



Reflections on Impact



Pursuing Our Common Goals

There are a lot of reasons why people give money. For some, it's about supporting a specific cause or community. For others, it might be about their faith or their personal beliefs. And for many, it's simply about doing what's right.

As the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation approaches its 25th anniversary next year, I've been reflecting on why I give. And I keep coming back to my favorite statistic: In a single generation, the number of children who die before their fifth birthday has fallen by half—from 10 million a year at the turn of the century to 5 million today.

That's one of the greatest accomplishments in human history. And yet, 5 million deaths a year is still far, far too many.

The good news is that we are living in the most promising era for health innovation the world has ever seen. There are so many new lifesaving solutions—from cheaper antibiotics that treat diseases, to micronutrients that prevent malnutrition, to AI-powered ultrasound wands that can identify problems for pregnant women even in the most remote health clinics. Many of these tools are on the horizon, and others are already here, just waiting to be scaled up.

If we get this moment right, we can cut childhood deaths in half yet again by 2040. But getting these new solutions to the people who need them is a challenge so huge, no one can take it on alone. It will take scientists, policymakers, advocates, and donors like you to get there.

That's why I'm so proud of Gates Philanthropy Partners. It's a way for anyone—no matter the size of their bank account—to partner in pursuit of our common goals, and accomplish things none of us could do alone. This report is a testament to those accomplishments, and lays out the path for collaborating with the Gates Foundation.

I look forward to continuing this journey, together.

Bill Gates

Bill Gates, Co-chair, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

2023 Outgoing Grants

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January 1, 2023—December 31, 2023

Gates Philanthropy Partners channels your generosity across the full span of the Gates Foundation’s work. We support innovative leaders and organizations that have partnered with five program divisions: Global Development, Global Health, Global Growth & Opportunity, Global Policy & Advocacy, and U.S. Programs. In 2023, we distributed more than \$40 million via 17 grants, including almost \$28 million toward the historic launch of the GPP Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) Fund to end polio once and for all.

Health remains a significant focus, from continuing to battle COVID-19 to advancing cutting-edge vaccine research and medical treatment. Our grantee partners in 2023 also supported sanitation for women in refugee settlements, helped farmers battle crop disease, and advocated for tobacco control in Africa and South Asia.

Global Development

\$28.35M

Global Health

\$9.8M

U.S. Programs

\$0.85M

Global Growth & Opportunity

\$0.75M

Global Policy & Advocacy

\$0.5M

Polio Eradication

\$28M

Emergency Response

\$0.35M

COVID-19

\$8.2M

Tuberculosis

\$1.0M

Neglected Tropical Diseases

\$0.5M

Grand Challenges

\$0.1M

Economic Mobility & Opportunity

\$0.35M

U.S. Education

\$0.5M

Agricultural Development

\$0.75M

Tobacco Control

\$0.5M

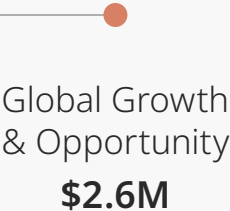
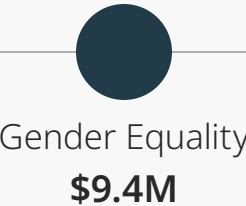
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Total

\$40.25M

2016-2023 Outgoing Grants

Gates Philanthropy Partners Impact Report 2023



Gates Philanthropy Partners Impact Report 2023



Giving Matters

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

These words of noted anthropologist Margaret Mead are often used to describe the advocates and innovators who spark new ideas. But I believe they apply equally to the donors who have the wisdom to recognize the talent they offer and the courage to support them.

You too are the changemakers.

At the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we aim to increase global giving. We believe philanthropy has a unique and powerful role to play in creating a world where every person has the chance to live a healthy, productive life. Philanthropists can be nimble. They can take risks that government leaders cannot. And they can take a longer-term view than business executives who are beholden to shareholders.

