Mission

We design and implement humanitarian programs that build capacity, develop opportunities, and save lives around the world. With all of our programs, we believe the best way to provide effective and sustainable solutions that bring about lasting change is by working with in-country partners and coming alongside to empower them and increase their capacity.

Areas of Focus

CHILD: ASSIST
Building orphan villages, schools, and meeting the needs of children

HEALTH: ASSIST
Strengthening health systems and saving lives

WASH: ASSIST
Implementing clean, safe water solutions

COMMUNITY: ASSIST
Providing resources to communities, both locally and internationally
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Letter from the President

Dear Friends of Assist International,

There is power in people coming together for a cause, and we are grateful for the incredible individuals and organizations who have partnered with us. Together, we helped meet the needs of vulnerable people around the world, and I’m excited to share some of our highlights from 2018.

AI has a proven track record of long-term commitment to our CHILD: ASSIST programs, and in 2018, we continued to strengthen our partnerships with AOET (Uganda), Caminul Felix (Romania), Felix Family Villages (Thailand), and Sister Rosemary (Uganda). Sister Rosemary identified a medical clinic as a desperate need in Atiak, and in 2018, we started to make this dream a reality, beginning work on a fully-equipped medical clinic. This process includes constructing the building, registering the clinic, procuring and installing medical equipment, and identifying staff members to work at the clinic. This effort is an example of how AI approaches every project and program. Our vision is to come alongside in-country partners and increase their ability to reach the needs of the community.

In 2018, the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative expanded into Tanzania. As a partner of the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative, we work with many partners to improve surgical practices and outcomes in low and middle-income countries. We manage many interventions, including safe anesthesia training, clinical skills training, equipment donation and healthcare technology management, and sterilization training. All of these interventions complement one another to drastically improve surgical outcomes at target hospitals.

In 2018, one of our goals was to use technology to improve the reach and impact of our programs. To this end, we equipped hospitals in Tanzania with state-of-the-art web cameras, microphones, and software as part of Project ECHO-a telementoring platform that provides continuous medical education. Each week, health workers from many hospitals simultaneously join a 90-minute web session where they receive lectures, case presentations, and ask for advice on complex cases.

Another highlight from 2018 was the medical project at Mercy Hospital in Kolkata, India. Every year, Mercy Hospital provides excellent medical care to 100,000 patients in the city, including 40,000 at no cost. In partnership with the Rotary Foundation, the Rotary Club of Brentwood, the Rotary Club of Kolkata, and many other Rotary Clubs, we helped provide new, state-of-the-art medical equipment to the ICU/CCU and Operating Theater of the hospital, greatly increasing the capacity of the staff.

With each program, we are continually solving new challenges and learning new lessons, and our goal is to expand these programs around the world for even greater impact. With your support, there is a powerful multiplication of impact, and we are thankful for everyone who partnered with us in 2018.

With gratitude,

Ralph Sudfeld, President & CEO
Safe Surgery 2020

The Safe Surgery 2020 (SS2020) Initiative is a group of partners, led by the GE Foundation and including Assist International, Dalberg, JHPIEGO, and Harvard PGSSC, seeking to improve access to surgical care in some of the world’s most challenging health contexts. The initiative focuses on three pillars:

- **Leadership Development** trains and mentors surgical teams to identify safe surgery gaps in their facilities, seek the resources they need, take action to improve surgical outcomes and share their experiences.
- **Innovation** drives new solutions to top-priority surgical gaps in low- and middle-income countries by finding and supporting innovators with funding, training, and mentorship.
- **Elevating Ideas** enables sharing of best practices, innovations, and insights by building a body of evidence on how to improve access to safe surgery and sparking national and global conversations.

Assist International leads the innovation pillar on behalf of the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative. These innovations include:

**Facility Accelerator Fund (FAF)**

*Program:* The Facility Accelerator Fund (FAF) is designed to support partner health facilities address identified gaps in surgical capacity. Small grants provided by the FAF allow clinical teams to address a self-identified barrier to providing safe surgical services.

*Our Role:* Assist International develops, implements, and manages the FAF program, providing infrastructure improvements and life-saving equipment.

**Perioperative Enhancement Project (PEP)**

*Program:* The Perioperative Enhancement Project (PEP) provides health facilities with the key medical equipment needed to provide safe anesthesia and monitor patients.

*Our Role:* Assist International developed, implemented, and managed the PEP program, ensuring that health facilities get high-quality equipment best suited for their healthcare context.

**Biomedical Engineering Training Program (BMET)**

*Program:* The BMET program provides comprehensive skills training for qualified biomedical technicians through education, practical and professional experiences, and mentorship to maintain and repair medical equipment at program hospitals.

