



# We're Flowing!



**The MoonCatcher Project**  
Removing Barriers for Girls

**2021 Annual Report**



We thought 2021 would be a year of recovery and “getting back to normal.” While it appeared hopeful, we’ve had to be patient not only with hosting in-person events, but with creatively continuing our work to keep girls in school around the world.

It’s been like a board game! Schools opened. Schools closed. Stay home orders announced, and in most of the countries we serve, virtual learning isn’t an option. Girls gathered outdoors to hear our program about menstruation and receive kits. Sewing guilds tailors are working from home making masks and kits. When schools reopen, we want our girls to be safe and ready.

This year, there were no trips to Africa or India and our long-awaited visit to Haiti has once again been put on hold. Sadly, the recent earthquake destroyed much of the area where we’ve been working.

Thanks to social media, we are frequently in touch with all our partners and continue to be amazed at everyone’s resilience. And here at home in the U.S. we find the same — our volunteers are working at home and hosting virtual presentations, fund raisers and MoonBees virtually. And you, our donors, are more generous than ever.

We grow because so many people help us. With a grateful heart I thank all of you,

*Ellie*



# 2021 Begins

We're changing the world one girl at a time.



In Kenya, 47 primary schools learned about menstrual health and hygiene.

Kenya delivered 4,013 kits to 56 schools.

Union College students hold MoonBee with Ellie on Zoom.

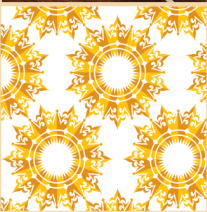
Ellie received 300 boxes of disposable pads for her birthday.



Malawi sewing cooperative hires a new tailor who has been making masks. Bridges to Malawi partially funds this project.



Nigeria delivered 4,500 kits to girls.\*



Malawi sewing cooperatives makes 6,534 MoonCatcher kits and deliver 650 per month!

Uganda on lockdown. Tailors make kits from home.

Local paper features MCP Sewing Cooperative in Nigeria.

Menstrual Hygiene Day!



Shoot for the Moon silent auction raises nearly \$15,000!



Outdoor MoonBee with Girl Scout Troop #1003.



MCP shipped a 60 gallon container of supplies to Kenya by sea.



Home-sewers in the U.S. continue to make kits.

Promotional partnership with Tara Kitchen yields 100 boxes of disposable pads for distribution to local food pantries and shelters.



Ten women rode motorbikes 45km to bring kits and menstrual education to villages near Dhanaulty, India.

# See You Next Year!

Sisters in Circles in Uganda receives teacher menstrual training.

Sewing cooperatives produce 6,250 masks in Africa.

Three new sewing guildes being set up in Zimbabwe.\*

Five staff at India sewing centers are making 2,000 kits per month

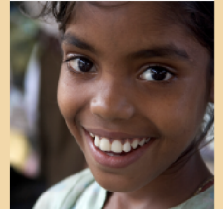


New Phillipine partner sewing guild is making 250 kits each month.\*



Facebook campaigns raise nearly \$10,000!

India delivered 8,868 kits to women and girls.



Wakiso, Uganda Sewing Center, to honor our dear friend Maureen Fernandez, nears completion.



MCP board is expanding. We added four new members!

\*MCP provides training and technical assistance to Nigeria, Zimbabwe and the Phillipines.

## FY 2020 Financials

### In it comes!

Individuals/Corporations/Grants	117,094
Fundraising	10,714
Sale of Merchandise	(147)
Other	43
From Unrestricted Fund Balance	383
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$128,087</b>

### Out it flows!

Salaries/Compensation	33,340
Professional Fees	1,031
Printing, Shipping & Postage	3,255
Program Expenses	90,461
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$128,087</b>

## Many Thanks to Our Major Donors

### Organizations (\$1,500+)

First Reformed Church of  
Schenectady  
Henry Niles Foundation  
The GE Foundation  
(matching funds)  
Center for Craft Creativity  
and Design

### Individuals (\$1,500+)

Allen & Sarah Berry  
Barbara Biles  
Susan Bokan  
John and Elizabeth Cleveland  
Frank Fernandez  
Dave Fessler  
Vickie Michela

We are grateful to over 500 individual and organizational donors who supported MCP this year. We applaud our volunteers who have been working at home to provide MoonCatcher Kits to girls and all of the many volunteers who have helped us with fundraising. Many thanks to all of our supporters who raised money or donated on Facebook.

**The MoonCatcher Project** optimizes girls' lives worldwide by removing barriers related to menstruation.

**We help girls...**

- Stay in school
- Learn reproductive health
- Marry later and have fewer children
- Fully participate in their lives and in their communities

Since 2011, we have distributed more than 100,000 MoonCatcher kits and reproductive educational materials to girls in poor communities: 27 countries in Africa, South Asia, and the Caribbean.

## Anatomy of a MoonCatcher Kit



Carrier with a waterproof liner, removable, washable fleece pad, and a waist tie.



Drawstring bag holds the carrier, pads, and waterproof bag.



Waterproof bag for used pads until washing.

Kits also include care instructions and a calendar for girls to track their cycles.



## OUR CORE VALUES

We commit ourselves to gender equity, racial equity, social justice and human rights;

We celebrate the dignity of girls and their bodies;

We believe that education is a reciprocal process and a basic human right;

Strive to build relationship through an inclusive process;

We are fueled by passion, compassion, hope and generosity.

### Board of Directors

#### Officers

Linda Wistar - *President*

John Doyle - *Treasurer*

Ginger Ertz - *Secretary*

#### Board Members

Anna Gorman

Patricia Hochheim

Laura Kikuchi

Madison Mackey - *Student*

Agnes Pala-Bukhala

### Staff

Ellie von Wellsheim

*Founder & Executive Director*

Phoebe Nabwami

*Uganda Director*

Jacky Okoth

*Kenya Director*

Mary Kumbaya & Olipa Kamanga

*Malawi Directors*

Kankamma

*India Supervisor*

### Connect with Us!

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

 [mooncatcherproject](https://www.facebook.com/mooncatcherproject)

 [mooncatcherproject](https://www.instagram.com/mooncatcherproject)

 [mooncatcher.org/new-blog](http://mooncatcher.org/new-blog)

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