



# Global Health Connections

Annual Report 2022

A photograph of four individuals standing in a row in a parking lot, wearing full-body white protective suits and hoods. The suits appear to be hazmat or biohazard suits. The person on the far right is holding a red object. In the background, there are several cars parked and a multi-story building with many windows. The text "Together We Can..." is overlaid in the center of the image.

Together We Can...



A group of people, including a woman in a white shirt and a man in a blue shirt, are standing in a field. In the background, there is a small hut and some trees. The scene is set in a rural area, likely in Western Kenya.

# Welcome to Global Health Connections

We are an organization unlike no other—one that is in the pursuit of promoting health education, and social and economic empowerment in Western, Kenya.

We are focused on an entirely new way of providing assistance—we don't give or do, rather we teach and empower communities to solve both current and future problems.

We respect people and believe in their capacity to build up themselves and their villages.

Join us on our journey...





# Our Mission

To connect, engage, and empower individuals to improve the health and economic sustainability of their community.





# 2022 At A Glance





- Villages with Community Health and Empowerment Clubs (CHECs):

**15**

- Villagers Currently Enrolled in a CHEC:

**1,354**

- Sustainable Economic Projects Started:

**23**

- Kenyans Impacted by CHECs:

**Over 15,000**

- Adopt a Village Donors:

**3**



# Our 15 Villages...

We had an impactful year

## 4 Villages in Homa Bay County:

**Olare**  
**Kanyadhiang** **Kanyipir**  
**Kanyamfwa**

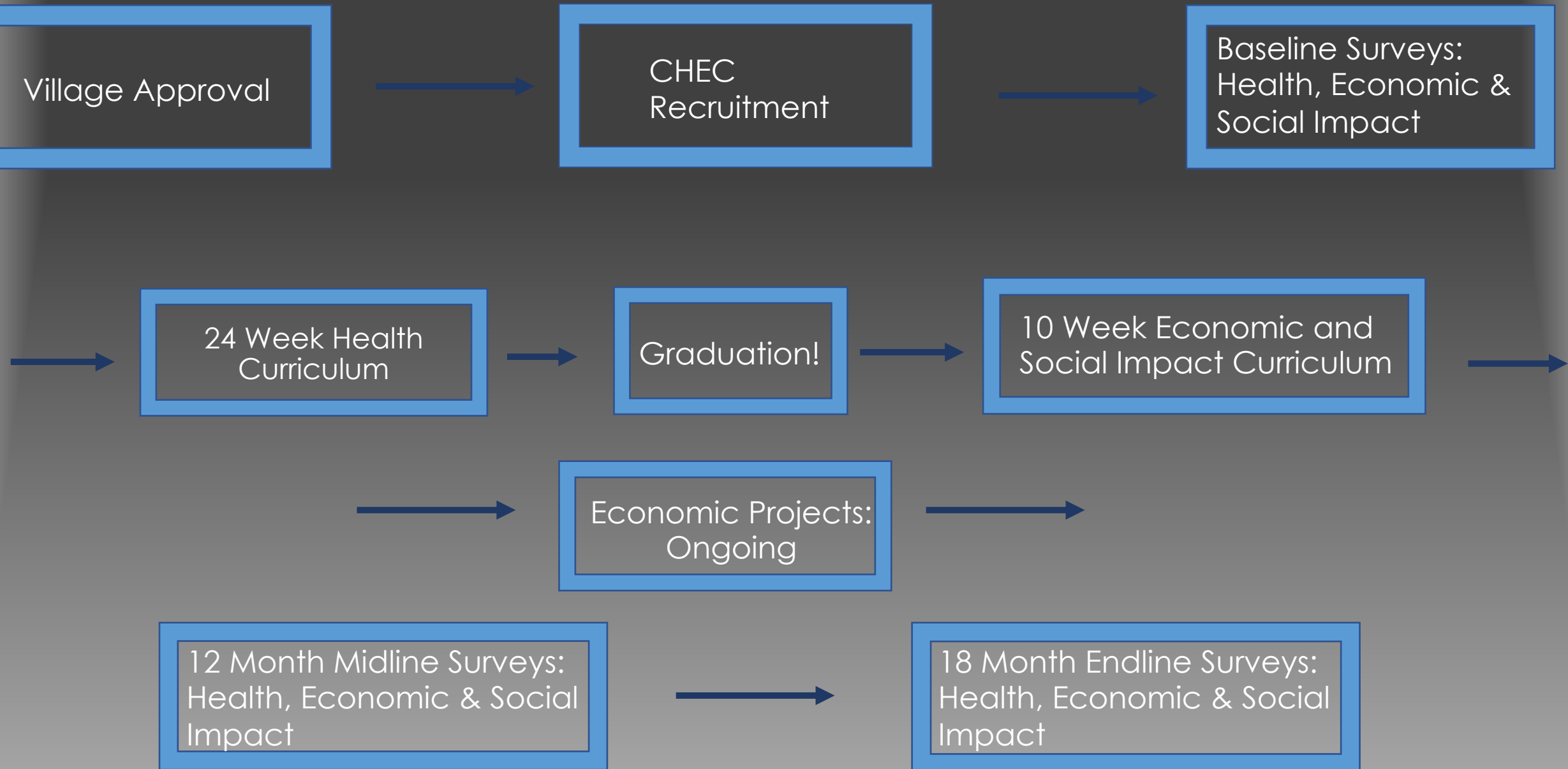
## 11 Villages in Kisii County:

