

CONCERN AMERICA

2024 Annual Report

Spring 2025

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings! Welcome to Concern America's annual report. We take our role seriously as stewards of your generosity by showing all that your support made possible and being transparent with our finances. If you would like more information, I invite you to visit our website and view our annual audit and IRS 990 report. Once again, we are proud to share we received a Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency and four out of four stars on Charity Navigator- the highest ratings!

In our finances, you can see that 94% of our revenue is individual gifts from supporters like you. This broad base of supporters, made up of over 2,000 people this past year, provides us with the financial stability to carry out our current programs and plan for the future and expanding our impact.

We are community-based in our supporters as well as in our work. Deeply rooted in the communities, our work is led by local people with a mission and vision for positive change. At our core, we strive to live up to the creed "nothing about us without us." We do this by taking a long view of our work and seeing the growth of local skills and community-led change over time.



This year, this can be seen in the following ways: the local team in Colombia expanded to five, leading the teaching clinic, community visits, and many of the training courses. In Guatemala, 24 practitioners graduated from their three-year training, expanding quality and affordable health care to 8,000 people. In Chiapas, Mexico, the local team has created new educational materials, transforming the local school system for 13,500 students. And already, in our new project near San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, the first cohort of 40 health promoter practitioners are improving the health of their communities after completing their first year of training. These are only a few highlights.

Thank you for being part of this global community. Each supporter, volunteer, staff and board member, field team, health practitioner, educator, water system builder, and artisan makes Concern America possible. We invite you to give a financial gift at this time, as you are able; reach out to find ways to volunteer your time; become a monthly supporter; consider a legacy gift by including Concern in your estate plans; and so much more!

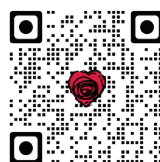
With gratitude and in peace,



John Straw
Executive Director

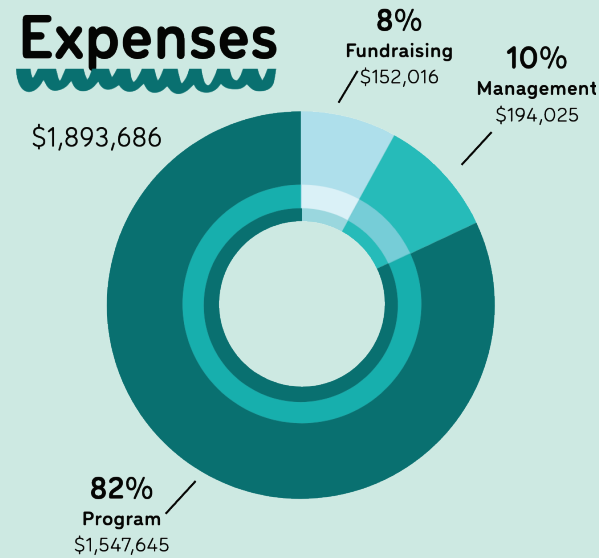


Donate by mail,
at concernamerica.org,
or scan code.

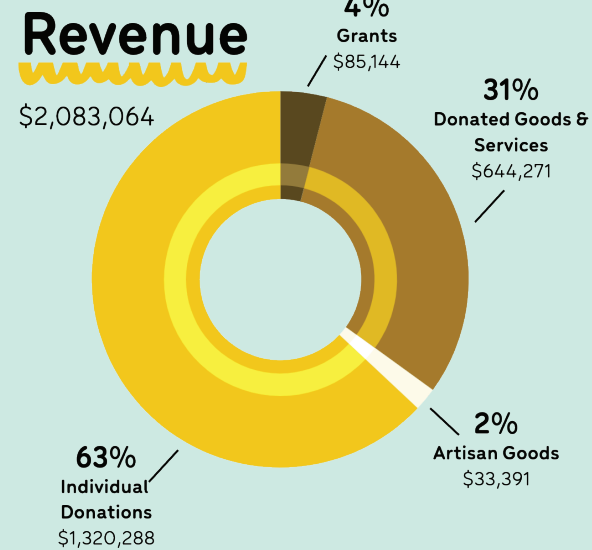


Financial Transparency

Expenses



Revenue



From Concern America's 2023-2024 audit. See the full audit at concernamerica.org.

A Word From Maggie, Monthly Donor And Supporter Since 2001:

"What I love about Concern America is that they restore dignity and allow people to thrive. They meet the people where they are with love and respect and aren't saviors on a great white horse. For me, Concern America serves as a connection to others. Even from so far away, the stories of the promoters and the opportunity to support this are what give me hope and what strengthens our global community."

Join the Concern America Field Team!

As we expand our programs to reach more communities, we are hiring in each of our programs.

