

transforming
faces

2018 Annual Report

COMPLETING THE CIRCLE OF CLEFT CARE

A Message from the Executive Director



Looking back on 2018, I am struck by the resilience of families affected by cleft. They journey from fear and despair to hope for the future, overcoming obstacles at every turn.

I heard inspiring stories such as Nang's (cover), Tharaton's (p. 2) and Tiago's (p. 3) that paint Transforming Faces' local partners as heroes: reassuring families when all seemed lost, providing feeding support when proper nutrition was elusive, and building the confidence and communication skills children require to fully participate at home and in school.

These families experience comprehensive cleft care firsthand, and have become passionate advocates for long-term, holistic care in their communities.

I am proud of our strong growth in reaching more children and families around the world over the past year (p. 7). I am also delighted to see our 'circle' of supporters extend dramatically (p. 6)! This burgeoning generosity has been critical in transforming the lives of Nang, Tharaton, Tiago and more than 1,500 other children in 2018.

Thank you for joining Transforming Faces, and the families we support, on this journey.

Hugh Brewster
hugh@transformingfaces.org

Meeting with Tharaton, and his family in northern Thailand.

Our Mission



We equip local teams to provide comprehensive cleft lip and palate care that is accessible for all. Together we are building happier, healthier lives for children and families in Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Our Vision



Our vision for children with cleft lip and palate is full inclusion into their community, so they can pursue their hopes and dreams.

Our Approach



- 1 Provide comprehensive care to **children** born with cleft, so they can thrive at home, at school and in their communities
- 2 Support **families** to help every child realize their full potential
- 3 Build the capacity of **local cleft teams** worldwide



Our Reach:



Hope for Tiago

Tiago loves dinosaurs (what 8-year-old doesn't?), soccer (he cheers loudly for his local team) and sweets (especially the ones his mom makes). He shares a home in northern Argentina with his three siblings, one cousin and his loving mother.

When Tiago was born with a cleft, his family was shocked. But his mother was determined to fight for his future and she became his biggest advocate.

Tiago's initial repair surgery was successful and his rehabilitation is

going well. He travels with his mom to Tucumán, the provincial capital, once a week for oral health care, counselling and speech therapy. "I have learned how to help my son improve his speech," Tiago's mom shares proudly. "His communication is much stronger, and he is getting over his shyness."

The cleft team at *Fundación GAVINA* has been a source of encouragement every step of the way. With their continued support, Tiago has a very bright future ahead.



From the moment he was born, Tiago's mom has been his champion. Together, they are overcoming the limitations of his cleft.

Learn more online at: transformingfaces.org/2018-annual-report



Our Global Family

Highlights from 2018

TF's community of partners, families, health specialists, staff and volunteers are passionate about transforming the lives of children born with cleft lip and palate.

LATIN AMERICA:



Argentina

In 2018, 207 families received cleft treatment from *Fundación GAVINA* in Argentina's northern Tucumán province. Our partner continues to advocate for comprehensive cleft care on a provincial level, and is now working in partnership with the local government to further strengthen services provided in the region.



Costa Rica

TF and *Asociación LPH* began working together in 2017 to ensure that newborns with cleft begin their treatment on time and have access to ongoing care. This project focuses on expanding services to indigenous communities and increasing access to oral care, speech therapy and social support.



Chile

Fundación Gantz continues to be among the foremost leaders in providing cleft care in Latin America. TF is investing in the capacity of this cleft centre to share its knowledge with other professionals in South America and beyond.



Peru

TF is collaborating with the *Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia* and *Smile Train* to ensure cleft care is accessible to low-income families in Peru. In particular, this project focuses on providing early care for newborns and infants. In partnership with provincial hospitals, 179 patients were supported in 2018.

AFRICA:



Ethiopia

Yekatit 12 Hospital continues to be the only centre delivering comprehensive cleft care in Ethiopia. Through a new collaboration with *Project Harar Ethiopia*, we have expanded services to rural communities far from the capital. Together, our partners treated 529 patients in 2018.



Uganda

In 2018, TF launched a new partnership with *CoRSU Hospital* to assist patients from remote regions where many cases of untreated cleft were identified. The project also promotes community awareness through radio shows and workshops. In 2018, 49 new patients received cleft care.

ASIA:



India

Our partner of over 12 years, *SRIHER* continues to provide speech and orthodontic care in the rural communities of the Tamil Nadu state. This year, we expanded our reach through a new partnership with *DCKH*, Germany's largest cleft organization, to provide care to low-income families in Mysore, Karnataka. Together, our partners treated 405 patients in 2018.



