



Blood:Water CASE FOR SUPPORT

2022-2025



 **BLOOD:WATER™**

ENDING HEALTH DISPARITIES. ONE DROP AT A TIME.

Case Study

Partner Focus: Lwala in Western Kenya

Lwala Community Alliance (Lwala) is a civil society organization in western Kenya founded by a community that believed that it was unjust not to receive quality healthcare services. Community members came together to build the area's first health clinic in 2007. This clinic (the Lwala Community Hospital) today provides care to more than 60,000 people a year reaching beyond North Kamagambo and serving people from the counties of Migori, Homabay, Kisii and beyond.

Partnership History/Background

The Lwala + Blood:Water partnership started in 2007 as village members organized and donated land and resources to build a clinic. Blood:Water invested in Lwala's start-up phase, supporting the 2007 launch of the clinic and establishing the first water well near the clinic site. In 2010, Blood:Water supported the start-up of the Primary Water Project to bring WASH training to the community and clean water at the health facility and 13 primary schools in North Kamagambo. In 2013 this funding expanded to support Lwala's efforts to improve the quality, availability, and organization of comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and support services for individuals and families living with HIV in North Kamagambo. The success and learning paved the way for Blood:Water to support the start-up of Lwala's integrated HIV and WASH program (HAWI) beginning in 2015. Lwala graduated from partnership with Blood:Water at the end of 2022.

Long Term Relationship

The long term relationship with Blood:Water has yielded a partnership premised on mutual trust that has informed Lwala's relationship with other donors. This belief in Lwala

has cemented their position as a truly community-led organization with capacity to create change. According to Lwala, it serves as a model of partnership that should be emulated in delivering support to local organizations and growing more equal relationships in the development space.

Organizational Strengthening That Empowers

The ongoing investment in organizational strengthening support has been greatly beneficial to Lwala. As shared by Lwala, *"This form of capacity support that allows us to define our own priorities is empowering. We have worked on a number of projects aimed at improving our systems and we are a far better organization than what we were several years ago. This approach to "capacity building" should be emulated by other donors and intermediaries."*

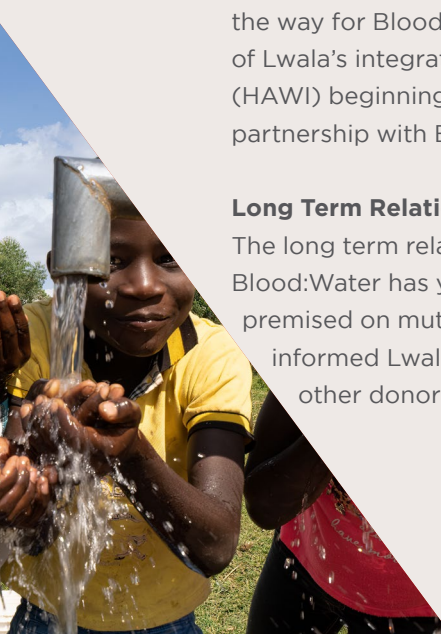
Community-Driven Outcomes

Lwala's integrated HIV/AIDS and WASH program (HAWI) was a response to reduce the bifurcation in funding for water and HIV. Through this integrated approach, Lwala has been able to address the dual challenge of HIV and poor access to water through an integrated solution driven by community members and focused on more than clinical treatment for HIV to include community care, prevention and support. This integration of WASH and HIV is providing a learning point to peers in the space and has informed integrated programming beyond Kenya.

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"The biggest value add to Blood:Water's funding is Organization Strengthening support....[This] growth monitoring process allows organizations like ours to look back while looking forward. The IDF has allowed us to take a transparent and uninhibited look at ourselves and assess organizational health every two years. In our case, we have used the [support] to lay the foundation for key organizational development projects such as setting up M&E systems, human resources function and others."

Julius Mbeya Co-CEO, LWALA





Problem

Only 14% of funding from international donors goes to local organizations in Africa, so an astounding 86% of funding never gets into the hands of those closest to the issues being addressed*.

Many local leaders and community based organizations are implementing solutions that drive lasting change, but they are under-resourced and under-funded.

