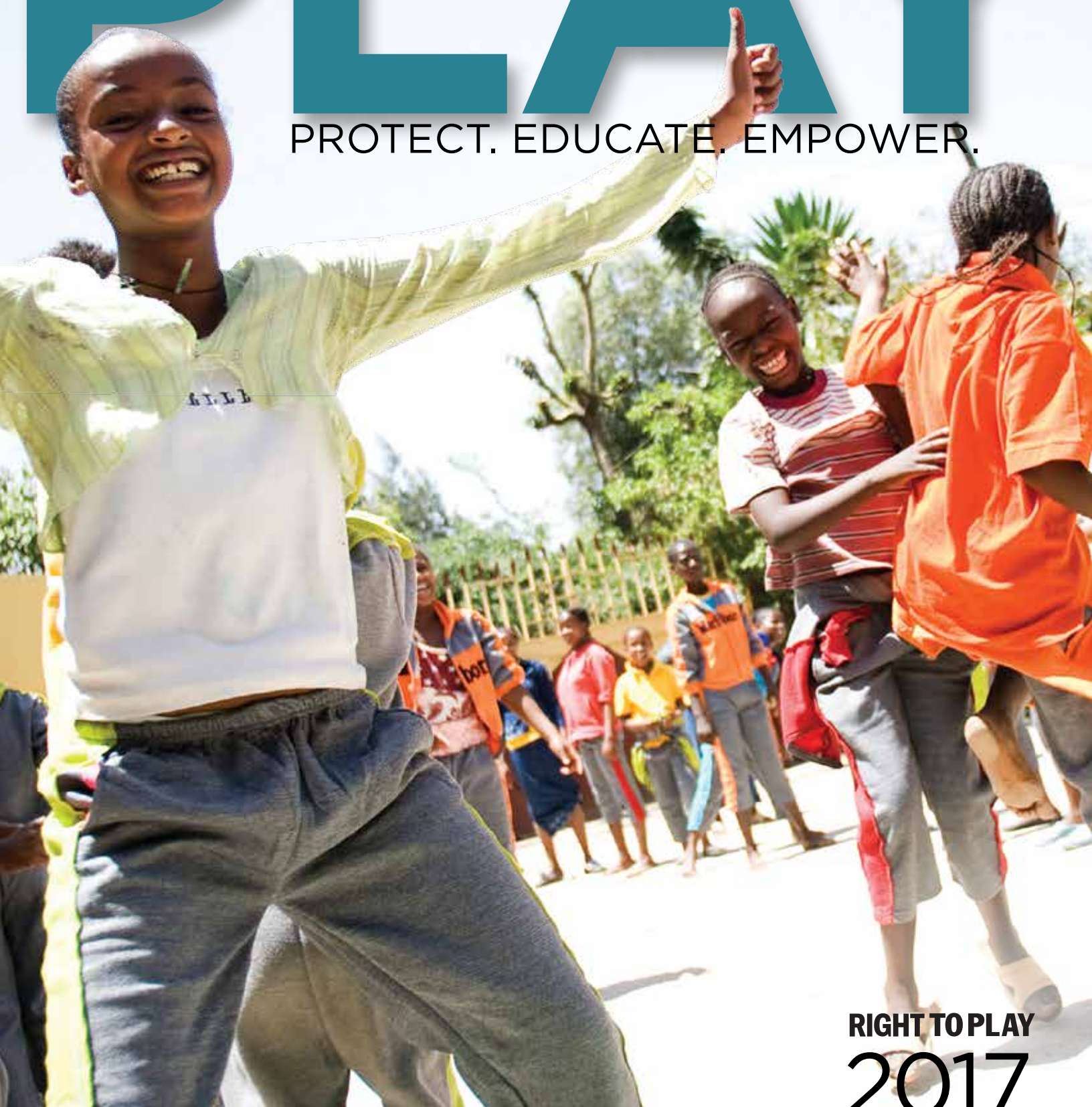


PLAY

PROTECT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.



RIGHT TO PLAY
2017
ANNUAL REPORT



3

A NOTE TO READERS

- 3 A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR
- 6 MESSAGES FROM OUR CEO AND FOUNDER



8

WHY WE PLAY

- 10 WHAT WE DO
- 12 WHY PLAY WORKS BY PROFESSOR RACHEL JEWKES
- 14 WHERE WE WORK



16

OUR FOCUS

- 18 OUR PRIORITY AREAS
- 20 JULIENNE, CHILD LEADER



22

OUR TEAM

- 24 REGIONAL AND NATIONAL OFFICES



26

OUR SUPPORTERS

- 28 OUR ATHLETE AMBASSADORS
- 30 OUR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL & SUPPORTERS
- 32 OUR BOARDS



34

OUR FINANCIALS



36

SELECT 2017 PARTNERS

A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR

Over the past six years, I've had the privilege to witness Johann and Kevin's shared vision, to protect, educate and empower the now 1.9 million children participating in Right To Play programs around the globe and the impact it's having on their lives.