**Mokubo**  
**Biombe**  
**Tabaka**  
**Kegati**  
**Kiagware**  
**Ititi**  
**Itierio**

**Nyasumi**  
**Nyanturago**  
**Nyamecheo**  
**Nyamagesa**



# Our Programmatic Strategy





## 24 Week Health Curriculum

Our 24 Week Program includes topics such as WASH, Nutrition, Disease Prevention and more.

We train CHEC members on the importance of sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, and disease prevention. We gauge behavior change by comparing and analyzing data from our Baseline, Midline and Endline survey tools.

We also spend time on building model kitchen gardens, latrines and tippy tap handwash stations.

# Program Details



## 10 Week Economic and Curriculum

Our 10 Week Program includes topics such as Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy and Business Financing.

Every village has unique needs and resources. Our team takes into account existing conditions, terrain, and population as we determine which economic programs will best serve each individual community. This means a variety of different projects—beekeeping, soap making, millet and napier grass farming—may be implemented.



# THE GHC DIFFERENCE & COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE...

Local, On the Ground Expertise

Analytics to Measure Impact

Household Follow-up for Accountability

Health Training, Along with Economic Training and Income Generation

Traditional and Non-traditional Revenue Generation

Focus on Empowerment and Increasing Social Capital

Sustainable Governance





A group of people in a village setting. In the foreground, a man in a grey hoodie is smiling broadly and raising his hands. Behind him, several women are visible, some holding up small blue cards. The background shows a building with a corrugated metal roof and lush greenery.

# Village Highlight:

## Itierio





## Itierio Village

Itierio is our second Adopt-a-Village village in Kisii Country. GHC completed the health training in June 2022 and 26 members, all women, graduated. The first session of the economic curriculum began in mid-August and the 26 women decided to focus on planting a large tree nursery as the main economic project.



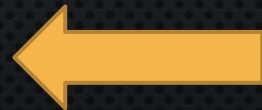


Our challenges in Itierio were many. GHC found many compounds in an unkempt state, with dirty and unmaintained pit latrines and no hand washing stations. Some households had kitchen gardens, but they were not well cultivated and cared for. Furthermore, most households were not treating their drinking water and had no place to store it.

Some residents were also uncooperative and GHC found the village inaccessible whenever it rained due to poor roads and minimal infrastructure.

But we took on the challenges and are seeing amazing progress being made. The CHEC members are eager to improve their lot and live more sustainably. They are truly an inspiration.

A CHEC Member teaches her children about planting seedlings.





# Itierio Village: Transformation



CHEC  
Members  
Work on Their  
Garden

CHEC Members  
Practicing Good  
Hygiene







## Tree Nursery: Economic Empowerment Project

The Itierio CHEC, consisting of 26 women, was empowered with a tree planting project. The group of women set to work and planted 5 types of trees on a large plot of land donated by one of the members. The members worked hard to transplant thousands of Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Whistle Pine, Kayaba and Cyprus seedlings into polyethene tubes. When the seedlings grow into small trees the women will then sell them in the local markets and in Nairobi as well.



