



July 2021 Newsletter

TGUP headquarters will be on skeleton crew for the month of August. Be safe, and remember, Even the greatest waterfall starts with a single drop of water. That's you!

Githage Classroom Complex, Kenya

The Githage community in Kirinyaga, Kenya has about 12,000 residents. The school has 118 students, but the facilities were grossly inadequate.

Together with its Kenyan partner, Kiini Sustainable Initiative, TGUP just completed an extensive building complex at the school. It includes a new classroom, electrification, water catchment system, playground, and latrines. It makes the school a model for all others in the district.



The new facilities will provide dramatically better life chances for tens of thousands of Kenyan students. The entire project was funded by two generous donors from northern California. Thank you. The world is a better place because of you.

Nepal Sewing Center

Nepal Women's Community Service Center (NWCSC) operates a Sewing Center that makes and distributes TGUP's [Save a Girl](#) sanitary kits. It has 19 sewing machines and employs 40 seamstresses.



The center has sewn thousands of *Save a Girl* kits, and more than 90,000 COVID masks that have been donated to the poorest people in the country. It also makes baby clothes, uniforms, linens, and other needed items.

The seamstresses are almost all women who have suffered abuse in their marriages and have been abandoned. The center provides them well-paying, dignified jobs helping the young women of their community. Often, it is the first paying job the women have ever had.

If you have ever donated to *Save a Girl*, some of your donation may have gone here. Thank you. The world is a better place because of you.



Help in Indonesia

In 2010, TGUP (which was then One Dollar For Life), helped renovate the school at Manikaji, on the island of Bali. It dramatically improved attendance and outcomes. Today, the school is the center of village life.



But like in so much of the developing world, COVID ravaged the village. Jobs were lost. Lives were lost. Everything came to a halt.

With readers' help, we recently provided "education survival kits" to 52 students in the school. The kits include workbooks, pencils and paper, food supplements, and a small stipend so that teachers can visit students at their homes. These have really helped!

They have helped 52 students and their families stay above water during the crisis. Thank you to those whose donations made this help possible!





Mira Qureshi is a student at UCLA pursuing a career in medicine. She is from Yemen, which is in the middle of a war and experiencing the worst cholera outbreak in the world.

Mira knew that, as is so often the case, the brunt of such turmoil is borne by the most vulnerable people in the society. In Yemen, that would be adolescent girls.

Mira began a campaign to raise funds to provide *Save a Girl* kits to adolescent school girls in Yemen. So far, the TGUP@UCLA club has raised enough for 283 SaG kits. It is partnering with GlobeMed to raise more.

If you would like to help Mira's effort to Save a Yemeni Girl, please go to TGUP's [new Save a Girl page](#) and make even the smallest donation. Your donation will be matched, 1-for-1, by a generous grant from an anonymous TGUP donor.



San Antonio School, Nicaragua



There was only a ramshackle classroom in the tiny village of San Antonio in Nicaragua. It failed and only 3 of the village's 32 students went to the nearest school, 1.5 miles away down a very busy highway.

In June, TGUP and its Nicaraguan partner, Seeds of Learning, finished a beautiful 24' by 36' classroom for the village. It is made with a steel frame on a concrete foundation. It will last for 30+ years and educate *thousands* of Nicaraguan students.



This project was funded by students and staff at Gahr High School, Los Altos High School, Twin Peaks Middle School, and one individual donor, all from California. Thank you!

The Most Humane Article We've Ever Published



If you ever wondered how *Save a Girl* got started, here's your chance to know.

Our Brenda Birrell has just written one of the most humane, compelling stories we've ever published, or even read. "Finding Myself in the Developing World" starts:

"I went for a dental cleaning in 2017. My life has never been the same..."

A single paragraph in a magazine in the waiting room caught my eye. It said that more than 20 million girls in the developing world drop out of school every year because they have no way to deal with their period. It hit me like a meteor: out of nowhere and devastating..."

[Click here](#) to read the article. It is a *riveting* story of how one person's effort has helped tens of thousands - soon to be hundreds of thousands - of developing world girls stay in school. It is inspiration personified and the very ideal of The Global Uplift Project.

Final Word: From Cliché to Reality

The cliché is, "You can change the world." The reality is that we can. Huh?

The dissonance is that we've heard the cliché so often, and seen its failure so many times, we've stopped believing in it. Even when it's actually working, we see what we believe, which is that it's not really happening, because it can't, because it's just wishful thinking, a cliché. Believing is seeing.

The reality is that we *can* change the world, and we are. Everything you see above, and [170+ other projects](#) helping more than 400,000 people, are the proof.

Cynics will say, "That's very cute, but it's just a drop in the ocean of human suffering" Or, "It's not a systemic change, so it won't stick." Cynicism always finds its way to pooh-pooh something good. That's its nature. But "Nyah" is not a sign of sophistication. It's a sign of impotence.

The reality is that this is working, on a small scale, but there's no reason it can't work on a bigger scale. A global scale. All the working parts are in place. No new laws of physics are waiting to be discovered. No new cures for cancer need to be invented. It's spread the word, pass the box, and let's get on with it.

Here's a great example.

Our Science Lab in a Box makes possible sophisticated lab work in physics, chemistry, and biology, at any high school in the world. It costs



\$2,500, deployed. One Apache helicopter costs \$38 million. There are 500 of them in service, with another 300 on order.

What if we settled for “only” 799 instead of 800 Apaches and used the other \$38 million to fund 15,200 **Science Labs in a Box** for use in 15,200 high schools in the developing world? It would lift the educational trajectories of millions of developing world students. Would that be a good trade off for humanity?



What if we made the same trade-off but for **Save a Girl** kits? That \$38 million would allow 19 MILLION girls to stay in school for a year. (A *SaG* kit costs \$6 but lasts 3 years, or \$2 per girl, per year.) Would that be a net blessing for humanity? Just asking the question mocks the answer, doesn’t it. And that’s exactly the point.

Of course we can change the world. What it really comes down to is whether we have the courage not to see what we *want* to believe, but to believe what we’re actually seeing. It’s a huge difference and the beginning of making the world a better place. We can do this. It’s working. Join us. The world needs you.

Oh, and if you would like to help Mira Qureshi in her campaign at UCLA to help the girls of Yemen, [go here to donate](#). Yes, even a single kit will help, and **every kit donated will be matched**. Thank you!

[Donate](#)

The Global Uplift Project
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