

GLOBAL WOMAN® P.E.A.C.E. FOUNDATION



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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Executive Summary

The year 2020 presented numerous challenges for Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation (GWPF), as it did for organizations and individuals around the world. The silver lining for us was the opportunity to expand the reach of some of our programs by delivering them virtually. We are deeply grateful for our allies, sponsors, donors, and leaders, who continued to support and inspire us throughout this tumultuous year. Thanks to their help, for a tenth year, we were able to fight FGM and help women and girls affected by FGM.

We are excited that at this writing in December 2020, U.S. House of Representative Bill H.R. 6100, an anti-FGM bill we were instrumental in crafting, just passed in the U.S. Senate and is awaiting signature by President Trump. Once signed, H.R. 6100 will become the new federal law, replacing an older, weaker law.



L to R: Monalisa Dugue, Deputy Chief Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives; Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation founder and executive director Angela Peabody; GWPF board member and GWU Milken School of Public Health faculty member Dr. Karen McDonnell; Attorney Advocate Shelby Quast

We were blessed in 2020 to receive our first-ever grant. We are subrecipients on a grant by the U.S. Department of Justice to our partner, the George Washington University (GWU) Milken School of Public Health. The funded project is called, “Addressing Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting (FGM/C) in the DMV,” and will be focused on expanding the delivery of GWPF’s existing programs in the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan area (“DMV” refers to District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia) plus a new Integrated Communities of Care program proposed by GWU. Our portion of the

grant funding will contribute to GWPF's program operating costs over the life of the three-year grant.

We were delighted to welcome back to the board of directors Arielle Buchman, after a one-year leave of absence.

Because of COVID-19, we had to shift our meetings, presentations, and our annual fundraising event and awards event to virtual formats, but we found that this change made it possible for people from more places in the world to participate.

We made it only halfway to our ambitious fundraising goal for The Walk to End FGM this year, but we received enough donations to sustain our programs. We also spent time planning for year-round donor outreach and fundraising campaigns starting in 2021, so we will no longer be solely reliant on our October fundraising events.

We selected a new website and event management platform in 2020, and will launch a new website with integrated donations and donor management and events platform in January 2021.

In 2020 . . .

- *We had our first virtual Walk to End FGM and had participants from three countries.*
- *We received our first grant.*
- *100 donors raised \$10,304 in the Walk to End FGM, which represents 50% of our goal and nearly as much as we raised in 2019.*
- *We had 550 total donors throughout the year.*
- *The average donation amount ranged from \$50 to \$200 U.S.*

Thank you to all the donors, awardees, sponsors, Walk to End FGM participants, partner organizations, and volunteers who helped to make this unpredictable and unprecedented year a success. We look forward to many more productive years fighting for gender equity and an end to gender-based violence.

About Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation

Our Mission

Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation (GWPF) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization established in 2010. Our mission is to empower women and girls through education to help eradicate gender-based violence with focus on female genital mutilation (FGM).

Our Cause

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is the intentional removal of all or part of the external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. External genitals include the clitoris, labia, pubis, urethral and vaginal openings. We focus on education and advocacy to prevent FGM, and services to help girls and women who are FGM survivors or at risk of FGM.

Board of Directors



Angela Peabody



Amie Jallah



Arnold DeShield



Arielle Buchmann



Karen McDonnell



F. A. Cole



Wallicia Gill



Jacqui Olkin

2020 Goals & Outcomes

- Extend the Support Group to reach survivors outside the Washington, D.C., Metro area.
 - *Outcome:* We have been able to extend the reach of our Support Group to a national and international audience by instituting a virtual format.
- Develop a special fundraising campaign.
 - *Outcome:* We took a preliminary step toward this goal in 2020 by establishing a Resource Development Team, which will convene beginning in January 2021 and will oversee fundraising throughout the year.
- Investigate health insurance coverage for restorative surgery.
 - *Outcome:* The surgeon provides documentation so the FGM survivor can submit a claim to her insurance company. Whatever the insurance company does not cover, GWPF pays.
- Negotiate with Virginia schools to exclusively provide FGM curriculum.
 - *Outcome:* Fairfax County and Henrico County have approached us this year to work with them on their FGM curriculum.

2021 Goals

- Launch a new website with online communications and donor management tools.
- Establish an effective Resource Development Team to oversee fundraising.
- Develop recurring donors.
- Accomplish program sustainability.
- Implement an online training program for school teachers and school nurses.

Update on Activities

Grants

GWPF collaborated with the George Washington University (GWU) Milken School of Public Health on a grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Justice. We are pleased to report that the proposal was successful. We will be a subrecipient on the grant, receiving \$40,000 U.S. a year for three years. These funds will cover our program operating costs for the life of the grant, allowing us to expand the reach of these programs and—for the first time in the life of our all-volunteer organization—pay for part-time operational staff. This is the first time the Foundation has ever been the recipient of a government grant.