# A CHEC Member Discusses the Tree Nursery Project with GHC Project Officers





## CHEC Members Prepping the Site of the Tree Nursery





A photograph of a beehive yard situated in a forest. Numerous yellow beehives are arranged on wooden stands, some of which are covered with corrugated metal roofs. The scene is filled with trees and sunlight filtering through the leaves. The text "Village Opportunity: Beekeeping" is overlaid in white.

# Village Opportunity: Beekeeping



# Beekeeping

- GHC has helped 6 villages set up apiaries and sent 7 appointed apiary managers, along with 2 GHC employees, to the National Institutes of Beekeeping for a week-long training session.
- We have over 200 hives spread across the 6 villages
- We had multiple harvests in our first three villages in 2022—Mokubo, Biombe and Tabaka—and sold all the honeycombs.
- GHC plans to set up two central processing operations in 2023—both in Kisii—to process the honey and wax ourselves.
- The honey and wax produced from the bees will provide a sustainable source of income for the villages.



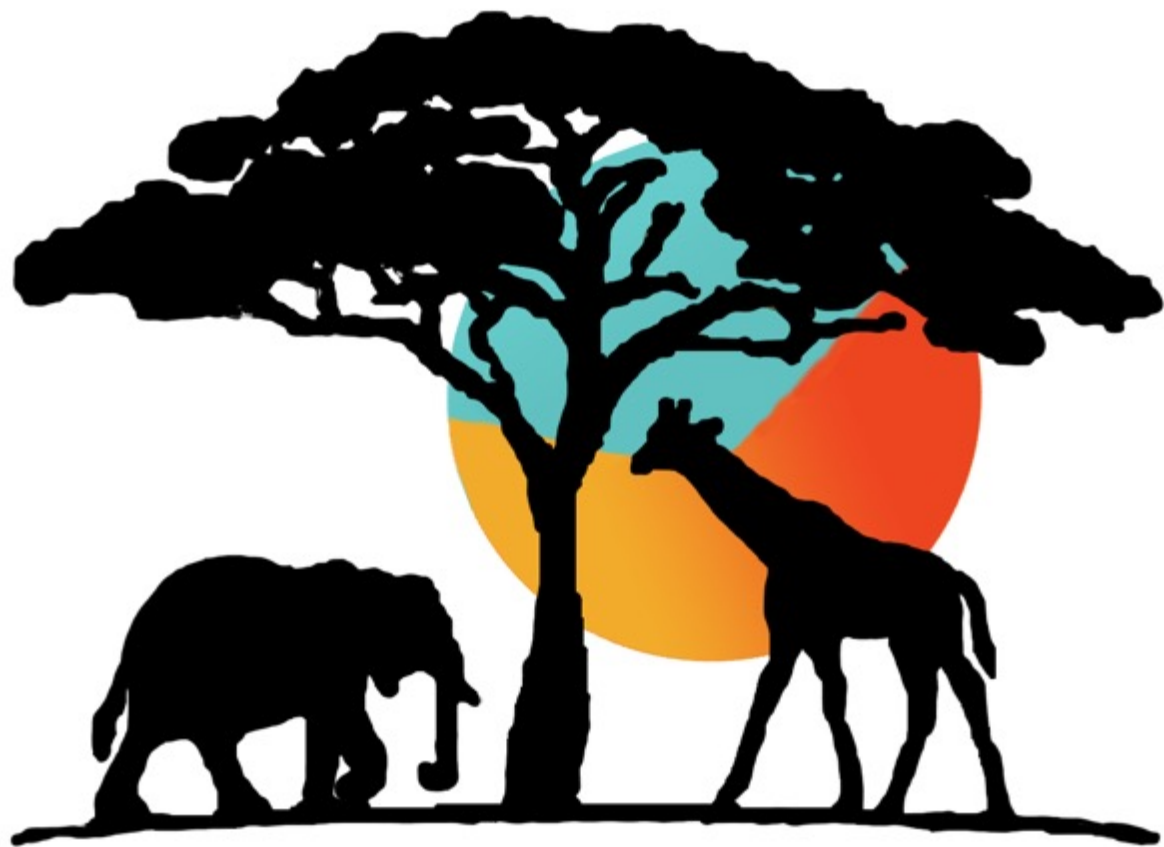


A giraffe with brown and white patterned fur is the central focus, partially obscured by green bushes. The background shows a vast savanna with scattered acacia trees and distant, hazy mountains under a clear sky.

