

LIFENET INTERNATIONAL  
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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# TRANSFORMING AFRICAN HEALTHCARE. SAVING LIVES.





## TOGETHER IN 2019, WE...

**241**



SAVED THE LIVES OF 241  
NEWBORNS WHO WERE BORN  
NOT BREATHING

**2,369,009**



IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF  
CARE FOR 2,369,009 PATIENT  
VISITS

**203,662**



TESTED 203,662 PATIENTS  
FOR HIV

**60,738**



IMPROVED CARE FOR MOTHERS  
AND NEWBORNS IN 60,738 BABY  
DELIVERIES

**144%**



HELPED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES  
INCREASE THEIR PATIENT  
VOLUME BY 144% AFTER  
JUST ONE YEAR OF LIFENET  
PARTNERSHIP

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the early years of LifeNet International, a Burundian pastor told our staff, “We have a word for what you do—**you guherekeza**. In Burundi, when friends leave your home it is the custom to walk with them until you’re certain they will reach their destination safely. **That’s guherekeza.**”

Over the years, this pastor’s words have stuck with us and informed how we conduct our work with health facilities and health workers in sub-Saharan Africa.

The health facilities we work with are true partners and friends. Driven by our Christian commitment to heal the sick, we walk with our partners as they journey along the road to high-quality healthcare, sustainability, and holistic Christian ministry in their health facilities.

In 2019, we walked with 178 health facilities in Burundi, Uganda, Malawi, and the DRC, as they improved the quality of care for 2,369,009 patient visits, saving and improving the lives of some of the most vulnerable women, children, and men in the world.

In a world full of disheartening news, devastating health statistics, and ongoing instability, **we believe there is reason to hope**. There is hope in the face of every health worker who discovers a renewed sense of purpose, hope in the eyes of a mother whose newborn baby is successfully resuscitated, and hope in the hands of health facility staff who learn to integrate their faith into every area of their work. The stories and data contained in this report are a few of these signs of hope—signs that God is working through local church-run health facilities to bring hope and healing to underserved and vulnerable people in Africa.

Rooted in this hope, we will continue to “guherekeza” with our partner health facilities until every health worker is equipped and able to provide life-saving care to their patients. We hope you enjoy this behind-the-scenes look into our work together. Thank you for journeying with us!

