



Texas Children's Global Health

2023 Report



Advancing health equity around the world

Thank you for your support of Texas Children’s Global Health programs. It is a privilege to share with you the achievements of our worldwide efforts to improve the lives of underserved children and their families. We do this by providing direct medical services, including:

- Patient care and surgery tailored to address specific local problems of greatest priority
- Vaccine development and delivery targeting neglected diseases
- Training healthcare workers to sustain health improvements long-term
- Strengthening health systems around the world

AT A GLANCE

5.75 million	PEOPLE IMPACTED
22	COUNTRIES
13,168	HEALTHCARE WORKERS TRAINED
8,201	BABIES DELIVERED
370	FISTULA REPAIR SURGERIES
2,721	LOCAL STAFF EMPLOYED
603	PEDIATRIC SURGERIES
1,000	CHILDREN WITH CARDIAC DEFECTS SUPPORTED
3,803	CANCER PATIENTS SERVED
\$107 million	TOTAL NETWORK FUNDING



Texas Children’s celebrated 20 years of operation in Botswana in 2023. Its programs have saved thousands of lives and influenced health care throughout the country.

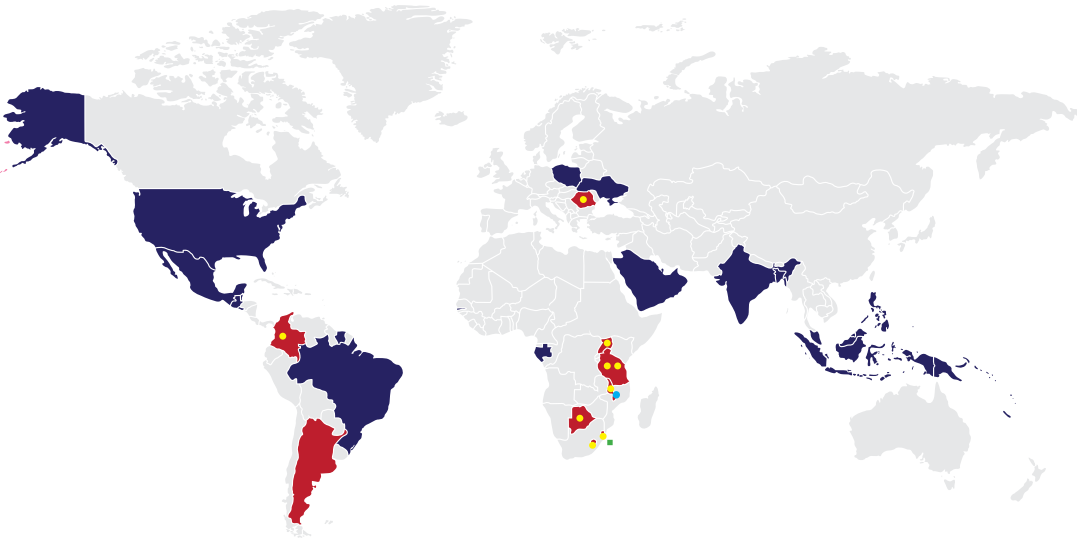
Our programs

Texas Children’s Global Health programs are built upon a framework created in 1999 to deliver life-saving care and treatment overseas. Today, that network is the world’s largest pediatric HIV treatment network, caring for 417,000 people on anti-retroviral medication. The network gradually expanded to provide comprehensive maternal and child health care.

Texas Children’s network approaches global health challenges from many angles and seeks to create solutions that positively influence the health of underserved populations. Our programs provide services for:

- Infectious disease care (HIV, tuberculosis, and hepatitis C)
- General pediatric health services
- Maternal health (family planning, obstetrics, gynecology, midwifery, and fistula surgery)
- Newborn care
- Pediatric surgery and emergency medicine
- Pediatric cancer
- Malnutrition

Where We Operate



- Clinical Centers of Excellence (COEs)
- Maternal Health Centre (Malawi)
- Tuberculosis Centre (Eswatini)



Malawi:

