

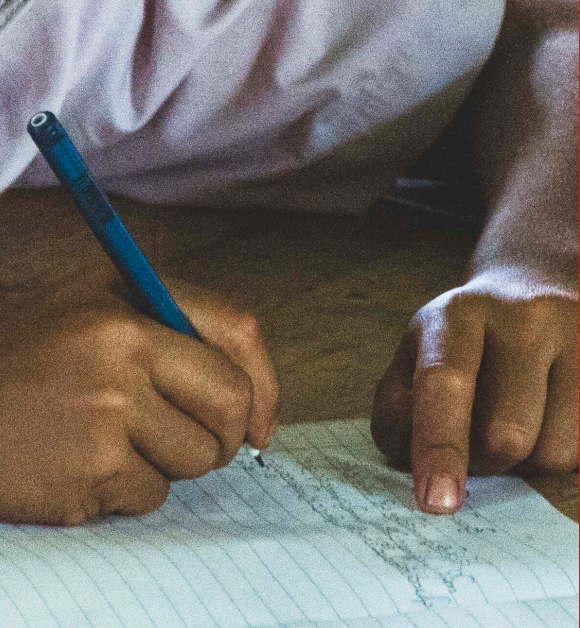
# BEYOND.



**ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

This year, a global body who believes children affected by conflict and oppression deserve the same freedoms their own children deserve, came together to bring food, education, healthcare and hope into the lives of **198,450** people, reminding them they are loved and not forgotten by God. This Annual Report is a glimpse of how that body worked together in 2016.





20  
16

# BEYOND.

**Be.yond:** (at or to the further side of) conflict, aid, fear, despair, borders. In 2016, Partners Relief & Development took over 20-years' experience delivering Good News to those affected by conflict and oppression in Southeast Asia, and went beyond those borders to the Middle East. As the world watched a humanitarian crisis devolve beyond imagining, we recognized this as our Samaritan moment and asked you to cross to the other side of the road with us to help those who had been beat up by this conflict: women whose husbands had disappeared, men whose daughters had been sold into sexual slavery, and children who have only ever known conflict. We asked, and your response was beyond what we expected: sleeping bags and laying hens and formula and prayer and rice and kerosene.

In this extraordinary year stateside, you went beyond politics and came together to bring the very Best of News to more people than ever because of your generosity. We are in Thailand and Myanmar to stay, and now we can say that long after the world's attention has turned elsewhere, we will also be in the Middle East.

Did we go above and beyond in 2016? If going above means passing over a need, then I hope not; you have always trusted us because we go in and not above when we see communities caught in the grip of conflict and its effects. But this year, we did go beyond where we've been before, all because of you. And as we go into 2017, we find ourselves even more rooted in Christ, overflowing with thanksgiving and ready to reach out even further in love.



**Steve Gumaer**  
President, Partners Relief & Development

# Key Figures



- Raised **\$2.3 million**
- Funded **32 projects**
- Assisted **198,450** people in **5 countries**



20  
16



# EMERGENCY RELIEF

*Care for children in crisis*



Because help in times of crisis gives hope and saves lives, we provide emergency and short-term provision of food, shelter materials, and basic survival necessities for children, their families, and communities during times of acute crisis. Emergency relief is essential when war or social breakdown occurs and leaves children vulnerable to suffering and exploitation.

It's why our supporters mobilized to distribute 6,000 tarpaulins in Aleppo to newly-displaced families to give them shelter; and why rice, vegetables and oil were distributed to Rohingya families confined to an internment camp after violence broke out in Rakhine State, Myanmar in October.





**46.23%**

of project expenditure was directed to emergency relief

**KEY STATS:**

**14** wells built

**439,106kg** rice delivered

**1,050** blankets given

**83,700** pieces of hygiene supplies distributed

## HOPE REPLACING HUNGER

Whenever we provide emergency relief, we always look for ways to make our response more sustainable and empower the community to find their own food. In Myanmar's Rakhine State, most of our attempts at sustainability have had mixed success; many have failed. We have learned that hunger and hopelessness sometimes extinguishes the desire to make a better life.

In 2016 we changed our approach from sporadic relief as funds allowed, to a regular feeding program with a remote group of Rohingya families who are so isolated in the internment camp that nobody has ever helped them except for Partners. These 137 families now receive a distribution of rice and vegetables regularly.

After a few months of regular, dependable distributions, we noticed a palpable change in these families: nearly the whole village greeted us when we drove up. We saw fish drying in the sun and squash growing on the shelter roofs. On land Partners has leased, these families dug a pond to raise fish, harvested 50 bags of rice, and grew cucumbers and watermelon from seeds we had given them. We were shocked when they asked if we could send one of our staff to help them learn the System of Rice Intensification so they can double their rice harvest using this organic and sustainable technique. They are even hopeful that we can soon reduce our rice distribution in this location because they are now providing for themselves. Now hope has replaced hunger. Hope brings desire and desire breeds initiative. And initiative moves people away from emergency relief toward sustainable development.



