

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM

Marjorie Newman-Williams, President, MSI United States and

Jess Search, Board Chair, MSI United States

“When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” This saying sums up last year at MSI perfectly. Faced with risks to staff, travel restrictions, office closures, supply-chain interruptions, disruptive local and global politics, and other formidable obstacles that come with a pandemic, MSI teams around the world got busy finding solutions. We found innovative ways to continue to serve the people, particularly those forced to live in poverty, who depend on MSI for reproductive choice and healthcare.

The going was indeed tough, but our nurses, doctors, midwives and other team members in 37 countries were buoyed by the unfaltering support of US donors, big and small.

In 2020, more than 1,100 individuals, foundations and institutions donated to MSI United States, many for the first time, and helped us have our best year in individual philanthropy since the program was launched. We are deeply grateful to all who supported our work last year. You are true champions of a woman’s right to choose—to control her own body and decide for herself if and when to have a child.

Several of our largest donors stepped forward to answer the call for emergency needs due to Covid-19 and to bridge enduring funding gaps left by Trump’s Global Gag Rule. To paraphrase the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., the ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but in moments of challenge and controversy. In 2020, we saw where our donors stand, and it inspired us to keep moving forward.

Thanks to our donors and the incredible ingenuity of our teams, the year wasn’t as devastating as it might have been. Instead, 2020 was a remarkably impactful year for women seeking access to reproductive healthcare, as you will see from the data in this Annual Report. 12.8 million people were served by MSI. Some of our country teams even exceeded their service delivery goals for the year.

Without you, thousands of adolescent girls might have seen their educations interrupted by unintended pregnancy, forcing them to drop out of school, their

futures permanently altered. Millions of women would have faced unwanted pregnancies. Thousands more children could have lost their mothers to pregnancy-related deaths, shattering the equilibrium of their families.

Behind all the numbers are individuals whose lives are being forever changed by your generosity. The stories we’ve included from Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo are just two examples of the very real ways your gifts have made an impact. You can find many more stories on our website.

In 2020, MSI launched our bold 10-year strategy entitled: Your Body, Your Choice, Your Future. By 2030, MSI envisions a world where everyone has access to contraception, and no one must resort to an unsafe abortion.

Achieving our goals will not be easy. Recent UK government funding cuts to MSI have hit hard, just as we were recovering from Trump’s Global Gag Rule. Like Covid-19, this new challenge will force MSI to innovate and to find new supporters. Most of the women we serve are experiencing poverty and have no other access to contraception, safe abortion or other essential reproductive health services. Failing them is not an option.

Like MSI team members in countries around the globe, MSI supporters really are courageous, accountable, and resilient. We can’t stop now. With your help, we will continue to fight for this most inalienable of rights—the right to control one’s own body.

Thank you for sharing our vision and standing up with all the other bold people making choice possible.

With our deepest gratitude,



Marjorie Newman-Williams
President, MSI United States



Jess Search
Board Chair, MSI United States



NDOLA, ZAMBIA

Bringing reproductive healthcare where it's needed most.

In the poor, crowded neighborhood of Masala, in Ndola, Zambia, affordable, quality healthcare can be hard to come by. Many residents live on the main-stream economy's fringes, eking out a hand-to-mouth existence in the informal economy. Unsafe abortion is tragically common, putting women's lives at risk. Teen pregnancy and HIV infection rates are high.

That's why MSI opened a new Health Care Unit in Masala. The mini-center is smaller than our usual MSI centers, but offers the same high-quality, affordable services that women in other parts of the country depend on.

To create the Health Care Unit, MSI retrofitted a shipping container on the grounds of a government health facility. Painted in bright, welcoming colors and set in a high-traffic area, the Health Care Unit addresses critical shortages of health personnel, equipment and medications and brings reproductive healthcare closer to women in need.

Before MSI arrived in the neighborhood, women in Masala had few options. There is only one public health facility in their neighborhood to serve all of

Masala and three surrounding communities, and women have little disposable income to spend at private clinics elsewhere. Now, women have access to high-quality care at MSI.

The MSI Health Care Unit offers services like contraception, cervical cancer screening and treatment, comprehensive abortion care, ultrasound services, and basic rapid tests for everything from HIV to malaria. Some of these services, like safe abortion and cervical cancer treatment, weren't readily available before MSI came to the neighborhood.

The Country Director for MSI Zambia shared the impact the Health Care Unit will have for women in the community. "It will mean consistent access to quality and choice of reproductive health services and confidential, affordable, and timely care provision."

Opening this unit is just one of the innovative approaches MSI is taking to achieve the goals set out in our 10-year strategic plan: that no abortion will be unsafe and everyone who wants it has access to contraception.

COVID RESPONSE

When Covid-19 led to lockdowns and the cancellation of market days, which usually provide a cover for women wanting to access services discreetly, many women weren't able to reach MSI facilities in 2020. In response, MSI teams pivoted to take services directly to women.

For example, in Uganda, the MSI team set up a pilot project, in partnership with UNFPA, to deliver healthcare products using the SafeBoda ride-hailing mobile app. Women are able to order contraception on the app and have it delivered to their door by "bodas" or motorcycles.





