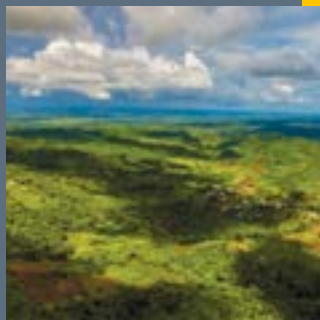
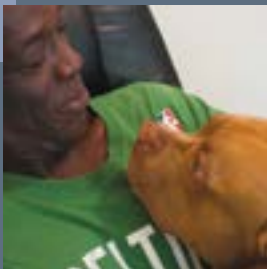


OAK FOUNDATION



**Annual Report
2014**

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Our mission

Oak Foundation commits its resources to address issues of global, social and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged.

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Our history



© Rylhor Bruyeyu (Grigory Bruyev)

Since its establishment, Oak Foundation has made more than

3,300

grants to not-for-profit organisations across the globe.

The resources of Oak Foundation originated from an interest in the Duty Free Shoppers business which Alan Parker helped to build. Today, the Foundation comprises a group of philanthropic organisations based in various countries around the world.

Oak Foundation was formally established in 1983. Early grants were made in Denmark to organisations supporting single mothers and torture victims (1983) and in Zimbabwe to groups supporting vulnerable children and families, primarily at a community level (1984). Grants continued to be made annually in several countries until a new phase for Oak Foundation began in the early 1990s, when annual grant-making began to increase and staff were hired to run substantive programmes.

The first two programmes to get underway were Environment and Child Abuse, followed by four other programmes – Housing and Homelessness, International Human Rights, Issues Affecting Women and Learning Differences. There is also a Special Interest Programme, which funds other efforts identified by the Trustees that do not fall into the other programme areas, and two national programmes in Denmark and Zimbabwe. Five of Oak's programmes also fund initiatives in India, and, in 2012, Oak Foundation joined this work under the banner of the Joint India Programme.

Since its establishment, Oak Foundation has made more than 3,300 grants to not-for-profit organisations across the globe. Oak has its main administrative office in Geneva, Switzerland and a presence in eight other countries: Belize, Bulgaria, Denmark, Ethiopia, India, the United Kingdom, the United States and Zimbabwe.

Letter from the Trustees

2014 was a banner year for Oak Foundation, with USD 245.78 million granted to over 300 organisations in 45 countries. This included an unprecedented five-year commitment to climate change mitigation and a contribution to the frontline response against Ebola. These two grants – the first dealing with the cataclysmic threats of climate change and the second addressing one of the most serious public health threats of our time – represent the breadth and depth of the challenges we face.

Through partners that span every continent, we continue to support efforts to empower the poor, protect the vulnerable, promote human rights, end violence and exploitation and preserve the world's natural resources. During 2014 we looked back over the last five years to assess our progress in meeting these goals. Not surprisingly, change is slow and in most cases many years down the road. Nonetheless, the results confirmed that our strategies – and those of our partners – are making a difference. In particular:

- Complex problems require a mix of approaches that combine global advocacy with local action (e.g., working on climate change mitigation has moved us to go beyond the technical aspects of greenhouse gas emissions to issues related to justice, poverty and adaptation).
- Improvements in services are more significant – and more sustainable – when they are reinforced by changes in underlying systems (e.g., ending homelessness, in countries as diverse as Scotland, Denmark and Zimbabwe, is most successful if local authorities recognise their responsibility to bring innovations to scale).
- In many situations, policies are necessary but not sufficient to create change; their adoption must be supported by public awareness and enforcement (e.g., monitoring laws and/or executive orders to protect Arctic waters from shipping or to stop over-fishing in Europe to ensure implementation).
- Changes in laws and policies must be accompanied by shifts in social norms (e.g., challenging child

marriage in India, addressing social tolerance of the sexual exploitation of children in Eastern Europe and Africa and developing alternative models of masculinity that encourage men to engage positively with their children and families).

- The environments in which human rights defenders work are becoming more restrictive, requiring innovation and broader coalitions (e.g., using social media to build public support for the roll-back of homophobic laws in Russia and strengthening organisations that represent and empower exploited workers such as tomato pickers in the United States and domestic workers in the United Kingdom).
- Leadership is key to building and sustaining strong organisations (e.g., providing teachers across the United States with the skills and coaching necessary to work confidently with diverse learners, giving education and travel fellowships to young conservation leaders in Belize and providing tailored accompaniment and leadership training to women's rights groups in the United States and beyond).

The actions described in this report reflect these lessons, among many others. We choose partners who share our commitment to results and our impatience for change. We hope that, while much remains to be done, this report demonstrates their successes, creativity and dedication to making a difference.

The Trustees of Oak Foundation:

Kristian Parker, Caroline Turner,
Natalie Shipton, Jette Parker,
Alan Parker, Christopher Parker

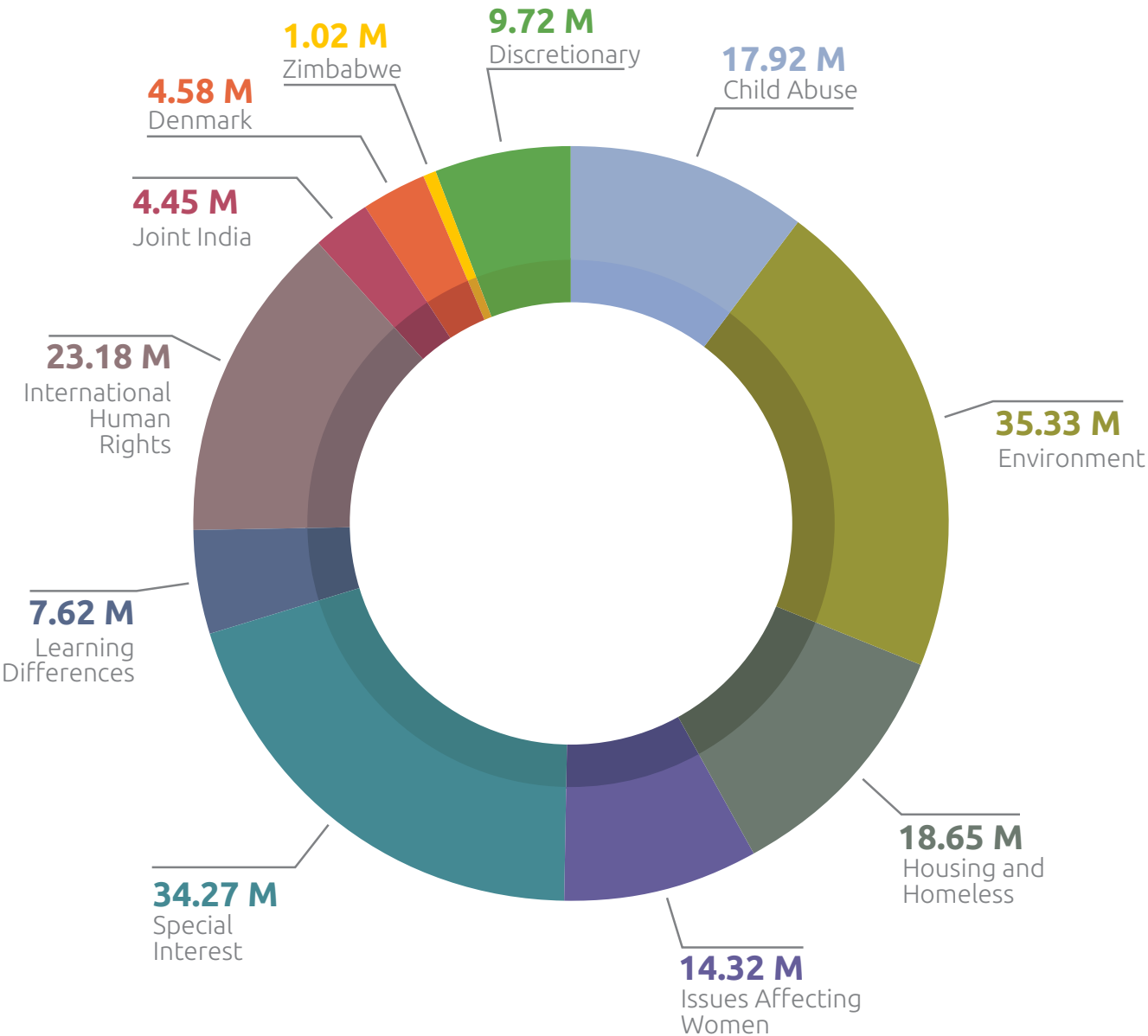
Our grant-making in 2014

All amounts provided represent US dollars in millions.

We made
328
 programme grants to
311
 organisations in
45
 countries.

During the 2014 calendar year, Oak Foundation, including Oak Foundation Denmark and Oak Zimbabwe Foundation, made 328 programme grants for a total of USD 161.34 million. These grants supported 311 organisations based in 45 countries. The work of these organisations is carried out throughout the world. The size of grants varied from approximately USD 5,000 to USD 5.6 million, with an average of USD 490,000. In addition, a Special Initiative grant was made to ClimateWorks Foundation for a total of USD 75 million.

Total programme and discretionary grant-making in 2014



161.34 M Total programme grants
 9.72 M Discretionary grants
 (0.28 M) Refunds and cancellations

170.78 M TOTAL REGULAR GRANT-MAKING
 75.00 M Special Initiative*

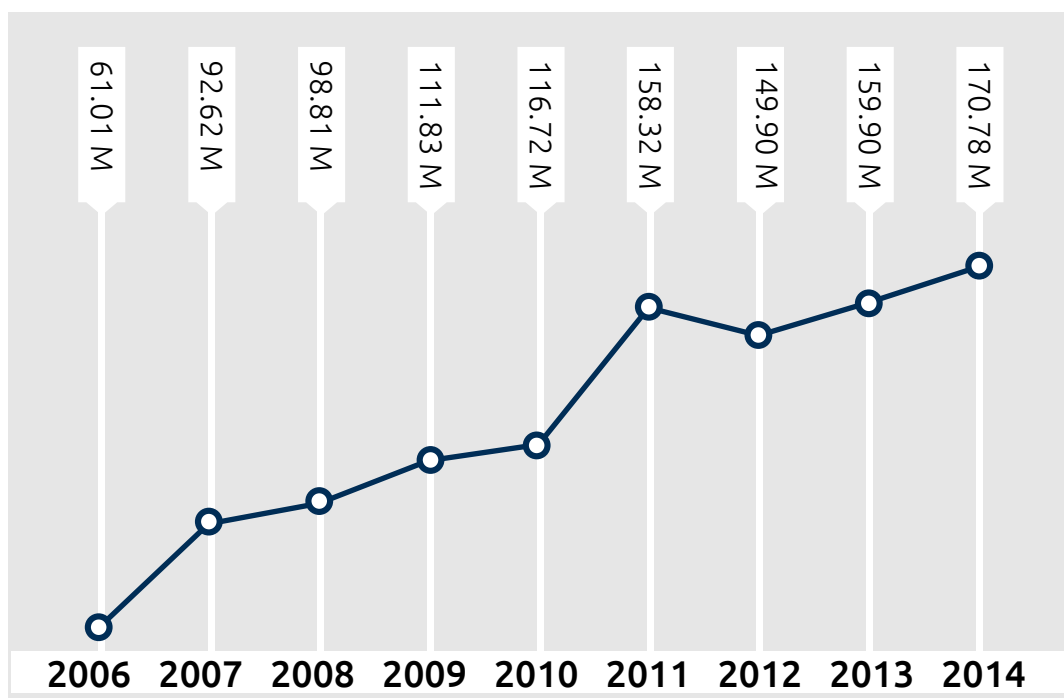
245.78 M NET AMOUNT GRANTED

In 2014 a Special Initiative grant was made to ClimateWorks Foundation for a total of USD

75 million.

Information on this grant can be found on pages 24 and 27.

Total regular grant-making 2006-2014



* The graph on page 4 and the chart on page 5 exclude the Special Initiative grant.



A searchable grant database containing grants approved in previous years, grant-making criteria and application information are available on Oak Foundation's website (www.oakfnd.org/grants).

Capacity building



Oak Foundation has always been aware of the importance of building the capacity of our grantees to carry out their work. Each year we will highlight a different aspect of this work in the Annual Report. This year we have focused on leadership.

Leadership: opening the door for great leaders to make big changes

Shrewd politicians, relentless captains of industry and heroic sports players urging their teams to victory often come to mind with the mention of the word “leadership”. Indeed, the world is full of leaders, both good and bad, whose actions and examples have impacted the lives of others.

Good leaders have the ability to induce positive change in the world around them. Experience has shown that strong leadership is key to building – and sustaining – strong organisations. This is why, as we have intensified our capacity building efforts, leadership has emerged as a main theme. Our hope is to see our partners make a greater impact, both socially and environmentally, and to see real, lasting change in communities and in the lives of individuals.

“Investment in systems and infrastructure won’t improve the functioning of any organisation if the leadership is poor,” said Adriana Craciun, Oak Senior Advisor

on Organisational Development and Capacity Building. “Good systems are necessary for functional organisations, but good leaders are needed for successful organisations and far-reaching change.”

One unique partnership, between the Housing and Homelessness Programme and the **Clore Social Leadership Programme** in the UK, provides up to 20 aspiring social leaders annually with training and development in leadership skills. Clore Social specialises in developing leaders with a social purpose.

“People are the ones who create social change. Developing leaders with resilience and self-awareness makes for stronger, better-led organisations.”

– Dame Mary Marsh
Clore Social’s Founding Director

Clore Social began its investment in social leadership following research by the Clore Duffield Foundation, which found that few development opportunities existed for aspiring leaders in the charity, social enterprise, community and social housing sectors. We support Clore Social in the development of leaders specialising in housing and homelessness, as it is essential to the success of the organisation and in generating broader social change. Dame Mary Marsh believes that the importance of leadership cannot be overstated: “Leadership transforms lives,” she said.

We also support **Kawerak**, a partner of our Environment Programme, in its efforts to develop strong marine conservation leaders through the Caleb Pungowiyi Scholarship Programme, which helps students pursue degrees in conservation studies. Kawerak is a not-for-profit organisation that operates in the Bering Straits region of Alaska. It aims to improve the social, economic and cultural self-sufficiency of Alaska Native communities in the area. Much of its work focuses on identifying and developing strong leaders within the communities, so that they can continue to contribute to their collective social, economic and cultural self-sufficiency. This is especially needed today, as the compounding effects of climate change and increased industrialisation threaten the food security and way of life of the indigenous people who call the region home. “My degree in Rural Development has taught me that real change starts at the local level,” said Nikki Taqsruk Bruckner, a recipient of the programme. “Down the road, I would love to impact marine conservation in my community and region by working with local people and organisations.”


Further south, in Belize, there is also a growing awareness of the need for leadership in environmental conservation. The **Quebec Labrador Foundation** (QLF), also a partner of the Environment Programme, increases the positive impact of its work on the entire community by training and developing leaders in this domain. “Conservation depends heavily on non-governmental organisations, especially in Belize and the Gulf of Honduras where most protected areas are managed by them,” said Brent Mitchell, Senior Vice President of Stewardship with the QLF. “However, such groups can only be as effective as their leadership. QLF maximises the innate leadership of conservation professionals through experiential training, peer networking and direct assistance.”

Our Issues Affecting Women Programme also works to nurture community leadership. **FRIDA, the Young Feminist Fund**, supports groups of young women who bring about change in their communities and helps develop leaders within the feminist movement on both an individual

and collective level. “We want to place greater focus on groups of young women and girls who work tirelessly to bring about change in their communities,” said Devi O’Mally and Ruby Johnson, coordinators for FRIDA. “It takes leaders to build movements, and it takes a movement to create real social change.”

In the summer of 2014 we invited the directors of two of our grantees to attend a leadership workshop hosted by the Resource Alliance and Oxford University in the United Kingdom. Myriam Caranzano-Maitre from **Fondazione ASPI Switzerland**, which works to prevent violence and sexual abuse against children, and Daniel D’Esposito, the Executive Director of **HURIDOCS**, which helps human rights groups improve the tools and techniques they need for documentation and communication, attended. Their organisations were chosen because they were undergoing change, both in terms of growth and internal restructuring. Based on Myriam and Daniel’s positive feedback, we now seek to make the benefits of this leadership training available to all our partner organisations.

The importance of leadership will continue to be a key part of our organisational development and capacity-building efforts. We are looking for ways to make support to our partners more effective and accessible. We will continue to help our partners create positive and lasting change.

 **“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”**
– Margaret Mead,
Cultural anthropologist and author

We consider our partners to be the embodiment of Margaret Mead’s words, and we are privileged to be able to support their efforts in making a difference in this world.



To find out more about the Organisational Development and Capacity Building Initiative at Oak visit www.oakfnd.org/odcb

Child Abuse



Violence, abuse and exploitation of children are unfortunately not new. Forms of physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children have come to be recognised as crimes against children. The devastating consequences that violence has on children's development and on societies as a whole are slowly coming to light.

In the Child Abuse Programme, we envision a world in which all children are protected from sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. We support initiatives that: (1) eliminate the sexual exploitation of children; (2) engage men and boys in combating the sexual abuse of children; and (3) promote the prevention of violence against children.



Reflections

2014 marked the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. While many lamented the lack of respect for children's rights across the world, others pursued their tireless work to place children's rights at the heart of development work. One example is a consortium of five Ethiopian partners working to reduce risky migration for children and adolescents fleeing violence and poverty in rural Ethiopia, and seeking to provide them with safe solutions.

The issue of the prevention of violence against children and adolescents grew in importance for the Child Abuse Programme in 2014. While effective child protection services are vital for children who have suffered abuse and exploitation, it is the global community's approach to prevention that will bring wide-scale change in reducing levels of violence against children.

To contribute to new approaches, we support the piloting of family- and school-based violence prevention programmes in east Africa. We also support the **Evaluation Challenge Fund**, which generates evidence on promising programmes around the world in order to position violence prevention more deliberately within the global development debate.

The new "Know Violence in Childhood" initiative, launched in New Delhi in November 2014, will provide governments that seek to increase prevention programmes with the knowledge, data and evidence they need to do this.

Support to eliminate the sexual exploitation of children continued this year through our partners' work. We sought to understand the pathways that can lead children and adolescents into sexual exploitation, e.g., domestic work or institutional care. This work is complemented by: research projects designed to understand the social norms underpinning sexual exploitation; and renewed efforts to position sexual exploitation elimination within cash transfer programmes.

We end our Reflections with the good news that our colleague in Sofia, Tanya Kovacheva, was selected and celebrated by the President of Bulgaria as a Champion of Children's Rights in a ceremony to mark the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are proud of her and this achievement.

41

grants were made by the Child Abuse Programme in 2014, totalling USD 17.92 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/childabuse



Preventing child sexual exploitation

Mahima came down from the highlands in Nepal at the age of 12 to work in Kathmandu as a domestic worker. She worked for six years in a house where she suffered sexual abuse.

“At first he said I was like his granddaughter. Later that old man started to behave badly towards me. His wife had already died... initially I was confused about what he was doing, later on I realised he was doing all bad things and when I asked him to stop he said ‘who are you to stop me in my home?’.”

—Mahima,
child domestic worker

“I was scared of telling this to anyone,” she said, “as it might be my own fault and also my schooling may stop because I may have to leave the house.”

As well as domestic work, children are employed in many different industries all around the world. Indeed, there are an estimated 250 million child workers globally¹ – they work in sweatshops, mines, rubbish dumps, in private households and on the streets. Child labour is especially common in developing countries, where it is seen as a cheap option for burgeoning economies and households. Often, children from poor rural families want to work – they see moving to the city as an opportunity to attend school and contribute to household earnings. Indeed, the option of going to school is used as a bartering tool to lure children from their country villages, where there are fewer opportunities. However in reality, the promise is often broken. “I was promised I would be sent to school when I was brought here,” said

an 11-year-old girl working as a domestic worker in Kathmandu. "Later when I asked them [employers] about when I would be admitted to school they kept on saying tomorrow, tomorrow. But later I was told I would never be sent to school and I was beaten for asking."

Frequently, once children arrive at their destinations, their dreams and expectations of a better life turn to dust. Studies reveal many stories of long hours of backbreaking, dull or repetitive work for low or no pay. There are no laws in place to protect them in the countries where they work and child workers are particularly vulnerable to mistreatment – they can even be treated as bonded labourers or slaves. The work that they are offered is badly paid and in many situations the possibility to progress in terms of their education is denied to them, unavailable, or the schooling is of poor quality.

In addition, child workers are highly vulnerable to sexual exploitation. As street vendors or peddlers, they work late into the evenings trying to sell their wares, including in late-night bars and restaurants. They commonly experience sexual harassment and girls in particular are at a high risk of sexual violence and abuse. "I used to sell boiled maize on the street when I was about 12 years old," explained 23-year-old Selamawit from Ethiopia. "Of course, street business involved risks. I met bigger boys who harassed me sexually."

When it comes to domestic workers, there are few ways of seeing what goes on behind the closed doors of private households, and perpetrators take advantage of this fact. Sadly, stories such as Mahima's above are all too common, showing clearly how vulnerable these children are to sexual exploitation. A 2005 survey from **Children and Women in Social Services and Human Rights (CWISH)** revealed that, in Nepal, a shocking 56 per cent of domestic workers have suffered sexual abuse, with 28 per cent experiencing sexual assault.² According to Annabel Erulkar of the **Population**

Council in Ethiopia, 72 per cent of child domestic workers in a Tanzanian study reported physical abuse and 13 per cent reported sexual exploitation. Furthermore, in a study of girls in three Ethiopian cities, domestic workers were twice as likely to have experienced unwanted sex compared to non-domestic workers³.

This is in part due to passivity and social tolerance towards the matter. Kate McAlpine of the **Caucus for Children's Rights** in Arusha, Tanzania explained, "In general, it's not considered bizarre that the head of the household would have sexual relations with the maid. Children who are involved in domestic work are particularly vulnerable to suffering in silence."

In addition, domestic work is a recognised pathway to sexual exploitation. "A Tanzanian study has found that 25 per cent of adult sex-workers were formerly domestic workers," said Annabel Erulkar. In addition, she explained how, of 2,000 adult commercial sex-workers in Ethiopia, some 44 per cent had previously been domestic workers.⁴

“25 per cent of adult sex-workers were formerly domestic workers. Domestic work is so exploitative that, sometimes, sex-work is considered a better option.”
– Annabel Erulkar, Population Council

The link between sexual abuse and sexual exploitation has long been clear. These children need to be protected.

While Oak aims for the complete eradication of child sex abuse and exploitation, until this becomes a reality, it is supporting initiatives that strengthen children to develop resilience in the face of adversity.



There are an estimated
250 million
child-workers around the world. This equals the population of France, Germany, the UK and Spain.