This flexibility is now more important than ever. Official aid dollars are stretched thin across the complex challenges we face today—including global health, gender equality, and climate change. In his annual letter earlier this year, Gates Foundation CEO Mark Suzman called on more philanthropists to step up, noting that “We have the opportunity to realize the full potential of philanthropy at the moment when the world needs it most.”

We encourage people to give because they can, they should, and we know they will be glad they did.

After Warren Buffet decided in 2006 to leave much of his wealth to the foundation to manage, many people were inspired by his trust in our ability to tackle global challenges. This is when unsolicited support began coming in, from children mailing crumpled bills to seniors naming us in their wills. So Bill and Melinda decided to create Gates Philanthropy Partners (GPP) in 2016 to make it easy for others to support many of the same causes they believe in.

We offer a unique opportunity. GPP is an independent public charity that can accept your tax-deductible donations. Yet we are deeply aligned with the foundation, providing access to the financial, technical, and grant-making infrastructure needed to operate a transparent and smooth-running vehicle for giving.

Whether you are an everyday donor or a practiced philanthropist, we are here to help direct your generosity to where it can have the greatest impact.

How we work

We are seeing a surge of interest from people wanting to learn more about ways to give, thanks in part to Mark’s challenge. And so I would like to share a little bit about who we are and how we work. This may be new for some, for others it will be a fresh reminder of why you have chosen to partner with us.

The foundation’s grantmaking is organized into six divisions:

- Global Health
- Global Development
- Global Growth & Opportunity
- Gender Equality
- Global Policy & Advocacy
- U.S. Programs

Each of these oversees multiple program strategies. GPP’s funding decisions are made in close consultation with these strategy teams. We can draw on the expertise of leaders and program officers, many of them world-class experts in their own right, who scour the globe for the most effective partners.

Giving through GPP will always support existing, trusted grantees that have been vetted to receive foundation funding. With the due diligence already

complete, we direct your donations to projects where additional funding can complement and accelerate work that is already under way. More people reached. More lives saved.

There is more than one way to collaborate with us. You can select one of the existing funds or special initiatives we manage. You also have the option of designating where your funding will go. One partner was keen to support refugees, and we matched her with a foundation investment in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to create safe hygiene access for women in the Rohingya refugee settlement Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh [see spotlight]. Another donor is exploring ways to co-invest in agricultural innovations in East Africa. Or you can donate online and leave it to us to allocate your kindness against the greatest need.

Your money will never sit idle. We move funds swiftly and directly to the organizations doing the work, whether they are scientists in the lab or health care workers in the field. We also have the flexibility to pivot to where our colleagues see the most urgent need.

If you want to invest alongside the foundation now, or bequeath your legacy, GPP is the avenue to make it happen. (There is a full FAQ on our website.)



The power of partnership

From the beginning, we learned what mattered to you and channeled your giving accordingly.

We found many people were compelled by a desire to fund immediate needs, so we created a fund named (what else?) Must-Solve Problems. An unrestricted fund that supports urgent, complex challenges across all the foundation’s portfolios, this money can address anything from fighting childhood malnutrition and infectious diseases to achieving equitable access to education, credit, and jobs. Our partnership with the End Fund to fight neglected tropical diseases in the Democratic Republic of Congo is just such an example [see spotlight].

Gender equity is a high priority for the foundation. When Melinda launched *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World*, her book sparked so much energy from donors to invest in women and girls that we created our Empowerment and Opportunity Fund to enable women to learn, lead, earn, and thrive. We support women’s collectives, empower women leaders, put financial tools in women’s hands, and increase access to family planning.

In addition to those two ongoing funds, we flex to address specific challenges with special initiatives. As the world rallied to fight the pandemic in 2020, so many of you wanted to help that we created a fund to support the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator.

We met the moment, and this fund is now closed. Other special initiatives have included the Polio Eradication Fund [see spotlight] and Grand Challenges, which fuels some of the coolest science today.

