

SISTERS FOR PEACE

# ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

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**Sisters For Peace**

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[sistersforpeace.org](http://sistersforpeace.org)

# ANNUAL MESSAGE



Sisters for Peace is a 501c3 organization based out of southern Berkshire County, Massachusetts. We work both locally and internationally to empower impoverished women and girls through education, training, mentoring and community development. We are made up of our Founder|Trustee Caroline Wheeler, 5 Advisors, 9 Staff Members, and 27+ Volunteers. We are funded through private donations, corporations, and grants. We also partner with 10 international and local community partners. We partner exclusively with on-the-ground, grassroots organizations, and we work specifically on projects that dismantle the cycle of poverty, instead of merely addressing the symptoms.

Our model is to provide women with the empowerment and tools to rise out of poverty. We're pleased to offer you this Annual Report as a summary of our 2018 Fiscal Operations to address it. Established as a foundation, and with revenues below the requirements for needing an annual audit, Sisters For Peace still aims to provide transparency in our fiscal operations. Our financials are independently reviewed annually, we seek the counsel of our advisors, various non-profit mentors and networks, as well as our own experience, to make the best decisions possible with your donated funds. We thank you for your support and your continued belief of our mission!

*Caroline*

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# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

**85K**

**TOTAL DONATIONS**

**52K**

**DIRECT EXPENSES**

**11K**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**



## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2019 we're expanding our local efforts and, with your help, hoping to double the number of participants in our R.E.A.C.H. program.

**58K**

**DONATIONS SECURED**

**R.E.A.C.H. 2019**

**80K**

**PROGRAM EXPENSES**

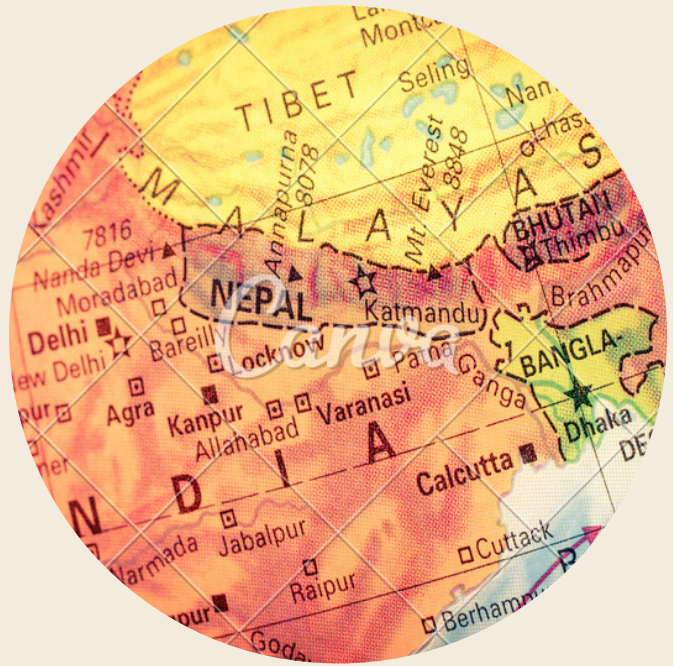
**R.E.A.C.H. 2019**

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# SPOTLIGHT NEPAL

Nepal is a landlocked central Himalayan country in South Asia. It has a population of over 26 million. Nepal is one of the world's least-developed and poorest nations. About one-fourth of its population lives below the poverty line. Despite progress in recent years, girls continue to suffer severe disadvantage and exclusion in education systems throughout their lives (male literacy rate is 71.6%, female rate is only 44.5%).



## \$2,000

### EMPOWERING GIRLS

Providing one girl a chance to go to school is her lifeline to a better life. Statistics tell us that millions of girls in developing countries are not attending school. Poverty and illiteracy lead to a life of low-wage, menial jobs, ill-health and sexual and physical violence for many women and girls in Nepal.

## \$2,150

### EMPOWERING WOMEN

Beadwork and textiles are a strong part of Nepalese Women's Culture, and selling these goods can be a life changing source of income for these women and their children. The women of Kathmandu produce exquisite goods. SFP purchases directly from these women.

*Learn More:* [sistersforpeace.org/nepa](http://sistersforpeace.org/nepa)

# SPOTLIGHT TANZANIA



Tanzania is the largest country in East Africa, home to over 52 million people and is one of the poorest countries in the world. Over 7,000 children under five die each year from preventable diseases.

There are wider impacts too – on education, livelihoods and well being. And there is a shortage of nurses and midwives furthering health issues and deaths.

The spread of HIV has caused many children to be orphaned. Sisters for Peace is committed to changing these devastating statistics by supporting projects that empower women & girls.

## \$2,000

### WATER CISTERN

14 million people in Tanzania do not have access to safe water. Typically, women and girls spend many hours a day collecting water, up to seven hours in remote areas. This means that young girls are spending much of their time gathering water and are not able to attend school. Girls who do not have the opportunity to attend school are more likely to be forced into marriage at very young ages, in many cases as young as 13.

## \$2,236

### NURSING

Sponsorship of young women living in poverty seeking to attain professional status in nursing, allowing them to break the cycle of poverty, attain a profession and gain dignity and self-respect, so that they may become contributing members of their community.

## \$1,575

### EDUCATION

Education is an essential human right and the key to success in every country. However, due to cost and an overall lack of resources, staying in school can be an arduous task for many Tanzanians—succeeding in school is even more challenging.

*Learn More:* [sistersforpeace.org/tanzania](https://sistersforpeace.org/tanzania)

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# SPOTLIGHT USA

Sometimes, despite our strength as women, we are unable to move in the directions we wish to in our lives. Trauma and the effects of experiences out of our control can interrupt our abilities to move freely within the world, often feeling overwhelmed, not knowing how to move forward in life and doubting that we have the power within ourselves to create the lives that we want.

When we are feeling overwhelmed in this way, one of the most important actions we can take is to gather other women around us so that we can remind one another how courageous we are. R.E.A.C.H. is a 20-week course created to foster this kind of community while supporting each woman in her own individual journey. Designed for low-income women, but open to all, R.E.A.C.H. offers classes covering multiple topics, fosters access to local resources in the community, and creates a safe space for women to come together while exploring their many potentials.



## \$40,000

### R.E.A.C.H. PROGRAM

The R.E.A.C.H. (Renew, Engage, Achieve, Connect, Heal), program is designed to empower low-income women in rural Berkshire County, MA to reach for their goals and overcome challenges through mentorship, connection to resources, workshops, nutrition, and community support.

*Learn More:* [sistersforpeace.org/reach](https://sistersforpeace.org/reach)

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Canva

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