Despite decades of work and trillions of dollars spent, the linked water and HIV/AIDS crises in Africa persist.

Every 2 minutes, a child dies from lack of access to clean water. **In Africa, 60% of all new HIV infections occur in women, infants, or young children**.**



Solution

Blood:Water works differently than most international NGOs: **We believe that when organizations are led entirely by people from the same communities they serve, they are more impactful.** We support these organizations by pairing long-term and intentional organizational strengthening with flexible financial support. We'll know we've succeeded when partners have the systems and structures in place to help them increase their reach and deepen their impact.



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“Blood:Water’s approach centers partnership, and they also recognize that there isn’t a one-size fits all solution, that they need to understand and follow African-based, -led organizations to find the solutions that are going to take hold.”

Abby Maxman
President and CEO of Oxfam America

Ambition

It's time we end the health disparities caused by the water and HIV crises by bolstering the community-based organizations already tackling them.

By 2025, Blood:Water aims to increase our partner portfolio by 25%, impacting 2,000,000 people, including directly impacting over 400,000 people, and raising \$10,500,000 to do it.

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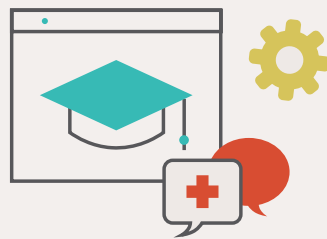
“The Blood:Water team guides you but lets you decide the direction you take; this allows us to exercise our ideas as people on the ground and see where we can improve.”

Geoffrey Kinaalwa
Partners for Community
Transformation (PaCT), Uganda

Our Model

Blood:Water finds, vets, and partners with community-driven and -led organizations in East and Southern Africa. We believe that healthy organizations equal healthy communities. So we commit to eight years of funding and utilize an assessment tool used by civil society organizations globally for over 20 years to guide our organizational strengthening activities. Our model has proven successful with increasing the capacity of the local team and leadership, increasing the organization's financial health, and ensuring that these activities increase overall program quality through rigorous monitoring, evaluation, and learning. This is a recipe for a healthy and sustaining organization poised to serve their communities for years to come.

Every eight years, Blood:Water strengthens 19 partner organizations, directly impacting 686,000 people.



Proven success with **organizational strengthening**



Work with smaller, **community-driven** organizations



8-year **funding commitment** to African partner organizations

Measuring Success

We bolster partners that have viable programs, adequate resources, and credible systems consistently applied throughout their work. What does that look like?