In 2023, groundbreaking work in fundamental science prompted us to look further upstream. Our new Frontiers Fund supports research that aims to end both HIV and sickle cell disease by creating a single-shot cure for each that is safe, effective, and affordable for all people. This initiative is special, in that Bill is matching donations 1:1, doubling your impact.

2023 also marked our largest funding moment to date. GPP worked closely across multiple foundation teams who were awarded funding for Open Philanthropy’s Regranting Challenge, a visionary way to deploy funding to existing, high-impact grantmaking programs. We shaped proposals that resulted in support for three Gates projects, including research for a new TB vaccine [see spotlight]. While most of the donations we receive are directed to global health and development work, we are equally excited to partner with the foundation’s U.S. Program on education and economic mobility. For example, we now help Code for America develop digital technologies to ensure all working families have access to the tax credits they deserve [see spotlight].



Back to basics

2023 marked an important shift in thinking that we have carried forward into 2024. Motivated by the appalling fact that nearly five million children under five still die from mostly preventable causes, we will increasingly seek out innovative ways to save lives, especially in areas where small amounts of money can lead to a significant result.

This will entail pairing two of our passions—gender equity with science and innovation. The world knows so much more now than we did even when GPP was launched. In the maternal and newborn space alone, researchers have accumulated more knowledge in the past 10 years than in the prior century. We are planning to lean into investing in simple, affordable innovations that we know work to save the lives of moms and babies. Ensuring these and other critical products reach all people, wherever they may live, is what we are here to do.

As Bill shared in his opening letter to you, we are incredibly optimistic about what's possible. We've seen firsthand that when donors have the right tools, community, information, and inspiration, they give more and have a greater impact.

They also receive much in return. The poet Maya Angelou perhaps best evoked an age-old reason why people are drawn to philanthropy:

"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

I couldn't agree more.

Jennifer Alcorn, Deputy Director, Philanthropic Partnerships



"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

Maya Angelou, Poet



GPP Partner Spotlights



● TUBERCULOSIS VACCINE: Developing a Modern Vaccine for Tuberculosis

Can you believe the only vaccine for the world's deadliest infectious disease is 100 years old and only works on infants?

Now that COVID-19 is on the wane, tuberculosis (TB) is once again on track to top the list of global killers. Every year there are more than 10 million new cases, mostly in low- and middle-income countries, and 1.3 million people die. Yet BCG, the only vaccine available, fails to prevent adolescents and adults from contracting or transmitting TB.

Thanks to the generosity of Open Philanthropy, a grantmaking and research organization founded by Cari Tuna and Dustin Moskovitz, we may see a breakthrough.

Scientists have recently produced a handful of vaccine candidates that are ready to be tested for safety and efficacy. One of these, called MTBVAC, is particularly promising.

Designed by investigators in Spain and France, the new TB vaccine candidate was licensed to Spanish biotech company Biofabri. It's the only live, attenuated vaccine in the pipeline derived from the bacterium that causes TB disease in humans, which means it is more likely to generate a broad protective immune response against TB. (BCG, by contrast, is derived from a bacterium that causes a TB-like disease in cows.)

Biofabri has partnered with IAVI, a global nonprofit scientific research organization, to conduct a clinical trial assessing the safety and efficacy of MTBVAC to prevent active TB lung disease in adolescents and adults.

Here's where Open Philanthropy comes in. Through a visionary regranting challenge in 2023 to boost funding to existing, high-impact grantmaking programs, Open Philanthropy has teamed up with the TB R&D team at the Gates Foundation, whose budget was stretched across many projects.

This partnership, orchestrated by GPP, could accelerate the availability of MTBVAC by several years if it is shown to be safe and effective in the upcoming clinical trial. IAVI will start enrolling participants in late 2024 across multiple sites in South Africa and other sub-Saharan countries.

