



FISTULA
FOUNDATION

A Proposal for Support

Prepared for:

**New Friends of
Fistula Foundation**

Spring, 2016

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YOUR IMPACT

Thank you for making time to become familiar with Fistula Foundation.

Fistula Foundation believes deeply in ending the suffering caused by the childbirth injury of obstetric fistula, which is a treatable condition. We want all women who have been abandoned and rejected to regain their lives and become active, healthy members of their families and communities. No woman should endure a life of misery and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world.

We still have a long way to go: for every one woman we treated last year, 50 are still waiting, in desperate need of our help. And with your support, we know we will help them, too, by giving the priceless gift of health.

Following are a few shining examples from 2015 — our best year yet. Since our founding in 2000, gifts of all sizes from thousands of caring friends all over the world have made a huge difference to our mission so women can receive surgeries free of charge and recover from the devastating effects of obstetric fistula. And we hope you will join us, too.

Give yourself a few moments to decide for yourself how you can get behind the projects we are ready to begin right now, during 2016.

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

The problem: One million women in the developing world are living in shame and isolation, suffering from obstetric fistula.

In our view, the greater tragedy is that so many women are living with this injury at a time when surgical treatment is available and inexpensive, costing as little as \$586 USD. We believe there are three major obstacles to overcome in order to successfully treat obstetric fistula:

Patients can be difficult to find. Women who develop obstetric fistula often live in remote, rural areas. Often, they don't know treatment is available or are ashamed to speak about their condition. They are unable to afford transportation to a hospital, or perhaps they're unwilling to risk the journey because travel is unsafe or because of unknowns about treatment. A successful program must incorporate a patient outreach component that educates and persuades women to receive treatment.

Trained fistula surgeons are in short supply. Because obstetric fistula was largely eradicated in the industrialized world more than 100 years ago, surgeons in the developed world are not trained to treat it, nor do they encounter the range of traumatic injury that confronts surgeons in sub-Saharan Africa. A lack of trained surgeons—especially a lack of trained African surgeons—means that capacity to treat fistula patients is limited. Compounding this challenge, no two fistulas are identical—it can take years of training for a single surgeon to be sufficiently prepared to treat a complex injury.

Facilities must be accessible and equipped. Africa, in particular, is littered with buildings—clinics, schools, hospitals—that were built with good intentions but are underused or abandoned due to lack of upkeep and the financial and human resources to keep them operating. This is especially true of hospitals that require trained medical staff and technicians who can maintain and repair equipment. Utilizing existing infrastructure is the most cost-effective approach to making treatment facilities available to patients.

Our solution: Patients, surgeons and facilities are where we focus our funding and are the lens through which we view any potential new project.

But the final and most critical piece that makes our treatment efforts so successful are committed, local partners. We approach our mission with the humility to know that we will never understand the complexities of treating fistula as well as a local organization with local staff and infrastructure. We work diligently to identify, vet and fund local partners who have the capacity to expand their efforts to find and treat women suffering from fistula. First, we provide an initial grant to build a bridge to treatment, and then, we listen. We ask how our funding can help our new partner realize their goal of healing women with fistula. Then we provide the human and financial resources that enable as many women as possible to receive treatment.

Fistula Foundation 2015 Partners

Location	Partner	Treatment	Training	Facilities/ Equipment	Research & Advocacy
Afghanistan	CURE Hospital, Kabul	◆	◆	◆	◆
Angola	Central Evangelical Medical Center (CEML)	◆			◆
	Unidade	◆	◆	◆	
Bangladesh	Cox Bazaar Hospital	◆	◆		◆
Benin	WAHA – University Teaching Hospital, Cotonou	◆	◆		◆
Cameroon	Dr. Franklin Danki	◆			◆
DR Congo	HEAL Africa	◆			◆
	Panzi Hospital	◆	◆		
Ethiopia	Aira School of Nursing		◆		
	WAHA - Gondar	◆	◆		
Guinea	Engender Health – Jean Paul II Hospital	◆			
Kenya	Gynocare	◆	◆	◆	
	Cherangany Hospital	◆		◆	
	WADADIA			◆	
	Kisii Teaching Hospital	◆	◆		
	Action on Fistula		◆	◆	
	Disciples of Mercy			◆	
	Daraja Mbili			◆	
	Isiolo Development			◆	
	Bomu Hospital	◆			
	Wamba Hospital	◆			
Liberia	WAHA – Family Medical Hospital, Monrovia	◆			◆
Malawi	Freedom From Fistula	◆			
Nepal	International Nepal Fellowship		◆	◆	◆
	PHCT CBRHCC			◆	
	PHCT Kathmandu	◆	◆		
Niger	SIM USA – Danja Fistula Centre	◆			
Nigeria	Dr. Khees Waaldjik – National Fistula Project	◆	◆		
	EVFC Centre	◆	◆		
	Fistula Foundation, Nigeria				◆
	University College Hospital, Ibadan			◆	
	Usmanu Danfodiyo Teaching Hospital, Sokoto			◆	
	Mariya Sanusi Maternity Hospital			◆	
Somaliland	Edna Adan Maternity Hospital	◆	◆	◆	
Tanzania	Dr. Andrew Browning – Surgeries	◆			
	Arusha	◆			
	Association of Surgeons, Tanzania	◆	◆		◆
	CCBRT	◆	◆	◆	◆
	KCMC / DGHI				◆
	Maternity Africa	◆			
Uganda	Comprehensive Rehabilitative Service in Uganda (CoRSU)	◆			
	Kagando Hospital	◆			
	Uganda Village Project	◆	◆		
	Kitovu Hospital		◆		
UK, London	FIGO – Surgeon Training Program		◆		
	Delphin Films – Documentary	◆			
US, California	DRI – Medical Supplies			◆	
	DRI – Mapping Project				◆
US, NY	Expert Fistula Surgeon – Site Visits		◆		
Zambia	St. Francis Hospital, Katete	◆			
	Family Life Office, Mpika Diocese	◆	◆		
Zimbabwe	WAHA – Parirenyatwa Hospital, Harar	◆	◆		◆