1 "A Future Without Child Labour" – International Labour Organization, 2002_everchcounts_newglobalest_en-1.pdf (accessed 15 January 2015)

2 Gautam, B., & Dharel, M. R. (2005). Closed Door Suffering. Kathmandu: CWISH, <http://www.oakfnd.org/sites/default/files/The%20Bamboo%20Project%20-%20Nepal%20Report.pdf> (accessed 15 January 2015)

3 Erulkar A, Ferede A, 2009. "Social exclusion and early, unwanted sexual initiation in poor urban settings in Ethiopia," International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 35 (4): 186-193

4 Girma W, Erulkar A, 2009. "Commercial sex workers in five Ethiopian cities: A baseline survey for targeted HIV prevention for most-at-risk populations," Addis Ababa: Population Council report, September

» Resilience

The Oak-initiated Bamboo research project was carried out in Nepal, Bulgaria and Ethiopia to learn from children what nurtures resilience. It found that children are not passive and submissive in the face of adversity. Often they are resilient; they know where and how to find support, usually from the people around them, and they actively seek it out. For example, Werkalem, a young woman in Ethiopia, explained how she decided to move out and live with a friend when her step-brother tried repeatedly to abuse her.

“He used to come to the place where I slept and take off the blanket. After this happened three or four times, I left the house, as I thought that he might destroy my life. [Now] I am not exposed to sexual attack.”

- Werkalem,
Ethiopia

Children talked of avoiding the abuser or seeking out safe places such as a terrace (where people can see them), and they also spoke about trying to get help by either telling another child or an adult. For example, Samjhana, aged 16, based in Kathmandu, said, “That old man [employer], he came to my room at night and pulled off my blankets and asked me to go to his room... so I screamed and he locked me in the room for two days... after I went down to the neighbour and told him everything and he said if he does it again, tell it to us and we’ll call the police.”

It is clear from these examples that children try to get themselves out of abusive situations as best as they can. Nonetheless, it is imperative that children’s capacities are supported. Strong laws that protect the rights and dignity of child domestic workers need to be enacted in all countries, along with increased access to education, another basic right. Both informal and formal child protection mechanisms need support.

Community-level endeavours will help raise awareness among domestic workers, linking them up and strengthening them as a group. For example, after-school programmes will provide a safe place for children to make friends, reducing their isolation and strengthening their resilience in the face of abuse and exploitation.

Oak Foundation supports organisations that prevent the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents. This includes child domestic workers, migrating children and children leaving institutions.

Here are two examples of the work carried out by Oak’s partners:

The **Population Council** works to empower girls to protect themselves and to have a say in their own lives. Currently it is carrying out research in low-income areas in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania to identify the drivers of sexual exploitation and the factors that open the door into this type of exploitation. This information will be used to engage with governments to increase the protection of child domestic workers, block the path to the sexual exploitation of child domestic workers and to provide real economic alternatives.

Based in Kathmandu, Nepal, **Children and Women in Social Services and Human Rights (CWISH)** works for the benefit of sexually abused and exploited children as well as those being exploited for labour as child domestic workers. Oak grantee **Children Unite** has partnered with CWISH on the Bamboo Project (previously mentioned) to explore resilience among child domestic workers.

The Bamboo Project research has led to a review of the participant programmes. For example, CWISH now organises “child clubs” around the city, which are after-school programmes geared towards allowing children to play, make friends and build bonds with each other. This cuts the isolation factor, strengthens children in the face of adversity and makes them less vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.



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Red card for the sexual exploitation of children at mega-sporting events

World Cup frenzy gripped the globe in 2014 and all eyes turned to Brazil during the summer months. Soccer mania reached frantic heights and some 600,000 soccer fans descended upon the country to join in the festivities.

Research has shown that children are exposed to many risks before, during and after mega-sporting events. "Oak has been aware of the risks and opportunities associated with mega-sporting events for many years," said Florence Bruce, Director of the Child Abuse Programme at Oak Foundation. Risks include sexual exploitation, the displacement of children and their families and child labour.

Oak supports its partners to advocate for change in the bidding criteria of mega-sporting events. They do this by: developing an evidence-base for the impact mega-sporting events have on children; supporting constituencies to lobby for change; and communicating their findings.

Many non-governmental organisations and churches used the occasion of the World Cup in Brazil to raise awareness of the heightened risk of child sexual exploitation in, and around, mega-sporting events. Oak supported **Terre des Hommes International Federation** to document, through a series

of short films, risks and benefits for children around the World Cup. Oak also supported **World Childhood Foundation (Childhood Brasil)** to engage with public organisations, civil society organisations and the private sector in preventing the sexual exploitation of children and teenagers.

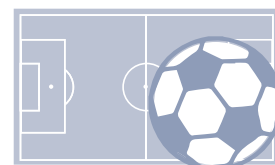
Oak believes in the importance of harnessing events like the World Cup to build awareness around, and call for the eradication of, child sexual exploitation. To this end, Oak has also supported:

Nobody's Children Foundation during the EURO 2012 Football Cup to raise awareness of child prostitution;

Brunel University to research child exploitation in and around the FIFA World Cup; and

Sonke Gender Justice, which ran media campaigns in South Africa during the World Cup in 2010 emphasising the gravity of the sexual exploitation of children.

Oak supports organisations in raising awareness on child sexual exploitation during and around mega-sporting events.



1 in 6



young adults in the United Kingdom said they had been sexually abused before they reached the age of 16.



Stop it Now! UK and Ireland works with

adults to prevent child sexual abuse.

Find out more at:
www.stopitnow.org.uk

Working with men

One in six young adults in the United Kingdom said they had been sexually abused before they reached the age of 16¹. Just who is carrying out these acts?

“There is a growing understanding that sexual abusers are likely to be people we know, and could well be people we care about...and many hold responsible positions in society.”

- Donald Findlater,
Director, Stop it Now!

In eight out of ten cases, the abuser is known to the child – usually a family friend, neighbour, a member of the child’s family or someone working with children². Those who carry out such crimes range from perpetrators who see no problem with their acts to those who do see it as wrong and feel deeply unhappy about it. Most abusers are men, but women and children also abuse children. Some have been abused themselves, others come from violent or unhappy family backgrounds. Many struggle to meet their needs in consenting adult relationships³.

Stop it Now! is a child sexual abuse prevention campaign, supported by a helpline. It works to prevent: perpetrators of sexual abuse offending; children from being victims of sexual abuse; and families from having their children harmed. It believes that the reasons behind why perpetrators commit sexual acts against children are many and varied, and that many abusers can be reformed. Donald Findlater, Director of Stop it Now! explained how important it is to understand what causes abusers to act. “Knowing how and why people sexually abuse children does not excuse their behaviour, but it helps us develop more effective strategies for prevention,” he said.

Increasingly, child sexual abuse is being recognised as a social issue, rather than a series of random, arbitrary acts. There are many roots to this social problem and Alan Greig, an independent consultant, considers the need for more positive expressions of masculinity to be one of them. He believes that the root cause of child sexual abuse will be targeted when sexual abuse is addressed as a social issue and unhealthy perceptions of masculinity are challenged.

“Current social norms and constructs of masculinity support aggressive sexual behaviour,” he said. “We need to understand and address the links between masculinity, sexuality, violence and patriarchy.”

He believes that sexual abuse is a product of learned behaviour, and we learn behaviour from the environments in which we are born – our families, communities and societies. “Sexual violence is a social problem, not just an individual pathology,” he said. He suggests the reform of social perceptions of masculinity at individual and societal levels. This includes working with men to affirm them positively.

“Social change for social justice must involve men.”
- Alan Greig,
Consultant

The “positive masculinity” approach to working with men on ending child sexual abuse starts from the premise that men have a stake in challenging the patriarchal values of domination and aggression. This is not only for the sake of the women and girls in their lives but also for their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of humanity – such values harm them as boys and limit them as men.

Positive masculinity affirms men’s interests in the values of equality and dignity for all, irrespective of gender, and the practice of love and care for others that enact these values in their daily lives. The “positive masculinity” approach believes that men can work with women to

1,2 & 3 Donald Findlater, Lucy Faithfull Foundation, http://www.stopitnow.org.uk/frequently_asked_questions.htm (accessed 15 January 2015)

end patriarchal practices and norms, and supports men's efforts towards positive change. Examples of positive masculinity include fathers who are present and involved in their children's lives and men who embrace relationships of dignity and equality in their intimate and family lives.

"By reframing masculinity, we can promote a more positive masculinity in our societies," explained Greig. "Like women, men are made, not born."

Oak has supported Stop it Now! in the past and is currently working with its parent organisation, the **Lucy Faithfull Foundation**. Oak aims to share learning from Lucy Faithfull's work on sex abusers with partners around the world.



The photos throughout the Child Abuse Programme section of the report illustrate children around the world in healthy relationships, with the right to be safe. We put the child at the centre of all our work. We believe that every child should live free from sexual exploitation and violence.



Grants



Ending the sexual exploitation of children

Bank Information Center USD 492,987 (36 months)

To support the Bank Information Center with the implementation of the World Bank Safeguards Campaign.

BRAC Uganda USD 499,972 (24 months)

To reduce the sexual exploitation of adolescent girls in the Jinja and Iginga areas of Uganda through micro-finance and other support.

ECPAT International USD 1,200,000 (48 months)

To provide core support for ECPAT International.

Nobody's Children Foundation USD 1,524,931 (60 months)

To prevent the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children in six central and eastern European countries.

School of Social Work Fribourg USD 405,541 (24 months)

To support a research project on the perceptions and views of adolescents in Switzerland on peers engaging in transactional sexual relations.

Terre des Hommes International Federation USD 977,083 (13 months)

To document and share the risks and benefits for children at mega-sporting events.

Terre des Hommes International Federation USD 43,500 (2 months)

To support a cross-sectorial plan of action for 2015 and issue briefs outlining how children's rights connect to other sectors in the context of mega-sporting events.

Women's Refugee Commission USD 650,000 (36 months)

To support refugee adolescent girls living in Sheder and Aw Barre Refugee Camps in Ethiopia, Nyarugusu Refugee Camp in Tanzania, and Kyaka II Refugee Settlement in Uganda to become socially and economically self-reliant and empowered community members.

World Childhood Foundation (Childhood Brasil) USD 244,628 (12 months)

To organise and disseminate knowledge on the experience of protecting children and adolescents from violence at the FIFA World Cup 2014.

Engaging men and boys in ending sexual abuse

CARE Deutschland – Luxemburg USD 500,050 (36 months)

To counteract interpersonal and gender-based violence in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo and Serbia.

Hiwot Ethiopia USD 235,913 (36 months)

To increase public recognition of the positive role of men and boys in the protection of children from abuse, specifically sexual abuse and exploitation.

männer.ch USD 466,667 (36 months)

To support the development of a national campaign to increase the involvement of men and fathers in children's lives and to protect them from sexual abuse in Switzerland.

Sonke Gender Justice Network USD 750,412 (34 months)

To strengthen the engagement of men and boys in preventing and addressing violence against children and to promote gender equality.

Women's Law Center USD 65,000 (14 months)

To conduct a survey in Moldova to assess men's and women's attitudes and behaviours towards gender equality.

Preventing violence, protecting children

ANPPCAN Uganda USD 297,076 (36 months)

To set up a referral system that responds to cases of child abuse reported to the national child helpline service in Uganda.

Approach Ltd USD 250,000 (36 months)

To support the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, which campaigns for the complete prohibition and elimination of violent punishment of children worldwide.

Association Romande CIAO USD 222,222 (24 months)

To provide core support to Association Romande CIAO in Switzerland.

Caucus for Children's Rights USD 375,686 (36 months)

To support the City Council model of a child protection system in Arusha, northern Tanzania.

ChildFund Uganda USD 302,419 (36 months)

To support the ongoing national survey on violence against children in Uganda.

Demetra Association USD 203,287 (36 months)

To prevent the sexual exploitation of Bulgarian children transitioning from institutions to alternative care services, foster care and independent community life.

ENDA USD 249,999 (36 months)

To support the African Movement of Working Children and Youth.

Fondazione ASPI USD 534,667 (36 months)

To provide core support to Fondazione ASPI in the Canton of Ticino, Switzerland.



Graduate Institute Geneva

USD 135,708 (36 months)

To establish a competitive-based internship programme within Oak's Child Abuse Programme for second year Master's students of the Graduate Institute who have an interest in the child rights and child protection sectors.

Hope and Homes for Children

USD 822,000 (36 months)

To help reform national child protection systems in Bulgaria, Moldova and the region and accelerate the transition of young children and babies from institutions to families and family-based alternative care.

Knowledge, Success, Change

USD 57,303 (12 months)

To strengthen the professional network of specialists working with child victims of violence and with their families in southwest Bulgaria.

Makerere University College of Health Sciences

USD 50,000 (6 months)

To support the Child Health and Development Centre in Uganda to raise awareness, interest and commitment among public health professionals on the prevention of violence against children.

National Network for Children Association (NNC)

USD 361,836 (24 months)

To provide core support to the NNC as it implements its new 2015-2020 strategy.

Network of European Foundations

USD 490,002 (17 months)

To build the communications and advocacy capacity of leaders working to prevent violence against children.

New Bulgarian University

USD 500,000 (36 months)

To replace institutional care for children with community-based services and support families in Bulgaria in the best possible way.

Partnership for Every Child - Moldova

USD 520,600 (36 months)

To improve the safety, wellbeing and development of vulnerable children in Moldova, particularly those who are living without adequate family care and who are potential victims of abuse, including sexual abuse.

Sheila McKechnie Foundation

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To design and deliver the "Campaigning & Influencing Programme" of the Sheila McKechnie Foundation to partners of the Child Abuse Programme in Central and Eastern Europe.

SOS Children's Villages Latvia

USD 342,500 (36 months)

To improve the quality and accessibility of preventive and social rehabilitation services for children and their families in Latvia in order to prevent child abuse and neglect and to reduce the risks of social exclusion.

Stichting Terre des Hommes Nederland

USD 299,977 (36 months)

To strengthen the protection of children on the move in northwest Ethiopia by raising awareness and providing protective and rehabilitative services.

Tanzania Child Rights Forum

USD 75,000 (1 month)

To organise a regional meeting in eastern Africa for partners.

Terre des Hommes Inter- national Federation

USD 1,544,444 (36 months)

To protect children on the move against abuse and exploitation and offer them prospects for the future.

The Public Health Foundation of Georgia

USD 350,000 (36 months)

To support the development of an effective child protection system in the South Caucasus region.

Tides Foundation

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To combat violence against children, in particular sexual violence by improving planning, policy and learning.

Trans-cultural Psychosocial Organization

USD 798,910 (48 months)

To strengthen the Child Protection Working Group activities in Uganda.

UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund

USD 350,000 (36 months)

To support children's participation in the implementation of the recommendations from the United Nations Study on Violence against Children.

University of Delaware, Institute of Global Studies

USD 500,000 (31 months)

To stimulate global policy advocacy and investments that prevent violence against boys and girls.

University of Oxford - Department of International Development

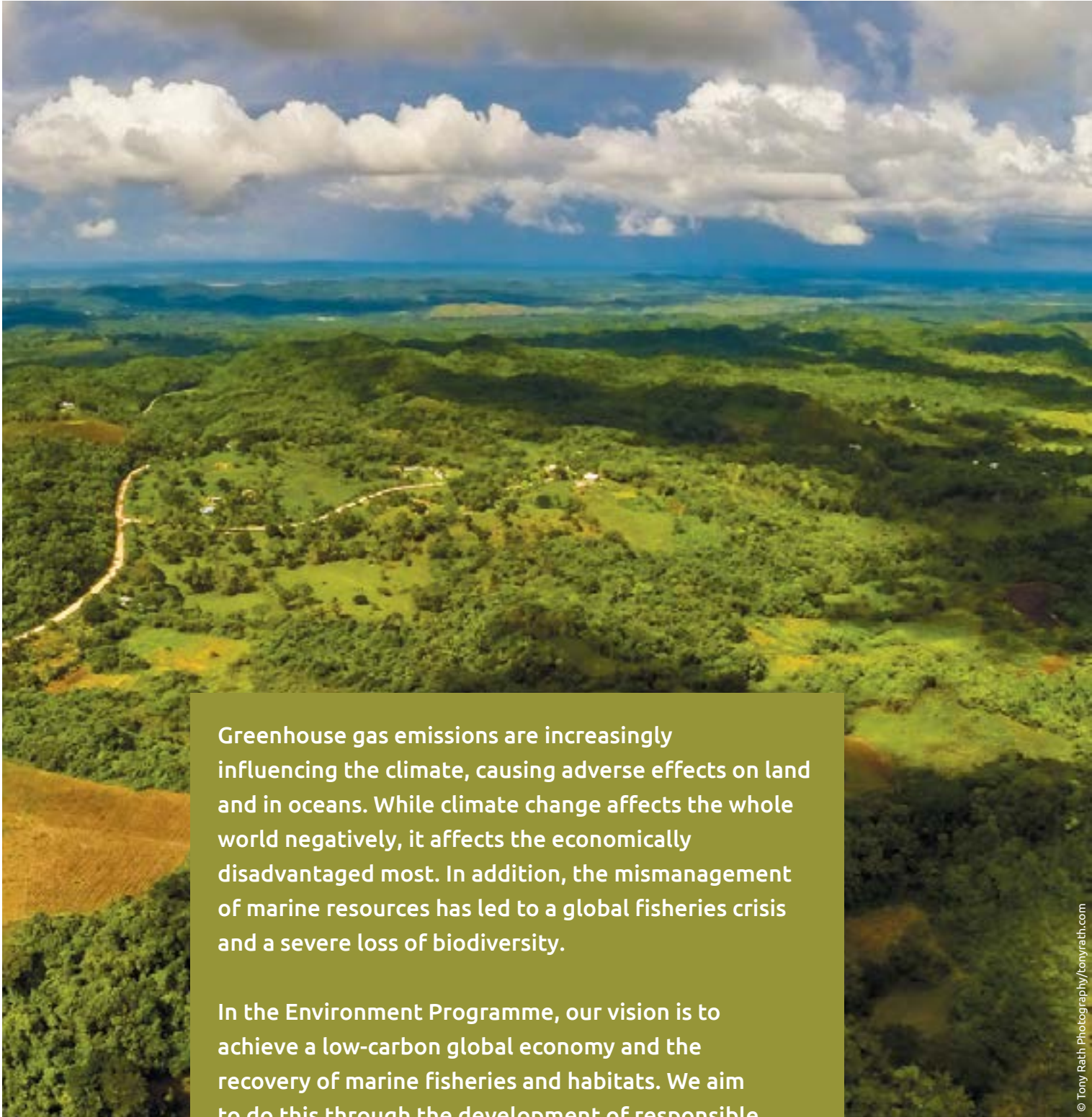
USD 33,842 (3 months)

To provide support to Young Lives Ethiopia to enable it to continue to convene Child Research Policy Forum monthly meetings until the end of 2014.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Environment



Greenhouse gas emissions are increasingly influencing the climate, causing adverse effects on land and in oceans. While climate change affects the whole world negatively, it affects the economically disadvantaged most. In addition, the mismanagement of marine resources has led to a global fisheries crisis and a severe loss of biodiversity.

In the Environment Programme, our vision is to achieve a low-carbon global economy and the recovery of marine fisheries and habitats. We aim to do this through the development of responsible governance mechanisms. We hope to transform the way oceans are perceived and exploited and for more socially and environmentally sustainable societies.



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Reflections

Climate change

As evidence of warming global temperatures mounts, citizens have taken to the streets to demand political action. In New York, the largest ever demonstration on climate change took place in September 2014 as world leaders gathered for a United Nations climate summit. More than 400,000 citizens flooded the streets in a call for action. A number of Oak grantees – such as 350.org and Avaaz – were key in organising the event.

In the face of such mounting public pressure and ahead of climate negotiations in Paris in 2015, significant announcements were made by the United States, China and Europe on their efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions:

- the European Union (EU) committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2030;
- President Obama committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions in the US by 26 to 28 per cent beneath 2005 levels by 2025; and
- President Xi Jinping pledged that CO₂ emissions in China will peak around 2030 or sooner.

Together, Europe, the US and China represent over half of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Advocacy work orchestrated by Oak grantee **European Climate Foundation** and its partners was critical in achieving commitment from the EU. In addition we have been supporting organisations that have provided technical input to help the US and China make their public commitments.

Although these pledges are significant, it is not enough to ensure that the average global temperature does not increase beyond the 2°C threshold. Much remains to be done to secure a successful result of the climate negotiations that will culminate in Paris in 2015.

Marine

Some important progress was made through the creation of new large marine-protected areas. Through grantees and partners such as **Oceana**, **Oceans Five** and **Pew's Ocean Legacy Programme**, we have been directly involved in creating one in every three square kilometres of new marine parks that have been so far established around the globe.

We have also supported other measures of protection, such as preventing the start of industrial fishing in the North American Arctic in both the US and Canada, and prohibiting fish trawling (a very destructive fishing method) off Baffin Island in Canada.

55

grants were made by the Environment Programme in 2014, totalling USD 35.33 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/environment



Regulating fishing practices in the Arctic

The Arctic, an open wilderness of glaciers, tundra and sea ice, covers much of the earth's northern pole. An area of pristine beauty, its unique ecosystem teems with wildlife – foxes, polar bears, caribou, walrus, seals, whales and fish colonies, as well as large populations of migratory birds that come for the summer to breed. In addition, the region's indigenous populations, such as the Inuit Athapascan and Saami have made this distant land their home for millennia. Up until recently, long, dark, severe winters have helped preserve its remote tranquillity, with frozen sea ice preventing ships from chartering these waters.

However, the reality of climate change has been making waves in the Arctic and the size of the area once frozen over is shrinking. All told, in just the past three decades, Arctic sea ice has lost half its area and three quarters of its volume¹. This is having far-reaching impacts in terms of the region's ecosystem: thousands of walrus have come ashore in northwest Alaska, robbed of their usual icebergs as landing pads; frozen tundras are becoming swamplands; and newly open waters are eroding shorelines. These changing conditions are threatening the food security of the indigenous people who call the region home.

The thawing conditions and the shorter sea ice seasons are also opening up opportunities for trade and commerce. The melting ice means that previously unreachable areas, potentially rich in resources – including oil, gas and valuable minerals – are now increasingly accessible. Shipping traffic in the region is also increasing. In the coming years, the Arctic has the potential to become a key passageway for global marine transportation. In addition, fish are migrating northward, a fact that will no doubt become all the

1 Scott G. Borgerson, 'The Coming Arctic Boom', <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/139456/scott-g-borgerson/the-coming-arctic-boom>, 2013, (accessed 22 January 2015).

more attractive for neighbouring countries' fisheries, as the rest of the world's fish stocks become increasingly scarce. However, the indigenous communities of the north depend upon the marine resources of the Arctic for their sustenance and livelihoods. The importance of protecting those resources and the ecosystems on which they depend is critical for securing a sustainable future.