Identifying a new, safe, effective, and accessible TB vaccine will likely require several shots on goal, but we are optimistic MTBVAC may address the urgent need for an effective vaccine to help end the global TB pandemic.

● COX'S BAZAR:

Safe Sanitation for Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

During times of political strife and turmoil, persecuted people are often forced to flee, crossing the border into a new country with no return home in sight.

Of the 35 million refugees and asylum-seekers around the world, a majority will find themselves living in makeshift quarters throughout their journey. And in many cases, these camps can barely meet the basic needs of their displaced residents, including access to safe sanitation facilities.

In eastern Bangladesh, the largest refugee camp in the world—Cox's Bazar—houses close to one million Rohingya refugees who escaped ethnic and religious persecution in Myanmar. The communal sanitation facilities posed daily challenges for its dwellers, but also presented consistent safety concerns that disproportionately impacted the women and girls in this community.

When women and girls are unable to relieve themselves in a safe and inclusive space, they are more likely to find alternative, unsafe sanitation solutions—either in their homes or outside—and in turn, put the health of their families, environment, and communities at risk.

In partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, GPP is helping fund the implementation of a program that champions the health and safety of Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, with a special focus on addressing the unique sanitation needs of women and girls.

Under this grant from GPP, eight new women's hygiene centers were built, and 15 centers received tailored upgrades that addressed local feedback shared by the Rohingya community. Since adding and upgrading these facilities—which are now equipped with diaper-changing rooms, meeting spaces, solar-powered lighting, and dedicated water supplies—the number of women and girls using the provided sanitation facilities have also increased.

Sanitation is a human right—and should be the last concern for those risking their lives to seek safety and freedom.



● END FUND:

Knocking Out Deadly Diseases in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

If you want to directly count the number of lives saved with your giving, funding the delivery of treatments for neglected tropical diseases is a smart choice.

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are a devastating group of 20 parasitic and bacterial infectious diseases that often cause severe pain, social isolation, long-term disability, and even death. Most prevalent in low-income communities across tropical and subtropical regions, NTDs affect 1 out of every 5 people globally—or 1.65 billion—and more than half of them are children.

These diseases are all preventable and treatable. But the journey towards eradication is barred by insufficient investments in drug delivery, diagnostics, and surveillance.

Over the last decade, the END Fund—the world's first private philanthropic initiative solely focused on ending NTDs and a close partner of the Gates Foundation—has pursued its mission to eliminate the most common neglected tropical diseases across Africa: intestinal worms, trachoma, elephantiasis, river blindness, snail fever, and kala-azar.

In 2023, GPP decided to help fill in the gaps where children are still not being reached with the treatments they need. We directed our support

to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where fundraising has been difficult for mass drug administration and more than 40 million people are at risk. We prioritized treatments for intestinal worms, snail fever, and trachoma and aim to reach four million people.

In addition to expanding the reach of treatment campaigns, we are helping to ensure local communities and healthcare practitioners receive continued training on the importance of prevention, and we are strengthening the capacity of 45,000 community drug distributors. Our funding will also support a campaign to tell human-centered stories of this work to inspire commitments from country leaders and pharmaceutical companies as well as other donors.

NTDs can be eliminated on a national scale, in the DRC and elsewhere, but constant threats of funding cuts are undermining their efforts. To achieve this goal, we must prioritize NTDs among funding sources, and philanthropy must step in to help cover more ground and save more children.

● CODE FOR AMERICA: Tax Credits to Pull Working Families Out of Poverty

No one likes to fill out tax forms. But the stressful and time-consuming process is even harder for people who don't have access to financial experts to help them navigate the complex U.S. tax system.

Getting it right can make a huge difference for low-income families. The earned income tax credit, for example, is one of the largest anti-poverty tools in the United States. Yet only 25% of the people who are eligible are receiving the credit, either because they are not aware it exists, or they somehow hit an administrative wall when they try to apply.

