

# ACTION IN AFRICA ANNUAL REPORT 2018



# A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Action in Africa Friends and Family,

I remember when we first moved into The Center in January 2015, which honestly feels like yesterday. The floors were flooded and caked with layers of mud from last minute construction. There were no doors, no windows, and the ceilings were strangely yet beautifully designed. The grass in the front yard was thick and vibrant green. This was our new home! We walked around and introduced ourselves to the neighbors and their children who now everyone knows well, Mama Shaki, Mama Tendo and Mama Melan. We were giddy, getting settled in and eager to have our grand opening but also wondering how we would ever transform this empty building into a community center. Reflecting back on our first few weeks, never in my wildest dreams did I expect The Center to be what it is today.

2018 was a year filled with lots of changes and transitions, many highs and a few lows, and overall countless memorable moments. We hired new staff in Uganda and the US, opened our US office in Washington, DC, launched a new Primary Partnership Program, increased the number of awarded scholarships, partnered with a new school to send our scholarship students to, had a record breaking fundraising year and so much more. Tragically, in 2018 we also lost a student from our special needs program in a car accident and find ourselves still grieving, healing, and celebrating the life of Imran.



As you can tell, 2018 was a profound year for Action in Africa. It has been a tremendous privilege being at the forefront of this organization, watching it grow and adapt over the years. From having 1 Ugandan employee to now 20, to serving 0 meals to now over 160,000, to 15 Women to Women members saving to now 91, the growth and numbers are staggering. I can't even begin to imagine what 2019 has in store.

As always, I am immensely grateful for all the Action in Africa staff that I have the pleasure of working alongside every single day, the kiddos and families in Uganda that fill me with such pride and joy, our Board of Directors, all our donors and sponsors, the partners, the volunteers and our clubs. Together, we are creating a space for individuals in Nakuwadde, Uganda to "Be, Belong, and Become."

Thank you for an incredible year. Here's to 2019!