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

*Meeting children's primary needs*



Because helping a family solve their own struggles gives freedom, Partners works to enable families to provide for themselves by initiating agricultural, animal husbandry and cottage industry projects for sustainable livelihood. By helping communities and families help themselves, we invest in the basic daily needs of children affected by conflict and oppression. Additionally, access to healthcare is a primary component of a child's future. That's why we train medics, equip clinics, assist hospitals, and run community health care programs: so that every child can live a healthy life.







**25.83%**

of project expenditure was directed to sustainable development

**KEY STATS:**

**48** sustainable schools

**372** given agricultural training

**123** health workers trained

**66** weavers employed

## NAW TA KAW PAW

One of our Hero Health Care Workers is Naw Ta Kaw Paw. Ever since she was young she has had an interest in medicine and health care. "When I was a younger and studied in school the only thing I could think about was that I want to be a doctor. I wanted to get a higher education but I knew that my family could not support me to do so. At that time, I heard about some health care training in the mountain area so I decided to go to the training, which ended up being a Community Health Worker (CHW) training." In addition to completing the CHW training, Naw Ta Kaw Paw was also trained through Partners' Village Health Worker training and provides medical care to villagers through one of 8 village clinics that Partners supports in Karen

State, Myanmar. "I love to help people and to continually improve my medical skills", Naw Ta Kaw Paw concludes.

Faced with the lack of health care in their villages, many like Naw Ta Kaw Paw have chosen be part of the solution, because to love their community is to take action. So many of the medics and midwives who have gone through our training program, the teachers who now run schools, and the farmers who teach others what they have learned at our organic farm, have similar stories: they themselves were affected by conflict and oppression, but now they are hope and light to others because our donors invested in their training and gave seed money to launch sustainable development projects. These stories are Good News to us and to the people who need them most.



# STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

*Preventing the trafficking of children*



Because children in healthy and financially-secure families are less likely to be trafficked, we endeavor to strengthen families and provide safe nurturing environments for children to grow, through school attendance and the development of church and social institutions. When families are involved in these, we see a drop in the number of children sold, kidnapped, or otherwise trafficked into prostitution and slavery each year.





**27.94%**

of project expenditure was directed to strengthening families

### KEY STATS:

**275** teachers trained in Karen State

**2,880** eye checkups in migrant communities

**487** community support volunteers working in 12 Kachin IDP camps

**272** people received training through SEED migrant training center

## NAW MOO GAY KHU

After losing both her parents, the very last thing Naw Moo Gay Khu deserves is to be sold into prostitution, a very real possibility for her as the oldest girl in a family of six siblings. Instead, Naw Moo Gay is in Grade 6 at Beautiful Home, one of the four community-based homes Partners supports in Karen State. Students at Beautiful Home receive the warm love of their caregivers, a superior education from their teachers, and practical skills of animal husbandry with the 24 goats, 10 pigs (and piglets!) they raise.

“I enjoy living at Beautiful Home with all the other students. I feel like I am loved and the other students here have become some of my best friends.

During the school holiday I try to go back to my village. I usually go back three times per year and when I do, I stay with my grandmother. This year my grandmother will be 55 years old. When I am home, I help her in the kitchen when the others are working. Last year, I didn't go back during the holiday because I went to the sewing training in Poe Khee's village. I really enjoyed the training and I hope that I will have the opportunity to continue my study of sewing. My dream for the future is to be a medic so that I can work in my village and treat patients and help my people.”

By the time she is 18, Naw Moo Gay will have a high school diploma, experience raising animals, sewing skills, and her dreams intact. All of this is a game-changer for a girl from conflict-affected Myanmar, and that brings us great joy.