Newborns, mothers, and medical training

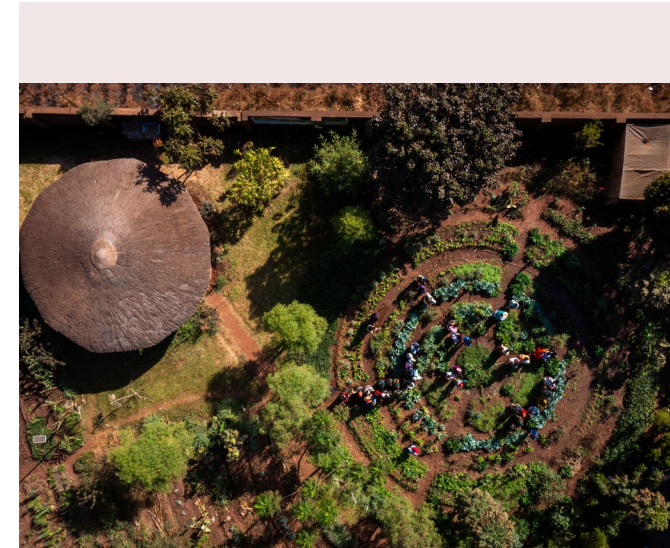


Malawi, a country with one of the highest mortality rates in the world, hosts several innovative programs.

Programs focused on women's health aim to improve the rate of safe deliveries to the women of Malawi. These efforts include training midwives, building a surgery center for cesareans and fistula repair, and a maternal waiting home for women who need extra support during their pregnancy.

At Area 25 Health Center in the suburbs of Malawi's capital city, Lilongwe, Global Health launched one of the first cases of electronic fetal monitoring using artificial intelligence in a resource-limited setting. This test of concept has supported more than 8,000 safe deliveries and reduced maternal mortality to rates lower than the U.S. This technology promises to dramatically improve the outcomes for mothers and babies at this center.

Building on the success of our maternal health program, we are working with local partners to implement a neonatology program to improve the care and survival rates of newborns in Malawi.



Texas Children's permaculture program in Malawi teaches young mothers about sustainable gardening and nutrition, giving them skills to improve their family's health.



WATCH THE VIDEO
vimeo.com/793462048

Training future doctors

Elsewhere in Malawi, Global Health supports more than 600 pediatric surgeries and provides residency training for future surgeons across Eastern, Central and Southern Africa.

In 2024, the first locally-trained pediatric surgeons from Malawi will graduate, and the first two South Sudanese pediatric surgeons will graduate in 2025. These surgeons will expand access to surgery for some of the most vulnerable children in some of the most under-resourced places in the world.

At the same hospital, Kamuzu Central in Lilongwe, Texas Children's is helping train the first class of four pediatric residents trained in the capital city. Currently, Kamuzu Central is the country's largest hospital and serves two-thirds of Malawi's population but only has two pediatricians. Texas Children's support of this training program will dramatically expand access to high-quality care for children in a country currently woefully short of pediatric specialists, and benefit children and women for generations to come.

Lesotho:

Support for Young Adults with HIV



One patient's story highlights how Texas Children's comprehensive HIV programs change lives across sub-Saharan Africa.

Konosoang Sele first came to the clinic where Texas Children's provides care in Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, at age 6. She still remembers the date: 24 January 2006. She was living with her grandmother since both her parents had died of AIDS.

Without treatment and HIV positive, Konosoang was a very sick little girl – so sick that her grandmother worried she would not make it. However, antiretroviral therapy turned things around for Konosoang. She became healthy, though she often felt isolated and different from other kids, having to take pills daily and miss classes to attend clinic visits.

As she reached puberty and wanted to fit in, her adherence dwindled. However, the Adolescent Clinic and Teen Club changed things for Konosoang. She learned more about the virus and that many young people lived with HIV.

The clinic and club provided a safe, friendly space to ask questions and discuss challenges without the worry of being publicly exposed as HIV-positive. A seemingly small thing, delivering her pills in bags instead of bottles, removed the worry of noisy pill bottles alerting others to her need for daily meds.