DRI (Direct Relief) | WAHA (Women and Health Alliance International)

ONE WOMAN AT A TIME



Fistula Foundation thinks about the work we do “one woman at a time.” And so, I wanted to share with you a story about one of the **5,048** women whose lives were changed during 2015. Gifts to Fistula Foundation directly helped make their fistula surgeries possible, and helped the facilities and fistula treatment teams continue getting the job done, and done well.



Comprehensive Care in Kenya |

For several years now, Fistula Foundation has been committed to helping treat women with fistula in Kenya.

Following is a good illustration not only of the experience of one woman, but the power of seeing our tradition of philanthropy grow stronger, as well.

Two years ago, a generous donor stepped forward with a \$2 million dollar gift (to be fulfilled over three years) and a desire to fully fund comprehensive, high-quality fistula treatment initiatives for the whole country of Kenya.

Action on Fistula is the largest scale and best funded program that Fistula Foundation has ever undertaken in any country. This three year initiative enabled us to build a treatment network capable of treating more women in Kenya now and for years to come. In addition, the program provides high-quality fistula surgeon training opportunities that result in more local surgeons being able to treat more complex cases of fistula.

Two months prior to the second anniversary of Action on Fistula, we are beating our goals on every initiative: 912 surgeries have already been completed, seven treatment

facilities and five outreach partners – covering ground in more than half of Kenya's 47 counties – have been enrolled in our Fistula Treatment network. By the end of this month, training provided through this program will have certified 5 new local surgeons at an internationally recognized standard level of competency.

We see tremendous potential for this program to be a roadmap for comprehensive fistula treatment in other countries. With your help, we can make this a reality.



Khadija: Hope in Dadaab



Meet Khadija. She is 20 years old. Originally from Somalia, she has been living in the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya for about four years. It is the largest refugee camp in the world, home to hundreds of thousands of refugees, many of them fleeing conflict in Somalia that began in the early 1990s. At 16, Khadija was expecting her first child. Her labor became obstructed and lasted 10 days, she recalls, before she was able to reach the hospital for treatment. By the time she arrived, her baby had died. The physical trauma of her prolonged labor left her in pain and with a disability known as foot drop, a nerve injury that made it difficult for her to walk. She also had a fistula. Due to her incontinence, she began hiding, afraid to spend time around other people. Her husband deserted her and returned to Somalia; Khadija has not heard from him since. Seeking treatment, she traveled to several health facilities and hospitals, but was told she would have to live with her condition. They sent her away with antibiotics. Finally, she was referred to Dadaab Sub-District Hospital, where she met Dr. Stephen Mutiso, a fistula surgeon from Jamaa Mission Hospital in Nairobi. He diagnosed a fistula and in May 2015, she was brought nearly 300 miles to Nairobi, where she received treatment. So often in life, you can't start making things better for yourself if you don't have your health. Our thoughts are with Khadija as she now begins this new chapter in her life.

TRAINING FISTULA SURGEONS

Fistula Foundation's 2015 fistula surgeon training projects are the most forward-looking and important projects in our history. I believe them to be especially important to our ability to treat more women not just for next year, but for years to come.

FIGO's Global Training Program

Starting in 2015 and continuing during 2016, Fistula Foundation has been significantly funding a special Fistula Foundation project which enables the establishment of a first-ever, worldwide, comprehensive fistula surgeon training program overseen by the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO). In early February 2016, FIGO provided their first report to us on the multi-year initiative's 2015 activities. And the news is encouraging. During 2015, the specific objectives were to lay the groundwork and launch the worldwide training program on such a large scale. In 2015, 35 new Fellows joined the training initiative, 26 of whom were funded by the Fistula Foundation. These candidates had been strategically recruited from countries with a significant need for well-qualified, experienced fistula surgeons.

This cohort of Fellows underwent a 6-week training placement at one of several training

placement sites located in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tanzania and Kenya.

And the Fistula Foundation sponsored a 2.5-day gathering hosted by FIGO in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This was the first opportunity for the trainers and first group of 12 Fellows to meet together in person. In addition to discussing the global training initiative as a whole, they explored how to improve the available Global



Competency-Based Fistula Surgery Training Manual, which is due for revision in 2016.