Given these rapid changes, it is important that marine resources are managed carefully. Many mistakes, in terms of managing fishing industries, have been made in the past. Canadians have already witnessed the poor management of their fisheries firsthand – on the east coast, cod has all but vanished and on the west coast, millions of Sockeye salmon have disappeared from the Fraser River². Across the Atlantic, overfishing in European waters has resulted in drastically dwindling fish stock levels for decades. Unfortunately in both cases, a poor legal framework, combined with the poor management of resources have been at the root cause. Short-term economic profit has been put first, at the expense of longer-term sustainable fishing practices.

Oak believes that in order for the oceans to guarantee a source of food and sustain livelihoods for many years to come, it is imperative that the lessons learned in Canada and Europe are taken into account. Frameworks that protect the burgeoning fish-stocks in the Arctic need to be firmly in place. To this end, Oak supports work in the Arctic that invests in local and regional conservation efforts in the Chukchi, Bering and Beaufort Seas. Oak's aim is to help promote healthy and resilient marine ecosystems for the benefit of future generations of Arctic residents.

Canada

The Beaufort Sea of Canada's western Arctic stretches across the northern coasts of the Northwest Territories and Yukon and overlaps with the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. As one of the last places on earth that has not been overfished, the area supports one of the largest populations of beluga whales in the world. It is also home to 23 species of marine mammals, 100 key species of fish and 50 species of migratory seabirds. The Inuvialuit people have lived in this region for millennia, developing customs that are specific to the climate and vital to their culture, health and wellbeing.

“The protection of the Beaufort Sea ecosystem and the identification of emerging economic opportunities are critical to the ongoing wellbeing of Inuvialuit and their communities.”

- Nellie Cournoyea,
Chair and CEO of the
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Before, commercial fishing was not possible in the Beaufort Sea due to sea ice. Now, commercial fishing and shipping traffic are becoming a reality. The race is on among nations and industries to claim, use and extract newly available resources; since 2002 there have been eight applications for exploratory fishing licenses in the Canadian Beaufort. However, increased development will come at a price – without adequate protection in place, the risk to the Arctic's oceans and marine wildlife populations could be catastrophic. It will also impact the way of life of the Inuvialuit people, who depend on these natural resources for their survival.

Oak funds **Pew Oceans North**, which supports a commercial fisheries management plan in the Beaufort. The aim of the plan is to keep the region closed off >>>

Overall, the Arctic has lost about

40%

of its sea ice cover since 1980.

Many scientists believe that the Arctic could be entirely ice-free in summer by the middle of this century – if not sooner.

² Greenpeace Canada, 'Oceans/Tuna', <http://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/campaigns/ocean/Tuna/Learn-about/>, (accessed 22 January 2015).



In April 2014 Fisheries and Oceans Canada approved a final plan to prevent commercial fishing in

832,000

square kilometres of Arctic Ocean in the Canadian Beaufort.

» to commercial fishing while scientists and the Inuvialuit determine its potential impact on the changing Arctic ecosystem and on Inuvialuit land claims. Pew, working in partnership with communities on the ground, helped support work that established the fishery ecosystem plan in the Arctic, by establishing a no-industrial-fishing zone. In October 2014 the Canadian Minister of the Environment, formally adopted the Beaufort Sea Integrated Fisheries Management Framework.

This agreement between the Inuvialuit and Canada is an important accord that represents a cooperative management approach to marine mammals and fish that live in the Inuvialuit Settlement Area of the Western Arctic. This followed an earlier breakthrough, when Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) approved a final plan to prevent commercial fishing in 832,000 square kilometres of Arctic Ocean in the Canadian Beaufort. This will ensure a sustainable resource for local communities.

“The Beaufort Sea Integrated Fisheries Management Framework needs to be rigorously implemented if the health of the ocean and the rights and way of life of indigenous people are to be respected and sustained.”

- Leonardo Lacerda,
Oak Director of
Environment Programme

Along with a precautionary fisheries plan in US Arctic waters, this has now created the largest bilateral no-fishing area in the world. Under the plan, priority for new fisheries will be given to small-scale Inuvialuit-based operations and decisions about large, offshore commercial fishing operations will require additional scientific investigation. Oak began supporting work toward this outcome in 2009. Oak also supports similar community-based conservation efforts through **WWF Canada** and **Tides Canada Foundation**.

Pew welcomed this agreement which will ensure a sustainable resource for local communities. “The communities in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region had concerns about maintaining the sustainability of the fish that they rely on as part of their subsistence lifestyle,” said Frank Pokiak, Chair of the Inuvialuit Game Council. “This framework takes steps to ensure that the Beaufort Sea ecosystem stays healthy and can continue to provide for the needs of the Inuvialuit people.”

On the other side of Arctic Canada in Baffin Bay, Canada’s only existing Arctic commercial fishery also made an important step toward sustainability in February 2014. DFO revised its integrated fisheries to include prohibition on trawling in 139,000 square kilometres of inshore marine habitat along Baffin Island. This means that much of the coastline around this large island will remain largely intact for fish, cold water corals, sponges and marine mammals (including whales and seals). Pew Oceans North helped forge a consensus for this key reform by working carefully and patiently with Inuit communities, the fishing industry and scientists.

Europe

These protective measures are crucial – we need only to look to Europe to find a clear and pertinent example of what unsustainably managed fish stocks look like. The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) has governed European fishing fleets since the 1980s. Its aim is to manage European fishing fleets and conserve fish stocks sustainably, but year on year, its effectiveness was brought into question with the declining quantities of seafood being caught in European waters.

Although the CFP had been designed to manage a common resource which gave all European fishing fleets equal access to EU waters and permitted fishermen to compete fairly, it was clear that the implementation of its regulations was not leading to a sustainable outcome.

³ European Commission, ‘Questions and Answers on the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy’, http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-11-503_en.htm?locale=en, 2011, (accessed 22 January 2015).



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In July 2011 the European Commission considered fish stocks in the Atlantic to have been overfished by a staggering 63 per cent, and 82 per cent in the Mediterranean³.

The CFP resulted in a practice known as “bycatch”, which is when fish that are unintentionally caught, for example by trawlers, are returned, either dead or alive, to the ocean. Often the fish are dead and this practice is thought to have contributed to the decline of fish stocks. In addition, it had a “one size fits all” framework, which could not accommodate local needs and made it difficult to address the different types of fisheries across Europe.

Over the last five years Oak has supported several non-governmental organisations working for the reform of the CFP. These include, among others, **Greenpeace International, Pew Charitable Trusts, WWF International, Globe Europe** and the **International Collective in Support of Fishworkers**. Oak’s grantees’ efforts were rewarded in December 2013 with the CFP reform, which should now lead to the recovery and sustainability of many fish stocks in Europe. Discards will be gradually eliminated, avoiding and reducing unwanted catches. Other changes to be included in the new policy are: setting fishing quotas at appropriate levels; greater regional decision-making; and clearer labelling.

Learning from the past

Oak is delighted to see that change is on its way in Europe, after several decades of declining fish stocks. However, it is vitally important to learn from past mistakes so

“It is imperative that we learn from previous experiences and ensure that Arctic fisheries and ecosystems are managed well, so that both marine resources and the communities of the Arctic who depend on them can be sustained for many years to come.”

- Anne Henshaw,

Oak Environment Programme Officer

that they are not repeated in new, uncharted areas such as the Arctic, especially at this crucial moment in history – when the health and biodiversity of the climate is being increasingly compromised.

The Beaufort Sea Integrated Fisheries Management Framework is a step in the right direction. However, its rigorous implementation needs to be assured if the health of the ocean and the rights and way of life of indigenous people are to be respected and sustained.



The photos throughout the Environment Programme section of the report are of the natural flora and fauna in Belize, Alaska and Canada, and of the Arctic region’s indigenous people, who have made this land their home for millennia. Changing climatic conditions in recent times are now threatening their food security and way of life.

In July 2011 the European Commission considered fish stocks to have been overfished by a staggering

63%

in the Atlantic and

82%

in the Mediterranean.



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To sustain life on earth as we know it, we must prevent average global temperatures from rising more than

 **2°**
celsius.

ClimateWorks: strengthening the response to climate change


To sustain life on earth as we know it, we must prevent average global temperatures from rising more than 2°C and keep atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂) below 450 parts per million. Failure to achieve these goals increases the risk of irreversible loss of biodiversity, economic devastation, the inundation of coastal cities, catastrophic loss of agriculture and fresh water and more frequent and catastrophic weather events. These changes will be irreversible and will overwhelmingly affect the poorest and most vulnerable people on the earth.

There is still time to act. Oak Foundation commits its resources to address issues of global, social and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged. It is our duty and responsibility to contribute to protecting our planet and those most affected by climate change. This is why, in 2014, **Oak made a substantial investment of USD 75 million over five years in the ClimateWorks Foundation.**

Although this grant features in the Environment Programme section, it is a Special Initiative grant. This contribution reflects Oak's wish to reduce greenhouse gas emissions globally and to protect our climate through the development of responsible global and local governance

mechanisms, which will have important ramifications socially, as well as environmentally.

ClimateWorks supports climate action in the sectors and regions where the largest amounts of carbon reductions can be achieved. It aims to influence change in: power generation; transportation; energy efficiency; forest and land use; and non-CO₂ climate pollutants such as methane and black carbon.

 **“Solving the problem of climate change requires collective action on a scale rarely seen before. ClimateWorks is building the global capacity of funders to collaboratively design strategies, coordinate investments and learn. We hope this will increase the likelihood of creating a safe future.”**

**- Charlotte Pera,
President and Chief Executive
Officer, ClimateWorks**

A platform for collaboration

Climate change is a global problem that requires a coordinated response; acting in concert with other foundations committed to reversing climate change will multiply efforts. ClimateWorks is unique in its ability to provide a powerful platform for funder collaboration. ClimateWorks enables funders to discuss strategies, compare perspectives, learn from one another and engage new foundations in the process – ultimately increasing the effectiveness of our actions.

Grants



Climate Change

Carbon Tracker Initiative (CTI)

USD 940,800 (36 months)

To provide core support to CTI to enable it to conduct pivotal financial and regulatory research, and to communicate its analysis to the market with the goal of shifting USD 200 billion out of fossil fuels capital expenditure by 2020.

ClimateWorks Foundation, USA

USD 2,000,000 (20 months)

To help keep the earth's average temperature from rising above two degrees Celsius.

European Climate Foundation

USD 300,000 (24 months)

To release trillions of dollars of capital into the low carbon economy.

WWF International

USD 3,000,000 (34 months)

To secure the protection of some of the planet's most treasured places by eliminating, or transforming, the key drivers that threaten these sites and the communities that depend on them.

China

China Energy Group, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

USD 500,000 (36 months)

To provide research and technical support to complement the development of the national coal consumption cap policy in China.

Health Effects Institute

USD 499,497 (36 months)

To work with local and global scientists to estimate the health impact of air pollution, in particular relating to the combustion of coal, in China, India and Eastern Europe.

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

USD 1,499,509 (48 months)

To help ensure that at least 16,000 kilometres of new bus rapid transit or metro corridors are implemented in China by 2030.

Institute of Public & Environmental Affairs (IPE)

USD 392,243 (36 months)

To support the IPE in generating incentives to take action on pollution control in China.

SEE Foundation

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To support new initiatives on promoting better air quality and healthier lifestyles in China.

Europe

European Climate Foundation

USD 200,000 (24 months)

To improve the public discourse on climate change and the low-carbon transition.

European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E)

USD 632,940 (36 months)

To further develop and promote T&E's vision for a sustainable transport system in Europe.

People & Planet

USD 193,488 (24 months)

To mobilise a movement in the UK among students and the faith community in response to the growing threat of catastrophic climate change.

India

Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP)

USD 833,905 (36 months)

To enable CSTEP to continue to conduct policy research at central and state government levels and support India's low carbon growth and development.

Centre for Green Mobility Ahmedabad

USD 233,983 (24 months)

To support the development of the Centre for Green Mobility in India, which aims to help build technical capacity on sustainable mobility and transport.

Noe21

USD 224,809 (36 months)

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions originating from coal-fired power plants in India.

Vasudha Foundation

USD 202,634 (36 months)

To build a civil society platform in India that addresses climate change, natural resources management, clean energy, sustainable use and conservation.

Latin America

Bolsa Verde Rio de Janeiro

USD 249,753 (24 months)

To develop market mechanisms to facilitate compliance with Brazilian environmental laws.

Ekos Brasil

USD 200,000 (18 months)

To support communications and initiatives relating to climate change in Brazil in the lead up to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

Escola de Ativismo

USD 210,000 (36 months)

To increase the political impact of 30 groups advocating for changes that enhance environmental sustainability in urban and rural areas of the Amazon and Cerrado biomes in Brazil.

Fundación Avina

USD 150,700 (12 months)

To consolidate, deepen and widen the scope and impact of the Brazilian greenhouse gas emissions estimates system.

Grants



Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade - Funbio USD 50,000

To offset the CO₂ emissions associated with the travel of Oak Foundation's staff in order to reduce its ecological footprint.

Instituto de Energia e Meio Ambiente (IEMA) USD 690,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to IEMA so that it can continue to address the increasing greenhouse gas emissions of the transportation sector in Brazil.

North America

350.org

USD 1,500,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to 350.org in building a global movement to address climate change by strengthening leadership and political power in key countries.

America Abroad Media USD 100,000 (12 months)

To create a series of primetime international radio broadcasts that give a voice to US and Canadian communities most affected by unconventional energy extraction, and to increase dialogue more generally about unconventional energy production and transport.

Consultative Group on Biological Diversity Inc (CGBD)

USD 100,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to the CGBD.

New Venture Fund USD 900,000 (36 months)

To reduce the United State's dependence on oil by 50 per cent by 2030.

Oil Change International USD 500,000 (36 months)

To enhance the ability of civil society to advocate for the reduction of public and private financial support for fossil fuel exploration.

Marine

Colorado State University

USD 449,953 (36 months)

To support social science research designed to inform policy and practice in the new movement of global, large-scale marine protected areas.

Pew Charitable Trusts USD 300,000 (36 months)

To support Trygg Mat Tracking Foundation's initiative to build a global database of fishing vessels.

Pig Shed Trust USD 3,700,000 (36 months)

To fund projects that support the implementation of the 2014 European Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) reform (and inform the 2022 CFP reform) in order to achieve improved marine ecosystem health and fish stocks in Europe.

Arctic & North Pacific

Alaska Marine Conservation Council USD 975,000 (36 months)

To promote the health and resilience of Alaska's world-class marine ecosystems and the traditional coastal communities that rely on them.

Association of Village Council Presidents

USD 125,000 (12 months)

To provide media support for a campaign that is calling for the creation of a permanent seat representing tribes on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in Alaska.

Ecotrust

USD 325,000 (36 months)

To strengthen the Community Fisheries Network and accountability standards for community-based fishermen that provide practical tools to address bycatch, harvest accuracy and consumer trust.

First Alaskans Institute USD 100,000 (12 months)

To foster the best collective thinking among Alaska Native leaders to address the opportunities and challenges that they collectively face.

Kawerak, Inc

USD 373,959 (36 months)

To build a regional plan in collaboration with 16 communities in the Bering Strait region for proactive stewardship of the marine environment.

Nunamta Aulukestai USD 60,000 (24 months)

To protect the North Aleutian Basin in Bristol Bay from offshore oil and gas development.

Pacific Environment USD 306,474 (36 months)

To lead coalition efforts in developing strong environmental policy goals for the International Polar Code and other shipping regulations in Arctic waters.

World Wildlife Fund Canada Foundation USD 350,153 (36 months)

To promote ecosystem-based management and planning principles by supporting local hunters and trappers committees in mapping important cultural and ecological areas in the Arctic.

World Wildlife Fund, Inc USD 500,000 (36 months)

To improve protection of the Bering Strait and Bristol Bay from large-scale industry and development.

Europe

Fondation Ensemble USD 1,000,000 (41 months)

To enable Fondation Ensemble to make marine-related grants in Mozambique.

Fundacion Biodiversidad USD 2,000,000 (36 months)

To support the implementation of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy in Spain.



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© Anne Henshaw / Oak Foundation

Greenpeace International
USD 205,500 (12 months)

To create demand for sustainable seafood products while persuading the fishing industry to improve its practices.

Instituto Internacional de Derecho Y Medio Ambiente (IIDMA)
USD 99,996 (12 months)

To support IIDMA in analysing the implementation of the EU Control Regulation in Spain to ensure the new European Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) meets its objectives and principles.

New Economics Foundation
USD 360,654 (36 months)

To provide economic arguments on the importance of the implementation of the European Common Fisheries Policy and the benefits for society as a whole if fisheries are sustainably managed.

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP)
USD 459,261 (36 months)

To support SFP in engaging Spanish retailers, suppliers and processors to improve fisheries.

Mesoamerica

ArtCorps
USD 182,500 (24 months)

To build the capacity of conservation non-governmental organisations in Belize and Guatemala.

Belize Audubon Society
USD 235,000 (24 months)

To safeguard the biodiversity of the Blue Hole and Half Moon Caye Natural Monuments – two components of the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System-World Heritage Site.

Belize Federation of Fishers
USD 89,000 (24 months)

To strengthen the Belize Fishers Association through the capacity building of its members.

Ecology Project International
USD 300,000 (32 months)

To create a cadre of critical thinkers who will become the next generation of conservation leaders in Belize.

Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza, A.C.
USD 520,000 (48 months)

To contribute to the health and ecological sustainability of the Mesoamerican Reef by strengthening the strategic skills, competencies and networking opportunities of emerging conservation leaders.

Mesoamerican Reef Fund
USD 300,000 (60 months)

To provide long-term financial sustainability to natural resource management and conservation initiatives in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.

Protected Areas Conservation Trust
USD 130,000 (24 months)

To foster an effective, comprehensive and consolidated protected areas system in Belize by supporting the implementation of the National Protected Areas Policy and Systems Plan.

Redstone Strategy Group, LLC
USD 100,000 (3 months)

To review the modalities proposed for the Marine Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust Initiative, make recommendations and assess the conservation benefits and risks.

Wildlife Conservation Network
USD 375,000 (60 months)

To engage and empower stakeholders in the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef in efforts to reverse the decline in threatened marine wildlife, notably sharks and rays.

Special Initiative

ClimateWorks Foundation
USD 75,000,000 (72 months)

To support ClimateWorks' efforts to contribute to the emissions reductions necessary to limit global warming to 2°C and help prevent the human suffering and ecological damage associated with more extreme global warming.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Housing and Homelessness



In the Housing and Homelessness Programme, we focus on preventing homelessness by funding sustainable solutions that improve the economic and social wellbeing of marginalised youth, adults and families. We have three priorities: (1) promoting economic self-sufficiency; (2) increasing the availability and supply of affordable housing; and (3) preventing homelessness.

Grants within the programme are wide-ranging in size. We partner with organisations working both nationally and locally in Boston, New York and Philadelphia in the United States and in London, Belfast, South Wales, Glasgow and Birmingham in the United Kingdom. Within each location, we aim to fund projects relevant to the three priorities. In addition, we have adopted specific objectives that recognise particular issues in some of the localities where we make grants.

1



© Ms Belinda Soncini/ Elders Living at Home Program, Boston Medical Center



© Heading Home

Reflections

The Housing and Homelessness Programme believes that learning is the foundation for the development of new solutions and services and that advocacy and policy development should be firmly rooted in learning from real-life experience. That is why in recent years we have moved from *ad hoc* learning to more deliberate and systematic learning. Strategic planning days twice a year keep our learning cycle moving forward – we firmly believe that learning should be fully integrated into the day-to-day work of each member of our team.

We aim to conscientiously learn from peers, partners and experts. By using this knowledge to refine our strategy, we can enhance our grant-making. Learning can take many forms and has several points of focus; in this report you will find examples of support for partner organisations which aim to encourage:

- reflection on past experiences with a view to improvement;
- the development of policy, based on learning; and
- the exploration of new ways of working.

Real life relationships

In the housing and homelessness sector, it is easy to become tied up with finding tangible outcomes such as preventing eviction, securing affordable housing and sustaining tenancies. While these more practical elements are important, they can overshadow the emotional impact of having a safe and secure home.

The stability of a home enables people to rebuild bonds with their families, establish new relationships and maintain lifelong friendships. A stable home and solid relationships are key to managing the social problems often associated with homelessness and to overcoming future crises. The pictures in the coming pages remind us how important a home is in underpinning our relationships and securing the future. Throughout this section, we have described the stories behind the people in some of the photographs.



1. Through the support of **Boston Medical Center**, a not-for-profit organisation, Lawrence got a pet dog. Since getting 'Natty Daddy', Lawrence has come off his anti-depression medication.
2. Peter and William sit on the front steps of Peter's apartment, drinking tea. Seven years ago they were both homeless. They met at the Boston Medical Center's 'Elders Living at Home' programme and they have been good friends ever since.
3. Celebrating Christmas time together as a family can be made possible with the stability of a home.

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grants were made by the Housing and Homelessness Programme in 2014, totalling USD 18.65 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/housing



Learning



Learning takes many forms and has several points of focus. In the following pages there are examples of support for partner organisations that aim to encourage:



reflection on past experiences with a view to improvement;



the development of policy, based on learning; and



the exploration of new ways of working.

Partners: reflecting on past experiences



Women Against Abuse

Prior to the mid-seventies, very few resources to help victims escape abuse existed in Philadelphia, the United States. In an attempt to respond to the growing number of domestic abuse cases they were facing, two female hospital social workers opened a help hotline in 1976. The following year, this developed into Philadelphia's only domestic violence emergency shelter – **Women Against Abuse (WAA)**.

Renee Norris Jones was one of the women who benefitted from WAA's services at the time. She had been victim to seven years of domestic violence and was struggling to escape an abusive partner. With WAA's support, Renee was able to gain independence and find safety from her abuser.

“One thing about going to a shelter... was you immediately feel as though it's not just you... that makes you feel better... it's like this army just marches in to help you get there.”

- Renee Norris Jones,
who escaped a violent relationship
with the help of
Women Against Abuse

Today, WAA is Philadelphia's leading domestic violence advocate and service provider and continuously strives to enhance its services for women. With Oak support, WAA was able to transform its housing management services and now provides a more efficient service (including housing resources) to an even greater number of women. Transforming the service in this way placed WAA in a prime position to become the city's partner to deliver further housing resources for women escaping domestic violence.

More recently Oak made a grant to WAA to identify the factors that influence housing stability, paying particular attention to circumstances that lead to repeat homelessness. As a result of this research, WAA will ensure that women keep their homes.

