



PARTNERING FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND RENEWAL – TRANSFORMING LIVES



YOUR IMPACT

## Inspiring Generosity!

This past year was another of inspiring generosity within the global PEER family. Despite high inflation, a down stock market, and political instability, this generosity allowed our Board of Directors to authorize a record level of Global Partner grants – over \$750,000 – that will extend a bit more of heaven to many materially poor families! Here are just a few of the highlights of the impact we were able to have because of you!

### Microfinance Empowering Women

PEER Servants continues to have microfinance as its core program: over 36% of grants went to microfinance-related initiatives, which enable families to live with dignity and sufficiency as they build businesses. This is especially true for women as over 80% of the micro-loans go to women like Nageshvary in Sri Lanka.

Nageshvary faced a very challenging 2022. Sri Lanka was in political turmoil that led to a reeling economy and inflation while she took care of her ailing husband before he passed away in October. With access to capital and encouragement from YGro (PEER Servants' Sri Lankan partner), Nageshvary provided for her family selling spices, rice flour, and cooking oil and setting up her own small shop. Now she can invest in her very talented daughter, who is studying Advanced Level Biology.

### Education Opening Opportunities

Over 28% of our 2022 Global Partner grants went to investments in education, ranging from tribal schools in the Philippines to partnerships strengthening public schools for indigenous children in the Peruvian Andes to university

scholarships for promising servant leaders in Africa.

Adam is one of those servant leaders. A PEER Teens Uganda Scholar, he completed his first degree as a Laboratory Scientist; he is now pursuing his second degree. He is an expert on malaria. It's young people like Adam, sponsored by generous people like you, who are helping improve healthcare around the world.

### Creating Food and Water Security

Over a million South Sudanese fled their young country in recent years. With a semblance of peace, they are starting to return, often to find nothing.

SALT, PEER Servants' South Sudanese partner, is helping the returning refugees with farming tools and training that are enhancing their yields and allowing them to produce a surplus. They are also creating access to clean water. PEER Servants provided almost 10% of its grants to this and similar initiatives in Guatemala, Uganda, Sri Lanka and beyond that are establishing food and water security for thousands of people.

### Youth, Healthcare, and Ukraine

The remaining 25% of PEER Servants 2022 grants went to empowering young people (10%), creating access to affordable and sustainable healthcare in Guatemala and the Philippines (5%), and supporting our Moldovan partner as they supported Ukrainian refugees (just over 10%). We're in a better world because of you. Thank you for your inspiring generosity that allowed PEER Servants to be used by God to enhance the lives of many around the world.

### Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership!

**How we thank God for 30+ amazing years of extending more of the kingdom of heaven to earth!** Through your prayers and financial support, God is at work enabling tens of thousands of the materially poor and non-poor to experience economic, social, and spiritual transformation. Thank you!

If you would like to send a tax-deductible donation to PEER Servants, you can direct 100% of your gift to any of our Global Partner Funds. See the back side of the newsletter for contact info. Thank you for your generosity. **God bless you!**

Todd G. Engelsen  
President

### Music to Your Ears!



Attend our Annual Concert for Global Empowerment! Join us Saturday, March 11, 10 am (Boston time) for the virtual concert and Saturday evening, March 18 for the live concert at Grace Chapel Wilmington (MA). You'll be treated to music from around the world while hearing stories of transformation in the lives of the people we are honored to serve. It's a free (no offering) event. Come with a friend!

## WHAT TRANSFORMATION LOOKS LIKE



### New Library in the Andes

Kallarisunchis, PEER Servants' Peruvian partner, partners with public schools to train teachers and brighten the futures of indigenous children. In 2022, they built a beautiful outdoor library for the children in the Andean village of Suncco. The library is popular with the Quechua children, including this bright young boy.



### Our 2022 Lydia Award Winner

Our Annual Lydia Award recognizes the micro-entrepreneurs who use their small businesses to bless their communities, much like Lydia from Acts 16. Our 2022 recipient is Monica, a farmer served by our Ugandan partner, CAF ECC. Monica overcame many hardships to establish a thriving farm, create jobs for other women, and support her local church.

## THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS



That's PEER Servants Team Moldova volunteers Meredith and Carmen with Ghena (far right), Executive Director of Invest Credit/Moldova. Meredith and Carmen traveled to Moldova in November to assist Invest Credit with their Annual Staff Retreat. This picture is from a fun outing to plant trees at a local kindergarten.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### We'd love to hear from you!

Web: <https://www.peerservants.org>

E-Mail: [info@peerservants.org](mailto:info@peerservants.org)

Mail: PO Box 258, Woburn, MA 01801

Phone: 781-245-4059



*Some of the PEER Servants team visiting our Filipino partner, CCT, in October 2022 and enjoying a side trip to beautiful Lake Sebu and one of the seven waterfalls.*

## Grab Your Passport

You have invested in transforming the lives of the materially poor – why not come see the impact with your own eyes? With most of COVID challenges behind us, PEER Servants is making a number of trips available to you to visit our Global Partners. While dates and destinations may still flex a little, here are your current 2023 travel options.

### Africa

If you are considering this as your first trip to Africa, be forewarned – it will not be your last! PEER Servants has two planned trips to Africa. In June, we will visit our Zambian partner, CEMFIN. You will travel to the home of the Lozi people in Western Zambia with a 10-hour bus ride from Lusaka that goes through one of Zambia's largest game reserves. You will meet micro-entrepreneurs served by CEMFIN, join Zambian youth as they serve their community, meet some of the PEER Teens Scholars studying fields in healthcare, and much more. In July, we will visit our South Sudanese partner, SALT, although likely in their Northern Ugandan location unless a dry rainy season allows us to make it all the way into South Sudan. On this trip, we hope to partner with SALT as they host a Youth Camp for South Sudanese refugee children while meeting many of the micro-entrepreneurs and youth that they empower. We would also have visits with our two Ugandan partners, CAF ECC and PAD.

### Asia

Our first trip to Asia will have already taken place by the time you are reading this as we visited our Indian partner, CSS, in late January/early February. In September, we have two scheduled trips – Sri Lanka in early September and the Philippines in mid-September. The Sri Lanka trip will offer an opportunity to meet many of the women micro-entrepreneurs empowered by YGro as

they grow their small businesses. The Philippines trip will focus on visiting at least one of the tribal schools we support while also seeing how our Filipino partner, CCT, uses the surplus from microfinance programs to empower the poorest of the poor, including former streetdwellers.

### Americas

We have two planned trips to our partners in the Americas – late September to Guatemala and early November to Peru. The Guatemala trip will allow you to see the impact of Potter's House's microfinance, education, healthcare, and food/water security programs, all of which PEER Servants supports. The Peruvian trip will bring you to the top of the world as we visit Kallarisunchis in and above Cusco and many of the indigenous peoples they serve high in the Andes. A side trip to Machu Picchu makes this a very special trip.

### Eastern Europe

Finally, we are planning an October trip to Moldova to participate in Invest Credit's Annual Staff Retreat and meet a few of the hardworking micro-entrepreneurs they serve.

In all of the trips, we will work closely with our Local Partners to make certain that it is a good time for a global team to visit their country. Each trip will offer you a rare opportunity to not only see the country, but to meet the people of the country and be blessed by the staff and clients in our Global Partner Network.

Interested in exploring a 2023 trip further? Email us at [travel@peerservants.org](mailto:travel@peerservants.org). Trip registration generally closes around two months before the trip, so start exploring sooner than later! We hope you can join us and that you'll have a rewarding experience that will make a great lifetime memory!