*Our Role:* Assist International designs, manages, and implements a variety of BMET training and healthcare equipment management solutions.

**ImPACT Perioperative and Anesthesia Care and Training (ImPACT) AFRICA**

*Partners:* Kijabe Hospital (Kenya), Vanderbilt University Medical Center, the Center for Public Health and Development (Kenya), Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC), the Regional Health Bureau of Amhara, the Regional Health Bureau of Tigray.

*Program:* ImPACT AFRICA brings ImPACT AFRICA tools – a proven suite of in-service, pre-service, and simulation training material – to teaching hospitals. The ImPACT AFRICA program improves the safety of anesthesia and perioperative care by enhancing education and training for anesthesia providers. Since 2014, the ImPACT Program has trained 631 people in Kenya and Ethiopia.

*Our Role:* Assist International helps solidify partnerships, designs the program to coordinate with national priorities around anesthesia training, builds infrastructure, manages in-country personnel, provides program management and logistical support for the ImPACT AFRICA program.
Project ECHO
Partner: Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)
Program: Project ECHO is a robust tele-mentoring platform that provides continuous medical education, guided practice.
Our Role: Assist International used Project ECHO's innovative telementoring system to develop and implement the first Safe Surgery and Anesthesia Care ECHO program. In collaboration with our partners, we provide low-dose, high-frequency follow-up on content from the other Safe Surgery programs, increasing sustainability while connecting practitioners to peers and mentors.

Touch Surgery
Partner: Digital Surgery
Program: Touch Surgery is a cognitive-task tool that trains surgical providers in the steps needed to perform and deliver safe surgical care. The objective of the Touch Surgery program is to improve the technical and cognitive surgical skills of surgical providers by providing medical officers with a detailed and accurate way to practice their surgical skills in a low-risk setting.
Our Role: Assist International has partnered with Digital Surgery to introduce and implement the Touch Surgery app in LMICs. This effort includes tailoring Touch Surgery content to meet the specific needs of surgeons in LMICs and conducting clinical and technical training sessions for surgeons using Touch Surgery procedures.

Safe Obstetrics Anesthesia Training
Partner: WFSA (World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists)
Program: WFSA in-service training programs increase the capacity of all levels of anesthesia providers to deliver safe anesthesia care for patients experiencing life-threatening obstetric conditions.
Our Role: Assist International partners with WFSA to provide trainers with the simulation tools, training support, and logistics needed to equip anesthesia educators and providers with obstetric anesthesia care best practices.

Sterile Processing Education Charitable Trust (SPECT)
Partner: Sterile Processing Education Charitable Trust (SPECT)
Program: SPECT provides education, training, and mentoring in selected hospitals. The program focuses on decreasing the risk of infection by improving the knowledge and practices of sterile processing techniques.
Our Role: Assist International identifies the lack of sterile processing and sterile techniques in target hospitals and provides management and logistical support for sterile processing training programs.

2018 Outcomes:

Health Workers Trained: 471
Countries Served: Ethiopia, Tanzania
Healthcare Facilities Impacted: 98
Access to Oxygen

The Need
Medical oxygen is a life-saving medicine that treats a wide range of critical conditions. Unfortunately, in many low and middle-income countries around the world, there is a severe lack of medical oxygen and training on the proper use of oxygen therapy. As a result, preventable deaths occur every day.

In East Africa, rural health facilities truck oxygen hundreds of miles in cylinders to deliver a fraction of the lifesaving gas needed. Long transportation distances and few production facilities make oxygen costly and scarce. Even when oxygen does arrive, health workers lack adequate oxygen therapy training. These issues directly impact the patients most in need of lifesaving oxygen.

Our Solution
Assist International (AI) has developed a sustainable and scalable model of oxygen production and distribution that provides a consistent, affordable supply of oxygen to hospitals and health clinics. Utilizing oxygen production plants supplied by AI, partnerships create a revenue-generating model of oxygen sales that allows for the repayment of loans, expansion of existing operations, and scale.

Our goal is to save lives in poor and last-mile communities by providing medical oxygen production and delivery through a sustainable social enterprise. Our innovation thrives on public-private partnerships where AI provides the physical production plant, health facilities are the customer, and a local entrepreneur is the private supplier of affordable oxygen. We work with Ministries of Health and other partners to develop a clinical training program to train frontline healthcare workers on best oxygen therapy practices.

Impact
Our oxygen program provides oxygen to more than 40 hospitals in Kenya and Rwanda. We’ve estimated that the hospitals in Kenya and Rwanda serve a population of at least 4.6 million.