Streetwork

Between 2012 and 2013, the number of people on the streets that Oak partner **Streetwork** helped increased by almost 50 per cent.¹

“The challenges we face are unprecedented. The growth in homelessness cannot be hidden. It's visible on our streets, in our National Health System and in our justice system.”

- Claire Gibson,
CEO of Streetwork, Edinburgh

For more than 20 years, Streetwork has been the primary contact point for Edinburgh's street homeless population. Every year it works with nearly 2,000 people on the streets or at its crisis centre. Oak is supporting a review of its crisis service that will include an analysis of client data, such as demographics, patterns of contact with Streetwork and outcomes. Heriot-Watt University is illuminating the data with service user experiences. This research will help Streetwork understand the impact of its services.

The number
of people that
Streetwork helped
rose by

50%

between 2012
and 2013.

¹ Claire Gibson, 39 Conversation - Just Festival, <http://www.streetwork.org.uk/author/claireg/> (accessed 15 January 2015)

In Massachusetts,
family homelessness increased by:

94%

between 2007
and 2014.

New Philanthropy Capital

It is difficult to measure effective interventions that aim to prevent re-offending. The Oak-funded 'Justice Data Lab', developed through a partnership between **New Philanthropy Capital** (NPC) and the UK Ministry of Justice, has made it possible to better assess their usefulness. Organisations working with offenders provide details of the individuals they support. The Lab matches these details with national offending data and compares results with a control group.

There were enquiries from 140 organisations in the first 18 months of the Justice Data Lab becoming available in 2013, clearly demonstrating interest in the service.

“Access to reoffending data will enable voluntary sector organisations to prove their efficacy and fine-tune their services.”

- Dan Corry,
New Philanthropy Capital

This data is vital for organisations to assess their impact, identify the groups of offenders they serve well and to consider potential service improvements. In addition, when competing for funding, organisations could use the data as a way to demonstrate the real impact of their work in helping offenders.

The beneficial ramifications of this project could be far-reaching. NPC is now exploring the development of similar services that match government data with other data sets. There may also be potential to share data across and between different social sectors, helping to recognise the interplay between different social problems.

Partners: developing policy based on learning



**Center for Social Policy and Research,
J W McCormack Graduate School of
Social Policy and Global Studies,
University of Massachusetts**

Despite the efforts of the Massachusetts Governor, the state Legislature and not-for-profit organisations, family homelessness is at a record high in the state. According to the US Government Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), family homelessness in Massachusetts increased by 94 per cent between January 2007 and January 2014.

A group of organisations from wide-ranging fields such as housing, early education and public health have worked together to develop a set of shared recommendations. They have seized the opportunity to present a comprehensive, well-researched White Paper on family stability. Robust research underpins the recommendations and the breadth of collaboration has ensured a 'whole system' lens.

The White Paper is due to be presented to recently elected State Governor, Charlie Baker, early in 2015.

Glasgow Homeless Network

There is no comprehensive approach to monitoring homelessness and rough sleeping in Glasgow. Without comprehensive data, responses to homelessness can often be based on fragmented and anecdotal information.

Glasgow Homeless Network (GHN) is an umbrella organisation for non-governmental organisations that work directly with homeless people in this Scottish city. To increase knowledge and strengthen the response to homelessness in Glasgow, Oak is supporting GHN to pull together homelessness data and to carry out an extensive analysis, with particular focus on those who experience repeat homelessness.



Shelter Cymru

Shelter Cymru provides one of the largest advice services for homeless people living in Wales. It also works to influence legislation through campaigning, research and policy work.

With Oak support, Shelter Cymru now aims to increase its knowledge of homeless people, including understanding the links between homelessness and other social issues, such as autism and offending. It will also examine the quality of temporary accommodation for homeless families. This will provide a foundation for research and policy recommendations.

Oak funding is structured flexibly, enabling Shelter Cymru to respond to emerging trends in homelessness and to proactively shape the research agenda.

Shelter Cymru's vision is that everyone in Wales has a decent and affordable home: it is the foundation for the health and wellbeing of people and communities.



1. For years Jennifer's income from delivering newspapers kept a roof over her family's head, but then the landlord sold the house. "I had to reach out and ask for help," said Jennifer. "If not, my kids and I were going to end up in a shelter. I felt like a bad parent because I didn't have a place to go." **HomeStart's** housing specialist found an apartment and arranged rental assistance. "Now I know my kids are going to be warm and safe and they have a stable roof over their heads," said Jennifer. "It is absolutely beautiful here! I don't take anything for granted."
2. This mother and son live in **Corporation for Supportive Housing's** 'Keeping Families Together' project, which provides housing for families in the US. The project allows families to remain together by addressing any issues that might otherwise serve to separate them.



Partners: exploring new ways of working



Refugee Survival Trust

The **Refugee Survival Trust** (RST) was set up in 1996 by people who were concerned about refugees and asylum seekers becoming destitute in Scotland. Today, RST works to alleviate poverty and destitution and to help refugees and asylum seekers to access educational and employment opportunities.

In 2012 Oak supported the RST to explore a new partnership to support refugees and asylum seekers in Glasgow. By reviewing models across the UK, RST learned that a holistic response is necessary. In particular, it recognised that temporary housing should be combined with immediate legal and casework support to resolve immigration status.

As a result, RST has established a partnership of five organisations that will together provide an integrated range of services, including immediate and longer-term accommodation and specialist legal advice and support. This unique partnership will also advocate for policy change to prevent homelessness and destitution among asylum seekers and other recent migrants.



1. Judy and Henriette have a mentoring relationship. Henriette came to the **Cardinal Hume Centre** (CHC) in the UK after having fled the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Her lack of English meant she was unable access the support she was entitled to. When CHC staff built support around Henriette's needs, she started to learn English and gained access to immigration advice. "I really enjoyed my

classes. Now I am reading and writing. I can even go to the bank and speak for myself," said Henriette. "People who come to mentoring want to be helped," said Judy. "It's just finding the right way for each individual. To see someone get on their feet is marvellous."

2. Mother and daughter work on crafts in the Center for Parenting and Early Childhood Education at **People's**



Transatlantic exchange

In 2014 Oak provided funding to support transatlantic learning. **Homeless Link** in the UK and the **National Alliance to End Homelessness** in the US worked together to identify individuals in the homelessness sector who could fully utilise the opportunity to learn from their peers on the other side of the Atlantic.

The learning opportunity identified dynamic, thoughtful and creative individuals who work in the sector. They then spent two weeks at a peer organisation before documenting their findings.

“The exchange was a fantastic learning opportunity,” said Mark Choonara, a participant from the Passage, which runs a large voluntary sector day centre in London for homeless and vulnerable people. “(It) made me proud of those areas which we’re leading on in the UK, and both angry and inspired to work harder on those areas in which we’ve fallen behind.”

Emergency Center. Arts activities provide opportunities for positive interactions between parents and children who are living with the challenge of homelessness.

3. The emotional impact of having a safe and secure home should not be underestimated. The stability of a home enables families to stay together and people to build relationships.



Grants



Economic self-sufficiency

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

USD 600,000 (48 months)

To defend, expand or improve the safety net for low-income families, specifically for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and housing assistance programmes.

Compass Working Capital

USD 497,238 (36 months)

To expand Compass Working Capital's Family Self Sufficiency Programme into Boston, evaluate its impact and facilitate the replication of the model beyond Massachusetts, US.

Drexel University

USD 496,176 (36 months)

To evaluate the impact of the Witnesses to Hunger programme in order to increase the programme's influence on local and national policy debates on child nutrition and economic security and to replicate the programme in other parts of the US.

Heartland Alliance

USD 1,342,100 (48 months)

To better connect the US workforce with homelessness sectors.

Project Place

USD 259,240 (24 months)

To establish a new enterprise that provides work experience for women, particularly homeless mothers in the US.

Increasing the supply of low-income housing

Center for Architecture

USD 107,510 (14 months)

To inform and advocate for a new Philadelphia, US housing policy that addresses the health and quality of the city's existing housing stock.

Community Voices Heard (CVH)

USD 960,000 (60 months)

To provide core support to CVH, a member-led organisation of low-income people, predominantly women, in the US.

Institute for Public Policy Research

USD 224,805 (24 months)

To carry out research to implement an improved housing policy framework in the UK.

London Citizens (Citizens UK)

USD 1,120,000 (60 months)

To support Citizens UK to enhance community organising and training across different geographies.

National Housing Law Project

USD 468,097 (48 months)

To support national advocacy efforts on the supply and accessibility of decent affordable housing in the US.

Picture the Homeless

USD 494,479 (48 months)

To increase the availability of affordable housing in New York City, US.

Regional Housing Legal Services (RHLS)

USD 1,000,000 (58 months)

To provide core support to RHLS, a not-for-profit organisation based in Pennsylvania, US.

Shelter Scotland

USD 1,181,989 (48 months)

To improve standards in the private rental sector and access for lower income households via letting agencies.

Homelessness prevention

Brighter Futures

USD 476,845 (48 months)

To enable Brighter Futures to scale up its efforts to support absent and missing young people and to expand into three new areas of Staffordshire, UK.

Bristol Missing Link

USD 128,459 (36 months)

To deliver the Women's Court Referral and Assessment Service in Bristol, UK in order to: reduce reoffending and the number of custodial sentences; and ensure a sustainable future for the women served, including housing and financial stability.

Cardiff YMCA Housing Association (YMCA HA)

USD 120,832 (48 months)

To develop a self-sustaining leasing scheme to support Cardiff YMCA HA's clients to access tenancies in the private rental sector in the city of Cardiff, south Wales.

Co-ordinate My Care Collaboration

USD 456,688 (29 months)

To improve the quality of care and experience for homeless and vulnerably housed people in London, UK who are nearing the end of their lives.

Groundswell UK

USD 95,469 (12 months)

To carry out an independent evaluation of the impact of Groundswell's Homeless Health Peer Advocacy service and improve health outcomes for homeless people in the UK.

HomeStart Inc

USD 400,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to HomeStart, Greater Boston, US.

Housing Rights Service (HRS)

USD 1,969,744 (60 months)

To provide core support to HRS, the leading organisation advocating for the rights of homeless people and those in housing need in Northern Ireland.

LIFT Communities

USD 944,070 (48 months)

To help low-income individuals and families in the US to achieve economic stability and wellbeing and to lift families out of poverty permanently.

National Law Center for Homelessness and Poverty (NLCHP)

USD 399,795 (48 months)

To improve legal protection for millions of renters who are vulnerable due to the prolonged foreclosure crisis in the US, and to strengthen NLCHP's fundraising and communications functions.



National People's Action (NPA)

USD 249,999 (36 months)

To support NPA in bringing together low income people in the US to voice the issues that affect them and work out solutions that are best for them.

People's Emergency Center

USD 50,000 (9 months)

To research, analyse and identify barriers to achieving economic stability in Philadelphia, US.

Philadelphia VIP (VIP)

USD 600,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to VIP, a citywide organisation that provides *pro bono* legal services for people facing civil legal problems.

Refugee Survival Trust

USD 808,154 (48 months)

To develop a multi-agency model that provides housing, legal advice and support to refugees and asylum seekers at risk of destitution in the UK.

Streetwork

USD 96,000 (12 months)

To carry out a research project to inform Streetwork's crisis service in the UK.

The Bridge

USD 400,000 (48 months)

To increase veterans' access to housing and other specialist supports and to develop staff skills in order to better serve veterans in the US.

Trident Reach

USD 292,526 (36 months)

To extend Trident Reach's homeless patient pathway service beyond Birmingham, and introduce an integrated, cross-sector hospital-to-home service across the West Midlands region of the UK.

University of Massachusetts Medical School

USD 99,958 (9 months)

To conduct a mapping and landscape assessment to understand how community health centres, health systems and other mainstream services can contribute to improved health outcomes and stabilisation for homeless families in Boston, US.

Women Against Abuse

USD 400,000 (36 months)

To create and implement a trauma-informed case management model that will address the intersection between domestic violence, family and single female homelessness in Philadelphia, US.

Women Against Abuse

USD 64,394 (7 months)

To conduct an evaluation of the homelessness and housing trends of domestic abuse victims in Philadelphia, US in order to develop a case management model to improve and sustain housing outcomes.

Zacchaeus 2000 Trust (Z2K)

USD 757,440 (60 months)

To provide core support to Z2K to develop its services in London, UK.

Learning

Center for Social Policy and Research, J W McCormack Graduate School of Social Policy and Global Studies

USD 37,025 (12 months)

To prepare a White Paper which will report on the links between family stability and homelessness in the US.

Clore Social Leadership Programme

USD 128,000 (48 months)

To develop the skills of two Clore Social Specialist Oak Housing Fellows for the benefit of the communities in which they work and the wider sector.

Future of London

USD 152,816 (36 months)

To research the challenges in London's private rented sector in relation to improving standards, reducing fuel poverty, addressing tenure issues and increasing supply.

National Center on Family Homelessness

USD 49,994 (12 months)

To develop and disseminate a new, updated report card on child homelessness in the US – "America's Youngest Outcasts 2013".

ROCA

USD 40,000 (12 months)

To evaluate and document ROCA's impact on the housing situation of its clients in the UK.

Shelter Cymru (Welsh Housing Aid Ltd)

USD 473,315 (48 months)

To inform homelessness prevention work in Wales by building a knowledge base on why specific vulnerable groups experience homelessness.

Other

Sheila McKechnie Foundation

USD 207,525 (24 months)

To enhance the role of UK homeless organisations as agents for change by providing a range of advice, training and tailored support packages.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

International Human Rights



Since 1948, the international community has developed an extensive body of international legal standards and institutions that relate to the promotion and protection of human rights. However, many individuals who seek to uphold their rights or the rights of others are threatened and punished because of their work, and their space for activism is restricted. National security fears, the economic crisis, hostility to human rights and the emergence of a multi-polar international order also present threats and opportunities. There remains a gulf between the theory and the realisation of these rights in practice.

In the International Human Rights Programme (IHRP), we work with partners to: end impunity for the gross violations of human rights; uphold prohibitions on arbitrary detention and torture; protect human rights defenders at risk; and multiply and amplify influential voices on IHRP global priorities.

1



Reflections

In 2014 International Human Rights Programme grantees continued to make headway in addressing some of the most critical and complex human rights challenges facing the world today. These included managing irregular people flows, responding to terror threats, holding to account powerful actors responsible for gross abuses and protecting human rights defenders at risk.

Reducing immigration detention grew as a Programme priority. US grantees delivered a robust and principled response to the humanitarian crisis created by the surge of unaccompanied minors on the US/Mexico border. We also laid the groundwork for new investments in frontline EU migration states: to reduce the use of detention as a routine tool for managing migration; and to strengthen minimum procedural safeguards.

Across the globe, grantees secured redress for scores of victims of gross abuses in local, regional and international courts. But these admissions of state liability all too often resulted in an award of damages, rather than the reform of the State institution which had perpetrated the original violation. We are supporting grantees to move beyond litigation to advocate the full implementation of judgements, including systemic reforms.

We continued to expand our presence in the Global South. We made new investments to improve dire prison conditions in Brazil. In Burma and India our grants empowered local advocates to address a range of local concerns – from police abuse to land appropriations.

Grantees are finding it increasingly difficult to do their work – in states as diverse as Russia, India, Burma, Turkey and Hungary. Many face threats, are publicly demonised, or their ability to do their work is curbed by excessive regulation and bureaucracy. The entire sector, donors included, need to tackle this – to affirm both the immense importance of human rights activism and the legitimacy of funding such work. However, we remain committed to supporting grantees to continue their operations, in compliance with local law.



1. Lama Fasih and Ole Solvang from **Human Rights Watch** interview witnesses about an airstrike attack in Latakia, Syria (February 2013).
2. The barrier separating the US and Mexico stretches into the ocean. In 2014 there was a humanitarian crisis following a surge of unaccompanied minors on the US/Mexico border.
3. All around the world people are imprisoned in dire conditions – often without fair trial.

44

grants were made by the International Human Rights Programme in 2014, totalling USD 23.18 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/humanrights



Detention

People behind bars have long had special significance for the human rights movement, both as catalysts for action and symbols of injustice. Protecting the rights of detainees under international human rights law revolve principally around three elements:

- liberty and security of the person;
- freedom from arbitrary arrest or detention; and
- humane and dignified treatment by the detaining authorities.

“It is worth asking: what do we as a society get from keeping these people in prison? We have a prison system that is grotesquely overcrowded and prisoners who pose no meaningful threat to public safety, and yet they are being denied release.”

- Jamie Fellner,
Senior Advisor, Human Rights Watch

The three case studies in the following pages address these three issues by targeting:

- the appalling prison conditions in Brazil which violate prohibitions on ill treatment;
- laws which threaten the liberty and security of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) people in Russia; and
- excessive counter-terrorism measures which lead to arbitrary detention and torture.

Conectas: prisons in Brazil

Brazil, one of the world's biggest and fastest-growing emerging powers also has one of the largest prison populations. Indeed, the country has the third highest incarceration rate in the world and the fourth largest prison population.

With some 550,000 inmates occupying cell space designed for 355,000 people, overcrowding remains one of the biggest problems. This situation is exacerbated by an overly punitive judicial culture and the excessive use of pre-trial detention. In addition, inmates are subject to an excessive use of force, ill-treatment and beatings and are held in dire conditions in substandard infrastructure with a lack of basic services. Many prisons are controlled by gangs and criminal networks which supply drugs and weapons and offer 'protection' in return for pay. The prison system is also overwhelmingly discriminatory: the ill-educated, poor and black are more likely to be locked up and languish for years before seeing a judge. The plight of the detainees is largely met with indifference by the government.

Conectas, a leading human rights group in Brazil, has been working to remedy this appalling situation for over a decade. In 2010 it drew international attention to the shocking prison conditions in the state of Espírito Santo, where more than 500 detainees were being held in metal cargo containers, in which temperatures reached 50 degrees Celsius. With the government slow to act, Conectas and its partners increased the pressure by raising awareness of this situation at the United Nations. Immediately afterwards, the Brazilian Superior Court of Justice issued a decision determining that pre-trial detainees should be removed from the containers in Espírito Santo at once and relocated.

Unsurprisingly under such conditions, violence between inmates is commonplace, with 62 prisoners killed during battles between rival gangs in Pedrinhas Penitentiary Complex in Maranhão State in 2013 alone. In early 2014 a local media outlet posted a video revealing violent scenes, including the beheading of three detainees from inside the Pedrinhas Complex.

Conectas was highly visible in raising national and international awareness. It pushed for accountability around those crimes and sought the intervention of the Federal Government to ensure the impartiality of the investigation. In partnership with the Maranhão State Society for Human Rights, it engaged in advocacy with local authorities, held a public hearing with the local bar association and conducted a visit to the prison. It was also very active in raising awareness through the media to engage the broader public.

Conectas seeks to end impunity for gross violations of human rights, promote access to justice for victims and demand changes in legislation and institutional policies on the criminal justice system. With support from Oak, Conectas engages in strategic litigation, legal advocacy and provision of pro bono legal services and seeks to raise awareness of the extreme violations at national, regional and international levels.



1. In Brazil, some 550,000 inmates occupy cell space designed for 355,000 people. **Conectas** is a not-for-profit organisation that works to promote the realisation of human rights and consolidation of the rule of law in the Global South.

In Brazil, more than

500

detainees were kept in metal cargo containers, where temperatures reached



50°
celsius.



Globally, more than

1 million

people signed a petition launched by All Out in support of LGBTI rights in Russia.

All Out: homophobic laws in Russia

In the run-up to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, the Russian Council passed legislation outlawing 'propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations' among minors. This effectively set limits on the rights of free expression and assembly for citizens publicly advocating for LGBTI rights.

Authorities imposed hefty fines on LGBTI groups accused of acting as 'foreign agents' and banned pride parades in St Petersburg and Moscow. Against this backdrop, violent attacks on suspected LGBTI people went largely unpunished by police, who more often than not turned a blind eye or tacitly encouraged homophobic behaviour.

All Out saw an opportunity to shine the spotlight on the crackdown on LGBTI rights. It joined forces with grassroots partners in Russia to draw attention to Principle 6 in the Olympic Charter, which states that discrimination is incompatible with the Olympic movement and called for a stronger response from both the International Olympic Committee and the Games' corporate sponsors. A coalition of 50 Olympic athletes joined the Principle 6 campaign to speak out against anti-LGBTI laws and discrimination in sports, while world leaders, media outlets and public figures from all walks of life spoke up in solidarity. All Out ran large-scale public demonstrations in some 50 cities around the world and launched an online petition which was signed by more than one million people, including 13,000 Russians.

As a result of increased international scrutiny, Russian authorities offered public assurance that the law would not be used to intimidate visitors to the Sochi Olympics. In February 2014 the International Olympic Committee publicly affirmed that discrimination against LGBTI people violates the Olympic Charter and has subsequently introduced a clause of non-discrimination to its Olympic host bid rules.

All Out is a not-for-profit organisation which works to build a global movement to make political, legal and cultural interventions for the equality of LGBTI people. Set up in 2011 with funding from Oak, All Out has grown into an international platform with more than two million supporters worldwide and a promising crowd-funding revenue model. In partnership with local groups, All Out has: mobilised extensive public support for the Civil Unions Bill in Peru and Brazil's Anti-Discrimination Bill; challenged the United Kingdom's deportation process for LGBTI asylum seekers; and backed a global solidarity campaign following a Supreme Court recriminalisation decision in India.

War on Terror: moving towards accountability

Thirteen years have passed since the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York City. Since the launch of the War on Terror, the US government and its allies have been complicit in a range of human rights abuses, the scope and extent of which have still not fully come to light.

In the earlier years following the attacks, and as part of its counter-terrorism efforts, the CIA carried out a programme of “extraordinary renditions”. This included: abducting and holding suspects without charge or trial; secretly transferring them across a global network of clandestine detention sites; and subjecting them to harsh interrogation techniques such as water-boarding, mock executions and other forms of extreme physical and psychological pressure. The Obama Administration prohibited these “enhanced interrogations”, but, to date, no senior official has been held responsible for the rendition programme.

Oak grantees **Reprieve** and **Interights** were involved in securing a recent breakthrough decision of the European Court for Human Rights, which found Poland liable for collaborating with the CIA’s extraordinary rendition programme. This case, set to be a precedent, could influence similar cases pending against Romania and Lithuania.

The **All Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition** continues to make progress towards establishing the real scope and scale of UK involvement in renditions. The group has successfully litigated for the right to obtain information from British and American intelligence agencies under freedom of information regulations.