These girls and boys live in some of the most disadvantaged communities in the world, from the refugee camps in Jordan and Thailand to the streets in Burundi and the slums of Pakistan. Yet through play, they are seeing a bright future for themselves.

Play is fuelling these children with opportunity and possibility. It keeps them in school, protects them from dangers like child labor and early marriage, informs them on the facts about malaria, HIV and AIDS and encourages them to rise above the effects of war and conflict. Play is transformational. Beginning with the teachers and coaches diligently using our child-oriented curriculums, both inside and outside their classrooms, to the children, their parents and communities.

Play is inspiring a new generation of children to believe in themselves, tap into their intrinsic power and find a way back to hope.

Of course none of this would be possible without the generosity of our donors and the dedicated team at Right To Play. To the former, please know we could not do this without you and you have our unending gratitude. To the latter, congratulations on another outstanding year. Working with such a talented group of people makes my role with the board of directors tremendously rewarding.


Sincerely,

Rob MacLellan
Chair, International Board of Directors



Photo courtesy of Rob MacLellan



A photograph of two young girls, Amy and Margaret, from Boma Primary School in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. They are wearing dark blue school uniforms and are smiling while playing a clapping game. The background shows a school building and lush greenery.

IN TANZANIA, at the Boma Primary School in Dar Es Salaam, 12-year-old Amy and 10-year-old Margaret play a popular clapping game that enhances focus and memory, as well as mathematics skills.

RIGHT TO PLAY REACHES 1.9 MILLION CHILDREN EACH WEEK

IN 15 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. WE USE PLAY TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL IN GIRLS AND BOYS TO INFUSE THEM WITH THE EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN LEARNING AND IN LIFE.

Photo by Terence Babb

MESSAGES FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CEO



Right To Play's beginnings in an Eritrean refugee camp in 2000. Below, Johann visits with a group of Right To Play junior leaders in Pakistan.



When I started Right To Play in 2000, we had 37,000 children participating in our programs and a goal to double that number in a decade. We exceeded it, reaching one million children in 2012. Five years later, we're on our way to surpassing the two million children milestone.

There's an adage that says: it takes a village to raise a child. I believe our international team of staff, teachers, coaches, partners, supporters and donors is a global village. By coming together, we continue to impact the lives of the 1.9 million children in our programs and the tangible results we're seeing is inspiring.

In 2012, we introduced child protection and gender equality resources into the organization. At the time, 490,000 of the children in our programs were girls and all of them were beginning to learn their right to a fair future, quality education and to say no to unwanted sexual advances. Today, 67 per cent of the teachers and coaches modeling this critical information to and supporting the girls and boys in our programs are female.

By educating teachers, children, their parents and communities on child protection and gender equality we're able to reduce gender-based violence and discrimination in classrooms, in communities and at home. In Mali, 96 per cent

of our teachers ensure that girls participate in the classroom versus 70 per cent of non-Right To Play teachers. In our leadership programs in Jordan's Al Baqa'a refugee camp, girls and boys are playing together for the first time, while in Tanzania, 95 per cent of our teachers versus 21 per cent of non-Right To Play teachers create a supportive environment for their students. This is the sustainable benefit of play.

Thank you for being a part of our global village.

Sincerely,

Johann Olav Koss, Founder

In 2017, I had the privilege to travel the globe and experience the power of our programs in the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable children. From our gender equality work in Ghana's northern villages and our national-scale education project in Tanzania to our psychosocial support programs for refugees in the Middle East, Africa and Asia, I have witnessed the transformative power of play in children's lives.

At Right To Play, we address some of the most critical issues facing children. We empower girls to resist early marriage and to continue their education. We teach children how to protect themselves from diseases like HIV and malaria. We help child laborers return to school and we inspire refugee youth living in dire camp conditions to find their way back to hope.

I am confident about the impact of our pro-

grams and Right To Play is committed to rigorous measurement and evaluation. One exciting result is in Rwanda where our programs are integrated into the school curriculum and the teachers are trained in our play-based approach. In these schools, the student drop-out rate was reduced by 50 per cent in 2017.

Finally, in line with our strategic plan's focus on achieving scale, 2017 was an important year. In partnership with the Tanzanian Ministry of Education, we reached 16,000 pre-pri-

mary teachers, ensuring that the 800,000 pre-primary students in Tanzania began their school year with a Right To Play-trained teacher.