With Love and Gratitude,

**Sarah Nininger**

CO-FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

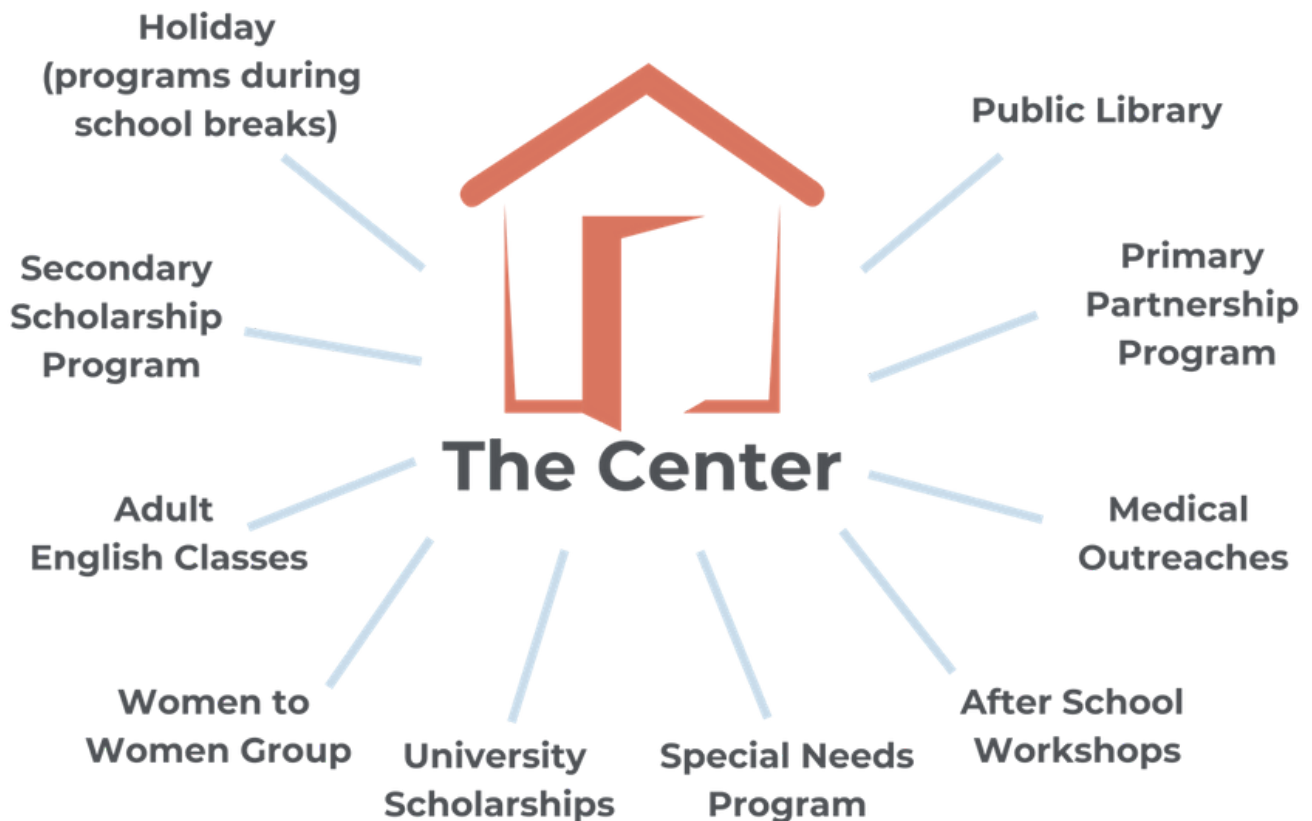
# OUR MISSION

At Action in Africa, we believe that combating poverty is multifaceted, which is why we operate a community center to holistically empower and uplift the people of Nakuwadde, Uganda. The Center serves 300+ people a day and is the home of all our programs and services. Within The Center's four walls, one can find free education services such as scholarships to high school and university, adult English classes, after school tutoring, and creative based activities. The Center also has other services such as medical outreaches, a well-stocked library, a women's support group, AIA's own bracelet making program and more!

We are proud that every program and service at The Center is in direct response to a need expressed by a local community member. Furthermore, everything is implemented and led by one of our Ugandan team members. Our commitment is to listen to local voices and empower local leaders.



# OUR METHOD



# AIA HIGHLIGHTS

## January - March

- First 17 scholarship students joined Mbazzi Riverside, our new partner high school
- Officially launched Primary Partnership Program
- Patrick joined UG team as newest Security Guard



## April - June

- Our dear friend Dakota visited us in Uganda
- Both UG staff members Juliana and Mama Sheila gave birth
- 331 people attended our medical outreach
- All AIA staff participated in domestic violence training and workshop



## July - September

- Gloria joined AIA University Scholarship Program (making her the 4th recipient)
- Officially opened the DC office
- Mikayla joined US team as Operations Assistant
- 471 people attended our medical outreach



## October - December

- Alex joined UG team as Education Specialist
- Rebecca joined UG team as Programs Assistant
- Raised over \$18,000 with online #GivingTuesday campaign
- 4th Annual Winter Fundraiser raised over \$100,000



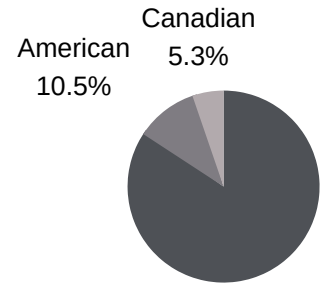
# OUR TEAM

## UGANDA

In 2018, as our participation in our programs grew AIA recognized the need for more employees. We hired five new staff members including a Chef and Matron for one of our partners schools, a Programs Assistant, an Operations Assistant, and an Education Specialist. We firmly believe the continued diversity and variety of educational backgrounds in our staff will positively impact our mission and goals for the future.

## USA

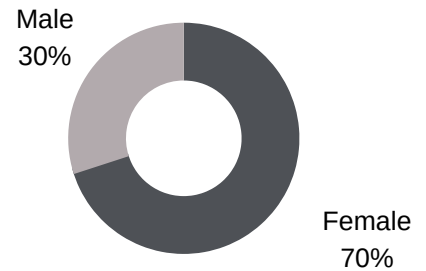
Recognizing the opportunity to establish more connections and access more resources, Sarah Nininger, our executive director, moved back to the US to create a new stateside base for Action in Africa in Washington D.C.. Since opening the DC office, Sarah was awarded a scholarship to participate in a six month leadership cohort with the Executive Preparation Institute at the Center for Nonprofit Advancement. In 2019 we will continue to seek leadership training opportunities and networking events to help propel Action in Africa further.