In the US, grantees including the **American Civil Liberties Union**, **Human Rights First** and the **Center for Constitutional Rights**, have advocated for the release of a comprehensive bi-partisan report prepared by the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Released in December 2014, the report outlines the nature and scope of the CIA’s detention and interrogation programmes and examines their alleged efficacy. Based on classified intelligence records, it provides an independent assessment of the CIA’s actions, raising critical questions about its legality and legitimacy.

It is hoped that the work of Oak’s partners will shine a light on a dark and largely hidden period of history, allowing public and political opinion to assess the facts and move further towards accountability and justice.



Page 42:

1. In 2014 **All Out** ran large-scale public demonstrations in some 50 cities around the world in support of LGBTI rights.

Pages 45:

1. & 2
These photos represent incarceration. Protecting the rights of detainees under international human rights law is one of the focus areas of the International Human Rights Programme.

The extent of human rights abuses during the “global war on terror” since

9/11

is largely hidden. Our partners work to uncover this abuse.

Grants

Ending impunity for gross human rights violations

Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team

USD 896,600 (34 months)

To apply forensic anthropology and related sciences to achieve justice for human rights violations.

Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD)

USD 150,253 (12 months)

To improve the capacity of AFAD and its member organisations to respond to the international crime of enforced and involuntary disappearances in the Asia-Pacific region.

Center for Public Health & Human Rights, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

USD 240,000 (24 months)

To end impunity for attacks on health workers during periods of political violence.

Centre for Studies on Truth, Memory and Justice

USD 617,478 (36 months)

To uncover the truth about grave violations of human rights in Turkey, to strengthen collective memory on those violations and to support survivors and other actors in their pursuit of justice.

Memoria Abierta

USD 474,000 (36 months)

To help victims of gross violations of their human rights achieve social recognition of these crimes and build support for accountability processes.

Public Interest Advocacy Centre Ltd

USD 93,000 (12 months)

To gather evidence into serious alleged violations of international law.

Videre

USD 410,000 (22 months)

To investigate human rights violations in closed societies and gather and share evidence with non-governmental organisations, media and other stakeholders.

Freedom from arbitrary detention and torture

American Civil Liberties Union Inc

USD 850,000 (24 months)

To uphold respect for human rights in the national security context by resisting regressive measures, including legislation that authorises indefinite military detention.

Anti-Discrimination Memorial Brussels

USD 227,420 (24 months)

To protect immigrants, LGBTI and other vulnerable groups from arbitrary arrest, detention and other threats to their liberty and security.

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network

USD 250,000 (36 months)

To advance the rights of refugees and other people in need of protection in the Asia-Pacific region.

Awara

USD 91,790 (12 months)

To provide ten financial audits of International Human Rights Programme grantees according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) standards.

Blue Earth Alliance

USD 95,000 (12 months)

To raise awareness of the impact of statelessness and illuminate its human face through photography supported by oral histories.

Coalizione Italiana Liberta e Diritti Civili

USD 95,900 (12 months)

To provide core support to the newly established Civil Liberties Coalition of Italian non-governmental organisations (CILD) in addressing a range of issues, principally immigration detention.

Public Investigations Bureau

USD 577,000 (36 months)

To investigate and collect evidence for prosecution of torture and ill treatment of victims of police abuse in six regions of Russia.

European Network on Statelessness (ENS)

USD 240,000 (36 months)

To support the development of ENS, a civil society alliance with over 80 members in more than 30 countries working to address statelessness in Europe.

Freedom Now

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To promote respect for human rights and rule of law worldwide by working to free prisoners of conscience, through: pro bono legal representation, using a network of volunteer lawyers, civil society activists, non-governmental organisations and policy makers; international advocacy and public relations initiatives; and training and mentoring activities.

Global Dialogue

USD 694,300 (12 months)

To provide three tie off grants to – Committee to Protect Journalists, Centre for Constitutional Rights, Organisation for Refuge and Asylum: to provide one planning grant to the Centre for Victims of Torture; to develop a three-year global campaign to leverage funds for the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

Global Dialogue

USD 530,250 (18 months)

To provide three grants of 18 months duration to three IHRP grantees – the European Programme for Integration and Migration, Refugee Council and International Crisis Group.

Hungarian Helsinki Committee

USD 595,950 (36 months)

To reduce arbitrary detention and ill treatment in the context of both the criminal justice system and immigration/asylum procedures in Hungary.

Instituto Pro Bono

USD 72,640 (12 months)

To support the work of Instituto Pro Bono in the development of a pro bono legal sector in Brazil.

Interights

USD 95,000 (4 months)

To facilitate the responsible closing down of Interights, an international legal human rights NGO based in London.

International Rehabilitation Council of Torture Victims

USD 753,500 (12 months)

To strengthen the clinical and organisational capacity of torture rehabilitation centres worldwide.

Omega Research Foundation

USD 248,000 (36 months)

To support the Omega Research Foundation's efforts to prevent torture and ill-treatment by strengthening legal frameworks that control the trade in torture technologies.

Organisation Mondiale Contre la Torture (OMCT)

USD 250,000 (24 months)

To strengthen OMCT's communications capacity and increase the effectiveness, visibility and reach of its advocacy in the fight against torture.

Reprieve

USD 800,000 (36 months)

To seek the truth about, and promote accountability for, abuses perpetrated as part of the 'War on Terror'.

Tides Center - Opportunity Agenda

USD 900,000 (36 months)

To provide communications support to advocacy groups working for a more just immigration enforcement system, particularly in the context of the US-Mexico border.



© La Vision



© Eva Hermes/Oak Foundation

Supporting and protecting human rights defenders

Access Now

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To protect the right to freedom of expression online and the digital security of human rights defenders.

Freedom of Information Foundation

USD 530,000 (36 months)

To support the proper implementation of existing Freedom of Information legislation through monitoring, litigation and outreach at national and regional levels.

Global Dialogue

USD 376,501 (24 months)

To support the Thomas Paine Initiative, a collaborative fund that makes grants to increase public support for and reduce hostility in the United Kingdom to the values behind the European Convention on Human Rights.

Legal Team Co Ltd

USD 675,000 (36 months)

To provide expert legal advice to Russian not-for-profit organisations to ensure compliance with current laws regulating their activities.

People in Need

USD 560,000 (24 months)

To empower independent civil society to press for participatory, responsive and accountable government in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

PILnet

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To instil and support a culture of pro bono legal support, principally by commercial law firms, for the substantive work and organisational capacity-building of NGOs operating across a range of human rights and social issues.

Privacy International

USD 239,680 (24 months)

To conduct a global investigation into the trade of surveillance technologies used against human rights defenders and other activists.

Protection International

USD 600,000 (36 months)

To build a safer environment for human rights defenders in Asia, Africa and Latin America by enhancing their security strategies where they are most at risk.

The Engine Room

USD 100,000 (11 months)

To support the safe and efficient use of technology in advocacy.

Witness Inc

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To build the capacity of human rights activists to expose human rights abuses through the safe and effective use of video.

Broadening human rights constituencies

Amnesty International

USD 1,200,000 (24 months)

To support Amnesty International's process of moving its core functions, including research, campaigning and advocacy work 'closer to the ground'.

British Future

USD 250,000 (24 months)

To support British Future, an independent communications think tank, to inform and contribute to an open, balanced public debate on immigration, and build support for progressive policy change.

Center for Strategic and International Studies

USD 240,000 (18 months)

To establish a consortium of experts from the Global South (including Brazil and India) to generate critical ideas and recommendations to address the closing space for civil society.

Fund for Global Human Rights

USD 2,027,000 (36 months)

To provide financial resources and capacity-building support to human rights organisations in the Global South and East which, because of their location and/or size, would not ordinarily qualify for Oak support.

Global Dialogue

USD 240,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to Ariadne, a network for European Funders for Human Rights and Social Justice.

Human Rights Watch

USD 3,000,000 (36 months)

To influence the foreign and domestic policies of Brazil, India, Russia, South Africa and Thailand so they become increasingly positive forces for advancing a global human rights agenda, while respecting human rights at home.

National Council for Civil Liberties

USD 480,000 (24 months)

To promote and uphold the values laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights; and to ensure that policy related to counter-terrorism and surveillance is developed and implemented in accordance with international human rights standards.

The Andrei Sakharov Foundation - Commission for Academic Sakharov Heritage Preservation

USD 540,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the Andrei Sakharov Foundation.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Issues Affecting Women



In the Issues Affecting Women Programme, we seek to contribute to a world in which women experience safety from violence and are free to exercise their full and equal human rights. The Programme seeks to build a strong and vibrant movement of women who are empowered individually and collectively to challenge patriarchal norms and tackle the root causes of inequality.

We support organisations which work to end patterns of violence and exploitation that disrupt women's lives by: ensuring that rights-based laws and policies guarantee an environment free from violence; and by transforming harmful social norms. This is complemented by support to a range of comprehensive services that empower women to recover from the trauma of violence and rebuild their lives. We particularly recognise the vital importance of giving marginalised groups of women a chance to exercise their influence and have their voices heard.



© Nobel Women's Initiative



© Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Reflections

Philanthropy in Action for Women's Human Rights (PAWHR)

Globally, women's rights organisations are making huge strides in transforming people's lives so that they are better able to exercise their rights and reach their full potential. Many create this change on shoestring budgets. In a shrinking funding environment, philanthropy to women's organisations needs to be strategic and thoughtful.

With this in mind, in 2014 the Issues Affecting Women Programme helped found PAWHR, a mechanism for formal peer exchange, learning and coordination among private foundations. This collaboration will enable PAWHR members to coordinate their giving to advance women's rights globally, for greater impact.

Women's economic empowerment

If women are to thrive, they need both the ability to succeed economically and the power to act on economic decisions. However, there are underlying structural barriers to women's empowerment. In recent years, several new actors, including businesses and corporations, have joined the women's economic empowerment landscape. Many are launching their own, well-resourced programmes, providing the possibility to unlock new opportunities and mobilise additional resources that make for positive change in women's lives.

In 2014, we commissioned research on the nature, scope and impact of corporate-funded women's economic empowerment programmes, the majority of which

aim to expand women's employment opportunities, training and access to finance. We proposed an integrated approach to improve the quality and transformative impact of those initiatives by creating an enabling environment where women can reach their full potential.

This approach enables companies to deliver higher return on investment while also bringing social returns. We hope that this work will lead to deeper dialogue and engagement between businesses and women's organisations (including Oak grantees) in the coming years.



1. Julienne Lusenge, (left) President of **Female Solidarity for Integrated Peace and Development (SOFEPADI)**, and Nobel Laureate winner Leymah Gbowee (right) during the Nobel Women's Initiative visit to DRC to highlight the International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict.
2. Beauty in the Middle: Women of Congo Speak Out. An exhibit launched by the **International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict** was exhibited in London in June 2014.
3. The **Coalition of Immokalee Workers** lobbied, campaigned and protested over two decades for fairer working conditions for tomato-pickers in Florida. Their hard work was rewarded – see over the page for more information.

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grants were made by the **Issues Affecting Women Programme** in 2014, totalling **USD 14.32 million.**



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/women

See: www.oakfnd.org/economicempowerment for "The Business Case for Women's Economic Empowerment".



Supporting workers to stand up to trafficking and exploitation

Nearly 21 million people around the world are victims of forced labour.¹ These women, men and children do badly-paid, low-skilled work without any labour protection and are frequently exposed to abuse and exploitation. Many are migrants escaping civil war, social unrest or extreme poverty in their home countries who end up working in unregulated industries such as agriculture, hospitality, domestic work and sex work. While a significant number are trafficked – often through coercion or deception – all experience severe forms of exploitation.

People become victims of human trafficking for reasons that are complex and interconnected. Draconian immigration laws, rigid border controls and increased demand for cheap labour open the way for unscrupulous employers to engage workers in deplorable conditions.

Oak believes that empowering groups of women most at risk, ensuring that their voices are heard and taking a rights-based approach to addressing trafficking and exploitation are the best ways to combat this trend and ensure justice for victims. To this end, Oak partners with organisations that support women who are exploited in informal and unregulated industries. This includes women who may not qualify as victims of trafficking, as defined by international law.

Oak works with organisations and networks active in countries of origin, transit and destination across the globe, including in countries where domestic trafficking is a serious concern. Western countries are perceived as especially attractive to migrant workers seeking to improve their lives. Of these, the United States, the United Kingdom and Switzerland are among the most popular destinations. Victims of trafficking are often caught in a system that prioritises speedy deportations for perceived immigration crimes over protection and support.

United States

The **Coalition of Immokalee Workers** (CIW) offers perhaps the most successful example to date of an Oak partner working to end labour exploitation.

Known as the “tomato capital” of the US, Immokalee is where many thousands of impoverished South and Central American immigrants come to work on farms. For many years the region had a poor reputation. Trafficked or recruited and controlled at gun-point by cruel, greedy crew leaders, workers toiled for long days under the sun without shade or rest breaks for little and sometimes no pay. Their rights were denied and their voices were not heard. For many women, sexual harassment and assault by crew leaders and co-workers was a regular occurrence. Anyone who protested after a beating or even a rape by crew leaders was fired.

“When you first come here, you have no idea this could happen... sexual harassment... that you’d have to go through this or lose your job.”

- Female tomato-picker, Immokalee, Florida

In 1993 a group of migrant farm workers started the CIW to try to change this. For two decades the Coalition lobbied, campaigned and protested for fairer working conditions. As outrage over the abuse, beatings and theft of workers’ meagre pay checks grew, more members joined. The Coalition members began to identify and support the prosecution of traffickers and men who sexually assaulted women farm workers. Eventually, churches and consumers joined their struggle. Out of this momentum, the Coalition created its Fair Food Programme (FFP).

The FFP brings workers, growers and corporate buyers together to improve wages and working conditions in the tomato fields. Since it began a bonus scheme known as the “penny per pound” scheme, some 30,000 workers have received an additional USD 14 million. Other

changes include: a 24-hour workers’ complaints hotline; training for workers on their rights and responsibilities; and a zero tolerance policy for child labour, forced labour, sexual assault and violence.

All of these are included in a Code of Conduct developed by workers and growers together. A complaint resolution mechanism on every farm ensures compliance. Annual independent audits make sure that growers continue to adhere to the Code.

Strengthening workers’ rights on the ground has gone a long way towards stopping sexual exploitation. “We didn’t know we had the right to complain,” said one worker. “Now, through the education in the fields, women know that they have this right, and that there is an investigation and a consequence.”

The FFP model is successful, largely because it benefits everyone. Buyers purchase from farmers implementing the Code so they know workers are protected. Their market share increases as the customers are loyal to companies that do the right thing. Growers access the largest tomato-buying companies and workers have better wages and decent working conditions. At its very heart is the basic idea that empowering migrant workers gives them the ability to resist exploitation and abuse.

United Kingdom

Perhaps in no other occupation are women more vulnerable to exploitation than in domestic work. The isolated, dependent and unregulated nature of working in private households leaves workers exposed to the risk of physical and psychological abuse, sexual



1. Thanks to the work of the **Coalition of Immokalee Workers**, some 30,000 tomato-pickers in Florida have received an additional USD 14 million in wages. There is also a zero tolerance policy in place for forced labour, sexual assault and violence.

Nearly

21 million

people around the world are victims of forced labour.



That is roughly one third of the population of the UK.

1. International Labour Organization '21 million people are now victims of forced labour, ILO says', http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/news-room/news/WCMS_181961/lang-it/index.htm (accessed 20 January 2015).

There was a

25%

increase in 2012 in reported cases of victims of trafficking to the national referral mechanism, following the introduction of new immigration rules in the UK.

» exploitation, discrimination, low pay and long hours. **Kalayaan** is a UK-based organisation that provides the following to domestic workers: free and confidential advice on immigration and employment; practical emergency assistance to women fleeing abusive employers; and other support services to migrant domestic workers. More than half of the women helped by Kalayaan from 2008 to 2012 earned less than GBP 50 (about USD 80) per week and most had their passports retained by their employers. Two-thirds were too afraid to report it to the authorities. Disturbingly, this number is increasing.

The risk of exploitation of domestic workers was further increased in the UK with the passing of new immigration rules in 2012. These rules limit visas for overseas domestic workers to a maximum of six months, and no longer permit the worker to change employer. Since then, trafficking has been on the increase. The number of victims of domestic servitude referred to specialist services for trafficked people more than doubled in the last six months of 2012.¹ In addition, there was a 25 per cent increase in the number of trafficked victims reported to the national referral mechanism for the same year.²

“Kalayaan and the lawyers they referred me to were great. I am glad justice is working. I wanted to make sure that my employers cannot treat anyone the way they treated me.”

- Domestic worker registered with Kalayaan

“The domestic worker depends on the employer for everything,” said Kate Roberts of Kalayaan. “(These new rules) don’t leave (domestic workers) with any option. They either have to remain in a situation of exploitation or leave and be in breach of their immigration status. They are driven underground or returned home and again become vulnerable to trafficking.” The Report of the Joint Committee on the Draft Modern Slavery Bill states: “In the case of the domestic worker’s visa, policy changes have

unintentionally strengthened the hand of the slave master against the victim of slavery. The moral case for revisiting this issue is urgent and overwhelming. We call on the Government to take immediate action”. Kalayaan opposes the Government’s new proposals.

Switzerland

Fraueninformationszentrum (FIZ)

FIZ Makasi Center in Zurich runs the only specialist centre in Switzerland for migrant women who are victims of exploitation, trafficking or violence, and those working in cabarets or the sex trade. FIZ provides them with crisis intervention, counselling and safe housing and helps them to obtain more secure residence status. It also accompanies them through criminal proceedings, helps them integrate into Swiss society or assists them to return safely to their native countries.

FIZ assists 200 women from more than 30 countries every year – of whom 50 per cent are between 17 and 27 years old. Impressively, 90 per cent of trafficking convictions in Swiss Courts can be ascribed to the testimony of women receiving support from FIZ. But the work is getting more intense as the complexity of the cases increases and women need even more support to recover. “Makasi got me out of a coma. I used to be dead inside,” explained a 25-year-old woman from Thailand.

The work of FIZ is complemented in the Swiss Romande area by the Centre Social Protestant (CSP) in Geneva, which hosts a free-of-charge and confidential helpline for victims of human trafficking. The Canton of Geneva is particularly exposed to the risk of forced labour, due to the presence of numerous diplomatic missions, some of the staff of which have been known to keep servants locked away in unpaid or low-paid domestic work positions. Two CSP lawyers staff a helpline every weekday afternoon and work in close cooperation with other institutions and organisations to support victims of labour exploitation and trafficking. In 2014 the CSP also sponsored an awareness-raising campaign on public transport to strengthen the possibility of detecting cases of trafficking in all sectors of work.



Offering support to Latin American women in the United Kingdom

It is estimated that as many as one million Latin Americans currently live in the UK. Many are highly-skilled young people who are often unable to obtain jobs that use their professional skills.

“I left Colombia seeking a life with better opportunities in a safer country. In Colombia I was an accountant, but here, if I didn't do this, I'd have nothing.”
 - Woman with three different cleaning jobs in London

Although comparable in size to other large migrant populations in London, the Latin American community often goes unseen and its contributions, needs and rights are routinely ignored. Migration routes into the UK (in combination with immigration status) heighten vulnerability to violence and abuse, with undocumented women and those with visa restrictions especially at high risk of exploitation.

In particular, Latin American migrant women experience: difficult living conditions; restricted access to social protection and services; and low levels of integration, partly due to a lack of English language skills. For the most part, even the most highly skilled and educated find

employment in unregulated, low-paid and exploitative sectors – such as domestic work, cleaning, catering and, increasingly, as sex-workers. As a result they are at risk of violence and exploitation.

The Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS) offers practical and legal advice, advocacy, information and counselling services to women. “A lot of the women who are accessing our services have experienced years of abuse, traumatic experiences that haven't been addressed,” explained Maria-Eugenia, Counselling and Psychotherapy Coordinator at LAWRS. These can be urgent housing needs, finding a job or escaping domestic abuse. By taking a human rights-based approach, LAWRS aims to empower women to make informed decisions.

LAWRS also promotes migrant women's rights. This is particularly important in light of stricter border regulations, restrictive immigration laws and country controls that increase the risk that migrant women are trafficked and exploited. UK Government policies that criminalise undocumented migrants too often override the right to due process and result in the detention and even removal of trafficking victims. It is essential that the issue of trafficking does not become conflated with asylum and migration considerations. Victims of trafficking must not be labelled as criminals when they need and deserve protection and support.

The Latin American Women's Rights Service supports more than

4,000

Latin American women migrants in the UK every year.

1. Paul Peachey, the Independent, “More women forced into slavery after change to immigration law”, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/more-women-forced-into-slavery-after-change-to-immigration-law-8478998.html?origin=internalSearch>, (accessed 20 January 2015).

2. UK Department of Justice, “Second report of the Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group on Human Trafficking”, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/251487/9794-TSO-HMG_Human_Trafficking.pdf, (accessed 20 January 2015).

Grants



© Forest Woodward/
Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Association Vivre Sans Violence

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To address domestic violence in the Swiss Romande area through online information on intimate partner violence.

CARE Deutschland – Luxemburg

USD 330,032 (36 months)

To increase economic opportunities for socially deprived and marginalised women vulnerable to violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina by fostering their economic empowerment.

Centre Social Protestant (CSP)

USD 369,542 (36 months)

To create a new unit within the CSP that provides legal services and a helpline to victims of trafficking.

Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To protect high-risk victims of domestic violence and their children from murder or serious harm by supporting a strong multi-agency response to domestic violence.

Dalberg Global Development Advisors

USD 150,000 (3 months)

To understand how to engage existing corporate-funded women's empowerment programmes in using a rights-based approach.

Everyman Project

USD 370,965 (36 months)

To provide core support to the UK-based Everyman Project to help men who want to change their abusive behaviour.

Foundation for Local Democracy

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To improve the overall response to domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina by strengthening a network of civil society organisations to enable improved coordination, increased capacities and collective advocacy.

Foundation for Women's Empowerment (FWE)

USD 200,000 (12 months)

To establish the FWE in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Fraueninformationszen (FIZ)

USD 416,784 (36 months)

To support FIZ to continue its anti-trafficking work in Switzerland.

Fundar, Center for Analysis and Research

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To enhance the allocation of Government resources and services that protect women from domestic violence in Mexico.

Gender Alternatives Foundation (GAF)

USD 150,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to the GAF in Bulgaria, which provides legal and psychosocial support to victims of domestic violence.

Global Fund for Women

USD 750,000 (36 months)

To support the Women's Platform for the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and surrounding countries.

Global Justice Center

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To enforce international laws that protect human rights and promote gender equality.

International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To enable the participation and influence of women's rights activists from around the world in the review process of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Kalayaan

USD 229,997 (36 months)

To provide core support to Kalayaan.

Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS)

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to LAWRS to help Latin American migrant women in the United Kingdom live free from violence, exploitation and abuse and to actively assert their rights.

