DEAR FRIENDS,

For over 20 years, South Africa Partners has contributed to South Africa’s progress by building local health and education capacity. We have served as a hub for spokes of advocacy and action between the U.S. and South Africa, propelling all stakeholders towards a common goal. Thank you for being an integral part of the journey.

While political and economic challenges in South Africa still mark the news, we celebrate recent accomplishments. The appointment of Cyril Ramaphosa as the new president has reignited the hopes of millions. The country’s commitment to health care for all has helped to drive progress on reducing the country’s HIV infection rates. Centenary celebrations for Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu remind us of the qualities of leadership we revere.

We have to remember that perspective is important – as Bill Gates recently reminded us, “bad news arrives as drama, while good news is incremental – and not usually deemed newsworthy”. The U.S. funding landscape for international development is shifting and presents both challenges and opportunities for our organization. The sudden change in policy comes at a time when we are looking to pivot and identify new ways of tackling some of South Africa’s most complex issues alongside stakeholders. Innovative thinking, combined with our years of on-the-ground experience, make for endless possibilities for social impact.

As we make the transition from our historical dependence on one major funding source to more diverse sources, we need your support now, more than ever. We ask for your participation in inter-country collaboration, through the bonds that put the partners in South Africa Partners. We look to you, our network of friends and supporters to join us in pursuing our vision of a transformed South Africa.

With gratitude,

Jonathan Joffe, S.J.D Board President
Mitalene Fletcher, Ph.D President-Elect
Judy Bigby, M.D. Executive Director

“As leaders, your challenge is to foster a nation in which all people, irrespective of race, color, sex, religion or creed, can assert social cohesion fully.

Mindful of your own challenges, you must continue to promote the principles of relentless freedom and democracy as it is the foundation upon which issues of human rights are ingrained.”

- NELSON MANDELA
South Africa Partners unlocks the collaborative potential between South Africa and the United States to create systemic change in healthcare and education.

We envision a transformed South Africa. A country that celebrates its beauty, diversity and complexity, and ensures equal access to the building blocks of a healthy future for all.
SOUTH AFRICA

BY THE NUMBERS

**HIV/AIDS**
- 7.1 million South Africans are living with HIV
- South Africa accounts for 1/3 of all new HIV infections in Southern Africa
- Girls & young women account for 74% of new HIV infections in Sub-Saharan Africa

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**
- 63% of South African children live below the poverty line
- There are 6 million children in South Africa under the age of 6
- Of these, only 1 in 10 are ready for their first year of school
- 78% of Grade 4 children cannot read for meaning

**OUR RESPONSE**

**STRENGTHENING SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS**
- HIV/AIDS programs have impacted
  - 80 communities across South Africa
  - 5,366 adolescent girls and young women
  - 6,036 government training facilitators in 8 provinces
  - 9,263 adults and children
  - 10,379 offenders in the prison system

**INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF SOUTH AFRICA’S HEALTH LEADERS**
- The ASELPH program has served more than 300 health care managers representing all 9 provinces and 52 of the 54 health districts.

**SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICA’S YOUNGEST TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL**
- The Childhood Education Project serves over 450 children from birth until age 5 by empowering the 33 women who care for them in their preschools.
SOUTH AFRICA HAS THE BIGGEST HIV EPIDEMIC IN THE WORLD. There are 7.1 million people living with HIV. Girls and young women account for 74 percent of new HIV infections among adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa.

With your support, and together with our partners, we have worked tirelessly to combat this epidemic through our programs:

- **I ACT**, a curriculum that empowers people living with HIV to confidently lead healthy lives
- **STEPS**, a peer-based program that empowers prisoners to prevent HIV and tuberculosis in correctional facilities
- **LinkCARE**, a national program that improves adherence to treatment for HIV and chronic diseases
- **KIDZALIVE**, partner-implemented programming that frees children from the HIV stigma and fear
- **PEACE CORPS** partnership training on HIV prevention and treatment, the use of support groups to promote retention in care, management skills, and health living principles.
- **DREAMS**, a partnership to reduce HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women and foster Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe women.

These programs have impacted:
- 80 communities across the country
- 5,366 adolescent girls and young women
- 6,036 government training facilitators in 8 provinces
- 9,263 adults and children
- 10,379 offenders in the prison systems.

The country’s latest HIV household survey found that new HIV infections have fallen by 44% in the last five years.

STRENGTHENING SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS
“I learned so many things like taking responsibility, self-control, advocacy, how to protect our community, and how to deal with difficult situations. We have so many teenagers who need this program.”

- DAVID, TEENAGE YOUTH CAMP PARTICIPANT
ONLY 1 IN 10 SOUTH AFRICAN CHILDREN ARE READY FOR THEIR FIRST YEAR OF SCHOOL.

Children who live in poverty lack access to quality early childhood education.

SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICA’S YOUNGEST TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

We know that without early education, most children from disadvantaged backgrounds arrive at preschool without the basic skills they need to succeed in school. But if they receive quality early education, they can go on to achieve remarkable things in life.

