report on World Connect's many accomplishments in 2011 and 2012, in particular the significant expansion of our programming during this period. World Connect began by providing maternal and child health programs in the Dominican Republic and moved to increase the scale of its work and impact in 2009 by pioneering a new model of international development.

World Connect offers Americans the opportunity to actively engage in international development by supporting projects that improve the well-being of women and children around the world. We streamline our on-the-ground presence by partnering with Peace Corps Volunteers who are already in the field and have developed meaningful relationships with their communities. Peace Corps Volunteers facilitate our project development by working with local entrepreneurs and community representatives. We can move resources quickly and easily to support these grassroots initiatives and get projects up and running in a matter of weeks.

What we find especially meaningful about our work is the opportunity it presents to individuals and families to join together to support unique and vital development projects around the world. Many families who have supported World Connect have done so by reviewing grant applications together and selecting, as a family, the project or projects they wish to sponsor. Parents have supported their kids who have led fundraising efforts in their schools in support of World Connect projects. Families have taken trips together to see their philanthropy in action. On page 12, World Connect's Board Treasurer, James Hunt, and his family share the experience of their extraordinary journey to Peru.

What you can see in these pages are stories of projects that were vital to the communities where they were implemented – building latrines, improving maternal and child health care, reforestation, and economic empowerment of women, among others. Without World Connect these projects would not have happened. World Connect uses its innovative model to place resources where they are most needed at the community level.

We thank you for your generous support and hope you recognize what a difference it has made. We also hope you will continue to support us as we work to accomplish so much more in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

George Biddle
Chairman

Bill Haney
Founder





Dear Friends,

It has been an honor to join World Connect at this very important stage in the organization's development. What started as a family's journey into philanthropy together has evolved and grown into a global international development institution that has accomplished so much.

World Connect has launched more than 700 projects that have improved the environment, increased opportunities, and improved health for women and children, and developed young people as leaders. The projects we have supported around the world have all been designed and led in direct partnership with local leaders. A fundamental value of World Connect is our belief that development begins at the community level. Our model of global citizenship is simple and efficient and blends international development with youth development, taking advantage of every opportunity to engage young Americans in our global citizenship journey.

We have built latrines, maternity clinics, schools, libraries, water sources, greenhouses, and playgrounds. We have promoted youth journalism, interfaith dialogue and women's leadership and empowerment, and we have launched women-led small businesses, sustainable sports leagues and environmental clubs. We have supported Peace Corps Volunteers abroad who give two years of their lives to reach out, selflessly, to help developing world communities and promote our country's democratic values. We have taught young people here at home about global issues and how they can pursue lives of social action and mobilize a more connected and supportive world.

We have done all of this with your help. We hope this report demonstrates our gratitude for your support and illustrates in depth the value of your support to communities around the world who are building healthier, safer, and more promising futures. We hope you are inspired by all we have accomplished together and continue to join us as we move forward to achieve even greater results.

Sincerely,

Pamela Nathenson, MPH
Executive Director



DONATIONS 2011-2012

\$100,000+

Abigail Disney
Haney Family

\$50,000+

George and Leslie Biddle
Amalie Kass

\$10,000+

Tim Disney
Michael and Barbara Eisenson
Paul Guilfoyle and Lisa Giobbi
James and Edwina Hunt
Susan Disney Lord and Scott Richard Lord

\$5,000+

Uncommon Productions
Paul Kwan
Mary Higgins and John Lechner
Newman's Own Foundation
Maurice and Luly Samuels

\$1,000+

Benjamin Appleyard
Bay View Academy
Clara Bingham
Donald Daniel
Edward Daniel
Michelle and Christopher Daniel
Peter Daniel
Patrick and Sue Higdon
Maura McCarthy
JJ Ramberg
Sage School
Michael and Maureen Terris
Kathleen Tibbetts
Wayland High School
Jerome and Dolores Zuckerman Gewirtz Charitable Trust

\$500+

Catalogue for Philanthropy
Fenn School
Dylan and Andrea Leiner
Eric Grunebaum and Miriam Tandler
Karim and Charlotte Sahyoun