- **Medical Professional (NP, PA, MD)- Rio Sucio, Colombia**
- **Medical Professional (NP, PA, MD)- San Miguel de Allende, Mexico**
- **Medical Professional (NP, PA, MD)- Petén, Guatemala**



Concern America field volunteers are fully supported with a monthly stipend, housing, health insurance, and an annual trip home. These positions are for a minimum of two years. Spread the word!

For more information visit:

www.concernamerica.org/become-a-field-volunteer

Impact 2024

Health Care

- Advanced health training courses for practitioners and midwives included the topics of ultrasound, midwifery, essential medicines updates, advanced wound care techniques, and laboratory.
- Improved health care services to a population of 255,000 and expanded to an additional 17,000 people previously without access.
- Training is mostly led by the local advanced practitioners, with support as needed from Concern America field personnel.



Training a New Generation

- Concern America initiated its first health courses in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, in February 2024. Since then, the new cohort of 40 health promoter practitioners has been thriving, with bimonthly courses and community visits, bringing care to 5,000.
- The 24 new Guatemalan practitioners graduated after completing their three years of initial training. They will continue to expand their skills in advanced courses and clinical practice and work in their communities.
- The new cohort in Colombia continued their second year of training in the topics of Pediatrics, Suture and Trauma, Reproductive Health, Muscular Skeletal System, and Rheumatology.



Crafts

- \$31,000 of items were directly purchased from the cooperatives and supported training to improve skills and administration.
- Because the items are sold at fair trade prices, artisans earn the full value of their work, taking into account the costs of materials, labor, and skillset.
- The beautiful hand-made items continue to be sold online, at the office, and in 2024 at 42 weekend sales through the support of many individuals, churches, and businesses.



Education

- Community-based Education Commissions received support in creating educational materials in mathematics, government, and database compilation for schools in 300 indigenous villages.
- More than 13,500 students ranging from preschool to high school now have access to curriculums that include their culture, language, and historical context.



Environmental Health

- 50 household water filters made available to families in Colombia.
- In Guatemala and Mexico, water testing and community workshops were led to cover topics such as filter/water system maintenance and cleaning and the prevention of chronic illnesses like diabetes and hypertension, climate change, mental health, and nutrition.



Medicines and Equipment

- Life-saving medicines are accessible and affordable through each trained practitioner, and medicines are provided even when families are unable to pay or travel to get them.
- New practitioners received medicine kits and equipment according to their skill level, starting a rotating medicine supply and fund for each new community.
- In addition to medicines, some programs are able to provide additional care through the use of advanced equipment, including a portable ultrasound machine for multiple applications, a thermocoagulator for cervical cancer prevention, and oxygen concentrators.



Seeing Change Through Time

Twice Smitten Decades Apart

My first visit to Guatemala and Concern America's work was about 30 years ago. That trip was life-changing. My shock and sadness over the dire conditions of material poverty were countered with their opposite. Wonder, admiration, and hope fueled by the local people who had so little materially yet were rich in motivation and newly learned skills. Dedicated Concern America professionals training people to be health promoter practitioners. Women learning how to be midwives.

New bonds of trust and a spirit of cooperation literally saving lives. I was smitten for life with what I experienced. Returning these many years later, I was newly smitten. Now, instead of Concern America volunteers running the clinics, all of it was being done by the local people. A vision has turned into reality. The people speak with pride in describing their work.

Faces that cannot hide hardship also radiate with true joy at what is being accomplished. A new generation of young people, sons and daughters of health promoter practitioners, now training to be the same. My seasoned and sometimes discouraged eyes are brighter now because a better world is clearly being fashioned.

Fr. Christopher Smith
Supporter Since 1992 and Former Board Member



"This Is What We've Been Building Together"

In 2016, advanced Guatemalan health practitioners Eva and Macaria took their first flight to lead a course for Concern America's health program in Riosucio, Colombia. Since then, the two returned to Colombia a few times, including just recently in early 2025 to lead a course on ophthalmology for the new group of practitioners. Their decades of training, leadership, teaching, and incredible clinical skills are intertwined with the growth and success of both programs. Eva reflects on how much the program in Colombia has grown and changed over these years:



"Things in Colombia have been advancing over the years that I have visited. With support from Concern America volunteers and the advanced Guatemalan practitioners like myself that have come through to teach throughout the past two decades, the Colombian practitioners now really rely on each other in doing this work. If someone needs a small surgery, Oneida is there to support and teach suture. For courses, Elsa and Rosa have been instrumental in teaching the newer generations. More indigenous community members have been involved in the materials and planning. And now, too, one of the team members helps out with the logistics of the clinic, courses, and community visits—this has really helped to establish stability in the project. These have greatly advanced the program, as the local team members can support each other and the newer practitioners in the communities.



"As the team of practitioners continues to grow and build, and though the local community continues without a more formal government health system, the people have access to quality and humane health care through this program. This is what we've been building together over these years, and we will continue to walk together to improve health care in our communities."