With deep gratitude,

Dave Evans  
President



## THE LIFENET MISSION

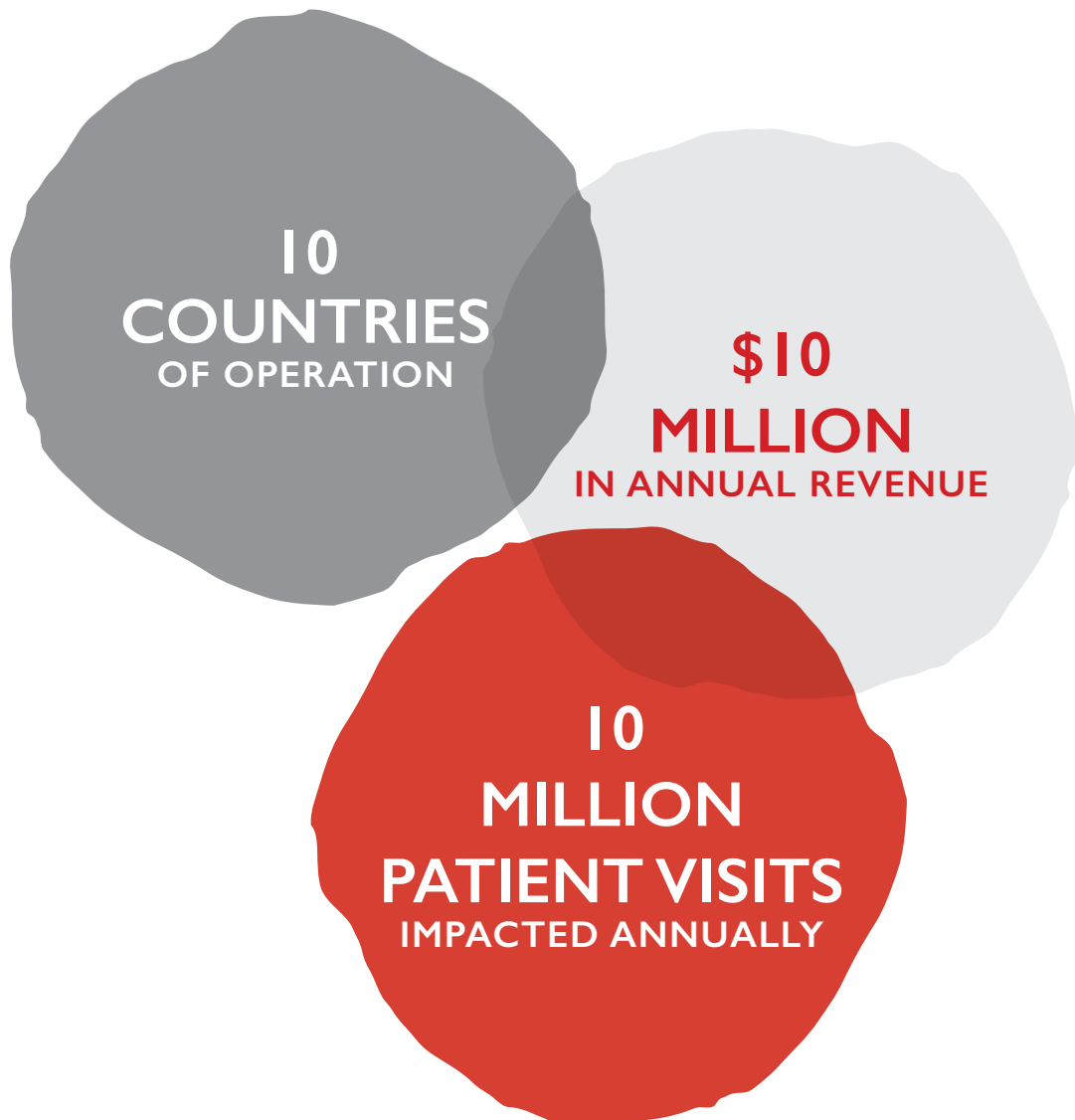
# LifeNet International transforms African health centers to provide quality, sustainable healthcare and save lives.

Our Christian faith and commitment to justice, compassion, and caring for the poor motivate our work. We believe that all people, made in the image of God, should have the opportunity to live healthy and whole lives.



## THE LIFENET VISION

## Our 10-10-10 Vision



By 2023, LifeNet plans to operate in 10 countries, improving 10 million patient visits every year at an annual cost of \$10 million