By the conclusion of 2015, all 35 Fellows completed their training and were evaluated by their trainer to be at Standard competency level. And that is quite good. Moving up to the Expert level will require a significant amount of surgery time in order to gain experience accompanied by mentoring and coaching from FIGO's network of Expert fistula surgeons.



During 2016, additional Fellows will continue to be recruited from strategically targeted high-need countries of origin. And we expect the total cohort of Fellows participating in the program to grow.



However, the emphasis during 2016 will mainly be on enhancing coaching strategies, coaching visits by expert fellows to work one-on-one with Fellows at their home institutions, and keeping a close eye on the quality of the overall training initiative.

FACILITY & EQUIPMENT UPGRADES

During 2015, gifts made possible one of the most exciting projects for the Fistula Foundation: building a dedicated fistula treatment facility in Eldoret, Kenya, which will be overseen by respected African surgeon leader Dr. Hillary Mabeya.

A Center of Excellence in Kenya

The facility will be known as the Gynocare Fistula Hospital. It will feature approximately 50 beds for fistula patients plus an additional 12 to 14 beds for maternity patients.



This is a vital project, not only for fistula surgery treatment. We view this as one of the most important fistula surgeon training initiatives we have ever supported.

Dr. Mabeya is recognized today as one of the two most experienced surgeons in Kenya. He is dedicated to continuously developing new treatment techniques while also serving as a mentor and trainer for up-and-coming doctors. And his facility will be recognized as one of the world's few FIGO-accredited fistula surgeon training facilities.

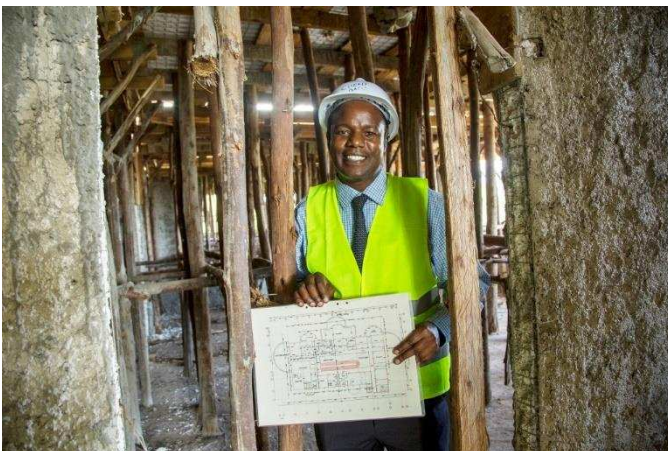
The hospital is well positioned to become a Center of Excellence in the region, as a facility providing high-quality surgeon training, as well as the best patient care.

I should add that the Gynocare Fistula Hospital will operate as a private institution, under Dr. Mabeya's direction. He will lead a team of three surgeons. Knowing his entrepreneurial track record so far, he will continue to oversee the operations and direction in a way that is adaptive, patient-focused, and according to the highest of standards. Many consider that this new facility will be a symbol of lasting commitment for Action on Fistula, the 3-year initiative that concludes in 2017.



Once it is in full swing, we expect this to be a busy, high-performing hospital for fistula care in Kenya and the East African region. And it will be a place where the next generation of outstanding fistula surgeons will hone their skills.

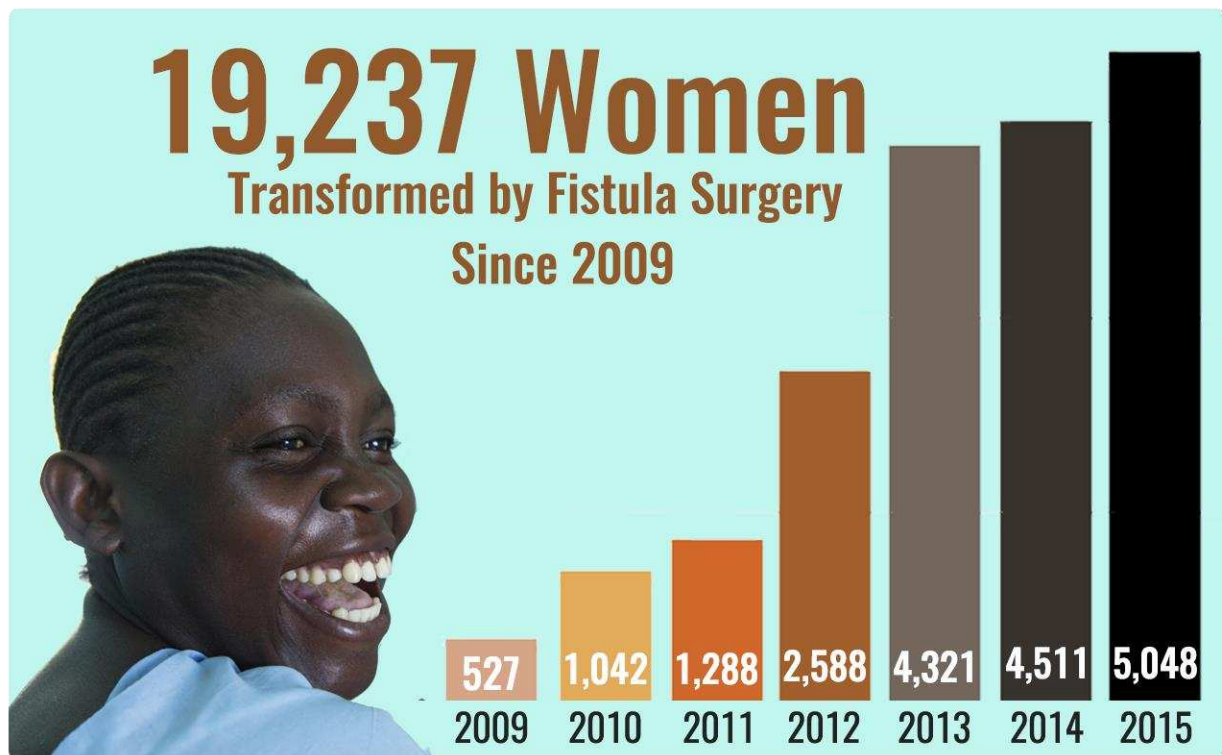
Construction continues at a good pace; we expect to celebrate the opening with a special ceremony in the fall of 2016. And, if you would like to know how the project is doing right now, during these final months, please let us know!