We have 17 Ugandan staff, 2 American, and 1 Canadian.

# 90%

Of our staff live in the community to better listen and support to the needs of the community.



The majority of our staff are Women.



# 5

New staff members hired including a Chef and Matron at one of our partner schools, a Programs Assistant, an Operations Assistant, and an Education Specialist.

# ACTION IN AFRICA

## A Year in Numbers

**91** Women enrolled in our Women to Women Group

**160,100** Cups of porridge served

**115** Women saved money through AIA's W2W Savings Program

**350+** People on average visited The Center each day

**5** Students awarded scholarships through our Post- Secondary Scholarship Program (University and Vocational)

**20** People on average participated in our Adult English Classes

**20** Full-time staff

**3** Students in our Special Needs Program

**800+** People were tested and treated at our medical outreaches

**101** Students enrolled in our high school scholarship program

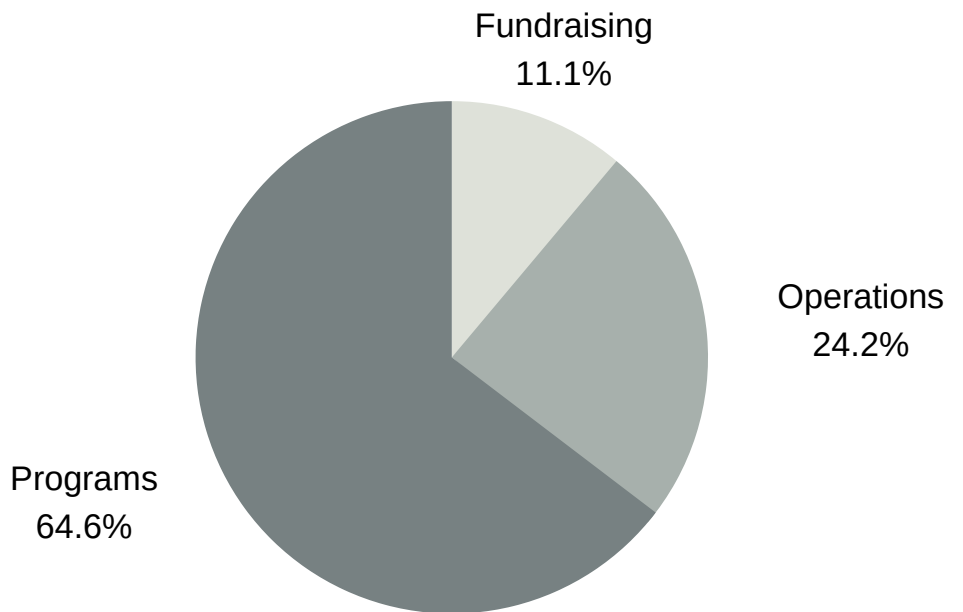