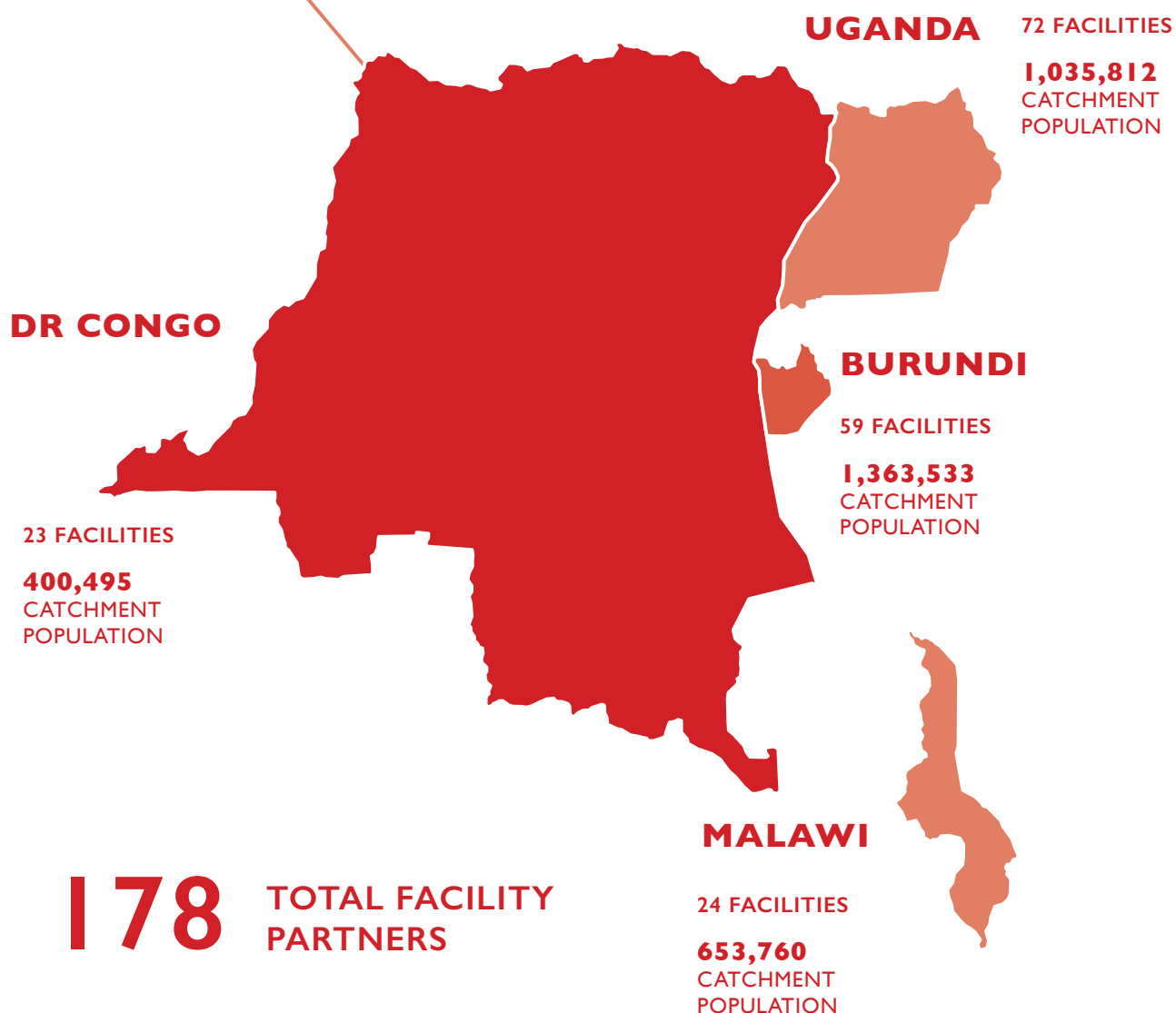
**\$1 PER PATIENT VISIT IMPROVED**





## WHERE WE WORK

LifeNet's total number of health facility partners  
**grew by 37% in 2019!**



**3,453,600** TOTAL CATCHMENT POPULATION  
FOR LIFENET PARTNER FACILITIES

# HOW WE WORK

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**Health facilities receive the following services through LifeNet partnership.** Together, we work to strengthen their existing health workforce and ensure that patients receive sustainable, compassionate, life-saving healthcare.



## MEDICAL TRAINING

In-person training and mentoring in five modules of clinical care best practices.



## MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Four modules of in-person training in financial, human resources, and administrative best practices.



## PHARMACEUTICAL SUPPLY

LifeNet provides health center partners with access to quality medicines at affordable prices.



## EQUIPMENT SUPPLY

LifeNet provides partners with essential medical equipment and supplies.



## MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL)

LifeNet provides ongoing, in-person, rigorous monitoring and evaluation alongside all interventions, ensuring long-term behavior change.



# HIGHLIGHTS

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## 8,000,000

### 8 MILLION PATIENT VISITS IMPROVED SINCE 2012

**Duke Global Health  
Institute Study** validated  
LifeNet's impact on maternal  
& neonatal healthcare  
(see pg 18)

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**Awarded the 2019  
“Best in Class - Medical”**  
Henry Schein Cares Medal

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**Grew our health facility  
partnership network by  
37%** in just one year

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**Successfully concluded a  
cutting-edge NCD Pilot in  
Uganda** leading to improved  
health outcomes for patients  
(see pg 19)

**Spent just \$1 per patient  
visit improved** across all  
LifeNet partners





# THE THREE JOURNEYS

“In Burundi, when friends leave your home it is the custom to walk with them until you’re certain they will reach their destination safely.  
**That’s guherekeza.”**

We are committed to walking with our partners as they progress on their journey toward...

## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

We address leading causes of preventable deaths through high-impact training.

## SUSTAINABILITY

We address leading causes of financial instability through targeted management training.

## CHRISTIAN HOLISM

We encourage facilities to integrate their Christian faith into their work to heal the sick in their communities.



# THE JOURNEY TO QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Every day, 2,164 babies and 407 mothers in Africa die from preventable causes.

**BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.**

LifeNet walks with facilities on the journey to high-quality, lifesaving healthcare.

LifeNet training and mentoring addresses leading causes of death for mothers, newborns, and children, along with targeted training in infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, and more.

LifeNet's partner health facilities **dramatically improve their quality of care** through LifeNet training.





# IN 2019, HEALTH WORKERS IN OUR PARTNER FACILITIES SAVED 241 NEWBORNS BY IMPLEMENTING THE INFANT CPR THEY LEARNED FROM LIFENET.

## MEET BABY JADE

Stella Matovu is a new mom who recently gave birth to her son Jade at Nkoni Health Center, a LifeNet partner in Uganda. Read her account of their difficult experience below, in her own words.

“During my delivery, I had complications and the baby was born weak, tired, and needed help to breathe. Thankfully, God was on our side. The health workers acted quickly and were able to work on him and resuscitate him in a short time. Baby Jade perked up and was healthy within a few hours. We started breastfeeding and he has had no other issues thanks to the care we received.

I am very thankful to Nkoni Health Centre. Unlike other facilities I’ve visited, the Nkoni health workers are caring and they were there for me throughout my pregnancy and in my difficult delivery.”

*-Stella Matovu (pictured here with Medina, a nurse from Nkoni Health Center)*





# 2019 BY THE NUMBERS



**1,150**

Health workers trained in  
clinical care best practices



**2,369,009**

Improved patient visits



**203,662**

Patients tested for HIV



**169,137**

Malaria patient visits



**60,738**

Deliveries improved



**13,001**

Patients screened for  
hypertension and diabetes



**2,226**

Pieces of equipment  
delivered



**88**

Medicine deliveries to facilities



# QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS

7% → 80%

Health workers can perform infant  
CPR & save newborns

3% → 88%

Health workers can treat postpartum  
hemorrhage & save mothers

10% → 79%

Health workers follow medical protocols for  
handwashing, reducing infections and saving lives

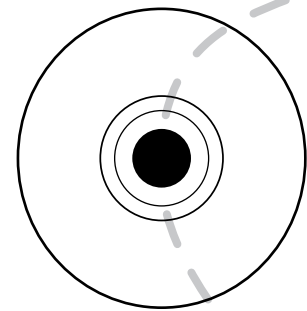
23% → 91%

Health workers can perform infant assessments,  
identifying concerns and improving infant quality of life

**BEFORE & AFTER LIFENET TRAINING**



# THE JOURNEY TO SUSTAINABILITY



Prior to working with LifeNet, health facilities have a 9% rate of tracking daily revenues and expenses, leaving them at risk for financial instability and health facility closure.


BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.

LifeNet walks with facilities on the journey to sustainability, improving healthcare for some of the most vulnerable patients in the world.

**FACILITIES DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THROUGH LIFENET PARTNERSHIP.**





A man in a red polo shirt with 'LN' on it is speaking and gesturing with his hands. He is standing in front of a building with a corrugated metal roof. In the background, two other people are sitting on the ground, one holding papers and the other writing on a notepad.

**“For a while I stopped coming to this facility because many things were not being handled well.**

For instance, the prices were not predictable and mostly very high, the cleanliness of the facility very poor, and there was no security for our bicycles.