GIRLS' EDUCATION

For a more equal, sustainable world, girls need access to education. When girls can access a quality education, they are better able to pursue a career, create opportunities in their communities, and bring about positive change.

However, a lack of access to sexual and reproductive healthcare is driving high rates of unplanned teenage pregnancy, putting girls' education at risk. Our analysis found that every year, in sub-Saharan Africa, up to 4 million teenage girls drop out of school or are excluded due to becoming pregnant.

By putting young people at the heart of our programs, our proportion of adolescent clients more than doubled from 6% in 2016 to 15% by 2020.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Reaching more women.

Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo face many barriers to accessing contraception. Social stigma, high costs, and widespread misinformation prevent women from controlling their bodies and futures. But in 2020, thanks in large part to US donor support, women in Kinshasa gained greater access to reproductive healthcare when MSI DRC opened the doors of its first integrated center.

MSI DRC is MSI's newest country program, and it expanded fast in 2020. In addition to providing services in the capital city of Kinshasa, MSI reaches Tshopo and Kwilu provinces through outreach teams and MS Ladies—mobile midwives who bring services to their own communities.

When the program launched in 2018, MSI team members began reaching out to women, spreading

the word about the newly available services and the benefits of contraception. Gloria, a 23-year-old single mother of two, had always heard that contraception had harmful consequences. But Gloria had already had eight abortions and had lost a child when she could not afford to pay medical expenses. She wanted a different future and made the decision to come to the MSI center. At the center, MSI provider Henriette Kilundu answered Gloria's questions and helped dispel the myths Gloria believed about contraception. With Henriette's help, Gloria chose a contraceptive method so she could avoid future pregnancies and focus on caring for the children she already had.

Because of your support, women like Gloria can avoid unwanted pregnancies and dangerous unsafe abortions. Your generosity is giving more women the chance to control their own destinies.

Our impact

In a year like no other, our teams were there for the people who count on us. On average, we served 35,000 people every day with contraception, safe abortion, and post-abortion care services, enabling them to build the lives they want.

Around the world, **32.6 million** people are using a method of contraception provided by MSI Reproductive Choices. That translates to one in five women using a method provided by us in the countries where we work.

Despite daunting projections at the beginning of the pandemic warning that up to **80%** of services could be disrupted, MSI reached **12.8 million** clients, across **34,000** sites, with high-quality sexual and reproductive health services in 2020 alone. One in every six clients were adolescents under the age of 20, a group that is still facing significant barriers to access around the world.

In the 37 countries where MSI provided services in 2020, we averted an estimated:

13.4 million

UNINTENDED PREGNANCIES

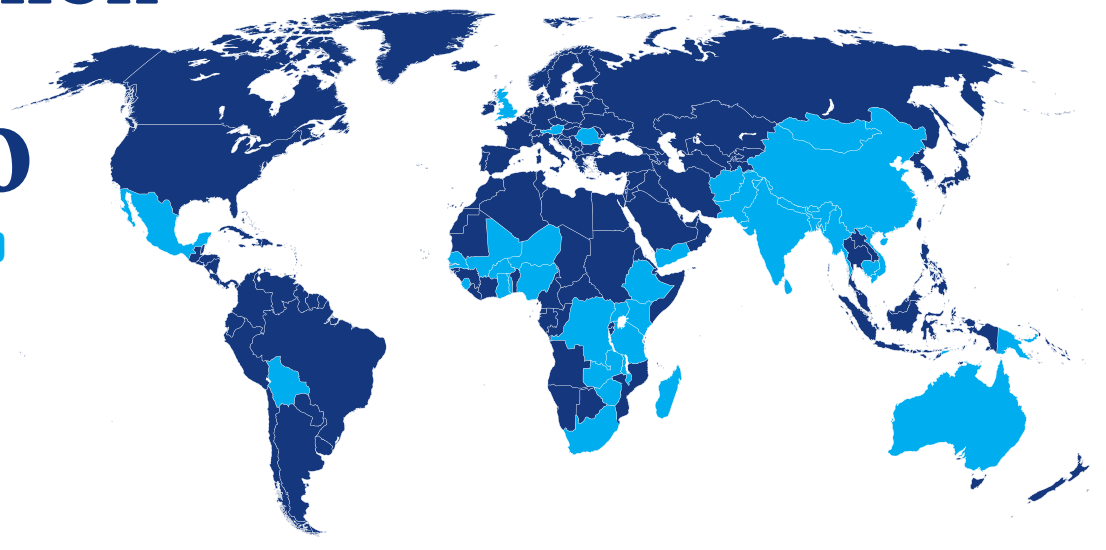
5.6 million

UNSAFE ABORTIONS

35,000

PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATHS

Since 2016, donor support enabled MSI to reach 65.4 million people with contraception, safe abortion, and other sexual and reproductive health services. We're thankful to our donors and our courageous providers for making this possible.



MSI United States Donors

The lives of millions of people were changed in 2020 through the incredible generosity of donors who supported MSI US. Thank you for boldly making choice possible.

\$1,000,000+

RWDS Fund

\$250,000 - \$999,000

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Phil Harvey

\$50,000 - \$249,999

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Martine Yingling
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\$500 - \$999

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Jennifer Brown
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Julie Sherman
David and Amy Sommer
Michael Stefferson
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Claudia Vanwie

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