# GHC Opportunity:

## Entourage Tours





# Entourage Tours

*Entourage Tours*

[www.entouragetours.org](http://www.entouragetours.org)

GHC is excited to announce its brand-new partnership with Entourage Tours. We have come together to form a unique partnership in the world of travel safari.

Entourage Safaris is guided by a set of core values — quality, dedication, trust and a commitment to the environment-- that GHC shares.

Entourage offers customized day and multi-day trips throughout Kenya, that include safaris, treks, mountain climbing, and visits to villages.



# Accomplishments

GHC's mission is focused on empowering individuals from a health, economic and social perspective.

Our goal from day one was to build sustainable villages—healthy, economically viable and empowered villages that have learned how to flourish and govern as the years go by.

We've accomplished many great things thus far and we have big plans for the years ahead!





A group of five people, three men and two women, are sitting outdoors in front of a corrugated metal wall. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. In the foreground, there are several plastic jerrycans and a smartphone on a wooden surface. The background shows some greenery and a wooden bench.

- 6 new Community Health and Empowerment Club graduation classes. Overall we now have 15 active CHECs in Kisii and Luo tribe villages

- CHEC participants have demonstrated at the household level improved health behaviors in: nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, water sourcing, malaria prevention, and compound cleaning

- GHC helped initiate over 25 income generating projects in villages, including beekeeping, detergent production, tree cultivation, and tailoring.

- GHC is starting a honey and wax processing center and sent 7 village leaders to the National Institute of Beekeeping in Nairobi for a week of training.

- CHEC participants are becoming more engaged in community activities, developing more equitable relations with domestic partners and getting involved in sustainable governance of their respective villages.

## Village Accomplishments



The background image shows a group of people, including a man in a patterned shirt and a woman in a red dress, standing in a field of tall green plants. A small wooden structure is visible in the background.

# Organizational Accomplishments

- Statistical Analysis of CHEC programs has provided strong evidence of a large, positive impact for improved health behaviors, financial management, and empowerment of women at the household level. This proof of our CHEC concept will lead to support from additional foundations.
- GHC has greatly enhanced its organizational capabilities in accounting/finance, information technology, human resources management, and marketing/social media.
- Both our governing Boards in Denver and Kenya have become stronger with key additional members joining in 2022.
- GHC has improved its financial sustainability through grants (Rotary, Google, Jabs Entrepreneurship), donations, and our Adopt-a-Village program. In addition, GHC is starting Entourage Tours and a honey processing business to support our CHEC program.



# Our Board

## USA

### Board of Directors

Dr. Blair Gifford, PhD, Chairman  
and Founder of Global Health  
Connections

Holly Church

Suzanne Dircksen

Don Howard

Dr. Erlantz Hyppolite, MD

Erin Maruzzella

Dr. Nancy Mulligan, PhD

April Perman

Dr. Sukriti Sachdeva, DDS

Alex Scialdone

Dr. Larry Shoemaker, MD

Colin Smith

### Officers of the Board

Blair Gifford, Chairman

Holly Church, Vice Chairman

Suzanne Dircksen,  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Kenya

### Board of Directors

David Monari,  
Chairman

Monica Orwochi,  
Vice Chairman

Terecy Moraa,  
Treasurer

Faith Mageto,  
Secretary

Tushar Patel

Vishaj Patel

Ken Martin





# Our Team

Our team is small, but mighty. We are comprised of intelligent, generous, hard-working people who are committed to changing a small piece of our world together.

## USA

Dr. Blair Gifford,  
PhD, Chairman  
and Founder of  
Global Health  
Connections

Mimi Gordon,  
Executive  
Director

Holly Church,  
Vice Chairman

Suzanne  
Dirksen,  
Secretary/  
Treasurer

## Kenya

### KISII TEAM:

Faith Mageto,  
Executive  
Director

Christine  
Nyaboke  
Regional CHEC  
Coordinator

Margaret  
Moraa  
Regional CHEC  
Coordinator

Mark Orondo,  
CHEC Project  
Officer

### HOMA BAY TEAM:

Salome Nyariro,  
Regional CHEC  
Coordinator





A photograph of three people walking across a grassy field. On the left, a woman in a vibrant, patterned dress walks towards the camera. In the center, a woman wearing a headwrap and a dark jacket walks away from the camera. On the right, a man in a dark suit and using a walking stick walks away from the camera. The background is a dense line of green trees.