YOU ARE STRENGTHENING OUR TRADITION OF PHILANTHROPY

Founded in 2000, the Fistula Foundation is now recognized as the global leader in fistula treatment, supporting sites in numerous developing countries, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

Each time you dedicate yourself to Fistula Foundation's mission, our tradition of philanthropy grows stronger. And that makes so many good things possible.



Many women suffering from obstetric fistula can receive life-changing treatment. And all of their families will be touched, too. The healthcare professionals dedicating their lives to treating and healing them will be enabled and encouraged, as well.

For these reasons, and for your own reasons, thank you for your devotion to giving to others. We can never thank you enough!

Your 2016 Gift Options

Several options are available to you, in making a gift that has an important impact and aligns with your personal values.

Give where the need is greatest | Empower us to use your donation for what our partners have asked for. As soon as your gift arrives, it will unlock treatment for the project waiting right now with a backlog of patients. And it's only because we can rely on caring donors such as you that we are able to make plans to move forward and support new programs confidently in the face of overwhelming demand. It's so reassuring to know you are there for us and for these women in need.

Fund an essential element of our work that moves your heart | Imagine the big impact you can have by choosing to fund a percentage or 100% of 2016's fistula surgeries, fistula surgeon training or facility and equipment upgrades. Keep in mind that such an important gift will provide enormous leverage, freeing up funds for other projects, enabling even greater success and progress than last year. You are also helping our tradition of philanthropy grow stronger by setting an example that we hope others will follow.

All over the world, in the places where we are helping, we want patients to have as safe an environment as possible to receive fistula treatment. And so we are starting to fund pioneering projects such as the examples I've shared with you here about building a hospital in Kenya and the FIGO global fistula surgeon training initiative. Or, it may be essential for us to help fund outreach for women living in remote places to know that their injury is treatable, to not be ashamed of their childbirth trauma injury, and to have the funding to travel to a partner facility for treatment, and home again. If this sounds interesting to you, let us know. And we will offer you an inside perspective on the impact your gift will have.

Make one country or project your own. | It feels wonderful to say you are making fistula treatment possible for one hospital and fistula treatment team during 2016. Imagine what you could do for a whole country. A few of our most committed donors have made similar gift decisions, to partially or 100% sponsor fistula treatment work for a whole project, global initiative or country-wide fistula treatment — some of the most forward-looking projects we've ever dreamed possible. Take a moment to refer to page 4 with an overview of projects by country and partner. Then, tune me in. And I'll give you an inside perspective on the impact your gift will have.

To illustrate, enclosed is information on one of our new partners: Liberia | This is our first ever fistula treatment project for this country which has been devastated by the Ebola outbreak. And there is a significant backlog of fistula cases. We can't wait to get started.

Let me know if you'd like to discuss the options for making your 2016 gift in greater depth. I'd really enjoy sharing how your gift can make a difference. So, connect with me anytime about that.

On behalf of these women, thank you.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Melissa Johnson
Senior Director, Donor Relations
Fistula Foundation

Additional Reference Information

About the Fistula Foundation

How we ensure ongoing evaluation and sustainability

Board of Directors

We need your support in: Liberia

ABOUT THE FISTULA FOUNDATION

Founded in 2000, the Fistula Foundation is dedicated to helping women worldwide who are suffering with obstetric fistula and giving them hope for the future. Obstetric fistula is caused by unrelieved obstructed labor, and affects at least a million women in developing countries, leaving them incontinent and leaking wastes. Although fistula was largely eradicated in developed countries over a century ago, it remains prevalent in developing countries where women, especially in rural areas, give birth at home without access to modern medical care or emergency obstetric services.

Fistula Foundation is recognized today as the global leader in fistula treatment. During 2014, the Fistula Foundation awarded grants to partners in 21 countries working at 59 sites throughout Africa and Southeast Asia to deliver life-changing surgeries that will heal women of obstetric fistula, train doctors, nurses and other medical staff in proper techniques and treatment options, and fund outreach activities to help educate communities and find women who suffer with this devastating injury. As one of our most important donors, our promise to you is straightforward: your gifts will be used effectively and efficiently to help transform the lives of women with fistula.