Rwanda (Total Oxygen Solutions)
Assist International, the GE Foundation, and Health Builders (Rwanda) partnered together to establish Total Oxygen Solutions at Ruhengeri District Hospital. Total Oxygen Solutions is a financially sustainable model of oxygen production and distribution that provides reliable, affordable oxygen to the host hospital and health facilities in the oxygen plant’s catchment area.

Program Results:
- After removing transportation and cost barriers in Rwanda, oxygen consumption at our host hospital increased 852%.
- Five years later, Ruhengeri Hospital currently consumes about 1875% more oxygen than at baseline.
- The percent of neonatal respiratory infections that ended in death decreased from 9.01% to 0% at hospitals served by the plant. (1)(2)

(2) Program hospitals also received a pediatric CPAP program from the same group, which may have also contributed to the reduction in fatalities.

Kenya (Hewa Tele)
Assist International, the GE Foundation, and the Center for Public Health and Development (Kenya) partnered together to establish Hewa Tele. Hewa Tele delivers affordable oxygen to over 30 hospitals in the western region of Kenya.

Program Results:
- In Kenya, previous providers took more than 3 days to deliver oxygen. Our program reduced that time to less than three hours.

Ethiopia
Assist International partnered with GCC, the GE Foundation, and the Regional Health Bureau of Amhara to create a PPP and construct two oxygen plants in Amhara, providing an affordable and sustainable oxygen source to hospitals in each plant’s catchment area.
Focusing on BMET training courses, service contracts with healthcare facilities, and supply chain services, Assist International’s HTM Program strengthens the healthcare technology management profession by improving facility-level outcomes.

Our program improves the practical skills and theoretical knowledge of BMETs in low- and middle-income countries, ultimately improving equipment uptime and patient outcomes.

**2018 Outcomes:**

- Total BMETs trained through 2018: **427**
- Local trainers trained through 2018: **42**
- Biomedical Centers of Excellence = **10+**
- Facilities Impacted through 2018 = **7**

Countries: **7** (Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania)
The Improving Perioperative and Anesthesia Care and Training (ImPACT) AFRICA program has been addressing the serious needs around anesthesia in East Africa for several years. Designed by Vanderbilt University and launched in 2014, ImPACT AFRICA has been successfully implemented in Kenya and Ethiopia. In addition to Vanderbilt University, lead partners include Kijabe Hospital (Kenya), the Center for Public Health and Development (Kenya), the GE Foundation, and Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC). Assist International helps solidify partnerships, designs the program to coordinate with national priorities around anesthesia training, builds infrastructure, manages in-country personnel, provides program management and logistical support for the ImPACT AFRICA program.

This program brings ImPACT AFRICA tools – a proven suite of in-service, pre-service, and simulation training material – to teaching hospitals. The ImPACT AFRICA program improves the safety of anesthesia and perioperative care by enhancing education and training for anesthesia providers. Using a combination of powerful training tools- including in-service, pre-service, and simulation training- this program equips trainees with essential skills of anesthesia, research, ethics, leadership and professionalism.

**2018 Outcomes:**

**Kenya**

The ImPACT Kenya program came to a completion in 2018. As a result of the program, 194 trainers and anesthesia providers received training. The ImPACT Kenya program increased the number of practicing Kenyan nurse anesthetists by almost 200%. Anesthetists were placed in 66 hospitals across 33 different counties (70% of counties) in Kenya.

**Ethiopia**

In 2018, the ImPACT program began expanding to Ethiopia. In 2018, nine Master Trainers were trained, allowing them to further train additional anesthesia providers. Furthermore, 57 clinicians were trained on equipment use.
In partnership with the Rotary Foundation, the Rotary Club of Brentwood, the Rotary Club of Kolkata, many other Rotary Clubs, and other generous partners, Assist International helped provide new, state-of-the-art medical equipment to the ICU/CCU, Operating Theater, NICU, and Maternity Ward at Mercy Hospital in Kolkata, India.

Mercy Hospital serves 100,000 patients annually, and this project greatly improved the health infrastructure and capacity of the hospital. The commissioning of the equipment occurred in June 2018.
Safe Water, Sanitation, Hygiene

The Need

Around the world, billions of people lack access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). This fundamental problem has profound health and socio-economic effects in low and middle-income countries, leading to disease, lack of education, and poverty.

Our Solution - Safe Water for Healthcare Facilities

One of the most effective ways to improve the overall health of a community is to provide clean water to local health facilities. Our self-contained Safe Water Filtration System is an excellent WASH infrastructure solution for healthcare facilities in rural and last-mile settings. Multiple systems can be connected together to increase capacity and meet the water needs of each facility.