The purpose of the grant is to create an integrated community of care model to provide FGM prevention and intervention services, and to provide training to law enforcement, nurses, and other medical personnel. We will work with a team of community experts at GWU to help tailor a prevention program for each community to engage in the prevention of FGM. GWPF will assist in preparing training materials for this project, using our expertise in the area of prevention and rehabilitation for victims and survivors of FGM. We will collaborate with GWU to disseminate

findings through community presentations and articles, and on any other tasks required to successfully complete the project.

GWPF also was the recipient of two small grants this year: Wal-Mart awarded us a \$500 grant for the Walk to End FGM, and Whole Foods offered us a grant of \$1,500 for general purposes.

This has been a very successful year for GWPF's grant proposals.

Support Group

Our monthly Support Group met every month this year from January until September, with the exception of October (because of conflicts with our annual events) and December (because of winter holidays). We did not host a Thanksgiving feast for survivors this year as we usually do, because of COVID-19 restrictions.

In addition to D.C.-area survivors, we were joined by survivors from Canada and a variety of states in the United States. We plan to continue all-virtual Support Group meetings while COVID remains an issue. We plan to provide a hybrid in-person/virtual format once the pandemic is over.

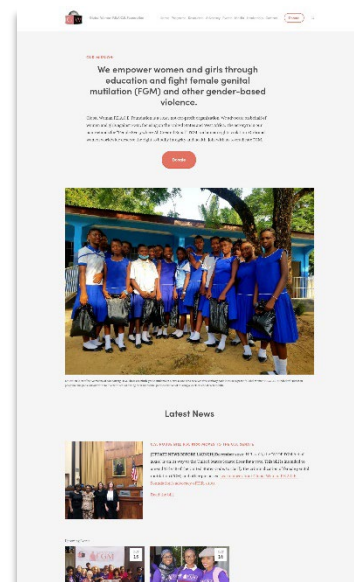
Newsletter

After surveying our subscribers, we converted our weekly newsletter to a monthly publication, to better suit our readers' preferences. The newsletter readership has grown this year.

Website

We plan to update our website so we will have a more modern, flexible, and secure communications platform for our growing organization. The new website will allow for easier content updates and integration with our newsletter, social media, event management, multi-currency donations, and donor management.

We plan to launch the new website on the Squarespace platform in January 2021. (The image on the right is a portion of the new homepage.)



Kids Reach Shield

This program has not been as active this year as usual, because of COVID-19. Because of extended restrictions, we were unable to offer in-person trainings to law enforcement and school nurses. We plan to resume training in 2021, in an online format. The proposed online training would include law enforcement training, school teacher training, and school nurses training, and would be made available on demand on our website.

The Fairfax County (Virginia) Public Schools Administration recently invited us to speak about FGM at their next committee meeting in January 2021. We are hopeful this will lead to an active role for us in developing FGM curriculum for them to use in their county-wide Family Life Education program.

Just4You

The Just4You Committee revised conditions of the scholarship provided under this program; the revisions were approved by the GWPF board and Julie Taitt, owner of the school in Liberia who receives the scholarships. GWPF will not be responsible for vetting the recipients of the scholarship; instead, the school will be responsible, meaning the Just4You scholarship agreement is between GWPF and the school, not between GWPF and parents or students. This arrangement allows the school, who has the relationship with students and their families, to better ensure successful outcomes.

Under the revised agreement, the scholarship will be extended to girls who have already experienced FGM, as an encouragement for survivors to work to end FGM among younger contemporaries and in future generations. It is difficult to find girls in the school who have not experienced FGM, since they enter the “society bush” in Liberia at an early age. The scholarship applicants will not be subject to a physical examination, so we will not necessarily know which students are survivors and which are at risk.

In 2021, the Just4You Committee will consider a suggestion by a member of the board to establish a “Big Sister” mentorship program among girls in the Liberian school, students from George Washington University, and high school students in the United States. The McLean (Virginia) Rotary Club, along with the Education Committee of the Northern Virginia Business and Professional Women’s Club have applied for a small grant that will add six more girls to our scholarship roster in the Liberian school. The school has been asked to provide the names, ages, grades, and grade point averages of each girl receiving the Lisa C. Bruch Scholarship Fund so we can report the scholarship recipients’ progress to our generous donors.

Camp Vacances Sans Excision

GWPF participated in the virtual Camp Vacances Sans Excision (Vacation without Cutting) in August. We were one of the international panelists, discussing the importance of all children learning about FGM.