**But this year we have seen a lot of changes happening:** the place is clean, at the entrance there is always a person who welcomes us and tells us how to go about in the facility and keep our properties safe. Inside the facility we are warmly welcomed by the receptionist and prices of medicine are displayed on the wall and workers clearly explain every step you will take and how medicine have been charged. **We are told all this is because they receive trainings from LifeNet.”**

*- Jeffrey Gibson, Patient, Nakalanzi Health Centre, Malawi*

# SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS



ON AVERAGE, FACILITIES INCREASE THEIR PATIENT VOLUME  
BY 144% AFTER ONE YEAR OF LIFENET PARTNERSHIP,  
SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING THEIR FACILITY SUSTAINABILITY.

**1,206**

Health facility staff trained in  
management best practices

**\$1,339**

Increase in average monthly revenue  
per facility

**9% → 84%**

Facilities are tracking daily revenues and  
expenses, improving financial stability

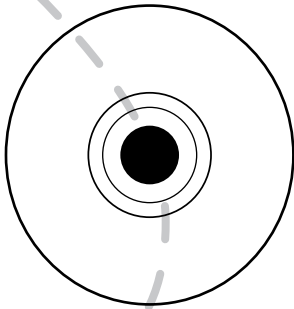
**4% → 86%**

Facilities are performing performance reviews  
for staff, improving morale and sustainability

**BEFORE & AFTER LIFENET TRAINING**



# THE JOURNEY TO CHRISTIAN HOLISM



LifeNet walks with facilities on the journey to Christian holism, integrating faith into the foundations of its curricula and encouraging health workers and staff to treat each patient with compassion and respect as someone who bears the image of God.

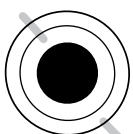


“At LifeNet, we believe that every person, regardless of their social status, should receive the best quality care. As a Christian, I believe that this is a practical way to ‘preach the Good News to the poor.’”

- Nadège Kabagenzi, LifeNet Uganda Operations Manager

“...AND HE SENT THEM OUT TO PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND TO HEAL THE SICK.”

- LUKE 9:2





# VALIDATED IMPACT: DUKE STUDY RESULTS

## BACKGROUND

The Duke Global Health Institute Evidence Lab conducted a 15-month study on the effects of LifeNet's training on the quality of maternal and neonatal healthcare in six clinics in Masaka, Uganda. Twenty-four indicators of care were measured during the study.

## STUDY RESULTS

“Our study provides evidence that the LifeNet clinical training intervention **significantly improved maternal and neonatal healthcare** quality at six primary care clinics in Uganda.”

## SAMPLE RESULTS

545%

Increase in health provider adherence to proper hand washing, reducing infections



238%

Increase in sterile cord clamping, improving care for newborns



386%

Increase in partograph use (paper chart to track labor), improving care for mothers



## NEONATAL MORTALITY OBSERVATIONS

Although the study was not statistically powered to detect differences in mortality, the data observed did document a decrease in neonatal mortality at the conclusion of LifeNet training.

Observed data noted a **decrease from a 27/1000 neonatal mortality rate to a 9/1000 neonatal mortality rate post-intervention.\***

*\*Due to low numbers of reported deaths, additional studies would be required to more accurately measure these changes.*



## SPECIAL PROJECT

# NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): IMPROVING OUTCOMES, CHANGING LIVES

NCDs cause 15 million premature deaths every year. LifeNet empowers community health facilities with the knowledge and tools they need to provide long-term care for patients with hypertension and type-II diabetes. We are improving health outcomes for these patients and changing lives.

**212**

NCD screenings in 2019

**35%**

Reduction in blood glucose levels

**13,001**

Patients screened for NCDs in 2019

**9%**

Reduction in Systolic Blood Pressure

**506%**

Increase in NCD patient volume in 10  
facilities enrolled in LifeNet's NCD  
program

**6%**

Reduction in Diastolic Blood Pressure



# THE FACE OF NCDs: MEET BABIRYE PEREPETWA

Meet Babirye Perepetwa, a patient who receives care for her hypertension from Nakasojo Health Facility, a LifeNet partner facility that can now provide care for non-communicable diseases thanks to LifeNet training!

“I was seated at home praying when I suddenly felt dizzy. I stood up to go drink some water and that is when I collapsed on the floor. I was rushed to a hospital with a stroke. For a year, I received medication for my hypertension from the hospital. **However, the distance to the hospital and the cost of the medicine was prohibitive.** Around this time, a friend told me about the nearby Nakasojo health facility that was running an NCD clinic.