Impact

Since 2006, we have collaborated with partners worldwide to provide Safe Water Filtration Systems. Most of the facilities are birthing centers or community clinics.

- **Rwanda**: 10 rural healthcare facilities, 2 district hospitals.
  Patients and Staff Receiving Daily Safe Water: **1150**
- **Cambodia**: 10 rural healthcare facilities.
  Patients and Staff Receiving Daily Safe Water: **1100**
- **Uganda**: 6 rural healthcare facilities.
  Patients and Staff Receiving Daily Safe Water: **2100**
- **Ghana**: 6 rural healthcare facilities.
  Patients and Staff Receiving Daily Safe Water: **2330**
- **Honduras**: 5 rural healthcare facilities.
  Patients and Staff Receiving Daily Safe Water: **1780**

*Total Catchment Population of People Impacted: 5,378,000*

We have also installed Safe Water Filtration Systems in Senegal, Kenya, and Haiti. Sometimes, we work with our partners to design a custom water project for a specific village. For example, we drilled a well in Jinja, Uganda that provides clean water to an orphanage. We built a clean water kiosk at a remote village in Rwanda. We are exploring many other clean water technologies, including small filtration systems that purify water for people in urban areas.
Sister Rosemary has dedicated her life to rescuing children and mothers in Northern Uganda who have been devastated by war. Sister Rosemary gives hope to girls and young women scarred by war in northern Uganda. These girls’ lives have been devastated by violence and sexual exploitation. To help these women support themselves, Sister Rosemary trains them in tailoring and catering. Most importantly, she has created a home and sense of belonging for these women and their children. The orphan village in Atiak provides homes for these young women and their children, as well as other orphan children in the region. In 2014, Sister Rosemary was named one of Time Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People, and she was recognized as a “CNN Hero” in 2007.

We partnered with Sister Rosemary in 2014 to provide housing, education, and opportunities for girls, young women, and children in Northern Uganda. Our goal is to greatly expand Sister Rosemary’s capacity to alleviate suffering in the region. To date, we’ve built ten homes at the orphan village, a school, and a medical clinic is currently under construction.
Caminul Felix Romania and Felix Family Village Thailand

Caminul Felix is Assist International’s first and longest-sustaining program. In 1989, when communism fell in Romania, many major news organizations became aware of the inhumane conditions for the 100,000 children in state-run orphanages. One ABC news article described what they saw: “Young children in straight jackets, groups of mentally disturbed adolescents spending their days in bleak rooms sitting in eerie silence, babies nearly starving to death.”

While visiting Romania with his wife in 1990, Assist International founder Bob Pagett witnessed the Romanian orphan crisis with his own eyes, and he felt compelled to respond. He partnered with an organization called Caminul Felix, which means “Happy Home” in Romanian, and built a family-style orphan village in Oradea, Romania. This orphan village “gives families to the children of the world.”

Today, Caminul Felix has two orphan villages and a total of 16 homes, each providing a mother and father for orphaned and abandoned children. At any time, over 200 children are living at Caminul Felix, and through the years, over 1,000 children have had their lives changed through this effort. Assist International has been actively involved every step of the way through infrastructure projects, including homes, a dairy, playgrounds, school buildings, and offices, and by raising sponsorships for children.

The Caminul Felix model expanded to Surat Thani, Thailand, in 2007, where a ten-home orphan village rescues children and young people who have been orphaned or abandoned and places them in families. Each child is given a family, complete with a mother and father and siblings. There are over 100 children currently living at Felix Thailand.
Sam Tushabe, once an orphan himself, founded AOET (AIDS Orphan Education Trust) in response to the suffering he witnessed in his community. Founded in 2000, AOET now consists of many child welfare, education, and health programs and impacts over 4,000 children.

The AOET Children's Village, located in Jinja, Uganda, includes 15 homes and 15 foster families. Over 100 orphaned and abandoned children live in the village. AOET has also established two schools in Jinja, Uganda—Rehaboth Integrated Primary School and Rehaboth Integrated High School—and a medical clinic that provides basic health care, health education, and immunizations for children in the programs.

Assist International partnered with AOET in 2006. Since the partnership began, Assist International has helped build classroom buildings, dormitories, a library, a chemistry and biology laboratory, a computer room, homes at the AOET Children's Village, and a clean water well for the village. Assist International has also helped raise child sponsorships for children in the program.
In 2017, World Vision partnered with Assist International, and through this partnership, we have received much-needed supplies— including food, water, furniture, blankets, clothing, and personal hygiene products— that we donate and distribute to some of the most vulnerable communities throughout the greater Bay Area and Central Valley of California.