NEO Philanthropy (formerly Public Interest Projects)

USD 5,655,000 (36 months)

To administer and expand The Issues Affecting Women Programme's US-based trafficking and exploitation portfolio of grants.

NGO ATINA

USD 225,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to NGO ATINA to enable its continued anti-trafficking work in Serbia.

Open Centre "Bona Fide"

USD 150,000 (36 months)

To combat violence against women and promote an environment of equality, democracy and peace in Pljevlja, Montenegro.

Otaharin

USD 158,920 (36 months)

To provide Otaharin with core support, enabling it to continue to improve the living standards and integration of Roma communities in Bijelina and Zivinice in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Proyecto de Derechos Economicos, Sociales y Culturales (ProDESC)

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To provide ProDESC with core support, enabling it to defend and strengthen the economic, social and cultural rights of Mexican workers and communities affected by transnational companies.

Reconstruction Women's Fund (RWF)

USD 260,000 (36 months)

To provide RWF with core support, enabling it to advance its mission of supporting and sustaining the women's movement in Serbia.

Solidarité Femmes

USD 358,889 (36 months)

To run a campaign and provide consultation services to provide support to 1,000 additional women victims of domestic violence in Geneva, Switzerland by the end of 2015.



The Mediterranean Women's Fund (MedWF)
USD 360,036 (36 months)

To expand the work of MedWF to five countries in the Balkans in order to strengthen women's movements in these countries and the region.

TRAG Foundation
USD 100,000 (12 months)

To strengthen women's movements in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.

WAVE Network
USD 100,000 (12 months)

To increase knowledge of the frameworks under which human rights-based women's services can thrive and maintain their autonomy and sustainability.

WITTER Ventures
USD 75,000 (6 months)

To plan and facilitate a series of events and meetings to roll out the findings of research undertaken around the corporate engagement of women and girls.

Women's Fund in Georgia (WFG)
USD 225,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to WFG, enabling it to challenge discrimination and empower women in Georgia.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
USD 950,000 (36 months)

To provide support to the WILPF, an international women's organisation, founded in 1915, which works on issues of peace, human rights and disarmament at the local, national and international levels.

Womens Link Worldwide (WLW)
USD 384,785 (36 months)

To provide support to WLW as it works to protect migrant women's rights and fights against the trafficking of women in Europe and Latin America.

x:talk
USD 146,400 (36 months)

To provide core support to x:talk so that it empowers sex-workers in London to improve their working lives and collectively challenge the laws and stigma that place them at risk of violence and exploitation.



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1. The **Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS)**, based in the UK, raises awareness of the services it offers in London. LAWRS offers practical and legal advice, advocacy, information and counselling services to Latin American women.
2. The **National Domestic Workers Alliance** works for the respect, recognition and inclusion in labour protection for domestic workers in the United States.

Page 52-53:

1. A tomato-picker and her son who benefitted directly from the work of the **Coalition of Immokalee Workers** in Florida, US.
2. **Just Associates** is a feminist organisation that works in Mesoamerica, Southern Africa and Southeast Asia. Here, four girls hold a poster that reads, "one fight, one voice against rape: defend our sisters."
3. Domestic workers at the **New York Domestic Workers Convention** in October 2014.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Learning Differences



In the Learning Differences Programme, we envision a world where students with learning differences are agents of their own learning success and are supported by educators and environments that expect, embrace and respond to diverse learner profiles.

We support teacher development, student engagement and parental understanding to enable students to follow their own individual paths to lifelong learning success. We seek partners who design and create learning environments that are informed by student voices, neuroscience, personalised learning best practices and universal design concepts.



© New Classrooms



© Teach For the Philippines

Reflections

In 2014 the Learning Differences Programme (LDP) fine-tuned its strategy to better serve students with a wide range of learning profiles to achieve success in public schools and during the transition to, and through, college and other post-secondary opportunities. The revised strategy is based on a set of core beliefs:

1. **Each learner** possesses a diverse set of cognitive, social and emotional assets, knowledge, skills, interests and preferences. These characteristics interact to form a unique learner profile that changes over time.
2. **Students**, particularly those with learning differences, can achieve greater academic success when they understand how they learn and use that knowledge to plan for, and adapt to, learning environments.
3. **Educators** should be prepared for, and have the tools to, respond to diverse learner profiles in order to better serve students with learning differences in general education environments.
4. **Parents** should have the knowledge to understand their child's unique learner profile and the tools to advocate for him/her.
5. **Education systems** should define student success using accountability frameworks with multiple indicators of academic performance as well as measures of social and emotional wellbeing, persistence and engagement.

We envision a world where students with learning differences are agents of their own learning success and are supported by educators and environments that expect, embrace and respond to diverse learner profiles. We support partners who:

1. **strengthen** teacher capacity;
2. **engage** students;
3. **enhance** parents' knowledge and support;
4. **personalise** learning environments;
5. **build** demand; and
6. **explore** learner profiles.

Through these strategies, we will continue our efforts to improve the lives of those with learning differences globally.



The photographs in the LDP section of this report have been provided by LDP grantees and illustrate diverse teaching practices and learning environments around the world.

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grants were made by the Learning Differences Programme in 2014, totalling USD 7.62 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/learning



Helping teachers support students with learning differences worldwide

As a new fifth-grade teacher, Mary Ann Wolf had a young boy named Riley in her classroom. Despite being bright, Riley could not read. He was unable to piece letter sounds together to make a word in reading class.

“When a student struggles, the question is not what’s wrong with the student or what’s wrong with the teacher. The question is what’s wrong with the system?”
- Learning Ally

In addition, Riley was starting to lose faith in himself, and Mary Ann found that repeating traditional teaching approaches was proving fruitless. Concerned, she committed herself to finding a way to help him. “Riley had a phenomenal memory, so I thought maybe he could just memorise whole words visually, instead of struggling with trying to sound out new words,” she said. Mary Ann made a pact with Riley – she would give him ten new words a day on small cards that he could attach to a binder ring and he would practice memorising these words. With this approach, he soon added 800 new words to his reading vocabulary. Later that year, Mary Ann was thrilled to hear Riley’s classmates complain that he was not letting others read aloud because he wanted to keep doing so!

By reaching out to Riley, Mary Ann realised that not all children learn in the same way, and that teachers can use varied instructional approaches to reach all learners. Indeed, Riley’s story gives a clear example of how people learn to read using different capacities and can improve the ways they learn by harnessing their

strengths. “Each person has a different combination of learning strengths and challenges, interests, knowledge and skills,” explained Dana Brinson from Oak’s Learning Differences Programme. “Some children find it easier to match sounds with symbols than others, and for them it may be easy to learn to read, regardless of the instructional approach used. Others, such as children identified as having dyslexia, may benefit from specific instructional approaches that unfortunately are not always taught to the teachers themselves.”

There is a growing awareness that conventional classroom teaching methods do not generally take into account the different ways children learn. Children with learning differences such as dyslexia can reach the same standards as their peers, but teachers need the skills to understand their students and use approaches that work for a wider variety of learners. If teachers are not prepared to help children achieve to their fullest potential, the result is a colossal waste of unrecognised human potential. In addition, when children with learning differences do not receive effective instruction and encouragement, it can have significant negative impacts on their learning and life outcomes.

Often, children recognise when they are struggling and their peers are not. As in Riley’s case above, this can have a deep impact on self-esteem, confidence and children’s engagement with learning. It can also lead young people with learning differences to develop feelings of frustration, disengage from school, and engage in negative behaviour patterns that lead to lower rates of graduation, higher unemployment, and as young adults, a disproportionate level of involvement with the justice system.

Oak believes that typical classrooms, as they have been designed, do not serve children well in terms of helping them to reach their full potential. Only when teachers are supported in understanding individual learners and trained to match instructional methods to the learners in their classrooms can education systems serve all children more effectively, avoiding the negative life outcomes that result when children’s potential is wasted.

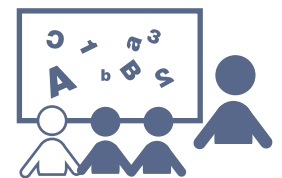
Training teachers

Second only to parents, teachers are the most influential agents of change in children’s lives. However, teacher preparation programmes provide limited training on how to teach students with learning differences such as dyslexia, and students with learning differences who have been identified for special education in the US still spend more than 80 per cent of their days in general classrooms. Typically, school systems do not provide the orientation and coaching necessary to help teachers work confidently with diverse learners – classrooms and curricula are not designed to be accessible to a wider range of learners.

Teachers constantly report that they face the same challenge that Mary Ann did – they do not have the skills they need to teach students with learning differences. “Riley was only one student in my class,” Mary Ann said. “As a teacher alone in my classroom, I couldn’t figure out how to do that for every student.”

Oak believes it is crucial to support teachers’ professional development in order to improve the academic and life outcomes of children with learning differences. Ongoing, in-classroom coaching is the only approach found to help teachers change their day-to-day practice in classrooms.¹ Coaching provides opportunities for teachers to: try new approaches; receive supportive feedback on how to strengthen their work; and see the impact on their own students. Oak therefore supports teachers in reaching diverse types of students through grants, including the following: **New Teacher Center, Teach For All, the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation** and the **Fana Association for Individuals with Learning & Communication Difficulties**.

Please see overleaf for a description of the work of these partners.



Training enables teachers to support children with learning differences such as dyslexia.

¹ Edvance Research Inc, “REL SOUTHWEST REVIEWS EVIDENCE ON HOW TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AFFECTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT”, http://www.edvanceresearch.com/teacher_professional_development_affects_students.htm (accessed 20 January 2015)



New Teacher Center provides new teachers with experienced mentor-coaches during their first year.

New Teacher Center

New Teacher Center (NTC) is a US-based not-for-profit organisation that works to increase teacher effectiveness by providing new teachers with experienced mentor-coaches during their first year. “Traditional methods of instruction are largely used in teacher preparation programmes,” explained Ellen Moir, Founder and CEO of NTC. “This is despite the fact that these methods do not prepare teachers to help children with learning differences reach their full potential.”

“If we expect teachers to personalise learning for students, shouldn’t we personalise learning for teachers?”
 - Ellen Moir, Founder and CEO of New Teacher Center

NTC is training its coaches to provide new teachers with the skills they need to serve diverse learners in their classrooms. The initial steps of this training include: helping new teachers to understand themselves as learners; and enabling teachers to see that how they learn impacts how they teach. “There is a movement toward greater personalisation for students,” said Ellen Moir. “If we expect teachers to personalise learning for students, shouldn’t we personalise learning for teachers?”

Teach For All

Oak supports teacher coaching, not only in the US, but around the globe. Indeed, the quality of education varies enormously around the world. For children with learning differences, especially in developing countries, the challenges of accessing high-quality education are even greater.

Teach For All is a global network of more than 30 independent partner organisations which share a vision for expanding educational opportunities. Each partner recruits and develops graduates and professionals who commit to two-year teaching opportunities in high-need classrooms in their own countries. Rachel Brody of Teach For America worked with two teachers from Teach For Lebanon who spent hours crafting teaching aids and writing songs to teach new skills to their primary school students. One little boy, Mohammed, later said that those two teachers were the first to believe in him and support his learning.

“The more that I collaborate with and learn from my international colleagues, the better I become as an educator, problem-solver and global thinker,” explained Rachel. “I have seen that classroom complexities cross borders, and that we must work together, globally, to support students with learning differences.”

Teach For All has developed a fellowship programme that trains 15 coaches around the world on how to understand and support different learners. The goal is to promote cross-country collaboration in training teachers to support the education of students with learning differences.



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© Teach For Austria

These coaches will: disseminate what they have learned throughout their own regions; train other educators to recognise students with learning differences; and identify and use instructional methods and approaches to best support each student's success.

The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation


The **Friday Institute for Educational Innovation** at North Carolina State University has launched a Massive Open Online Course for Educators (MOOC-Ed) on Learning Differences. The course will support NTC, Teach for All and other educators around the world to understand and support the academic and social development of youth with learning differences.

Mary Ann Wolf, who as a new teacher worked diligently to help Riley learn how to read by using his strengths, is now – 15 years later – leading the design team for the Learning Differences MOOC-Ed. Mary Ann is committed to helping other teachers understand the strengths and challenges different learners bring to the classroom, and to identify resources and approaches that support students' learning. Mary Ann has led her team to design a course that teachers can tailor to their own learning goals and then follow a personalised pathway through the course, while connecting with other teachers to share their own experiences in helping students with learning differences experience success in the classroom. The Learning Differences MOOC-Ed

is available worldwide and free-of-charge to teachers. The course provides additional modules that prepare teacher coaches to develop other teachers' skills in supporting the effective learning of all children in their classrooms.

"We are using technology to reach teachers anywhere in the world, wherever they are on their teaching journey," said Mary Ann. "The MOOC-Ed for Learning Differences connects teachers with resources and colleagues so that they can build important skills and develop habits of mind to help students in their classrooms right now. We hope that, together, we can change the way students with learning differences experience school so that they can enjoy learning and feel confident, just like Riley did when he was finally a successful and confident reader."

The Learning Differences MOOC-Ed is using technology to reach teachers anywhere in the world with free-of-charge resources to help build their skills.

 Find out more at: <https://courses.mooc-ed.org/ld2/preview>



Fana Association

To date the Learning Differences Programme has focused most of its funding on organisations in the United States and the United Kingdom, where dyslexia and other learning disabilities, though still somewhat misunderstood, are routinely recognised as legitimate learning challenges.

However, we know that in many other countries, teachers have not been trained to identify or support the education of children with learning differences.

Ababayehu Messele Mekonnen realised this was the case in Ethiopia, Africa. Along with a group of academics and practitioners who believe that learning differences should not hold children back from achieving their potential, Ababayehu founded the **Fana Association for Individuals with Learning and Communication Difficulties (FAILCD)**.

“There is a huge need to raise awareness about learning and communication difficulties.”

- Ababayehu Mekonnen,
FAILCD

In a small pilot study, FAILCD found that of 36 teachers in 9 schools in Ethiopia, 34 said they did not know much, or at all, about learning differences. “There is a huge need to raise awareness about learning and communication difficulties,” said Ababayehu.

FAILCD provides teacher training, parent support and direct clinical services to children with learning and communication differences such as dyslexia. It hopes to improve the quality of life of children living with learning differences by working, together with schools and communities, to raise awareness on learning and communication difficulties.

“Our hope is that by raising awareness in families and training teachers, we can improve the lives of thousands of Ethiopian children,” said Ababayehu. Oak has provided FAILCD with a core support grant.

Grants



Digital Promise Global (DPG)

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To provide core support to DPG by establishing an international platform to identify and scale up best practices in technology-enabled learning.

Dyslexia International

USD 75,000 (12 months)

To support Dyslexia International in seeking and hiring a CEO to lead the organisation to sustainability and expand its impact internationally.

Friday Institute for Educational Innovation

USD 398,468 (24 months)

To create a massive online open course (MOOC) to provide professional development to teachers and coaches on the use of a neurodevelopmentally-based problem-solving model.

Lesley University

USD 579,461 (60 months)

To develop and train educators to create supportive schools for thousands of children who struggle to learn because of traumatic experiences.

Massachusetts Advocates for Children

USD 409,999 (36 months)

To support Massachusetts Advocates for Children's Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative in implementing, evaluating and refining its framework for creating trauma-sensitive schools.

National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools (NCSECS)

USD 460,000 (36 months)

To support the NCSECS in serving as an independent source for research, guidance and capacity building services for policy makers, school designers and charter school leaders in the US.

New Classrooms

USD 1,000,000 (24 months)

To develop and explore the potential applications of a tool that will capture information on cognitive and social-emotional characteristics of students.

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To assist the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in supporting 17 secondary schools to implement a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to ensure that students, including those with learning differences, graduate high school ready for college and career.

Project Variability

USD 250,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to Project Variability, a start-up not-for-profit organisation in the United States led by Dr Todd Rose.

Public Impact, LLC

USD 399,925 (36 months)

To provide strategic and research support for the Learning Differences Programme's grant-making and field-building efforts.

Teach For All

USD 1,000,000 (24 months)

To support the progress of Teach For All to accelerate the impact of organisations globally that are adapting the model pioneered by Teach For America.

University of North Carolina General Administration

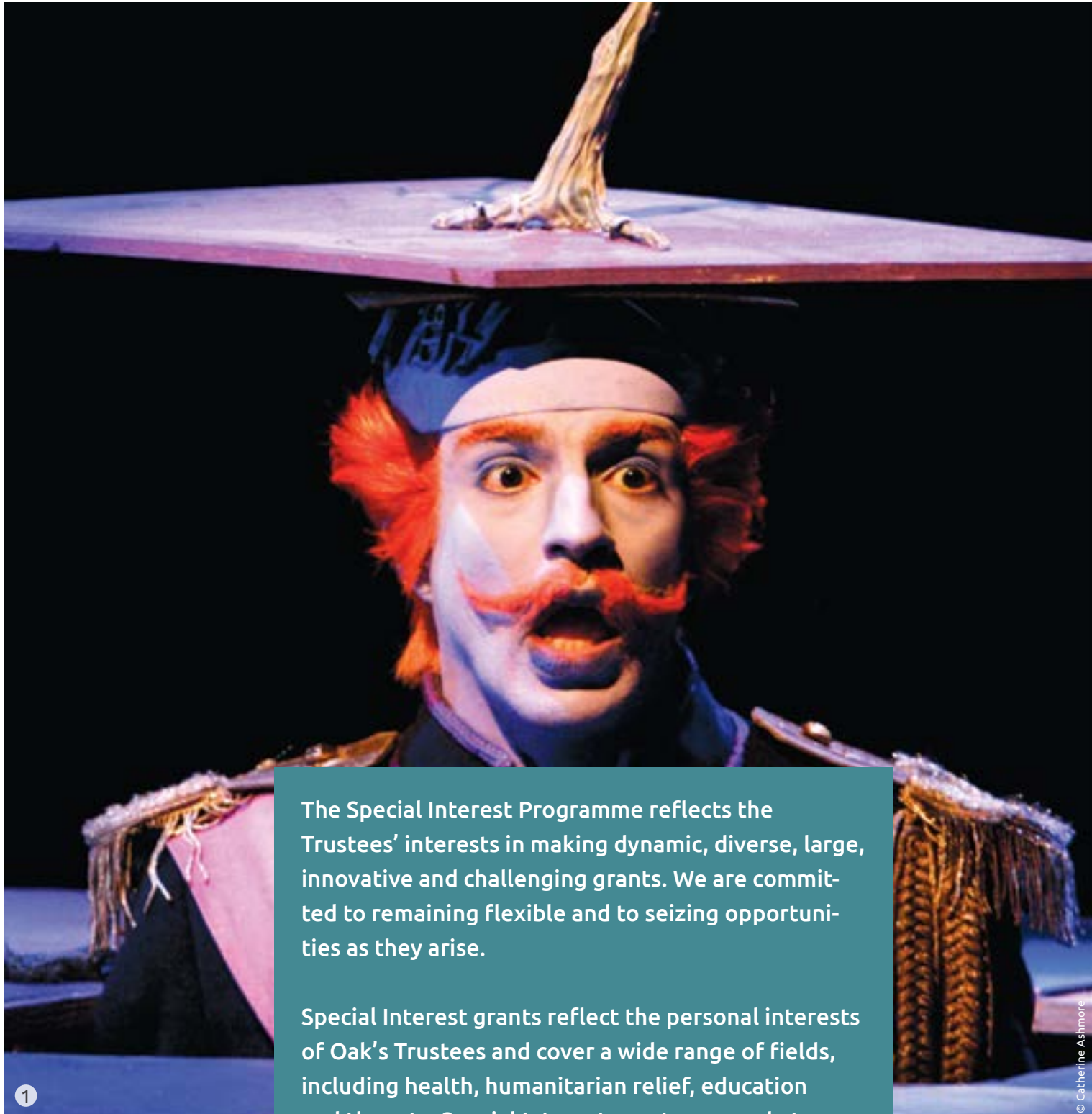
USD 2,499,006 (36 months)

To help recruit, retain and support students with learning differences at CollegeSTAR, a programme initiated by Oak in partnership with the University of North Carolina public university system.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Special Interest



1

The Special Interest Programme reflects the Trustees' interests in making dynamic, diverse, large, innovative and challenging grants. We are committed to remaining flexible and to seizing opportunities as they arise.

Special Interest grants reflect the personal interests of Oak's Trustees and cover a wide range of fields, including health, humanitarian relief, education and the arts. Special Interest grants are made to organisations whose activities the Trustees wish to support, irrespective of country or region.

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Stories

All of the stories within this section represent the diverse range of grants within the Special Interest Programme.

Jette Parker Young Artists Programme

If you have ever been lucky enough to see an Opera in Covent Garden's **Royal Opera House** in London, perhaps you do not remember the details of the performance, but rather how it caused you to feel.

Indeed, this can often be the case after a show. With time, the details of a performance may be forgotten, yet the feelings evoked by the passion of the performers, the beauty of the on-stage costumes and the magic of the theatre will linger on.

Jette Parker, the Trustee behind the Young Artist's Programme, explained how she felt after her first opera show. "I love opera, although I'm not very knowledgeable," she said. "I remember coming out of my first opera at Covent Garden, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, and I thought it had been a wonderful experience."

Jette's appreciation for the arts and her desire to make quality performances available to everyone are what pushed her to offer support to the Young Artists Programme in 2002.

The Jette Parker Young Artists Programme is intended to benefit extremely gifted individuals at the start of their professional careers. Young artists are employed as salaried members of the Royal Opera House over a two-year period. They participate in a specially-tailored programme, which includes extensive daily coaching in languages, stagecraft and vocal techniques, alongside preparation for performing concerts and smaller roles on the main stage.

It is hoped that the support for the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme will help maintain a high standard of excellence in the Arts, and that many people will be able to enjoy a night out at the opera in the years to come.



1. Young artist Michel de Souza as the King (*El gato con botas*).
2. Director Pedro Ribeiro with Jette Parker Young Artists in rehearsal for *El gato con botas*.
3. Kiandra Howarth, Michel de Souza, David Butt Philip and Rachel Kelly during a Young Artists Summer Performance in 2014.

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grants were made by the Special Interest Programme in 2014, totalling USD 32.27 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/specialinterest



90%

of child HIV infections are transmitted via the mother – this is entirely preventable.

EGPAF has reached

20 million

women in Africa with services to prevent transmission of HIV from mother to child.

Preventing mother to child transmission of HIV

The **Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation** (EGPAF) was founded in 1988 by three women sitting around a kitchen table. One of these women, Elizabeth Glaser, had contracted the HIV virus from a blood transfusion during the birth of her daughter Ariel seven years earlier. Unaware of this, she had passed the virus to Ariel while breastfeeding, and then to her son, Jake, a few years later, while he was still in the womb.