# More. Together.

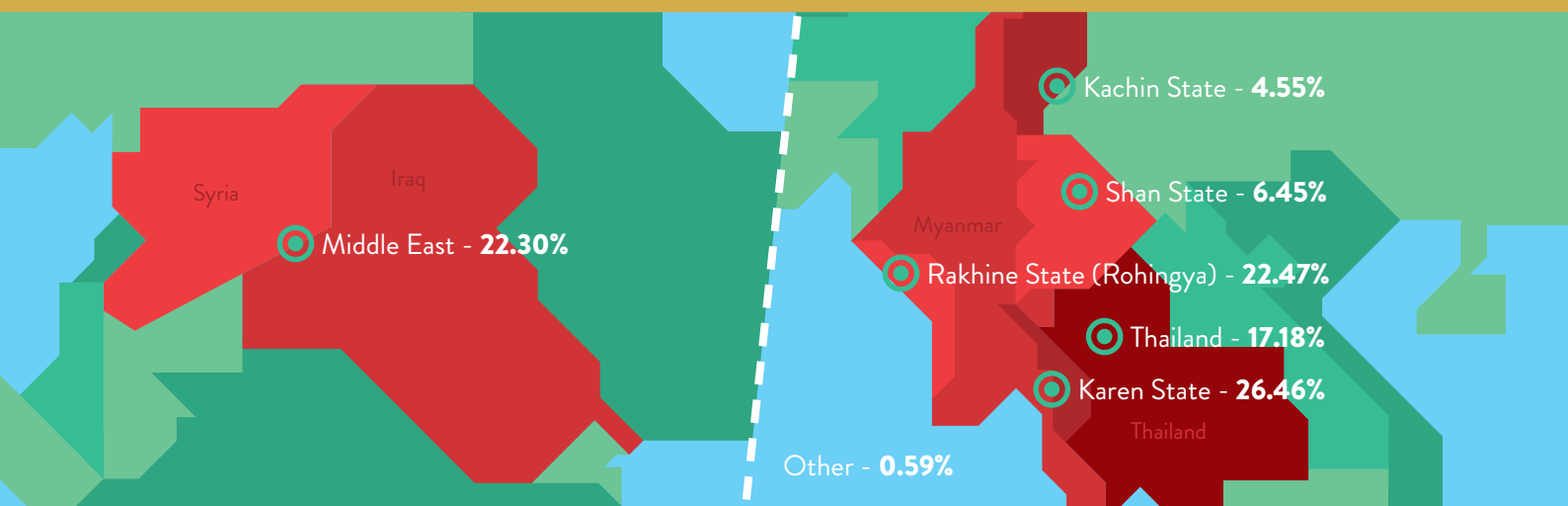
Partners Relief & Development is a registered charity in Canada, United Kingdom, Norway, Australia and the United States, and in 2016 we worked in Thailand, Myanmar, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. We are more creative, more diverse, and more effective together, and this report represents our combined efforts.

## Where our support comes from:

- USA **71.14%**
- Canada **14.21%**
- Norway **7.15%**
- Australia **2.49%**
- United Kingdom **2.32%**
- Other **2.69%**



## Where our support goes:





## Giving Tuesday:

On a day set apart to give back, our supporters raised **\$21,969** towards training **53 community health workers and medics** in Shan State, Myanmar. We call them our Hero Health Care Workers, and they have already started training that will equip them to open and operate clinics in remote villages in Myanmar that presently do not have access to even basic health care.

## Aleppo Appeal:

When news of the fall of Aleppo broke in December 2016, our supporters quickly and generously mobilized and raised \$63,328 for 1,500 food parcels, feeding 10,207 people. And in the middle of fierce shelling and bitter cold, they paid widows to sew 2,060 sleeping bags especially designed for displaced people forced to sleep outside because their homes had been destroyed.



## Midland VBS Project:

Midland Presbyterian Church picked the **Rohingya** as their Vacation Bible School's mission focus, providing a unique opportunity to talk to the children about ethnic and religious discrimination, concentration camps, food and healthcare shortages, education shortfalls, and other issues the Rohingya face. In response, these kids banded together to raise money for bags of rice and wrote out heartfelt prayers each day asking God to make sure the Rohingya would have enough to eat.

# OUR TEAM



**Our team** is a picture of what it means to be the Body of Christ: some are the feet that go and some are the brain that creates and some are the mouth that speaks. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love (Ephesians 4:16). And so we are, with God as our head.

## US BOARD MEMBERS:

Chris Jennings	Tracey Hall
Daren Lindley	Steve Gumaer
Mikki Bateman	Gregg Prickett

## IN 2016:

7 visiting teams

42 short-term volunteers



13 international staff



19 international field staff



24 national field staff





**New  
Partners  
Babies: 6!**



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT *of* ACTIVITIES:

**Total Income: \$2,332,161**

Expenses:

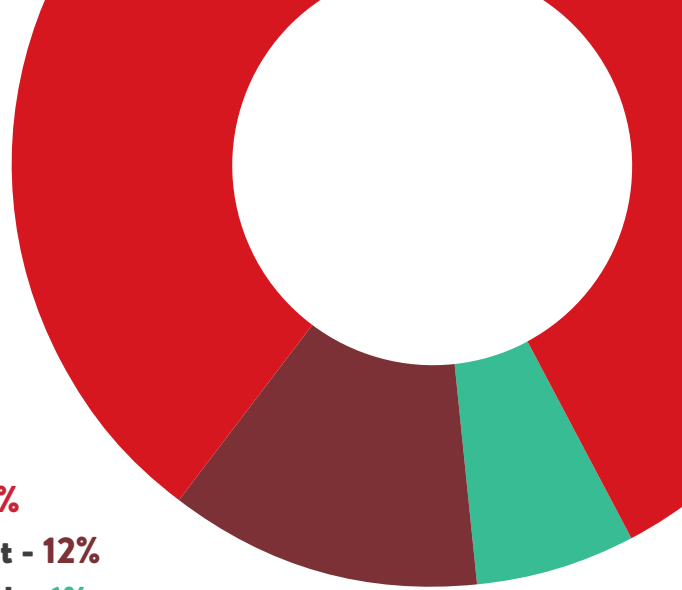
*Program Support* - **\$1,855,013**  
*Resource Development* - **\$267,169**  
*Management/General* - **\$134,194**