In 2018, 630 local volunteers helped distribute 3,517 pallets out of our warehouse to 83 partner groups. Altogether, over $6m worth of supplies were received by people in the local community. We are thankful for our local volunteers who help sort, pack, and distribute items in our warehouse. Together, we helped impact local communities, including people in Paradise after the fires in November 2018.

The COMMUNITY: ASSIST international program works to help communities in low and middle-income countries. We work with our partners to provide sustainable income opportunities, whether by providing a sewing machine, a bicycle-powered irrigation pump used for farming, or teaching cooking and jewelry-making skills.

More than one billion people live on less than $1.25 per day, and poverty contributes to malnutrition, lack of education, and inadequate healthcare. Providing people with a way to create sustainable income has life-changing effects. They are now able to afford to send their children to school. They can provide enough food for the entire family, and when a member of the family becomes sick, they can afford proper medical care.

Since our beginning, we have been a strong advocate of increasing the capacity of local individuals and organizations to help address local needs. To that end, Assist International seeks out partners in local communities with similar areas of focus, who are committed to meeting the needs of the world’s most vulnerable people.
## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

### Assets

**Current assets:**
- Cash & cash equivalents - unrestricted: $1,852,978
- Cash & cash equivalents - board designated: 208,536
- Cash & cash equivalents - restricted: 12,006,588

```
Total cash & cash equivalents: 14,068,102
```
- Grant receivable: 58,885
- Other assets: 11,532

```
Total current assets: 14,138,519
```

**Noncurrent assets:**
- Inventory – project equipment and materials: 2,505,392
- Inventory – restricted to projects: 3,504,334
- Property and equipment, net: 2,792,146

```
Total noncurrent assets: 8,801,872
```

**Total assets:** $22,940,391

### Liabilities & Net Assets

**Current liabilities:**
- Accounts payable and accrued expenses: $141,790
- Grants payable: 170,998
- Notes payable - current portion: 58,114

```
Total current liabilities: 370,902
```

**Noncurrent liabilities:**
- Notes payable - noncurrent portion: 983,900
- Security deposits: 6,470

```
Total noncurrent liabilities: 990,370
```

**Total liabilities:** 1,361,272

**Net Assets:**
- Without donor restrictions: 5,859,661
- Board designated contingency fund: 208,536
- With donor restrictions: 15,510,922

```
Total net assets: 21,579,119
```

**Total liabilities and net assets:** $22,940,391

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The annual audit of the financial statements of Assist International™ is available upon request. Assist International™ is audited annually by Ronald Blue & Co. CPAs and Consultants, LLP.
## Consolidated Statement of Activities

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<th>Support and revenues:</th>
<th>Without donor restrictions</th>
<th>With donor restrictions</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$1,630,938</td>
<td>$9,724,194</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income, net</td>
<td>151,172</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rental and other income</td>
<td>93,090</td>
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<td>93,090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributed equipment, materials and services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,584,170</td>
<td>9,584,170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>18,193,170</td>
<td>(18,193,170)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total support and revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,068,370</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,115,194</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,183,564</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses:

| Program activities | 17,299,481 |

| Supporting activities: |
|-----------------------|------------|
| General and administrative | 510,639 | - | 510,639 |
| Fundraising            | 93,644    | - | 93,644 |

| Total supporting activities | 604,283 |

| Total expenses | 17,903,764 |

### Changes in net assets

| 2,164,606 | 1,115,194 | 3,279,800 |

### Net assets, beginning of year

| 3,903,591 | 14,395,728 | 18,299,319 |

### Net assets, end of year

| $6,068,197 | $15,510,922 | $21,579,119 |

96.5 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to meet needs of the world’s vulnerable people!
Deborah Balch – Former Professor, Bethany University, Marriage Family Therapist
Austin Carmichael - Real Estate Investment Officer, Oregon State Treasury
Jon Carmichael - Principal Sales Representative Cardiac Disease Rhythm Management, Medtronic, Inc.
Michael Comer - Doctor of Management Degree, Partner with The Hayes Group International, Inc.
Sharon Fruh - Ph.D., RN, CS, FNP Director of Nursing, University of South Alabama
Gil Miltenberger - Independent Real Estate Advisor
Charlene Pagett - Co-Founder, Assist International, Secretary Board of Directors
Robert J. Pagett - Founder, Assist International
Ralph Sudfeld – President of Assist International, Chairman of the Board
Dr. Ward Tanneberg - Author
Albert Vaters - President, Masterpiece Foundation
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