# ACTION IN AFRICA

## 2018 FINANCIALS

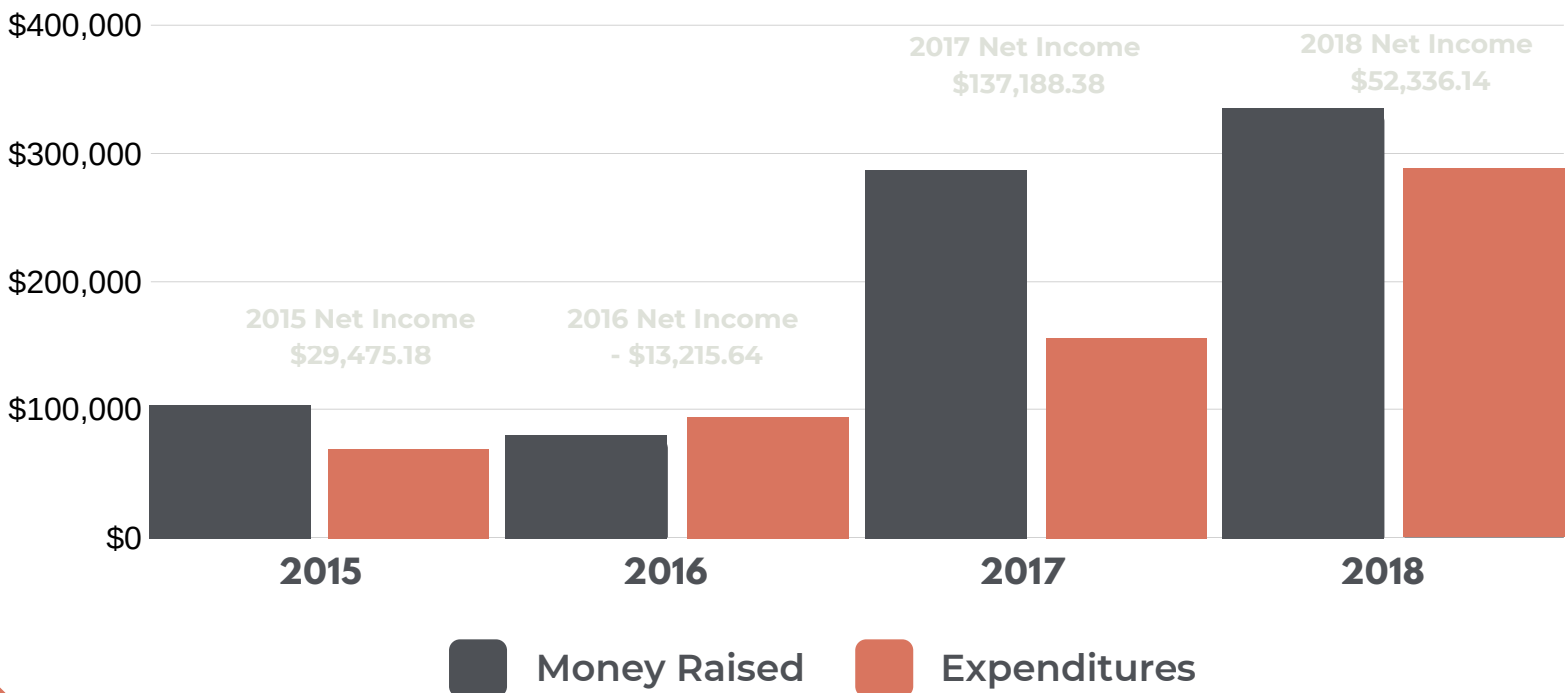
Total Revenue:  
**\$334,496.09**

Total Expenses:  
**\$284,838.65**

Net Income:  
**\$52,336.14**



## 2015 - 2018 GROWTH



# SPECIAL THANKS

## AIA STAFF

BABIRYE HARRIET

BYARUHANGA LAWRENCE

EKUTU ISAAC

MIKAYLA PELLERIN

MUWONGE ALEX

NABAKOOZA EVELYN

NABBOSA AISHA

NAKAMANYA ROSE

NAKAVUMA JULIANA

NAKIJJIBA REBECCA

NALWEYISO MARIA

NANSEREKO REHEMA

NASSANGA BRENDA

OLIGO PATRICK

OMINO BERNARD

SAMANTHA CRESSEY

SARAH NININGER

## AIA BOARD MEMBERS

ANNIE DEBOER

BO GALLAGHER

CATHY BERN

CHRIS CHEO

DEREK YOUNG

ELIZABETH SLOSSBERG

KRIS UFKES

MARC BERN

RICK SCHWARTZ

SARAH BENSON

SUSAN MAROLT

ZIBBY SCHWARTZ

## PARTNERS

ALIVE MEDICAL SERVICE

ARTINED

ARTOLUTION

ASPEN SOJOURNER

CHIME FOR CHANGE

EKS EVENTS

GUCCI

LOVE BUTTON

SCHOOL FOR LIFE

TUNAWEZA

WEWORK

ZAPAZOO INKWORKS



# IN LOVING MEMORY



## IMRAN LUBEGA

2012 - 2018

# STAY IN TOUCH



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