Myanmar

2018 marked our second year of providing essential cleft services directly to families in Myanmar. Our partner is providing solutions that allow patients to access treatment closer to home, and is collaborating with local health centres to raise awareness about cleft care. 87 patients had access to care in Myanmar in 2018.



Thailand

The *Northern Women's Development Foundation* and their network of partner hospitals and universities continue to support patients from marginalized communities in Thailand and neighbouring Laos. Our partner is building local support for their innovative cleft care programs through strong fundraising and community awareness campaigns. In 2018, they delivered care to 107 patients.



Life-Saving Support for High-Risk Newborns in Myanmar

Kan Kaung is making tremendous strides, thanks to the loving care of his mom and the support of TF's partner.

Learn more online at: transformingfaces.org/2018-annual-report



In low-income contexts where specialized care is scarce, how do you support a baby who is unable to breastfeed as a result of their cleft?

This is a major concern in Myanmar, where our partner regularly meets babies who are malnourished and underweight. Families are often discouraged by neighbours, and even ill-informed local health workers, who remark that *“there is no purpose for such a child.”*

What’s more – without proper nutrition, a baby cannot have a safe, timely cleft repair surgery. This affects all other areas of their rehabilitation as they grow up.

Kan Kaung was the very first patient to benefit from a new feeding support program in Myanmar. Our local partner, NWDF first met him in 2015, several weeks after he was born with a cleft and a syndrome that caused many health complications. He was severely malnourished (weighing only 2 kg). His mother tried anything

and everything to get her baby to successfully breastfeed, to no avail.

Our partners had the heartbreaking fear that Kan Kaung might not survive.

Thankfully, Kan Kaung and his mom were tenacious, and the local cleft team rallied to get this family the support they needed. From supplementary food and special bottles, to regular social worker visits, Kan Kaung was finally healthy enough to receive his initial cleft repair surgery by his third birthday. To everyone’s enormous relief, the surgery was a success!

Today, this smiley pre-schooler weighs 11 kg and is growing into a thriving, healthy boy! His journey to full rehabilitation will be long, but his mom reports that *“everyone is so happy with Kan Kaung’s new, bright smile!”* She is filled with hope for her son’s future, knowing that he will have access to the full circle of care he needs in the years to come.

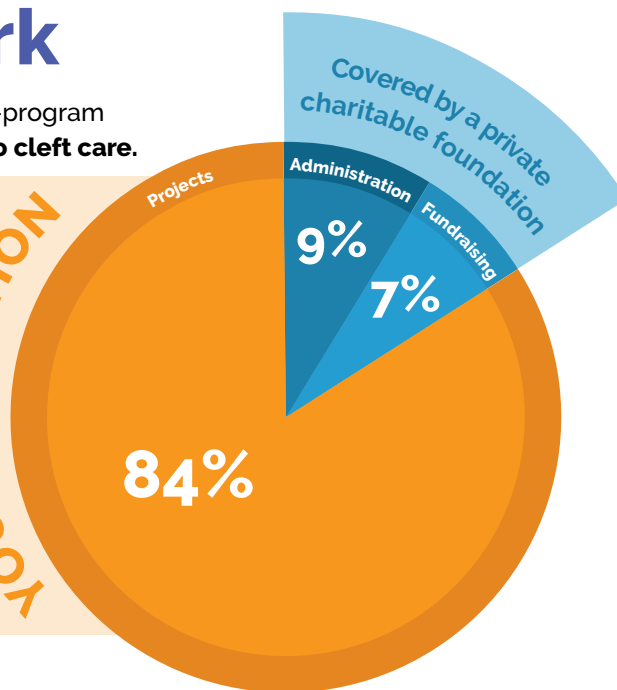
Your Gifts at Work

A private charitable foundation covers all of TF's non-program costs, **allowing us to direct 100% of your donation to cleft care.**

\$ 100% of your donation goes towards international cleft care projects, including:

- Nutritional Support
- Oral Health
- Surgery
- Counselling
- Speech Therapy
- And more!

YOUR DONATION



Financial Statements

Revenue & Expenses

	2018	2017
Total Revenue		
Grants, Donations & Other Income	\$1,779,449	\$1,296,057
Total Expenses	\$1,646,203	\$1,232,209
Cleft Care	\$994,616	\$588,740
Partner Medical Training & Capacity Building	\$392,823	\$367,381
Administration & Fundraising*	\$258,764	\$276,087
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$133,246	\$63,849

Net Assets

	2018	2017
Balance, beginning of year	\$365,240	\$301,391
Excess (deficiency), revenue over expenses	\$133,246	\$63,849
Balance, end of year	\$498,486	\$365,240

*A private charitable foundation covers all of TF's non-program costs. This ensures that 100% of donations go directly to cleft care. For our complete audited financial statements, please visit transformingfaces.org or call (416) 222-6581.