HOW WE ENSURE ONGOING EVALUATION & SUSTAINABILITY

Fistula Foundation receives bi-annual reports from the surgeons and hospitals which we fund. Our organization adheres to the highest standards in our financial management and in selecting which organizations and projects to fund.

We are also dedicated to keeping operating expenses low. We have been awarded the *GuideStar* Exchange Seal for our deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability and the Better Business Bureau Seal for meeting its Standards for Charity Accountability since 2006. We have earned an A grade and Top Rated charity status from *CharityWatch*, which uses the most stringent evaluation standards in the charity watchdog sector. **And we are quite proud to share with you that we recently achieved a 4-star rating from *Charity Navigator* for ten consecutive years – a designation that less than one percent of charities they rate receive.**

The Foundation also has an audit committee composed of Director Members. The Committee retains an independent public accounting firm to undertake the Foundation's annual audit. These audited financial statements and annual tax returns are available on the Foundation website.



Bill Mann

Chair | Chief Investment Officer at Motley Fool Asset Management | Alexandria, Virginia

William 'Bill' Mann is Chief Investment Officer at The Motley Fool and specializes in identifying companies with underappreciated competitive advantages and assets. He has experience analyzing a wide range of industries, and it was his expertise in corporate governance that led the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to ask him to be an expert witness at a 2001 hearing regarding the collapse of Enron.

A sought-after public speaker, Bill has frequently appeared on CNBC, Bloomberg, Fox News Channel, CNN, BBC, CBS, and numerous business radio programs. Before joining The Motley Fool in 1999, Bill was a co-founder of a specialty international telecommunications carrier, and he previously worked in the energy and telecommunications industries. Bill holds a degree in international service from American University. He was named a 2011 Rising Star in the Mutual Fund Industry by Institutional Investor. Bill became passionate about obstetric fistula after a visit to Hamlin Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



Kelly Brennan

Director | Managing Director, Securities Division, Goldman Sachs

Kelly Brennan is a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs. As a trader on the firm's Program Trading desk, she specializes in helping clients to execute large portfolio trades in US equities and has managed several teams within the firm's Securities Division in New York. She joined Goldman Sachs in 2005 as an associate and was named managing director in 2010. Prior to joining Goldman Sachs, Kelly worked at Susquehanna International Group as an equity and equity derivatives trader.

Kelly is an active member of Goldman Sachs' Women's Network and has served on the firm's Multicultural Women's Alliance Committee as well as the advisory council for the firm's Firmwide Hispanic/Latino Network. She has served as member of Two Together, a mentoring program for disadvantaged youth in Manhattan and volunteer for Puppies Behind Bars.

Kelly earned a BA in Political Economies with a concentration in Molecular Cell Biology from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2000.



Denis Robson

Director | Retired, Johnson & Johnson | Edinburgh, Scotland

Mr. Robson enjoyed a lengthy career at Johnson & Johnson, from which he recently retired in 2014. While at J&J, he held several senior positions in International business management such as Director for African Affairs and General Manager of the Medical Device business in Africa and the Middle East. In these capacities, he collaborated regularly with Fistula Foundation on projects such as a small grants program, distribution of affordable fistula repair kits and sponsorship of a fistula forum in Scotland in 2011. Mr. Robson also founded Scotland's 'Ethicon' branch in order to fulfill the company's Credo responsibilities to the local and international community.

Mr. Robson is now enjoying retirement and, in his spare time, pursues volunteering opportunities and acts as a healthcare advisor to NGOs on women's health issues and surgery in Africa. He is an active Rotarian and past President of his local club (twice) with a particular interest in the work of their International Committee and Shelterbox.

Mr. Robson is an Honorary Fellow of the West African College of Surgeons (WACS) and the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) and graduated in Business Studies from the Scottish College of Textiles.



Robert Tessler

Director | Retired, Toberoff, Tessler & Schochet

Robert Tessler is a litigator, and retired partner in the Manhattan law firm Toberoff, Tessler & Schochet. He has served as Chairman of the Essex County chapter of the ACLU, Chairman of the Board of the National Music Theater Network, and County Committeeman of the New Jersey Democratic Party. He has been a consistent major fundraiser for Democratic Senatorial Candidates and worked on fundraising committees for the Kerry and Obama Presidential campaigns. He started out doing pro-bono legal representation of draft resisters during the Vietnam War. From 2003-2014 Rob was a valued member of Fistula Foundation's Board of Directors, helping guide the Foundation through profound change. He returned to the Foundation Board in 2016.



Mal Warwick

Director | Founder and Chairman, Mal Warwick | Donordigital Berkeley, CA

Mal is the founder and chairman of Mal Warwick | Donordigital (www.malwarwick.com, Berkeley, CA, and Washington, DC), a fundraising agency specializing in integrated, multi-channel fundraising and marketing that has served nonprofit organizations nationwide since 1979. The agency has helped raise hundreds of millions of dollars for many of America's biggest and most-loved causes and institutions.