The Community Early Childhood Development Network project transforms daycare sites in the Eastern Cape’s Duncan Village community into quality preschools, giving the neediest children a better start in life. The project serves over 450 children from birth until age 5 by empowering the 33 women who care for them in their preschools.

Teachers receive accredited training, mentorship, on-site coaching, and essential learning materials to create engaging learning experiences and ensure that the children are healthy. As a result, the preschools are elevated to meet the requirements needed to qualify for government funding.

Recognizing that early childhood education is an economic, social and human rights issue, the South African government has prioritized universal access to quality early education by 2030.

“When I grow up I want to be a doctor so I can help sick people”

Alwaba Leve, now a 3rd grade student at A.W. Barnes Primary School received early childhood education at Second Creek Daycare Centre.

She is excelling with her studies.
TALKING IS TEACHING, even before very young children can respond with speech of their own. Studies show that conversations between caregivers and children play a key role in early brain development and better prepare children for school.

*Sifunda Ngokuthetha*, or “We Learn by Talking Together” is an innovative approach to early childhood development in low-resourced areas. The initiative uses conversation prompting signage in the supermarket, a place families encounter as part of their daily journey. Through engaging, character-based visual prompts, the program creates moments for caregivers who may have limited access to conventional learning materials to engage and learn with their children. Supermarkets are ideal for promoting engaging interactions with young children -- ensuring that their “super sponge” brains are powerfully built and their potential is unlocked.

We hope to expand the program to additional everyday places to increase awareness, engagement and impact. Future outdoor sites may include taxi ranks, markets and street-level signage. Indoor possibilities include laundromats, church halls, health clinics, government offices, and other places routinely visited by adults accompanied by children.

TURNING EVERYDAY SPACES INTO OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

*It got us talking*  
- PARENT SHOPPING WITH THEIR CHILD

*It was excellent to be talking about schooling and spelling while shopping*  
- PARENT SHOPPING WITH THEIR CHILD
SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2013, MORE THAN 300 HEALTH CARE MANAGERS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE ASELPH PROGRAM, representing all 9 provinces and 52 of the 54 health districts.

South Africa’s Department of Health has developed the National Health Insurance (NHI) plan to provide financing to make sure that all citizens have access to good quality healthcare. Achieving these goals requires skilled and committed health care managers and leaders at all levels to drive this health system transformation where care is delivered.

The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health (ASELPH) harnesses the resources of local and international universities—the University of Pretoria, University of Fort Hare and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health to strengthen the health system. The program focuses on training provincial and district managers responsible for implementing strategic priorities such as delivering high-quality, cost-efficient services. ASELPH strengthens and elevates executive level training for future generations of health leaders.

A year after graduating from ASELPH, Mrs. Ntokozo Mkhize was promoted from her role as CEO of Dunstan Farrell TB Hospital to Director of District Health Services for her entire district. She now successfully manages a budget of approximately R2 billion.

She attributes ASELPH to strengthening her skills in the management of service delivery and equipping her to translate policy into action by forming a provincial team to develop turn-around-strategies in critical areas within her district.
The establishment of the South Africa Partners Innovation Fund aims to raise funds to rapidly unlock and propel new ideas with the potential to transform health and education in South Africa. By generating early stage investment capital, the Fund will enable us to rapidly cultivate, pilot, test and scale breakthrough ideas for maximum impact, ensuring they are suitable for resource-poor environments within South Africa. It will allow us to:

- **Research new approaches and innovations** that can be adapted to meet identified needs
- **Boost current initiatives** with promising results into scale or sustain phases
- **Work with partners and communities** to identify health or education issues in need of creative new approaches
- **Bring in additional funding partners** for successful projects, enabling long term impact and sustainability
This year Nelson Mandela would have celebrated his 100th birthday. Mandela remains a source of inspiration for generations of future leaders and the work we undertake at South Africa Partners.

As we honored Mandela’s legacy through various dialogues and events, we are reminded of the challenges leaders face in both South Africa and the U.S. Our thanks to our highlighted speakers Adam Habib, Max and Elinor Sisulu and Charlayne Hunter-Gault.

South Africa Partners thanks our supporters of the Mandela Centenary activities

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Thank you to our donors and funders for envisioning a brighter future for South Africa. Our work is made possible because of your generous support.

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**FY 2018 Revenue**
$6,265,207

- **72%** Government
- **3%** Individual
- **2%** Donor Advised Funds
- **23%** Foundations and Corporations

**FY 2018 Expenditures**
$6,482,254

- **92%** Health and Education Programs
- **3%** Fundraising
- **5%** General Administration

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Through the generosity of Jocelyn Chemel and Michael Schippani, we are honored to thank our top donors with a beautiful gift of inspiring artwork. These beautiful wood blocks incorporate photographs of the messages left outside Mandela’s home at the end of his life in 2013. Jocelyn, a South African artist living in Boston, has graciously shared these gifts as we conclude our celebration of Mandela’s Centenary.