“People say they care. But actions are what save lives.”

- Elizabeth Glaser

When Ariel passed away in 1988, Elizabeth decided that she needed to take action. Fearful that Jake would also succumb to the virus, Elizabeth’s grief spurred her on to find a cure for paediatric HIV. Thanks to the determination and resourcefulness of this remarkable woman, Jake is still alive today. In addition, EGPAF was set up, with Elizabeth fighting for its cause until her death in 1994. It is now the world’s leading not-for-profit organisation dedicated to eliminating paediatric HIV and AIDS.

EGPAF supports more than 7,000 sites globally, including clinics and healthcare posts. It operates in 15 countries, of which 13 are in sub-Saharan Africa. Thanks to EGPAF’s support, more than 17 million women have been tested for HIV, and more than 2.2 million individuals,

including some 175,000 children, have been enrolled into HIV care and support programmes.¹ In addition, in May 2014, EGPAF celebrated a significant milestone when it reached its 20 millionth woman with services to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child, just 15 years after it began supporting work in Africa.

This is indeed a huge victory; however, the battle is not yet over. Nearly 700 children continue to be infected with HIV every day and more than 500 HIV-infected children die daily.² This is nothing short of a tragedy when we consider the progress that has been made over the past 25 years in terms of HIV treatment. Some 90 per cent of child HIV infections are transmitted via the mother – and this is entirely preventable.

In addition paediatric healthcare that focuses on HIV treatment has not yet been fully researched. Treating HIV-positive children is not just a simple matter of reducing adult dosages of medicine. Pills are large and difficult to swallow, liquid medicine is bitter-tasting and the treatment and monitoring process is complicated. “Caregivers need support to manage it all,” said Charles Lyons, EGPAF President and CEO. “There is still a huge need to research HIV care specifically targeting children.”


Working towards long-term change

In order to create a long-term, sustainable impact on the HIV epidemic, EGPAF works not just with pregnant women, but with entire communities. It aims to reduce the stigma surrounding the disease. To this end, EGPAF targets

1. Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, “Mission Statement”, <http://www.pedaids.org/pages/mission-statement> (accessed 20 January 2015)

2. Children’s AIDS Fund International, “The State of Children and HIV”, <http://childrensaidsfund.org/the-state-of-children-and-hiv/>, (accessed 20 January 2015).

community leaders, men, caregivers and women to help raise the profile of HIV-positive people and generate community support.

 **“It is still the case that most babies born to HIV-positive mothers have never been tested, and of those who are, many do not receive treatment.”**

**- Charles Lyons,
EGPAF President and CEO**

To date, EGPAF has made steady progress. Between 2009 and 2012 there was a rapid decline of new infections among children – by 50 per cent or more in Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, South Africa and Zambia. More than 62 per cent of HIV-positive women around the world now have access to prevention of mother to child transmission services.

“HIV treatment is a child’s right,” said Lyons. “It must be a global priority – until no child has HIV and no child dies of AIDS.”

Stem cell research

Great leaps have been made in the field of stem cell research in recent years as scientists and doctors strive to find cures for some of the major diseases of our time.

Stem cells have the remarkable potential to develop into many different cell types in the body. They can serve as a sort of internal repair system, dividing to replenish other cells. The enormous potential of stem cells has yet to be fully discovered, but it is hoped they could help cure many diseases, including diabetes, schizophrenia, Parkinson’s disease, cancer and multiple sclerosis. Oak Foundation is supporting stem cell research in the hope that this cutting-edge treatment will benefit the lives of millions of people.

New York Stem Cell Foundation


The New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) is a world-class research institute. It works with major medical research institutions in the US and around the world

to support and enable the most advanced stem cell research. Collaborative projects include research on diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, schizophrenia, Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, cancer, retinopathies and spinal cord injury. NYSCF aims to better understand the underlying causes of disease and to then accelerate development of more effective therapies.

Great Ormond Street Hospital

On the day he was born, Ciaran’s lungs collapsed and he was rushed to **Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH)**, London. He was diagnosed with a rare disorder known as *long segment tracheal stenosis* – he had been born with a very narrow windpipe and had great difficulty breathing. This condition has been described as being similar to running 100 metres while breathing through a straw.

At just six days old, Ciaran underwent major surgery to reconstruct his airways, remaining in intensive care for a further four months. He continued to have difficulties breathing throughout all of his childhood and had to undergo several operations at GOSH. In 2010, by the time he was 12, he was mostly confined to a wheelchair and there did not seem to be much hope of saving his life.

However, the GOSH is an international centre of excellence in child healthcare and he had therefore come to the right place. Professor Paolo De Coppi, Consultant Clinical Senior Lecturer at GOSH and Head of the Surgery Unit at the University College London Institute of Child Health was determined to do something for Ciaran. In 2010 he was part of the team that performed the first successful transplantation of a tissue-engineered windpipe on Ciaran, dramatically improving the young boy’s quality of life. 



1. Mothers waiting to weigh their babies at the care and treatment clinic of the Ruangwa District Hospital in Tanzania.
2. A mother and baby at a Malawi outreach clinic, which provides prevention of mother to child transmission services, HIV testing, education and counselling.

The Great Ormond Street Hospital in London is pioneering the engineering and transplantation of tissue-engineered organs for sick children.



Pioneering work in stem cell research means that organ transplants will be accepted by the body, without the need of immune system repressing drugs.

» By working with a research team to understand better how tissue-engineered organs can be transplanted with the help of stem cell research, Professor De Coppi led the team that injected a donor trachea with some of Ciaran's bone marrow, which contained vital stem cells. To encourage growth, the cells were first mixed with chemicals in the laboratory before being injected into the windpipe, which was then transplanted into Ciaran. This procedure was Ciaran's only option; it was the first time ever that such an operation was performed on a child anywhere in the world.

“My hope is that soon we might build complex organs such as the heart, gullet or intestine; functional organs that can grow with children, eliminating any need for organ donors. We've got a patient population that really needs these alternatives, urgently, if we're to offer them long-term quality of life.”

- Professor Paolo De Coppi
Great Ormond Street
Children's Hospital

Remarkably, the body recognises the stem cells as its own and does not reject the new organ, as is the case with regular organ transplants, so no immune-system repressing drugs are needed. Indeed, two years later, the follow-up appointment with Ciaran showed that the graft had not triggered an immune rejection response at all, but that rather the windpipe had formed an adequate lining, serving to

greatly improve Ciaran's quality of life. In 2014 Professor De Coppi said that the windpipe had not yet achieved normal rigidity but, nonetheless, was allowing Ciaran to lead the life of a normal teenager. Indeed, it seems that Ciaran is doing just that – the latest news from his family included a video of him playing the drums in a band at a family wedding! In addition, the team expects that his body's natural tissue repair mechanisms will continue to strengthen Ciaran's trachea over time.

Expanding care for mothers battling addiction

UNC Horizons is a substance abuse treatment programme for pregnant and parenting women and their children, including those who have experienced abuse and violence. A programme of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of North Carolina (UNC) in Chapel Hill, it works to build up women's confidence, help them overcome addictions and bond better with their children.

Horizons was set up because the regular paths for treatment did not meet the needs of abused women struggling with addictions. “Our discovery was that we needed an option where people could get substance abuse treatment but try to keep their families intact,” said Dr John Thorp, UNC Horizons Program, Executive Medical Director. Horizons is a unique programme in that staff take the time to listen to the women who come through the doors, offering psychiatric care and day care in addition to regular services.



Many women who come to the clinic have battled addictions for years and despair of ever being free from them. Often a child is the main motivating factor behind them asking for help. "I'd been using for over ten years and it was just an ongoing thing... I mean I could not stop no matter what I tried," said one Programme participant. "I did anything I could to make money to buy drugs. I stole from friends, manipulated people, especially my family, to get money." Her daughter was five months old when the mother came to Horizons. "That's what motivated me," she said. "I wanted a better way of life for my child; I wanted this really bad."

"I think having a baby is a teachable moment," explained Dr Thorp. "I think they've promised themselves... while they can't do it for themselves, they will do it for someone else... they will do it for their offspring. So I think Horizons leverages that resolve and helps give them tools to take that resolve and turn it into action."

Many of the women who come to the clinic looking for help have histories of childhood physical and sexual abuse, neglect, deprivation and poverty. In the 2011 – 2012 annual report, Horizons reported that out of the 134 new admissions: 41 per cent had suffered physical abuse as a child; 57 per cent reported a history of sexual abuse (with a majority saying the first assault happened at age 12 or under); and 66 per cent had experienced domestic violence in their lifetimes. "It doesn't excuse the drug-use behaviour," explained one UNC Horizons worker. "But it puts (it) in context... so many women have to use drugs to survive the really horrific things that have happened to them."

“One thing I love about this programme is that they never give up on you, and even if you have given up on yourself, they will say something that will make you realise that you are not alone.”
- Horizons participant

UNC Horizons began treating clients in 1993. It currently reaches more than 350 women each year through outreach and screening and provides treatment services to approximately 250 women and children. »



1. Ciaran enjoys a much better quality of life thanks to the groundbreaking work in stem cell research of Professor Paolo De Coppi and team at the **Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital**, London.
2. Professor Paolo De Coppi, who, along with his team, pioneered the first successful transplant of a tissue-engineered windpipe.
3. Young mothers and their children at **UNC Horizons**, which provides a substance abuse treatment programme for pregnant and parenting women and their children. Many have experienced abuse and violence.

Horizons reaches more than

350

women each year through outreach and screening and provides treatment services to approximately

250

women and children.

Kids Company reaches more than **36,000** children and young people every year.

» Horizons provides women with a recovery and relapse-prevention programme for substance abuse and offers individual and group counselling to help in the process of healing from abuse and violence. It also assists the women to rebuild their lives by helping them to find employment, manage finances and build healthy relationships.

“Often when women come to us, they come after an entire lifetime of being told they’re not good enough, they’re not smart enough, they’re not pretty enough... they’ve spent their whole lives being told what they can’t do. And what Horizons does is help them figure out what they can do...”

- Horizons staff member

“Horizons provides a safe environment, free from drugs, free from violence,” said a UNC Horizons staff member. “It provides (the women) with a secure context that they need – to put their life back together, to get a job, to find that house, to put their relationship with their child together, to reunify with their families.”

Expanding Horizons

Currently the building that Horizons rents is dark, in disrepair and too small to allow for the full operation of its programmes, limiting it in the number of children it can serve. Horizons has identified a new site that is larger, centrally located, easily accessible to public transport and close to the UNC Hospital. The new space will enable Horizons to significantly increase the capacity of the childcare centre, expand programming to include evening activities and provide a bright, cheerful and nurturing environment for staff and clients.

Oak was the first funder to commit significant funds for the project and is proud to support the expansion. Oak welcomes the opportunity to help provide better care to increasing numbers of mothers battling addiction and to their children.

Kids Company

Too many children are born into situations of poverty and deprivation and suffer from relentless violence and chronic abuse. Their parents, perhaps battling with addiction or in and out of prison, are unable to care for them because of their own practical and emotional challenges.

With offices in South London and Bristol, **Kids Company** reaches more than 36,000 of these children and young people every year. Many of the children and young people it supports live in communities where there are high levels of crime, including violent gang activities. An astonishing 50 per cent of these children have seen someone being shot at and/or stabbed in their communities in the previous year. Many are malnourished and living in dirty, unsafe environments.

“Kids Company is a lifeline for a lot of people. If there was no Kids Company a lot of people would be on the street with nowhere to go for help. There should be a Kids Company in every city.”

- Kane, aged 13

Kids Company seeks to replicate the comfort and support of a strong, loving family environment where support is tailored to the needs of each individual. It works on the precept of first providing practical needs, such as healthcare, housing, education and employment. Then, once the young person has achieved some sense of stability and calm, Kids Company works with them on matters of emotional well-being and mental health, helping them to identify talents and interests and develop aspirations for the future. This can include through art, theatre, sports or practical training in a trade such as plumbing and carpentry.

Kids Company is unique in that it fulfils a role that regular social services do not, reaching the children who fall through the cracks of the system and offering all-encompassing support, care and love. It operates through street-level centres, education centres and therapeutic centres and works with more than 40 schools.



© Martin Zingg/MSF



© Kids Company

Miriam

Miriam came to Kids Company more than ten years ago as a severely undernourished little girl. Her biological parents were chronically addicted to drugs and her stepfather was in prison for murder. When Camila Batmanghelidjh, the Chief Executive of Kids Company, visited her in her home, she remembers how Miriam had nothing, but had folded her bed sheets perfectly, one single sign of trying to keep some order in her life, despite the chaos that surrounded her.

During the years that followed, Miriam joined a theatre workshop and made steady progress. In 2014 she was given a leading role in a London West End play and she is currently preparing to go to university. None of this would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of staff at Kids Company, not to mention the amazing courage and determination Miriam has shown in the face of adversity and trying circumstances.

Ebola – strengthening the frontline response

In early September 2014 **Médecins Sans Frontières** (MSF), a medical humanitarian organisation, declared that the Ebola outbreak in West Africa had taken more than 5,900 lives since the previous March.

This severe, often fatal illness first appeared in 1976 and in the early years was found to infect people in remote villages near rainforests in Central Africa. However, the more recent outbreaks in West Africa have occurred in both urban

and rural areas. According to the World Health Organization, the virus spreads through human-to-human transmission, with fatality rates at about 50 per cent.¹

MSF has already worked in treating Ebola over the decades, making it the standard-setting expert on how to respond to this virulent disease. Its response to the March 2014 outbreak began well before the rest of the international community realised the urgency of the situation. MSF is now active in all four affected countries – Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Mali – working on both treatment and prevention.

Given the scale of the crisis, MSF has set up an international emergency fund for the Ebola crisis in West Africa, which will allow the organisation to respond quickly and flexibly to priority needs. The response to Ebola is particularly expensive, as the medical equipment has to be incinerated after contact with each patient, and medical staff must be rotated out frequently.

Concerned by the gravity of the situation, Oak Foundation's Trustees were pleased to make a grant of USD 2.5 million to help fund MSF's Ebola response in West Africa.



1. In northern Liberia, an **MSF** health promoter supports a young mother whose son has Ebola.
2. **Kids Company** provides support to children who grow up surrounded by high levels of crime in their communities, including violent gang activities.

Between March and September 2014, Ebola had claimed more than

5,900

lives in West Africa.

Médecins Sans Frontières is the standard-setting expert on how to respond to this virulent disease.

1. World Health Organization, "Ebola virus disease", <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/> ((accessed 20 January 2015)).

Grants



Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation **USD 1,000,000 (60 months)**

To mobilise support for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City schools.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA

USD 250,000 (60 months)

To build healthy communities where all children and youth have the opportunity to cultivate the values, skills and relationships that lead to positive behaviour, better health and educational achievement.

Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

USD 1,000,000 (24 months)

To provide core support to CHAI.

Colby College

USD 400,000 (12 months)

To support the William D. Adams Scholarship Fund, which provides financial aid for students to attend Colby College in Maine, US.

Coram's Field

USD 324,880 (36 months)

To improve health and employment outcomes for children and youth aged 4-19 years old in Camden, a densely-populated and deprived area in central London.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

USD 500,000 (48 months)

To support Dana-Farber in developing psychosocial interventions that help young adults with blood cancer in Boston, US.

DC Center for the Development and Promotion of Soccer

USD 559,500 (60 months)

To connect girls from different countries in a forum that addresses social and health challenges through cultural exchange, service and soccer.

Deep Griha Society (DGS)

USD 200,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to DGS to undertake organisational and programmatic changes towards long-term sustainability.

Duke School

USD 511,229 (56 months)

To provide the individual support and instruction that students with learning differences or other academic challenges need to achieve academic success and independence in Duke School, Durham, North Carolina.

Duke University

USD 500,000 (38 months)

To establish a world-class Marine Conservation Summer Institute that provides practical training in the field.

Durham Nativity School

USD 300,000 (48 months)

To provide a tuition-free, enriched learning environment and a support system for middle school boys who have the ability and commitment to achieve, but lack the resources for a quality, independent school education.

El Pueblo, Inc

USD 399,989 (48 months)

To ensure fair and equal access to healthcare for Latino people in North Carolina.

Fondation des Fondateurs

USD 1,000,000 (17 months)

To evaluate the threat posed by the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership to regulations in European Union health, environmental, human rights and democratic processes and to counter those threats in a strategic and collaborative way.

Fondation du parc zoologique La Garenne

USD 1,111,111 (31 months)

To support the construction of a new animal park - dedicated to the regional wild species - in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland.

Friends For All Children

USD 100,000 (12 months)

To provide core support to Friends for All Children to improve the lives of the poor and marginalised in Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Burma.

Good Shepherd International Foundation (GSIF) ONLUS

USD 411,000 (36 months)

To support GSIF in implementing its strategic plan.

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity (GOSH)

USD 1,600,000 (60 months)

To support the GOSH to develop rejection-free organ transplants for children with life-threatening intestinal failure.

Gynaecology Cancer Research Fund

USD 320,000 (24 months)

To reduce deaths from ovarian cancer in the UK through improved risk prediction and early diagnosis of the disease.

Handcrafting Justice, Inc

USD 400,000 (48 months)

To provide access to Fair Trade markets for unique, handmade goods created by enterprising women in the developing world.

Hispanics in Philanthropy

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To strengthen Latino communities in North Carolina, the US.

Imperial College London

USD 800,000 (60 months)

To support the HELIX Centre at Imperial College London to develop cost-effective, high-impact, design-led initiatives and technologies that improve end-of-life care.

Jenifer Altman Foundation

USD 3,000,000 (36 months)

To strengthen civil society engagement to improve EU policies on endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs).

Keeping Kids Company (Kids Company)

USD 1,280,000 (12 months)

To provide two core support grants to Kids Company, based in the UK, as it works to become sustainable in the long term.

Kids in Need of Defense

USD 1,000,000 (24 months)

To protect unaccompanied Central American immigrant and refugee girls in transit.



Lincoln Community Health Center, Inc

USD 200,000 (36 months)

To help infants, toddlers and preschool-aged children from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Greater Durham community in North Carolina, US to succeed in school.

Médecins Sans Frontières Suisse (MSF)

USD 2,500,000 (10 months)

To contribute to MSF's emergency response for the Ebola crisis in West Africa.

Mermaid Projektet

USD 1,491,257 (56 months)

To support the Mermaid III project in Denmark to develop methods to diagnose ovarian cancer at the earliest possible stage.

New Economics Foundation

USD 1,600,000 (36 months)

To achieve systemic economic change in Europe.

Operation Homefront, Inc

USD 500,000 (36 months)

To provide emergency assistance to military families and wounded/injured veterans with the goal of ending immediate crises and establishing family situations.

Purpose

USD 505,939 (12 months)

To mobilise consumers in the US to change the current food system into one in which:
 a) people are treated fairly, know and understand what is in their food and have access to affordable, nutritious food;
 b) animals are treated humanely; and c) the planet is preserved and protected.

Robin Hood Foundation

USD 3,000,000 (36 months)

To provide core support to Robin Hood Foundation, whose mission is to fight poverty in New York City.

Robin Hood Foundation

USD 500,000 (24 months)
 To implement a fellowship programme dedicated to meeting the need for high-quality legal assistance for immigrants seeking citizenship and fighting deportation.

Scholars' Latino Initiative (SLI)

USD 250,000 (48 months)

To provide core support to SLI, based in North Carolina, US.

Sidney De Haan Research Centre For Arts and Health

USD 1,438,800 (72 months)

To provide core support to the Sidney De Haan Centre for Arts and Health in the UK.

Sports Legacy Institute

USD 300,000 (36 months)

To advance the study, treatment and prevention of the effects of brain trauma in athletes and other at-risk groups.

The Sacconi Development Trust

USD 480,000 (60 months)

To provide core support and to further the development of the Sacconi quartet, its annual festival and associated charitable activities.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

USD 1,600,000 (60 months)

To fund 25 fellows in the United Kingdom annually to travel 6-8 weeks around the world with the aim of exploring new ways of tackling various challenges currently facing the UK.

UNC Horizons

USD 1,000,000 (12 months)

To purchase a permanent, sustainable home for Horizons, a programme of the University of North Carolina, which provides care to women and their children affected by substance abuse disorders.

University of Calgary

USD 940,203 (60 months)

To provide leadership to the Faculties of Environmental Design and the Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary.

Veteran Homestead

USD 250,000 (24 months)

To provide affordable housing and services to homeless veterans at Veteran Victory Farm, New Hampshire, US.

WWF International

USD 444,449 (36 months)

To inspire and provide young people with the opportunity to engage in the conservation of the environment through internship programmes in WWF's offices around the world.



1. A mother holding her baby at the STAR-SW event in Uganda. **EGPAF's** STAR-SW project works to increase the use, access to, and coverage of quality comprehensive HIV/AIDs and tuberculosis services in southwestern Uganda.
2. Donald Freytes and Emily Wrona (two researchers at the **New York Stem Cell Foundation**) at work. Stem-cells have the remarkable potential to cure some of the major diseases of our time.
3. **Kids Company** provides support to children who grow up surrounded by high levels of crime in their communities in London and Bristol, including violent gang activities. Kids Company works to provide these children with support, care and love.



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Joint India Programme



India's economic growth continues at a rapid rate, yet millions of people continue to live in extreme poverty. Although the Government provides safety nets for the most vulnerable, they are not easily accessible for everyone.

In the Joint India Programme, five Oak Programmes work together to address a combination of issues that affect vulnerable populations in Jharkhand and West Bengal in east India. Ultimately, we aim to: (1) improve the lives of the most marginalised groups; (2) end violence against women and children; (3) amplify active voices; and (4) build strong organisations at the grassroots.

1



© Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action (CREA)



© Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action

Reflections

Challenging social norms in India

Long-entrenched patriarchal structures in India have resulted in social norms that exclude certain groups of people from opportunities.

Social norms are defined by caste, class, gender, age, religion, sexual identity and region. The law tries to diminish the effects of negative social norms but in reality, it is limited in its ability to do so. The result is that some rights are denied to women, girls, tribal people and the *Dalit* communities.

The Joint India Programme works to improve the social and economic opportunities of marginalised populations. It recognises that, in order to do this, social norms must be addressed. Oak's partners question some of the regressive social norms that result in social injustice.

Our experience is that social norms are deep-rooted. The diverse socio-cultural context of India makes the issue of social norms extremely complex and challenging to address. Although progressive legislation has been introduced to facilitate change in attitudes and behaviour, legislation alone cannot change social norms. We believe that change is only possible if multiple stakeholders who understand how social norms in India operate, work together to implement longterm rigorous

processes that address these norms.