For decades, Mal played a leadership role in the fundraising and direct marketing fields both nationally and internationally. He lectured or led workshops on fundraising and marketing for six continents for NGO executives from more than 100 countries.

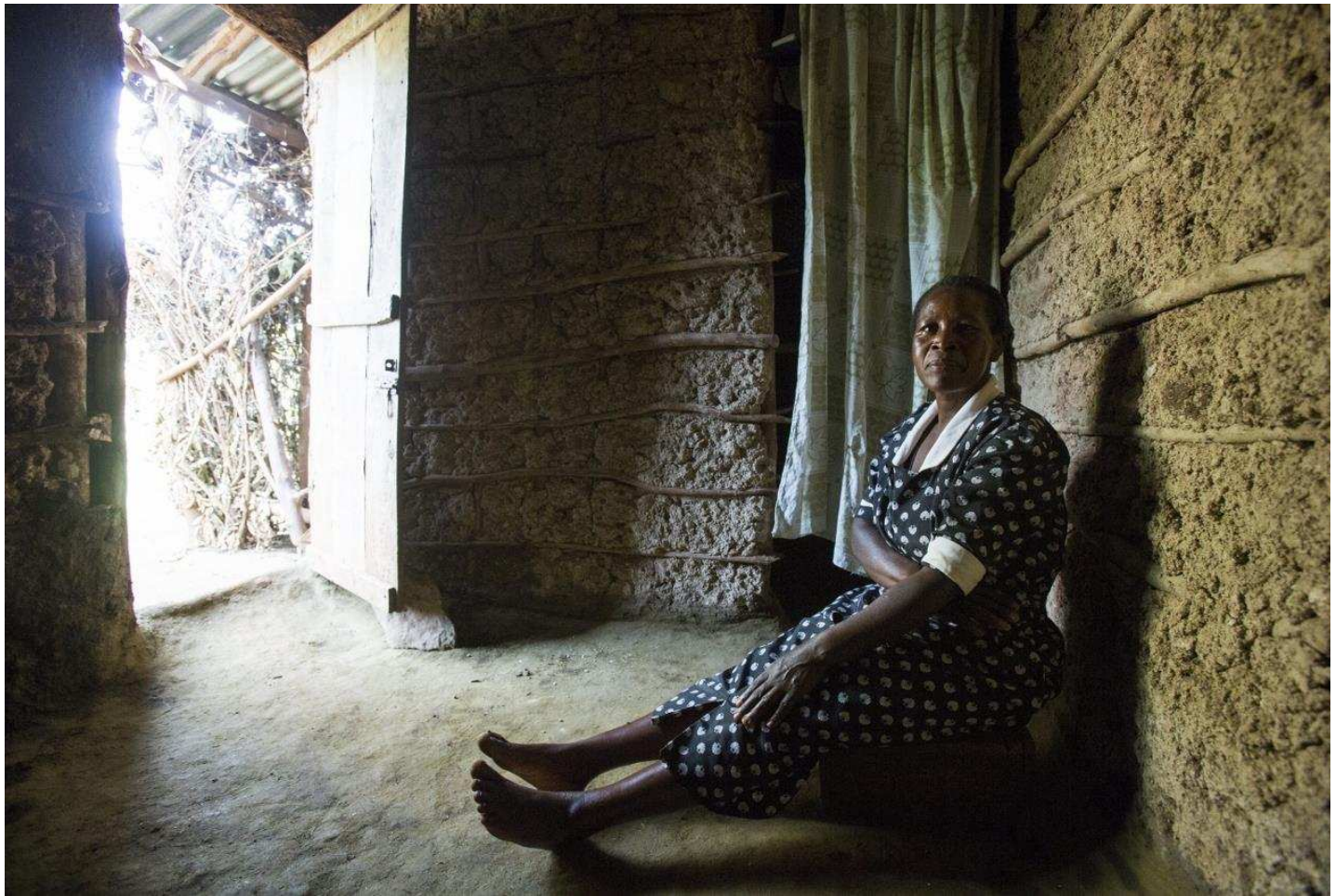
Mal has written or edited a total of twenty books, including the best-selling fundraising text, *How to Write Successful Fundraising Appeals*, now in its third edition. Among the books he has written about the role of business in society today is *The Business Solution to Poverty: Designing Products and Services for Three Billion New Customers*, winner of a 2014 Axiom Business Book Award, which he co-authored with Paul Polak.



Teri Whitcraft

Director | Senior Producer at ABC News, Special Units | New York, New York

Teri Whitcraft, Senior Producer for ABC News' Special Units, develops and produces original content and special projects for ABC News' top-rated broadcasts. She has produced primetime hours for Diane Sawyer, Charles Gibson, Barbara Walters, Bob Woodruff and Connie Chung, and her work has been recognized with multiple Emmy, Cine Golden Eagle, Amnesty International and NAACP awards. In 2011, Teri was the coordinating producer for ABC News' year-long, division wide global health series "Be the Change: Save a Life," sponsored in part by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This groundbreaking series produced more than 60 stories from 20 countries on four continents, and was the catalyst for the Million Moms Challenge, a global online community featuring nearly two dozen nonprofit organizations, including Fistula Foundation, which raised nearly \$1.5 million for organizations working on maternal/newborn health.