**The experience I received when I visited Nakasojo was amazing.** I was warmly welcomed and treated very well. I really felt at home. The cost of the medication at Nakasojo is lower and the doctor understands my financial situation and allows to pay for my medication over time.

**Now, I can walk to receive care from my local facility!”**



*Babirye Perepetwa is pictured here (middle of photo) with another patient and LifeNet staff member Collins Muhumuza.*



**2009-2012**

Researching & prototyping solutions to the African healthcare crisis

**2012**

LifeNet launches the LifeNet Model of partnership with 10 faith-based health facilities in Burundi

**2015**

LifeNet expands to Uganda

**2016**

LifeNet expands to the DRC and reaches 1 million patient visits per year

## A TIMELINE OF TRANSFORMATION

**2017**

LifeNet expands to Malawi

**2018**

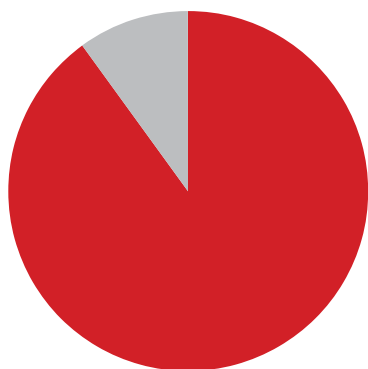
LifeNet grows its network to 130 health facilities, impacting 1.5 million patient visits per year

**2019**

LifeNet grows its network to 178 health facilities, and begins implementing its ambitious 10-10-10 vision

**2020**

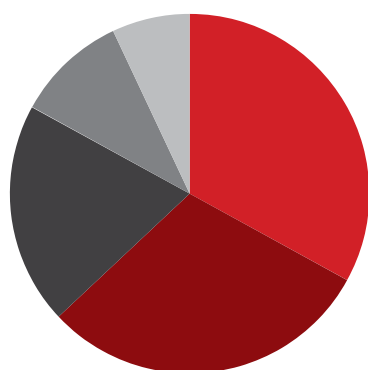
LifeNet will expand its impact both in-country and into new areas, preparing for rapid scale over the next four years



## TOTAL INCOME

### \$2,735,316

■ In-Kind Income	\$399,422
■ Cash Income	\$2,335,894

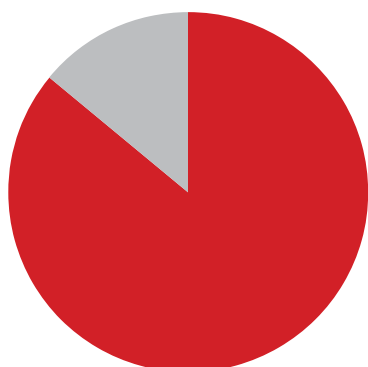


## TOTAL EXPENSES

### \$2,762,820

■ Burundi*	\$915,589
■ Uganda	\$812,985
■ USA	\$435,805
■ Malawi	\$313,290
■ DRC*	\$285,152

*\*In-kind expenses account for \$49,580 of DRC expenses and \$349,843 of Burundi expenses.*



## EXPENSES

■ Programs	84%
■ Admin & Fundraising	16%

*-2019 unaudited financials-*

## OUR WORK BUILDS ON AN EXISTING, SUBSTANTIAL ASSET BASE

Networks of faith-based health facilities in Africa hold large assets of human, process, and physical capital within their existing staffing, systems, and infrastructures. **Lifenet's partner facilities currently generate over \$7.6 million in annual revenue on top of an asset base of \$23 million.**

**WE LEVERAGE THESE ASSETS TO DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE QUALITY OF CARE AT THE LOW PROGRAM COST OF \$1 PER PATIENT VISIT IMPROVED.**



# WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE

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THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN THE LOCAL HEALTH  
WORKFORCE IN AFRICA!



Invest in local solutions  
to the African healthcare crisis.

LEARN MORE AT  
[LNinternational.org](http://LNinternational.org)