With more working families continuing to face major hurdles in accessing this vital information—and receiving the child tax credit and others they deserve—Code for America launched its mission to simplify the tax filing process for every American. By deploying innovative and user-friendly digital tax filing tools, such as GetYourRefund.org and GetCTC.org, and connecting people to local volunteer tax experts—whether in-person, over the phone, or through a virtual program—who can help uncover critical safety net benefits, Code for America has been able to lower the barrier of entry. Since 2020, these resources have helped over 566,000 people navigate and file their taxes for free, securing more than \$1.26 billion in tax benefits.

When families can access their qualified tax credits, they can retain more of their income and apply this towards basic living needs and long-term savings. This is why the economic mobility and opportunity team at the Gates Foundation invests in developing and scaling technology that can reduce and overcome the barriers they face.

Starting in 2023, GPP has joined the foundation in partnering with Code for America to make improvements to these tools so they can better serve those who need them most and get more flexible cash into the hands of working families. In the 2023 tax season, we were able to support 34,239 taxpayers in 29 states and DC claim over \$52 million in flexible cash through GetYourRefund.org. And in this tax season so far, we've supported Code for America in reaching 29,781 clients and delivering an estimated \$40 million in federal and state refunds.

With the relentless dedication of advocates like Code for America, a painless tax season could be in the future for more Americans sooner rather than later.



● POLIO: The Last Mile: Closing in on Polio

Could we be close to ending our global fight against polio?

Decades ago, 7,000 children were paralyzed from wild poliovirus every week. By 2023, the number of people infected by wild poliovirus had dropped to 12 for the entire year.

This didn't just happen overnight. A concerted global effort and scientific innovation has brought us effective, lifesaving vaccines that have helped wipe out 99 percent of polio around the world.

The goal is to ensure that not a single additional life is lost by polio. But until the last outbreak, we will need fresh ideas and nimble approaches to maintain strong immunity everywhere.

In 2023, wild poliovirus remained endemic in two countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan. And 80 percent of variant poliovirus cases, a mutated form of the virus caused by low immunization rates, are continuing to be found in four subnational regions.

Originally launched in 1988 after the World Health Assembly passed a resolution to eradicate polio, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) was formed as a collective of public-private partners including national governments, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and later, the Gates Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Through this initiative, the Polio Eradication Fund was born. Since its initial launch by the Gates Foundation in

2013, the fund has mobilized over \$750 million to support global polio eradication, including \$704 million to the WHO and UNICEF for strengthening local healthcare systems and increasing access to polio vaccinations for communities that need it most. Since taking over the administration of the fund in 2022, GPP is proud to continue this legacy and create a new pathway for our donors to join the global movement in eradicating polio once and for all.

Throughout 2023, GPP's donors contributed to UNICEF's management of vaccine supplies and social mobilization campaigns—through advertisements, parental education, and community gatherings—helping ensure that 106 million children were immunized globally. From Afghanistan to Somalia, 2023 was also fraught with humanitarian conflicts and environmental disasters that required urgent vaccination campaigns for displaced communities, especially young children.

Despite the social, geopolitical, and environmental challenges that our society faces today, we continue to be inspired by the global community's relentless commitment to making a polio-free world our new reality.

It is more important than ever for governments, the healthcare community, advocates, and philanthropists to sustain this incredible momentum during this last mile of our global fight.

A photograph of two children wading in a body of water. The child on the left is wearing an orange shirt and green patterned shorts, and the child on the right is wearing a pink shirt and a black skirt with white polka dots. They are both reaching down into the water. In the foreground, there is a yellow plastic container. To the left, a blue boat is partially visible, and to the right, a red and yellow boat is visible. In the background, there are two tall, thin wooden poles sticking out of the water, and a small island is visible in the distance under a blue sky with white clouds.

*"We have the opportunity
to realize the full potential
of philanthropy at the
moment when the world
needs it most."*

Mark Suzman, CEO, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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