Our Network of Generous Supporters Continues to Grow!

1,101

Individual Donations

In 2018, individual gifts grew by 356% and our average gift size more than doubled



551

First-time Donors

Our number of new donors grew by 136%

47

Monthly Donors



13

Foundations

Families and organizations passionate about our work

7

Canadian Staff

Over

\$97,200

Raised by Third Party Fundraisers in 2018



Raised through birthday parties, weddings, corporate engagement and private campaigns (like our fundraising superstar, Dr. Peter Cox's campaign to cycle across Africa for TF)!

2018 Accomplishments

Highlights of what Transforming Faces' supporters made possible in 2018.

Children Supported



1,563
Patients Treated
in 2018

491
New Patients
in 2018

20,758
Patients Treated
Since 1999

9 Years Old
Average Patient Age
in 2018

*Instances of cleft lip and palate occur more frequently in boys.



Cleft Treatments

14,483

Treatments in 2018

317,571

Total Treatments Since 1999

A cleft treatment includes any element of rehabilitative care, such as counselling, speech therapy, surgery, orthodontics, dental care or nutritional support.

Dedicated Partners



9 Partner
Countries



215
Global
Professionals

Impact of Your Gift

Costs vary annually based on the country, the patient and the treatment required.



\$377

Average Cost per Patient
in 2018



Learn more online at:
transformingfaces.org/2018-annual-report



A Life Transformed through Comprehensive Cleft Care

For 16 years, Bharathi faced shame and stigma at every turn. No one in her small, rural community understood what it meant to be born with a cleft. She wanted to go to school like her peers, but gave up on her education because of the relentless teasing she faced. She shares that *"no one at school would talk to me."*

Her family heard that there might be a place where their daughter could access treatment, but they didn't have the money for surgery or ongoing care. Bharathi accepted that she would never have the opportunities other children had.

But Bharathi's aunt had big dreams for her niece's future. She learned about TF's partner, ABMSS and accompanied Bharathi to her first appointment at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Our partner recalls the day they met her, sharing that *"she was trembling and hardly spoke at all."* But they quickly told Bharathi the good news: her cleft was treatable! In December, Bharathi had her initial repair surgery. A second surgery has been scheduled, and ongoing care will be provided to ensure that she can fully and confidently participate at school and in her community.

Needless to say, the last few months have been life-changing for Bharathi. *"I will go back to school now!"* she tells the team excitedly. *"I will look good and no one will tease me."*

Bharathi's entire world has been transformed with access to comprehensive cleft care. Thanks to TF's partner and our dedicated supporters, she is filled with hope for her future. Her new smile says it all!



THANK YOU!

Transforming Faces extends our deepest gratitude to everyone who supported our work in 2018. Your ongoing commitment makes a life-changing difference for children and families around the world.

Governance

Our Board of Directors & Members

Jackie Elton
(Chair & Co-Founder)
Cindy Guernsey
Elsa Tesfay
Jill Martin
Dr. Michel Grupper
Rev. Dr. Nan Hudson
Dr. Ronald Zuker

Our Staff Team

Hugh Brewster
(Executive Director)
Abdon Aguillon
Becca Sawyer
Cari Siebrits
Courtney Mollenhauer
Melanie Meloche
Susana Munarriz

Our Medical Advisory Committee

Dr. Bryan Tompson
Cindy Guernsey
Farah Sheikh
Dr. Karen Wong
Dr. Tim Bressmann

Our Local Partners

All our international projects are managed by our intrepid local partner organizations:

Argentina: Fundación GAVINA, Simi Sumaq

Chile: Fundación Gantz

Costa Rica: Asociación Pro Niño con Labio y/o Paladar Hendido

Ethiopia: Yekatit 12 Hospital, Project Harar Ethiopia

India: Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, Akila Bharatha Mahila Seva Samaja

Myanmar & Thailand: Northern Women's Development Foundation

Peru: Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, AVODILSIN Breña, ADAVOL San Borja

Uganda: CoRSU Hospital

Our International Partners

TF is proud to work in collaboration with:

Akila Bharatha Mahila Seva Samaja (ABMSS)
Deutsche Cleft Kinderhilfe e.V. (DCKH)
Smile Train
Toronto Addis Ababa Academic Collaboration (TAAAC)





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We are grateful to those whose images appear in this report. All photos courtesy of TF Staff, Volunteers and Partners. Front cover: C. Siebrits