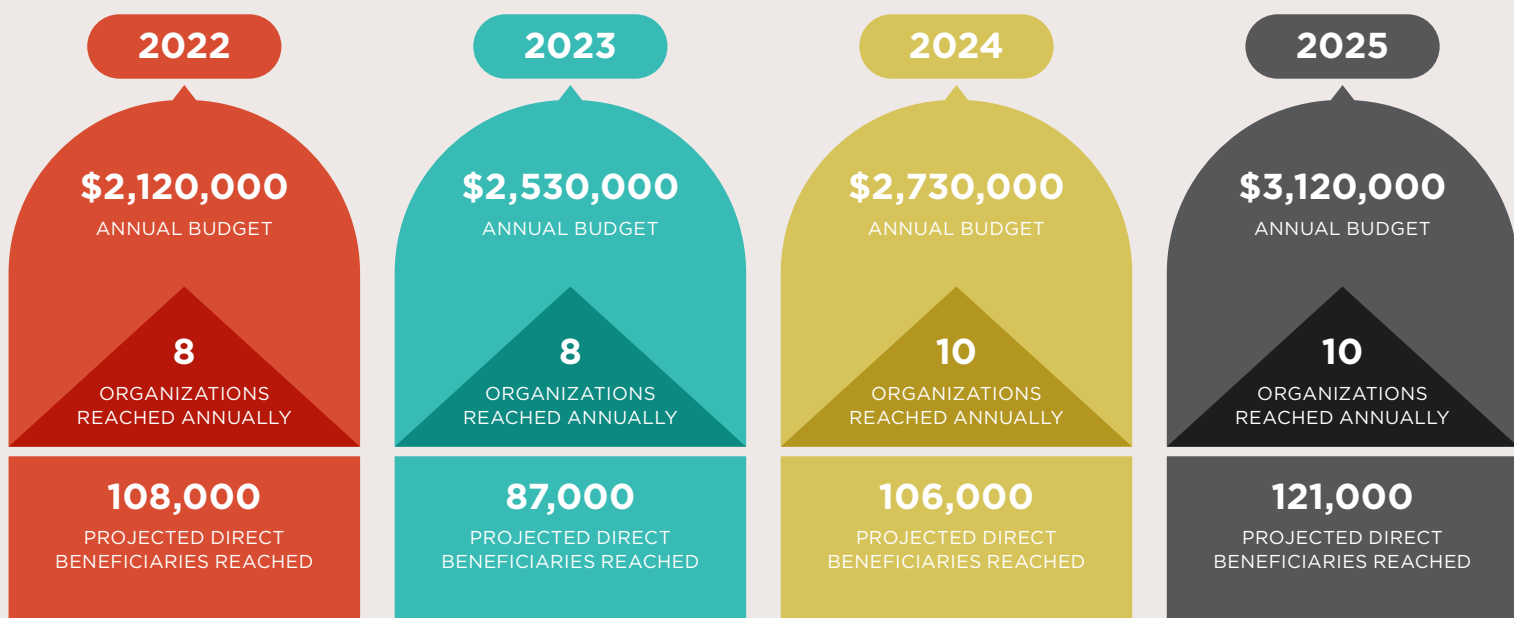
- + Their **vision and mission** are clear and have buy-in across stakeholders
- + Their **strategic plan drives** planning, resourcing and decision making
- + Their **recruiting, hiring, performance management, and compensation practices** improve retention and team culture
- + They bring **expertise in their programs** and utilize quantitative and qualitative data in decision-making
- + They demonstrate **best practices in accounting and financial management** along with **diversity in funding**
- + They **create and leverage existing networks of collaboration** where they serve

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

We measure outcomes in 4 key areas across our eight-year partnership:

- + Partners strengthened to the sustaining stage of development
- + Increased program quality
- + Financial viability
- + Organizational autonomy

By measuring the % increase/improvement with each area as well as a combined growth score we can demonstrate the organization's expanded capacity and reach based on our partnership with them.



The Opportunity

Join us today and help us increase our partner portfolio by 25% impacting over 400,000 people. We're raising \$10,500,000 to do it and are seeking new philanthropic partners to accomplish the following:



Provide more partners with vital organizational support offerings like partner exchange visits, leadership coaching, and partner summits



Launch and grow the Leader Collective, extending membership and access beyond our community of partners to expand the diversity, expertise and influence



Build out our Kenya office, network and team, including additional staff members (WASH and HIV/AIDS Partner Portfolio Manager, Organizational Strengthening Manager, Leader Collective Coordinator, and Programs Coordinator)



OUR PARTNERS



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Blood:Water resources, especially the organizational support program, have helped us deeply understand our work by investing in our organizational development and also assisting us in devising ways to find funds beyond our grant agreement.”

Hermella Wondimu

Founder and Executive Director, Drop of Water Ethiopia



About Blood:Water

Blood:Water is an international nonprofit that partners with African community-driven organizations to end health disparities caused by the HIV/AIDS and water crises. We find, vet, and partner with organizations in East and Southern Africa that are community-driven and -led. We pair intentional organizational strengthening with flexible financial support.

We'll know we've succeeded when partners have the essential systems and structures in place to help them increase their reach and deepen their impact. And ultimately, to share in the joy of ending the water & HIV/AIDS crises – with our partners and in this lifetime.

To learn more, go to bloodwater.org

Senior Leadership Team

Jake Smith | Executive Director
Nadia Kist | Director of Africa Partnerships
Aaron Sands | Director of Operations

Board Members

Olivia Bahemuka | Belmont University
Collin Brown | Ardent Health Services
Katherine Carpenter | National Center for Leadership
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SOURCES

*<https://www.bridgespan.org>
**<https://www.csis.org>





 **BLOOD:WATER**™

Ending health disparities.
One drop at a time.

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