Transforming Healthcare.
Saving Lives.
Last year, LifeNet International grew into a network of over 400 health facilities across six countries. The network delivered improved healthcare to over 8 million patient visits and saved the lives of 5,045 mothers and newborns. LifeNet is maturing into what was envisioned at its early stages—a large, consolidated network saving lives and leveraging its reach for healthcare transformation across sub-Saharan Africa.

I am excited to share that our leadership training program will launch in 2024. We are developing our teams, which drive LifeNet’s impact, and putting the internal growth of staff at the forefront of strategy. Soon, our impact could be strengthened by utilizing resources like satellite internet and reliable power. Ensured access to the internet at our health facilities could unlock game-changing possibilities, such as two-way communication between doctors and health workers and the lowered cost of data informed training at health facilities.

Technologies that would enhance our connectedness as a network would contribute to the power of our social franchise. LifeNet would then be equipped to bring quality care to larger populations, in hard-to-reach regions. It would create new standards for healthcare and give more people the chance to live longer, fuller lives. As we establish new partnerships and work towards implementing the most effective approach, we are not far from making this kind of powerful change a reality.

To our donors and partners: Thank you for making LifeNet’s work possible. In 2023 alone, your support led to the improved health of millions and saved the lives of thousands. My heart is filled with thanks to God as I look forward with hope to this next year. I invite you, first, to look back with us as you read this 2023 annual report and, then, forward with us to the continued expansion of LifeNet’s impact in 2024.

Michael Spraggins
Founder and Chair of the Board of Directors
WHERE WE WORK

The healthcare needs in sub-Saharan Africa are great. Equally great are the talents and resources present in these communities. The LifeNet model is asset-based, leveraging the incredible human, physical, and process capital already present in the active healthcare industry. LifeNet works primarily with the faith-based healthcare market, which provides 40% or more of all care in the region and often serves the most vulnerable communities. Our approach accelerates improvements in health outcomes for underserved communities and unlocks potential within national health systems.
THE LIFENET MODEL

No person should die of a preventable cause. Yet, millions of women, children, and men die every year due to poor quality healthcare, treatable diseases and injuries, and manageable complications. LifeNet is on a mission to stop preventable deaths. Our model increases the quality of health services available to underserved communities. We build clinical and managerial capacity within existing primary healthcare facilities that are relied on by the majority of lowest quintile patients but often lack the training and resources they need. The result is well-functioning, safe, financially sustainable health facilities providing high-quality essential services for millions of patients a year. This high-quality healthcare saves lives in some of the most vulnerable communities in the world.

The WHO defines quality healthcare as safe, efficient, integrated, equitable, timely, people-centered, and effective. Additional components to a strong health system include good financial management and governance, according to USAID.

Our Christian faith and commitment to justice, compassion, and caring for the poor motivate our efforts to advance hope and healing through local African health facilities. We believe that all people, made in the image of God, should have the opportunity to live healthy and whole lives.

36,391,754

Patient visits in the LifeNet network since 2012

LIVES SAVED AT BIRTH IN 2023:

1,643 Mothers

3,402 Babies

NUMBER OF PATIENT VISITS IN 2023:

8,671,163
Outcome: HIGH-QUALITY HEALTHCARE

With the right training and tools, local healthcare providers will be the solution to health crises in Africa.

When I arrived at the facility, the midwives warmly welcome me. They assessed me and informed me that I would be giving birth soon. They treated me well and I gave birth to the first child. After, the midwife told me that they had observed the second child and that they were going to start delivering him. She did her very best to make sure I delivered the second baby and, eventually, I did deliver the baby successfully. However, I delivered the second baby when he was very weak and not breathing. The midwife began treating the baby and tried everything to make sure the baby breathed and, finally, he let out a cry. I chose to deliver at Wekomiire Healthcare Facility (a LifeNet facility) because they have very good services. The midwives treat and care very well for the patients that go there. I am grateful and especially thankful for midwife Ritah because she really helped me. She did her very best to make sure that she saved my life and the lives of my babies. The babies are now very healthy and they are breastfeeding well. They have no issues at all.