\$100+

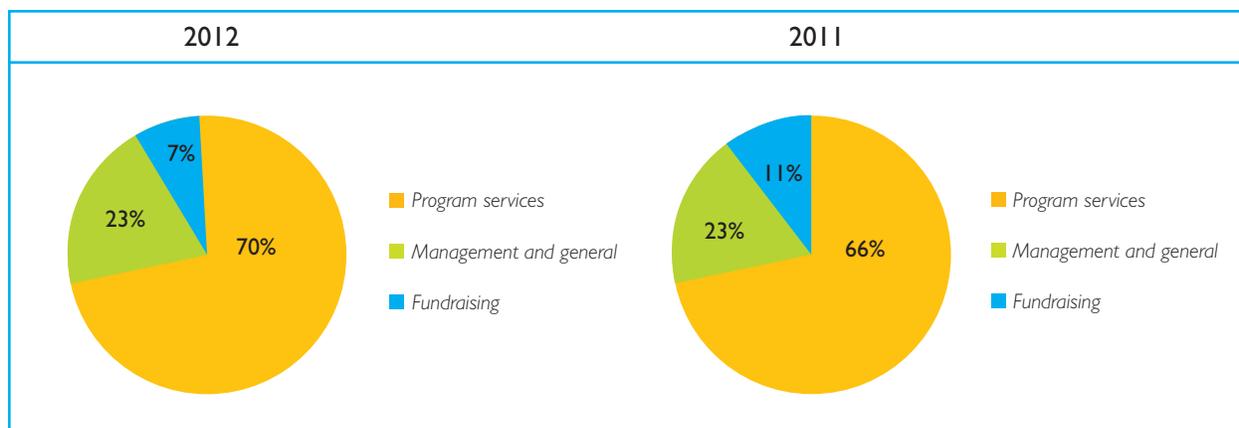
Julia Alvarez
Fred and Cindy Beams
John Chavanne
Concord Academy
Marcia McMahon
Merritt Colaizzi and Karl Mullen
Mary Ellen and John Gannon
Tina Petridis-Gerling and Michael Gerling, MD
Elizabeth Griffith
Anne Hailey
Kay Harvey
Gregory Kennedy
Richard Koziara
Elizabeth Macomber
Middlesex School
Aaron and Judith Nathenson
Richard Roth
The Spence School
Sarah Schubert
Virginia Young

\$25+

Kevin Bender
William Bobzien
Michael Brown
Jacqueline Caglia
Kate and Tom Carroll
Pamela Drexel
Sarah Henry and Darwin Feliz
Meg Hoskins
Charles and Pauline Hunt
Cara Natterson
Antonio Da Silva Ortega
Joseph Pelton
Whitney Rosenson
Liba and Tom Stillman
Paul Stroka
Kaitlyn Malkiewicz
Audrey Waugh

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ASSETS	2012	2011
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$87,979	\$305,064
Contributions Receivable	13,382	-
Promises to Give, Net	299,750	139,183
Prepaid Expenses	5,389	2,042
	\$406,500	\$446,289
Property and Equipment		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$7,437	\$8,250
	4,667	3,730
	\$2,770	\$4,520
Other Assets:		
Deposit	\$1,365	\$1,365
Promises to Give	24,000	183,648
	\$25,365	\$185,013
Total Assets	\$434,635	\$635,822
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities:		
Accrued Expenses	\$11,708	\$8,079
Total Liabilities	\$11,708	\$8,079
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	78,670	304,912
Temporarily Restricted	344,257	322,831
Total Assets	\$429,927	\$627,743
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$434,635	\$635,822





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Board of Directors:

- George Biddle, Chairman*
- James Hunt, Treasurer*
- William Haney, Founder*
- Marcie Tyre Berkley*
- Stephanie Cabot*
- Robert Hecht, PhD*
- Maura McCarthy*
- JJ Ramberg*

Staff:

- Pamela Nathenson, MPH*
Executive Director
- Patrick Higdon, MA*
Program Manager

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**WORLD
CONNECT**
**WHEN YOU HELP OTHERS
YOUR WORLD CHANGES**