Some of our partners include: **Breakthrough**, which seeks to make discrimination and violence against women and girls unacceptable; **NIRMANA**, which campaigns for the rights of domestic workers; and **Video Volunteers**, which works with marginalised communities in Jharkhand to raise awareness of social issues and trigger community action.

Change is slow – patiently implemented processes are achieving incremental impacts. However, we believe that building a platform of stakeholders focused on social norms helps laws to be enforced and change to be enacted. We recognise that social norms are interconnected; we support partners that work on a range of social issues.

In this section we have highlighted some of our partners' work on changing norms. These examples and photographs bring to life the realities of our partners' work in India.



1. **Breakthrough** works to prevent childhood marriage and promote positive gender norms in Jharkhand, India.
2. & 3. **Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action** works to empower women and girls.

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grants were made by the Joint India Programme in 2014, totalling USD 4.45 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/india



Breakthrough works to challenge social norms and traditions that lead to early marriage.

The following two cases show how Oak’s partners help communities challenge beliefs and practices that violate the rights of the most marginalised populations in India.

Changing social norms, affirming identities

Kamla from the Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand was married when she was 12 years old. Her father worked as a labourer and believed that marrying his daughter off early would relieve him of the burden of caring for her financially.

However, Kamla was continually abused by her husband and ended up having to escape back to her parents. Kamla’s father was filled with remorse to such an extent that he now motivates parents in his village to allow girls to pursue their studies. Kamla has also pledged to do everything she can to help her own daughter study and realise her dreams.

Breakthrough works with local organisations and members of the community in Jharkhand to make discrimination and violence against women and girls unacceptable. Between 2011 and 2014 Oak supported Breakthrough to challenge social norms and traditions that lead to early marriage.

This was the first time that a campaign exclusively focused on early marriage was implemented in the state. So far, proactive community action against early marriage is on the rise; this is critical if gender-biased norms are to be successfully challenged.

Strengthening elected women representatives

In 2010 Indu Bala Sawansi from the East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand was elected to the local urban council. In this male-dominated environment, she was unsure at first about whether or not she would be taken seriously. She did not feel confident and even contemplated stepping down.

Indu received two years of training from **Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action (CREA)** in New Delhi. This, along with interactions with other women representatives from the local village and urban councils, built her confidence and enabled her to embrace her role. She is now strongly established as a people’s representative who fully understands her position.

CREA conducts short-term courses and training sessions to strengthen female leadership and collective power for social transformation in India. Indu is part of CREA’s efforts to strengthen the capacity of elected women representatives to be effective in their roles. This was done across four districts of Jharkhand where the local political structures are male-dominated. For the 350 women trained by CREA, it has been life changing to make decisions that benefit women and girls and trigger wider women’s movements across communities.

Grants



ANJALI

USD 297,405 (36 months)

To provide core support to ANJALI to enable it to continue demonstrating alternatives to hospital care for women survivors of mental illnesses in India.

Azad Foundation

USD 460,685 (36 months)

To increase the number of women who drive taxis for their livelihoods in Delhi, India.

Bindrai Institute for Research Study and Action (BIRSA)

USD 194,449 (24 months)

To support the work of BIRSA-Mines Monitoring Centre to strengthen its action on human rights in Jharkhand.

Bindrai Institute for Research Study and Action (BIRSA)

USD 184,249 (22 months)

To provide core support to BIRSA to create a system of community forest governance in Jharkhand.

Breakthrough

USD 450,000 (36 months)

To support Breakthrough in strengthening its campaign to prevent early marriage in Jharkhand, India.

Global Greengrants Fund

USD 900,000 (36 months)

To support grassroots organisations and movements concerned with: populations heavily dependent on forests; small-scale fish-workers; and landless communities and small farmers.

IPAS

USD 446,000 (36 months)

To strengthen women's knowledge, capacities and access to comprehensive contraception and abortion care in Jharkhand and West Bengal in India with the aim of preventing mortality and morbidity from unsafe abortions.

Jagori

USD 99,715 (14 months)

To understand the root causes of violence and harassment of women and girls in urban parts of Jharkhand.

Maitri

USD 263,451 (36 months)

To enable rickshaw pullers to assert their identity and access citizenship rights in Ranchi in India.

OXFAM

USD 483,100 (24 months)

To support policies that will make renewable energy accessible, equitable and affordable to the poor, and to raise awareness among the urban middle classes of the need to ensure the sustainable use of resources.

RAHI Foundation

USD 164,982 (33 months)

To strengthen RAHI in increasing awareness around the issue of incest and child sexual abuse in India and build resources within West Bengal for effective prevention and response.

Sanhita

USD 203,311 (36 months)

To enable formal and informal organisations to adopt an institutional approach to prevent and redress the sexual harassment of women in their workplaces.

SEWA Bharat

USD 303,428 (36 months)

To strengthen current interventions in Murshidabad (West Bengal), India that engage women beedi-rollers and adolescent girls.



1. The **Feminist Approach to Technology** works to empower women in India by encouraging and enabling them to feel capable and comfortable with technology.
2. **Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action** works to empower women and girls in India.
3. **Video Volunteers** is a community media organisation that seeks to

empower the most disadvantaged communities by enabling people to expose under-reported stories from their communities through video citizen journalism.

4. The **Calcutta Samaritans** works to secure childcare, education, nutrition and community safety services for four slum communities in Calcutta.



This is a list of our grants approved in 2014. For a comprehensive list and full descriptions, please visit our grant database at www.oakfnd.org/grants

Oak Foundation Denmark



Oak Foundation Denmark is a national programme. In this Programme, we provide grants to organisations in Denmark and Greenland.

We seek innovative solutions that improve the daily lives and future prospects of socially vulnerable and marginalised groups. In particular, we focus on initiatives that target ethnic minority women, homeless people, mothers, children, immigrants and refugees.

1

© Torsten Grøbe



Promoting social cohesion

Coming from different cultures and backgrounds, it can sometimes be difficult for ethnic minority groups in Europe to feel integrated into the community. Often they can suffer from a sense of isolation and loneliness. In addition, the women in particular struggle to gain access to a steady income and financial stability.

Ishtar is a project run by women of ethnic minority in Nørrebro, a district in Copenhagen, which aims to provide employment and a meeting place for these women. Originally a second hand clothes shop set up by Danchurchsocial, a not-for-profit organisation, it initially enabled women of ethnic minority to meet each other, as both staff and customers, helping to promote a sense of belonging and social integration.

When Danchurchsocial chose to close the shop, some of the women decided to take over the running of it. Oak Foundation supported the initial investment to help them start, and the women have expanded the project to make it sustainable. They have opened a café, which they run in a nearby sports centre.

The women involved in this project all come from ethnic minority groups and are aged between 18 and 67 years old. Together, they provide cooking classes, catering services and run the shop and the café. Many are learning Danish and enjoying being part of a multicultural group.

The project provides those working there with the opportunity to use their skills and discover their potential, building confidence and providing a stepping stone to the job market in Denmark. In addition, it brings people together, promoting a sense of cohesion and belonging. This reduces stress, improving the quality of life and the health of the women and their families.



1. **Ishtar** is a project based in Copenhagen that promotes social cohesion and allows women of ethnic minority to work and run their own businesses. They provide cooking classes and catering and they also run a second hand clothes shop and a café. Here a couple enjoy a cooking class.
2. Cooks working for the Ishtar project in Copenhagen.
3. Staff from crisis centres in Greenland. They work to support women and children who have experienced domestic violence.

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grants were made by the Denmark Programme in 2014, totalling USD 4.58 million.



Find out more at www.oakfnd.org/denmark

The number of young homeless people in Denmark rose by

80%

between 2009 and 2013.

The rise in homelessness among youth

The number of homeless people under 25 in Denmark is growing at a rapid rate – reported figures jumped from 633 in 2009 to 1,138 in 2013.¹ However, these figures do not include another large group of young people without a home – those who do not use the shelters but sleep on various friends' or acquaintances' couches every night, until the friend grows tired of them and they have to move on.

Many from this group have had difficult childhoods and are estranged from, or have troubled relationships with, family and friends. Some 45 per cent have been diagnosed with psychiatric illnesses and some 58 per cent use marijuana daily.² Typically they have not finished school. Unemployed, they make money by collecting bottles, begging and criminal acts.

Homeless organisations are aware that if a person lacks a stable home for a certain length of time, there is a high chance they will eventually resort to sleeping on the street. By this point, it is even harder to help them. That is why many not-for-profit organisations work to reach this vulnerable group sooner rather than later. However, this group of young people are difficult to find, as they do not consider themselves homeless and go unreported.

There are several reasons for the rise in homelessness across the country. One is the decreasing availability of affordable housing – which, between 2007 and 2013, has either halved or decreased by one third, depending on the area.³

“Too few cheap places to live and too little help at an early stage marginalise vulnerable young people. They run the risk of becoming tomorrow's generation of real homeless people.”

- Lars Benjaminsen, expert in homelessness, University of Aarhus

One of Oak's partner organisations, **Project Udenfor**, has worked with homeless people for the last 18 years. Project Udenfor specialises in helping homeless people who either reject or are rejected by homeless hostels. Specifically, it reaches out to unreported groups of young homeless people before it is too late. Among other initiatives, the Project offers the use of a locker-room to store belongings. It also provides meals, practical help and the option of speaking with a social worker.



1. **Gadejuristen** provides legal and practical aid to migrant sex-workers and other marginalised groups in Copenhagen. They work on the streets through the night to reach as many people as possible.
2. Often young homeless people go unreported. They do not tend to use homeless shelters but instead sleep on various friends' or acquaintances' couches every night, until they eventually end up on the street. **Project Udenfor** works to reach this vulnerable group.

^{1,2 & 3} Lars Benjaminsen & Heidi Hesselberg Lauritzen, "Hjemløshed i Danmark 2013, <http://www.sfi.dk/rapporttoplysninger-4681.aspx?Action=1&NewsId=4007&PID=9267> (accessed 20 January 2015)

Grants



Børnehuset SIV

USD 25,641 (12 months)

To support the Children's House SIV, a not-for-profit organisation for children with serious illnesses.

Børns Vilkår (Children's Welfare)

USD 54,945 (12 months)

To upgrade the IT equipment at Children's Welfare, a private, not-for-profit organisation that works to help neglected children.

Café Klare

USD 145,485 (24 months)

To employ a kitchen coordinator to ensure good quality, healthy food for customers.

Foreningen Be Free

USD 26,571 (12 months)

To finance the salary of the manager of the *Be Free* association – a social drop-in centre for young people in Roskilde.

Foreningen Frida Kahlo Huset

USD 248,566 (24 months)

To provide support to the Frida Kahlo House in Aarhus.

Gadejuristen

USD 387,912 (36 months)

To provide practical and legal aid to migrant sex-workers in Copenhagen by working at night to reach them on the streets.

Hansen & Pedersen film og fjernsyn

USD 183,150 (12 months)

To support the production of a documentary called *The Life of Bonnie* which aims to counteract a rising tendency among young people to be attracted to sex-work as both clients and workers.

Horton Hovedpineforening

USD 19,963 (12 months)

To finance a seminar to help patients afflicted with "Horton" headaches, and their relatives.

Ishtar - de etniske rødstrømper

USD 175,824 (18 months)

To support a group of women of ethnic minority to set up a cafeteria in Nørrebro in Copenhagen.

Kirkens Korshær i Aarhus

USD 103,001 (12 months)

To support a new shelter in Aarhus, which will improve facilities for Greenlanders.

Kontaktcenter Klippen

USD 45,813 (12 months)

To support the outreach programme at Klippen, a drop-in-centre in Copenhagen for homeless persons, drug addicts and sex-workers.

Krisecenter for Kvinder

USD 53,846 (12 months)

To landscape a new garden and playground at a crisis centre for women in Aalborg.

Mary Fonden

USD 989,011 (36 months)

To build capacities of employees at all crisis centres in Greenland.

Mændenes Hjem

USD 38,210 (12 months)

To support a new lock system in the recently renovated shelter of the Men's Home, Copenhagen, which caters to homeless and marginalised men in the city.

Missionen blandt Hjemløse

USD 65,751 (12 months)

To support the garden centre of the Mission for Homeless People in Copenhagen.

Modrehjælpen af 1983 (Mother's Help)

USD 915,751 (36 months)

To set up Mothers' Aid in Aalborg.

Mødestedet Sind Skive

USD 24,103 (12 months)

To support Mødestedet Sind, a drop-in and activity centre for mentally ill young people in Skive, northwest Denmark.

Møltrup Optagelseshjem

USD 173,993 (12 months)

To support Møltrup Community Home in purchasing a double-decker bus, which will act as a mobile café and be served and managed by the men from the Home.

Østjysk Bolig

USD 33,883 (12 months)

To support a new housing project in Aarhus which facilitates social interaction among homeless and non-homeless people.

Projekt UDENFOR

USD 504,212 (36 months)

To support the project *The Excluded*, which focuses on outreach work among young homeless people in Copenhagen.

SFINX Film/TV Aps

USD 54,945 (12 months)

To support the production of the documentary *Mission Rape*, produced by Sfinx Film.

Sorggrupper for børn og unge i Holstebro og omegn

USD 20,147 (12 months)

To support help groups in Holstebro, east Denmark, for children and adolescents who have lost their nearest relatives.

Støtteforeningen for Café Tumling

USD 22,711 (26 months)

To support the work of Café Tumling's four cafés in the northern part of Denmark, which provide meeting places for parents who have suffered abuse.

The Night Light Café

USD 56,960 (12 months)

To finance the salary of the Project Manager and employees of the Night Light Café in Copenhagen, which works to help women sex-workers from Nigeria.

Værestedet Muhabet Århus

USD 73,260 (12 months)

To support Muhabet – a drop-in centre in Aarhus for mentally ill women and men, in particular refugees and immigrants.

Værestedet Perlen

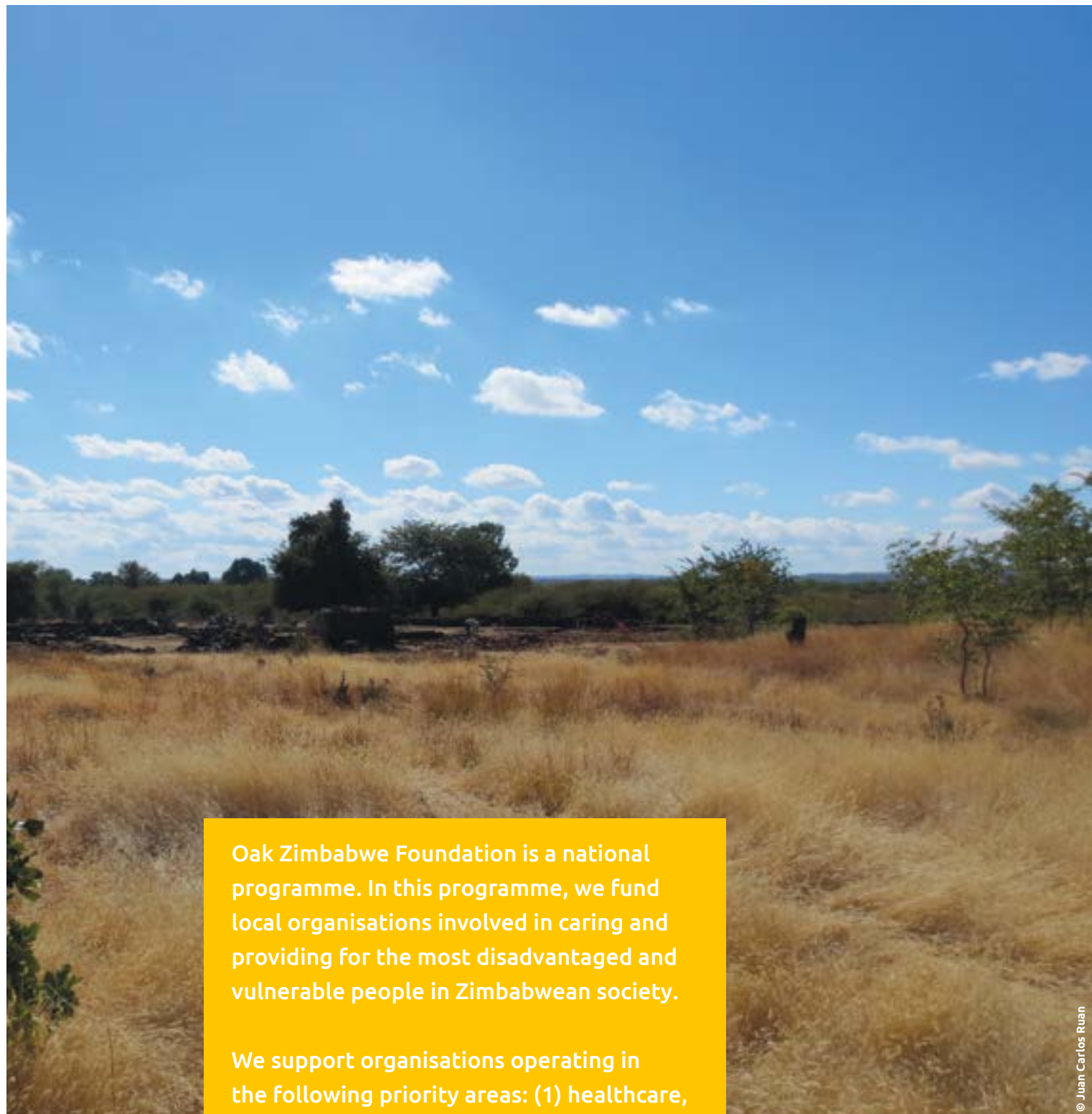
USD 133,700 (36 months)

To provide core support to Perlen, the only drop-in centre for marginalised people in Nykøbing Mors, a remote part of northern Denmark.



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Oak Zimbabwe Foundation



Oak Zimbabwe Foundation is a national programme. In this programme, we fund local organisations involved in caring and providing for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Zimbabwean society.

We support organisations operating in the following priority areas: (1) healthcare, including HIV/AIDS; (2) rural water supplies; (3) special needs education; and (4) helping vulnerable women, children and elderly persons.



The Bethany Project

Zvishavane is a mining town surrounded by low hills in Midlands Province, Zimbabwe. Oak Zimbabwe Foundation supports the Bethany Project which works to improve the wellbeing of the people, mostly in the rural parts of this region.

Projects include working with the communities and providing for school children in Zvishavane, in terms of paying for school fees and supplying exercise books. The Project has a focus on children living with HIV, as there is a wide prevalence of the disease in this area. The Project also works to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention in the Province.

As in other places in Africa, whole communities have been ravaged by the effects of this disease, with many orphaned children having to be brought up by their grandparents. The Bethany Project has helped organise support groups for children and the elderly with the assistance of the Zimbabwe Network for people living with HIV.

The Project also organises the joint ownership of livestock within the communities, where caregivers take turns looking after the animals and everyone enjoys the benefits of fresh milk and eggs. In 2014 more than 200 people looked after goats, chickens and pigs. The Project also supervises 140 people in tending vegetable plots.

The Zvishavane Council has pledged to donate a piece of land to the Bethany Project, which would like to use the land to establish a small dairy farm. This would provide milk for the orphaned children in the area and generate revenue – any additional milk can be sold.

This project is an example of one of several grants all around the country. Oak Zimbabwe Foundation supports Projects which work to help the most vulnerable and marginalised people.

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grants were made by Oak Zimbabwe Foundation in 2014, totalling USD 1.02 million.

Grants



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© Juan Carlos Ruan

HIV/AIDS

Bethany Project

USD 91,515 (12 months)

To mobilise communities to promote the wellbeing of orphans and other vulnerable children.

Development Aid From People to People in Zimbabwe - HOPE Humana People to People

USD 59,487 (12 months)

To implement quality community-led projects that empower people with knowledge, skills and tools to improve their wellbeing.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Chiredzi

USD 29,300 (12 months)

To contribute towards the reduction of HIV prevalence while mitigating its impact on communities.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Rusape

USD 53,000 (12 months)

To facilitate the provision of sustainable livelihoods, health support, and HIV/AIDS care and prevention to vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Mashonaland West

USD 52,357 (12 months)

To facilitate the provision of sustainable livelihoods, health support, and HIV/AIDS care and prevention to vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Family AIDS Caring Trust, Nyanga

USD 51,960 (12 months)

To facilitate the provision of sustainable livelihoods, health support, and HIV/AIDS care and prevention to vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Island Hospice and Bereavement Services

USD 79,500 (12 months)

To increase the palliative care capacity of community caregivers and health professionals.

Kubatana Vocational Training Centre

USD 67,900 (12 months)

To promote the early treatment of cancer and to encourage adherence to anti-retroviral treatment for HIV.

Mashambanzou Care Trust

USD 55,000 (12 months)

To provide care and support to people living with HIV and to empower local communities to effectively deal with the illness.

National St Johns Council for the Republic of Zimbabwe

USD 59,500 (12 months)

To continue to reduce cases of HIV infection by raising awareness among members of the public and care for people living with HIV.

Salvation Army, Masiye Camp

USD 38,200 (12 months)

To increase access to psychosocial support programmes for orphans and vulnerable children in the Matobo District, in particular those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Special needs

Dance Trust of Zimbabwe

USD 33,001 (12 months)

To promote the art of dance through the Dance Trust of Zimbabwe and to award grants and bursaries to students and teachers of dance.

Isheanesu Multi-purpose Centre for Disabled Children

USD 19,200 (12 months)

To continue to provide care and support for children with a wide range of disabilities.

NZEVE Deaf Children's Centre

USD 44,589 (12 months)

To serve as a centre for deaf and hard of hearing people that promotes the rights of children and youth with disabilities to participate fully in society.

Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Center

USD 17,369 (12 months)

To care for destitute adults in the Centre's care in order to provide education, skills training, shelter, warmth and food.

Zimcare Trust

USD 179,718

To provide four grants to assist children with learning difficulties by providing them with specialised education and rehabilitation services

Other

National Gallery of Zimbabwe

USD 50,000 (12 months)

To carry out the renovation of the National Gallery of Zimbabwe.

Simukai Child Protection Program

USD 35,000 (12 months)

To continue reuniting and re-integrating children with their families, and to provide a safe place for abused and neglected children.

Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Center

USD 5,000

To care for destitute adults in the Centre's care in order to provide education, skills training, shelter, warmth and food.

Zimbabwe Association of Church-Related Hospitals (ZACH)

USD 5,000

To provide funding to ZACH for its Annual General Meeting.



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Oak supports partners in Zimbabwe who are involved in micro projects such as the “live-stock pass-on scheme”. This allows more rural families to benefit communally from the opportunity to raise goats, chickens and pigs.



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Comments

Please email commdept@oakfnd.org if you would like to provide feedback on this Annual Report.

Disclaimer

The editors have tried to ensure the accuracy of this report but cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The names of all children mentioned in this publication have been changed.