# Financials

We are currently a small operation, with big dreams and plans to expand. From day one, we've relied on generous private donors and grants to fund our operating expenses. It hasn't been easy, but it's an approach we believe in deeply.

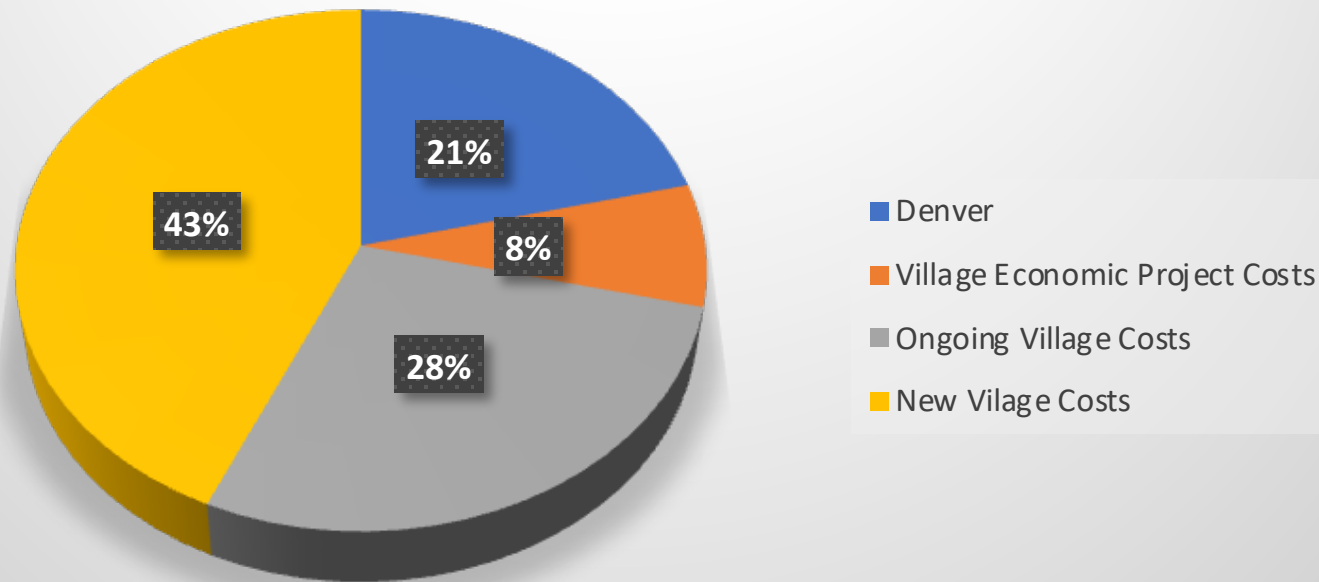
Our commitment to focusing on empowering individuals from a health, economic and social perspective inspires this support. From passionate donors, enthusiastic fundraisers, long-standing clubs, and loyal volunteers, we have found a community that believes, as we do, that teaching and empowering is the way towards a sustainable and prosperous future.



# Financials

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES FOR 2022:  
\$ 197,393.97

## GHC 2022 Budget Including Rotary and other Grants/Donations




We do our best to keep our operating costs in both Denver and Kenya as low as possible. Operating costs in Kenya include the extensive surveying we do in all our villages and the data analysis that goes along with it.

100% of all grant and donation money received goes towards funding new villages, economic projects and ongoing village costs.

Adopt-a-village sponsors help support the on-going operations of the respective sponsored village.





As 2022 comes to a close,  
we reflect on the  
unbelievable year we  
have had.

## **GHC's Future is Bright!**

In 2023, we look  
forward to...

- Focusing on further developing our 15 CHECs
- Broadening awareness of GHC's powerful and impactful CHEC Model
- Publishing results of our CHEC programs' impact at improving household health, finances and empowerment
- Advancing a sustainable governance model in CHEC villages
- Growing our Adopt-a-Village program and gaining 2-3 more sponsors
- Developing social enterprise aspects of GHC such as honey processing and Entourage Tours
- Forming partnerships with top organizations, including HEART Kenya and the Kenya Medical Research Institute (UC Anschutz Medical Campus affiliate)