FISTULA
FOUNDATION

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We Need Your Support in: Liberia

*Restoring fistula treatment
following the Ebola outbreak*

Prepared for:

**New Friends of
Fistula Foundation**

Spring, 2016

Project Overview & Goals

During the recent Ebola outbreak, Liberia was one of the hardest-hit countries in West Africa, with the highest number of Ebola deaths. According to the World Health Organization, Liberia reported 300 to 400 new cases every week in August and September 2014, a devastating pace for the country's already weak health system. In the capital city of Monrovia, WHO reports that during that period, people were turned away from treatment centers overwhelmed with patients and that bodies sometimes went uncollected for days.

The country was officially declared free from Ebola for the third time in January 2016. Right now, throughout Liberia, there is a significant backlog of fistula cases—women in urgent need of treatment. And it is anticipated that there will be a steady number of new fistula patients while this project is underway.

Fistula Foundation has committed to helping **Family Medical Hospital** in Monrovia, a facility that has a respected and capable obstetrics and gynecology team. We provide grant support to this hospital through our long-term partner Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA). Helping one resource-limited hospital in a developing country with an already struggling health infrastructure will not be easy. To face these challenges, WAHA has adopted a comprehensive approach:

Outreach | An outreach network needs to be re-established to identify women in need of treatment and to help patients with transportation to the hospital and back home. In addition to screening new patients, the outreach team will also address fears of accessing the hospital (which are understandably prevalent due to the Ebola outbreak). Our funding will pay for these things.

Surgeon Training | We'll be funding training by expert surgeons so the hospital's fistula surgical team can assess and treat complex cases independently.

Surgeries and Equipment | We're paying for the costs of fistula surgeries during the project period. Operating space is limited. So, we're funding the establishment of a second operating room as well as the equipment needed for these surgeries to happen.

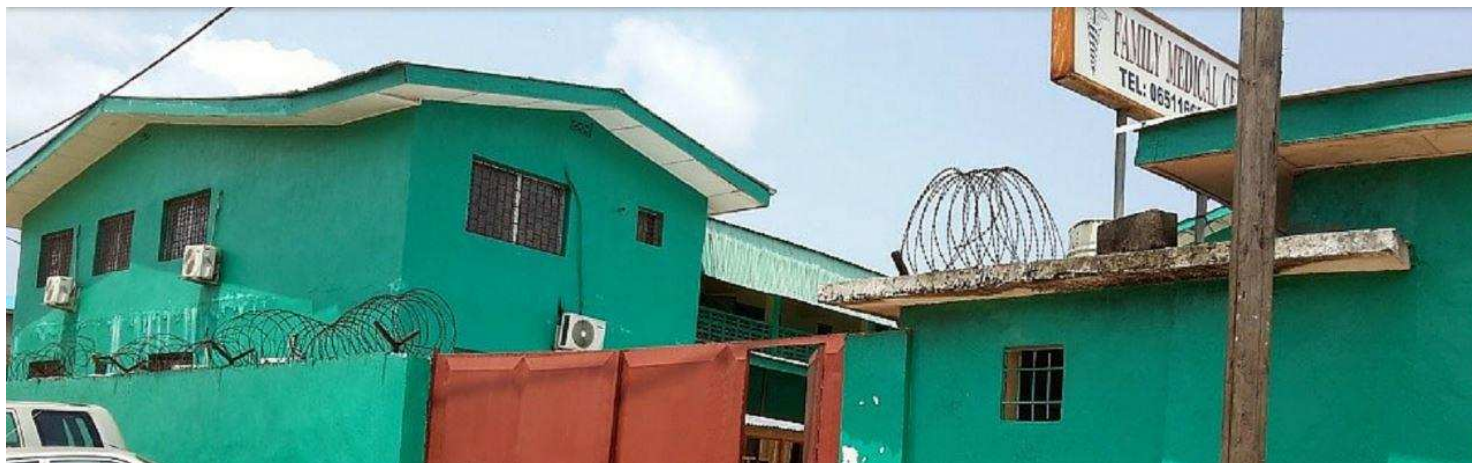
Within this hospital, the number of beds reserved for fistula patients is limited, so we are also providing funding to increase the number of beds dedicated to fistula patient care.

Keep in mind that Fistula Foundation does one thing and we do it well: treat obstetric fistula. **We've set a goal of completing 150 fistula surgeries by the conclusion of the project.** Plus, we're committed to supporting this hospital in the future.

Project Budget

Fistula surgeries	\$175,500
Fistula surgery training	\$30,000
Community outreach/reintegration	\$45,600
Equipment.....	\$15,000
Total	\$266,100

How Your Gift Will Impact This Project | If you would like to make a difference for women in Liberia, please feel welcome to direct your next annual gift here. And if you would like to know more about how you can make our dreams come alive for the work awaiting us in Liberia and elsewhere, please connect with us anytime.



Why do we work in Liberia?