GIFT, A PATIENT IN UGANDA AT WEKOMIIRE HEALTH FACILITY

(quote translated)
Before LifeNet, the Performance Purchasing Agency (World Bank program) refused to assess our hospital because they presumed we would not be eligible for funding because of our low quality. I complained recently and explained that thanks to the support of LifeNet we are not the same low quality anymore. Twenty-four hours later and without warning, two teams of evaluators from the World Bank program and the Ministry of Health came to assess the hospital. They were pleasantly surprised to note that our performance score was more than 20% higher than any other facility. Seeking to understand the miracles made by the hospital, we told the evaluators that this is due to LifeNet’s training and support. Since this evaluation, we entered into partnership with AAP and will soon receive financial support from the World Bank, thanks to LifeNet.

DR. CLAUDE WATUKALUSU, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF NYAMIANDA HOSPITAL IN THE DRC

(quote translated)
LifeNet has developed a custom digital training center using open-source platforms to support online and offline learning and content access. All healthcare providers receiving LifeNet capacity building can access training content with unlimited lesson downloads via the website or a mobile app available for both Android and iOS devices. The platform allows LifeNet’s program and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) teams to support healthcare providers, provides access to a reporting dashboard for primary healthcare facilities, and allows for offline and online distance learning for medical and management lessons. In some places, these digital courses qualify for official continuing medical education credits for government certifications. A WhatsApp-based multidimensional channel is also used to cultivate collaborative learning, discussions, and peer support among healthcare providers.

Digital solutions

LifeNet is an N50 member, an ecosystem of organizations that have a passionate drive to close the global digital divide. Members share the unshakable desire to deliver applications and content to communities along the outer edge of the digital infrastructure. As LifeNet continues to expand its digital tools to address healthcare facilities’ knowledge and skills gaps, collaboration with other N50 members will catalyze solutions we could not develop alone.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Cholera outbreak in Malawi LifeNet partnered with two other international organizations to respond to the deadly Cholera outbreak in Malawi, which was exacerbated by concurrent outbreaks of Polio and COVID-19. We procured supplies and equipment for 14 healthcare facilities in the most impacted region to treat severe cases of Cholera, protect healthcare workers, and limit the spread of the bacteria.

Ebola outbreak in Uganda Late in 2022 into early 2023, LifeNet partnered with the Uganda Ministry of Health and coordinated with local and international partners to respond to the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak. We provided supplies, tools, and information to healthcare workers in 26 healthcare facilities to protect them and build their capacity to treat patients safely and effectively. The transmission train of the virus was interrupted, and the government of Uganda declared the end of the outbreak in early 2023.
Impact:
EFFECTIVE HEALTHCARE
SAVING LIVES

4,654
Well-trained and equipped healthcare workers
implementing evidence-based best practices

8,671,163
Improved patient visits

409
Well-run facilities delivering
quality essential services

84,556
Properly treated cases of diarrhea*

65,953
Properly treated cases of pneumonia*

819,760
Properly treated cases of malaria*

3,402
Newborn lives saved at birth

1,643
Mothers’ lives saved at birth

167,173
Safe deliveries

*These remain top causes
of death for children
in sub-Saharan Africa
FINANCIALS

TOTAL INCOME
$4,667,584

IN-KIND INCOME
$77,450
(Included in total income)

CASH INCOME
$3,999,095

Total expenses
$3,843,475

81% Programs
19% Overhead
We celebrate the work and impact of 2023 with you. You make this all possible, and we are grateful for your partnership.

You ensure hopeful tomorrows.

You widen futures.

You save lives.

Thank you for doing all of this alongside LifeNet.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to our friends at Ballyhoo Workshop for their tireless encouragement and incredible design work; Raymond Kasoga and Taking Pictures, Changing Lives for their visionary support and amazing images; and Steven Twinomugisha for his great dedication and stunning images.