**Total Expenses: \$2,256,376**

**Balance of Funds: \$75,785**







## **BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES:**

**Program Support - 82%**

**Resource Development - 12%**

**Management / General - 6%**

---

## **Statement on Best Practices from VP of Administration, Maureen Beighey**

As a promise to our community of supporters we want to make sure you know that:

- We comply with all legal procedures required of non-profit organizations in the United States.
- Our board of directors ensures compliance by reviewing and monitoring financial statements and policies and procedures as well as providing oversight to the President.
- We belong to the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability (ECFA) which requires the organization to adhere to high standards of transparency.
- Our financial reports are made available for public inspection on our website or by request via email: (maureen.beighey@partners.ngo).
- We are continually monitored and rated by Charity Navigator, an independent charity monitor that reviews our government form 990 each year and provides a rating based on several key indicators of financial health and accountability.
- All information provided by our supporters is kept confidential and secure.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Q. When I make a donation, where does my money go?**

**A.** If you have designated your donation to a specific region or project, then 85% of your donation goes to that designation and 15% goes to administrative costs. Having said that, Partners Relief & Development, with the full oversight of our Board of Directors, reserves the right to use your donation “where needed most” as needs in conflict zones where we live and work are fluid and can change rapidly.

## **Q. For a charity that operated overseas, 15% doesn't seem sufficient to cover all administrative costs. How is this possible?**

**A.** Our administrative budget is limited to staff and office in the U.S., which is where our headquarters are. Following standard industry practices, all staff, projects, and office costs overseas fall under our program costs.

## **Q. Are there any costs you don't track?**

**A.** No. Every dollar we spend is accounted for, which you can see by reading our annual IRS 990 filings, available on the finances page of our website at [www.partners.ngo](http://www.partners.ngo).

### **Q. Are you audited regularly?**

**A.** We are audited by an independent, third-party auditor, annually, and our annual report is published after our audit by the IRS. Additionally, Charity Navigator awarded us 4 stars for Accountability & Transparency in 2015, the most recent year for which they have data, at the time of this writing.

### **Q. Why is there a Partners USA, Partners Canada, Partners Norway, Partners UK, and Partners Australia, and what is the difference between them?**

**A.** Partners Relief & Development organized as a charity in the United States in 2001. Volunteers from around the world came to help in the work that we were doing in Thailand and Myanmar. Those volunteers were inspired to return to their home countries and begin raising funds for the mission, which led to the registration of Partners Canada, Norway, UK and Australia.

### **Q. Is Partners Relief & Development a Christian organization?**

**A.** Yes, Partners Relief & Development is a small, grassroots, Christian organization. Because we believe Jesus laid down His life for us, we are propelled to love others in areas of active conflict with actions and in truth (1 John 3:16-18) so that they might live free, full lives.

### **Q. Do you require people to hear the Gospel or to believe before or while receiving help from Partners?**

**A.** While our faith inspires us and motivates everything we do, and more than anything, we want people to know they are loved by God, believing in Jesus is never a prerequisite to receiving

assistance or love from us. We are signatories of the Principles of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Response Programs. This voluntary code of conduct establishes clear ethical standards by which we monitor our relief delivery.

### **Q. Do you actively work to reduce people's dependence on your help?**

**A.** Absolutely. Our hope and goal is to make ourselves obsolete! Our Sustainable Schools projects are on a five-year plan to complete sustainability. At our farm, we train farmers in techniques that they can implement and teach others. And even in areas of active conflict, we have helped people start sustainable businesses.

### **Q. What opportunities do you have for people to see and experience the work you do?**

**A.** We regularly take people on trips so they can experience for themselves why we do what we do. Please email [getinvolved@partners.ngo](mailto:getinvolved@partners.ngo) if you would like to go on a trip, and we will work with you to create an experience that meets your needs.

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.*

*- 1 John 3:16*

# REFUGEE



## Partners Relief & Development

PO Box 912418

Denver, Colorado 80291-2418

Phone: (909) 748 5810

[info@partners.ngo](mailto:info@partners.ngo)

[www.partners.ngo](http://www.partners.ngo)

 @PartnersReliefandDevelopment

 @PartnersRelief

 @PartnersRelief



Free, Full Lives for  
Children Affected by  
Conflict and Oppression