Thanks to this thoughtful support, Konosoang reached viral suppression and has stayed there for years. In 2022, she gave back to the clinic by working on a peer educator and considers that the best experience of her young life.

Konosoang is now learning spinning, weaving and dying. It is her dream to give back to her community by becoming a nurse, social worker, or psychologist one day.



Uganda, Tanzania and Malawi:

Bringing optimal cancer care to children

Genomic testing is standard when a child is diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. These test results are used to develop an individualized, optimal treatment plan.

As of 2023, children in Uganda and Malawi can receive timely diagnoses and the same standard of care thanks to new molecular testing facilities supported by the Texas Children's Global HOPE program.

Global HOPE also built chemotherapy-safe pharmacies at the University Teaching Hospital in Kigali, Rwanda, and Kamuzu Central Hospital in Lilongwe, Malawi. Kamuzu Central also added a laboratory to provide safe chemotherapy preparation, storage and access.

Global HOPE also trained a pathologist for Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, where they treat an average of 400 pediatric cancer patients each year. Across all countries, Global HOPE trained 1,099 health care workers on the special needs of pediatric cancer and hematology patients, including five hematologists/oncologists and 26 specialized nurses.





Botswana:

Vaccine development and surgery

The first three vaccine scientists from Botswana were trained at the Texas Children's Center for Vaccine Development in Houston.

In an expansion of our partnership with the Government of Botswana, Texas Children's will train three cohorts of fellows over three years, with the goal of establishing the first vaccine development center in sub-Saharan Africa in Gaborone, Botswana. This will help shift the scientific innovation paradigm to low- and middle-income countries.

In 2024, the Global Maternal Health and Global Surgery programs are expanding their work into Botswana in partnership with the Government of Botswana to improve care for women and children. The programs will increase access to quality care for women and children in need of surgery through care, capacity building and quality improvement.



Colombia and Venezuela:

Answering a humanitarian crisis



At the border of Colombia and Venezuela, a team of physicians and community health workers provide frontline care to thousands of Venezuelan migrants fleeing the humanitarian crisis that has crippled their health care system.

These teams provide treatment for malnutrition, basic child health needs, antenatal care, and family planning. The program also offers families a way out of poverty through community-based efforts such as a food-for-recyclables exchange.

Support for this humanitarian crisis is possible because Texas Children's Global Health has developed a robust maternal and child health program to support the indigenous people of the La Guajira peninsula. The Colombia program recently celebrated 10 years of operation. During its first decade, child mortality in the region moved from the second highest to the second lowest in Colombia.





Ukraine:

Helping families fleeing war

Texas Children's continued its efforts to support children and women in Ukraine. From the Baylor Foundation Romania Center of Excellence, we deliver pediatric and obstetric care for those fleeing the war and help these vulnerable patients access medications, treatment and other support.

In addition, the Texas Children's Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation team is working with a hospital in Uzhhorod, Ukraine, that serves as a hub-and-spoke treatment and training center for the entire region. Children who need orthopedic surgery and rehabilitation due to injuries suffered in the war or lack of available services will have access to high-quality care and rehabilitation.



Make an Impact

Your donations to Texas Children's Global Health programs make an outsized and immediate difference to children and mothers. Examples of current needs include:

\$150,000

supports a pediatric surgeon to provide surgical care and train future generations of pediatric surgeons in sub-Saharan Africa.

\$15,000

provides training for Malawian medical residents, an essential piece of building a stronger health care system with properly trained future physician-leaders.

\$5,000

helps 25 adolescents with access to life-saving HIV treatment, psychosocial support, peer mentoring and job and life skills training.

\$500

provides family planning services for one year to 10 women fleeing the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.



WATCH THE VIDEO
vimeo.com/890090316

Mothers caring for a baby or young child with HIV, or HIV and tuberculosis, face significant challenges in giving their child the medicines they need.



PHOTO CREDIT: SMILEY N. POOL

Connect with Global Health

Ashley Tagle

amgalleg@texaschildrens.org

832-824-2308

Tarryn Lankford

txlankfo@texaschildrens.org

832-824-2938

Teresa Kaiser

tckaiser@texaschildrens.org

832-842-7866

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