Sanitary Pad Drive

Approximately 2,850 sanitary pads were shipped to Sierra Leone in February 2020, to help girls remain in school during their menstrual periods. Those pads were provided by the Rotary Club of McLean and the Northern Virginia Business and Professional Women’s Club. Those clubs have continued their campaign to assist us with sanitary pads, and have collected close to 1000 pads. In

addition, Jewel Sanitary Pads has donated 1000 pads to the Northern Virginia Business and Professional Women’s Club campaign. The pads collected in 2020 will be shipped to Sierra Leone and Liberia in 2021 for distribution.



Ninth-grade girls in Sierra Leone who received free sanitary pads through our Just4You Sanitary Pad Drive in 2020.

Fundraising

In September, the board voted to establish a Resource Development Team, who will be responsible for fundraising and donor relations. We have selected new fundraising and donor management tools that will allow us to run fundraising campaigns throughout the year. The new tools will launch in January 2021 as part of the launch of the new website. These plans are included in our 2021 goals.

GWU Practicum

GWPF has continued its partnership with the Milken Institute for Public Health at George Washington University (GWU) for another year.

In 2020, we had the pleasure of accommodating Marie-Josée Mulowayi, whose practicum project involved “Women’s & Girls’ Health Research Analysis.” She compiled a reference manual containing health insurance companies, medical codes related to restorative surgery, and advice on preparing for the surgery.

Janay Johnson’s project was “The Importance of Creating a Partnership with School Nurses, Teachers, Parents, and the Community to help Prevent Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).” She also wrote a manual to be used by school nurses and teachers.

Charbene Williams used her practicum project to “Analyze Best Practices Applicable to School Nurses.” She designed and wrote a clinical trifold for our support group members, and it is now available in both English and French. She also designed and wrote an informational brochure, which is also available in English and French for our support group. In addition, Charbene converted our elementary textbook, *The Story of Fatu & Crissy*, to both middle school and high school versions.

Alyssa Willis, who is still volunteering with GWPF, chose “How Non-Profit Fundraising Impacts Public Health” as her practicum project. She compiled a list of possible sponsors and donors for our October 2020, two-day event. From that list, we received a small grant from Whole Foods, and we now have a fundraising campaign with Krispy Kreme. Alyssa has volunteered to be a member of our new Resource Development Team.

Global Woman Awards

GWPF partnered this year with George Washington University and SheFFA Foundation in this year’s two-day event. The Global Woman Awards event was held on Friday, October 16, 2020. It was held virtually, via a Zoom livestream broadcast. The Awards event was emceed by Tyra Garlington, an international talk show host. The keynote address was delivered by Lyric Thompson, the Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). Also speaking was Maryum Saifee, a women’s rights activist and former diplomat. Entertainment was provided by American jazz musician Benjamin Jackson Caesar and American singer/songwriter/musician Antoinette “Butterscotch” Clinton.

GWPF recognized and honored 10 people with awards:

- a high school student from Virginia, Marin Hoang, for the “Student Ambassador Award
- Professor Donald Strong for “Education/Training”
- U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee for “Lisa C. Bruch Woman of the Year”
- U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly for “Lifetime Achievement”
- Attorney Jeanne Smoot for “Policy-Making/Legal”
- Purity Soinato Oiyie for “Advocacy”
- Ifrah Ahmed for “Survivor Activist”
- Alexander Adams for “Man of the Year”

- Dr. Sohail Rana and Dr. Jehan El-Bayoumi for “Medical/Health”

To watch the recording of our 2020 Global Woman Awards, please click on the link:

<https://youtu.be/BxUibw4esFQ>

Walk to End FGM

Like the Global Woman Awards, this year’s Walk to End FGM was held virtually, via Zoom livestream broadcast. The virtual event on Saturday, October 17, 2020, enabled us to capture a global audience, unlike other years when we held it in person. Emceed by Linord Moudou, another international talk show host, the pre-walk program on Saturday began with a video from one of GWPF’s partners, One Thousand Voices, followed by entertainment from American musician Royce Lovett. The keynote speaker of the morning was Former State Representative of Maine, Heather Sirocki. Lovett serenaded the virtual audience with a mixture of R&B and hip hop music, to end the pre-walk program.

Our sponsors this year were:

- Giant Food, Inc.;
- Wegmans;
- Pediatric Association of Springfield, Virginia;
- the Washington Wizards basketball team; and
- Walmart.

Click on this link below to watch the recording of the live broadcast of the Walk to End FGM:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GUnYo7_kBg

Conclusion

We are thankful for a successful 2020 despite the uncertainty and hardship of this pandemic year. To our leaders, partners, supporters, and allies, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your efforts to fight FGM.

We are hopeful for a safe, healthy, and productive 2021!