Global Health Connections
Annual Report 2022
Together We Can...
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

11 Villages in Kisii County:
- Mokubo
- Biombe
- Nyasumi
- Nyanturago
- Tabaka
- Nyanturago
- Kiaguti
- Nyamecheo
- Kegati
- Nyamagesa
- Ititi
- Itierio

4 Villages in Homa Bay County:
- Olare
- Kanyipir
- Kanyadhiang
- Kanyamfwa
Our Programmatic Strategy

- Village Approval
- CHEC Recruitment
- Baseline Surveys: Health, Economic & Social Impact
- 24 Week Health Curriculum
- Graduation!
- 10 Week Economic and Social Impact Curriculum
- Economic Projects: Ongoing
- 12 Month Midline Surveys: Health, Economic & Social Impact
- 18 Month Endline Surveys: Health, Economic & Social Impact
Program Details

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.

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...

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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 Working on Their Garden

CHEC Members Practicing Good Hygiene
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 polythene 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
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.
GHC Opportunity:
Entourage Tours
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!
Village Accomplishments

• 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.
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 Dircksen, Secretary/Treasurer

Kenya

KISII TEAM:

Faith Mageto, Executive Director

Christine Nyaboke, Regional CHEC Coordinator

Margaret Moraa, Regional CHEC Coordinator

HOMA BAY TEAM:

Salome Nyario, Regional CHEC Coordinator

Mark Orondo, CHEC Project Officer
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.
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES FOR 2022: $197,393.97

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)