Over the last decade, Liberia has struggled to increase its poor maternal health outcomes – maternal mortality is high, skilled attendance at birth is low, and early childbearing remains common. The recent Ebola outbreak has only further devastated an already struggling health infrastructure. Overwhelmed systems and widespread panic have posed barriers to essential health care, including maternal health services. Lack of essential supplies, illness among health care providers, and fear of infection among staff have all contributed to the widespread closure of health facilities. As a result there has been a sharp increase in pregnant women without access to emergency obstetric care or a health facility in which to give birth. Thus, we have good reason to anticipate a growing number of new cases of obstetric fistula in Liberia.

These new patients, as well as the backlog of existing fistula cases, are in urgent need of regular health services again and access to fistula care.



What you help us do in Liberia

We're helping fund:

Fistula surgeries
Fistula surgery training
Community outreach
Equipment

Where:

Family Medical Hospital, Monrovia

How much funding have we granted?

\$266,100 in FY2015

Who is our partner?

We provide grant support to this hospital through Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA). For more information, visit their website at www.waha-international.org.

How will this help women in Liberia?

Prior to the Ebola outbreak, Family Medical Hospital in Monrovia was providing basic fistula care services with up to 6 beds available for fistula patients. However, all fistula activities have since stopped. This project aims to help the hospital resume and expand its fistula services, which will be necessary to respond to the expected increase in new cases. Funding will support the purchase of new equipment, training for local staff from WAHA's expert surgeons, community outreach and mobilization, and surgeries for 150 women. It is our hope that this project will help the fistula unit get back on its feet and pave the way for the availability of continued fistula care in Liberia.

One Woman's Story from Liberia

Meet Melvina



Melvina Mulbah is only 19 years old and has already experienced so much suffering. Four years ago, Melvina became pregnant. It was her first pregnancy, quickly after she had gotten married, and since the nearest health center was far, she did not have any antenatal care. When her labor started, she stayed at home, planning to give birth there.

After two days of labor and no sign of delivering her baby, her husband finally agreed to bring her to the health center. Melvina had to walk the entire way, and at times her family carried her. Melvina stayed one day at the health center, without giving birth, before the health center staff decided to transfer her to the hospital. At the hospital, she delivered a dead baby boy.

While crying for her lost child, she realized that she was leaking urine. The hospital staff discharged her, saying that there was nothing they could do for her.

Melvina spent three years living with obstetric fistula, not knowing the name of her condition or that treatment was possible. Her husband divorced her, and she became more and more excluded from the community. In time, she was completely isolated, as people were afraid to go near her. She returned to her parents, who were the only human contact she had. But they, along with Melvina, had given up hope that she would ever be healed.

On the radio, her parents heard about obstetric fistula and that free treatment was available at Family Medical Hospital in Monrovia. Full of hope, they brought Melvina into town and were relieved when the doctors confirmed her diagnosis and scheduled the operation.

Today, Melvina is healed. At 19 years old, she is young enough to start a new life. "I am so thankful for the care I received, the transport to hospital, the food and the support. God bless the doctors and nurses of the Family Medical Hospital and those who covered the costs for my operation."

Help Give a Woman a New Life.

Fistula Foundation believes deeply in ending the suffering caused by the childbirth injury of obstetric fistula. We want all women who have been abandoned and rejected to regain their lives and become active, healthy members of their families and communities. No woman should endure a life of misery and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world. If you would like to know more about these plans and/or talk in more detail about the impact of our work here, please get in touch with a member of our team.



www.fistulafoundation.org
info@fistulafoundation.org

Fistula Foundation
1922 The Alameda, Ste 302
San Jose, CA 95126

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U.S. Tax ID: 77-0547201
Combined Federal Campaign: #11521



Gift Form

*Fistula Foundation's U.S.
Tax ID is 77-0547201.
Combined Federal Campaign #11521*

If you need assistance in
making your gift, please contact:

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melissa@fistulafoundation.org

Fistula Foundation
1922 The Alameda, Suite 302
San Jose, CA 95126

TO: Kate Grant, CEO

FROM: _____

Yes, Kate, I want to continue supporting Fistula Foundation's mission and help transform the lives of women suffering with obstetric fistula during 2016. I'd like to make the following gift:

\$ _____

Please choose from the three options below to let us know the impact you'd like your gift to have in 2016:

- ☐ Use my gift wherever the need is greatest.
- ☐ I want to help Fistula Foundation treat more women by funding:
 - ___ Fistula surgeries
 - ___ Training fistula surgeons
 - ___ Facility and equipment upgrades
- ☐ I'd like to get behind one project or country's fistula treatment:
 - ___ Liberia. ___ Other: _____

(For a complete list of your options, refer to pg. 5 of your proposal for support.)

My 2016 gift arrangements:

- ☐ My check is enclosed (made payable to Fistula Foundation).

Credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Account #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

- ☐ My company will match this gift. Enclosed is a matching gift form.
- ☐ I am considering a gift in my estate plans for Fistula Foundation.

ADDITIONAL GIFT OPTIONS:

Donate online at www.fistulafoundation.org.

To make your gift by wire transfer, or as a gift of appreciated securities, contact Anne Ferguson at anne@fistulafoundation.org or call 866-756-3700 to receive instructions. To donate by phone, call us at 866-756-3700 (or internationally at 001-408-249-9596). Staff is available to take your call Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm PST.

Thank you.