With the support of our generous donors we will continue to reach these children and youth, delivering cost-effective and sustainable impact at scale.

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and commitment to our work.

Sincerely,

Kevin Frey, CEO



In 2017, Kevin visits with a young girl participating in our programs in China.

Photo courtesy of Right To Play (China)

IN CHINA, at a primary school in Kawegebo, girls and boys show off the colourful pictures they made during arts and crafts. Their teachers use painting and drawing to teach the children about gender equality.

OUR DIFFERENCE

PLAY IS AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO.

OUR WORK FOCUSES ON GAMES, SPORT, CREATIVE AND FREE PLAY TO DRIVE CHANGE IN CHILDREN'S LIVES, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.



96%

OF OUR TEACHERS ENSURE GIRLS

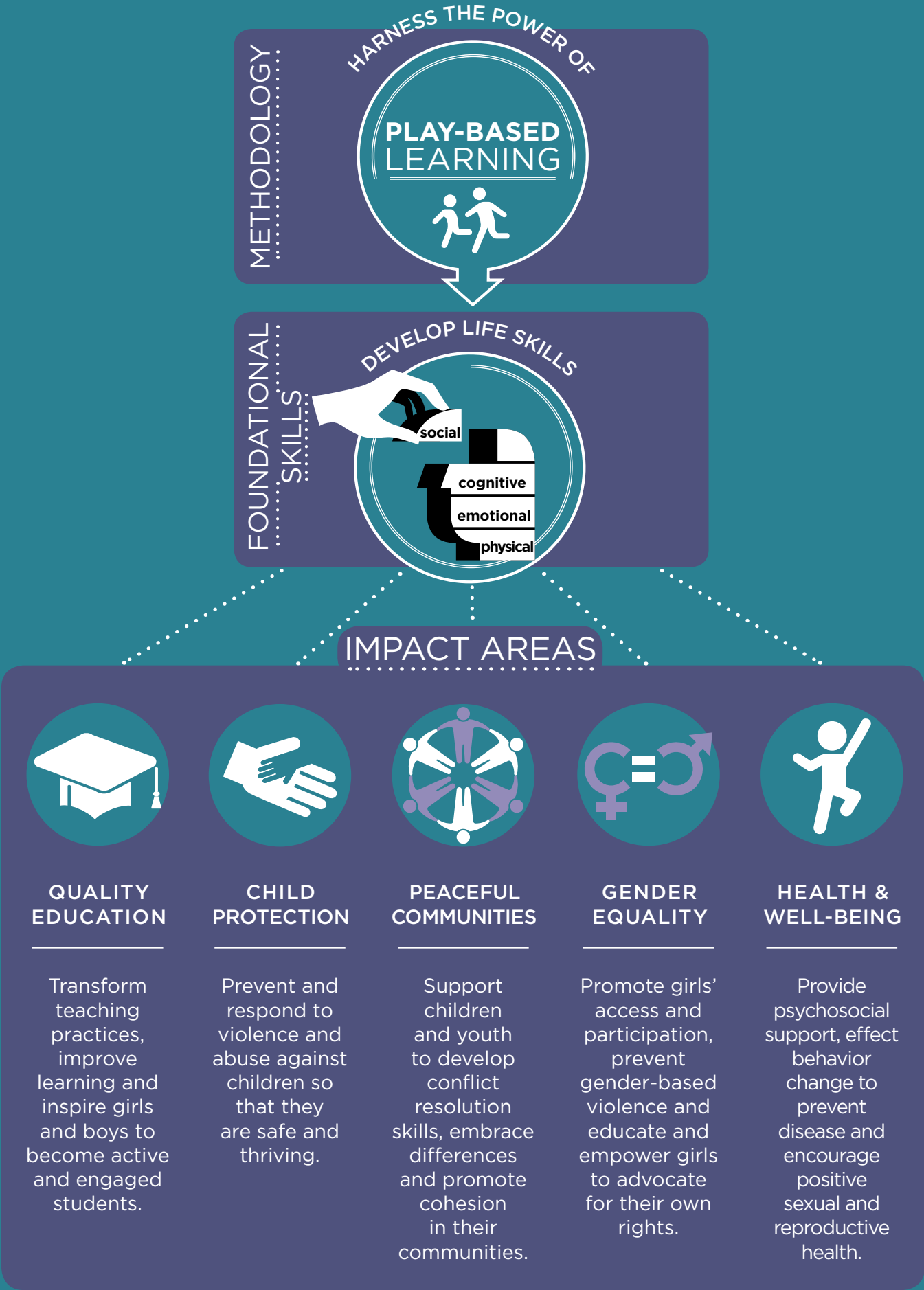
PARTICIPATE VS 70% OF NON-RIGHT TO PLAY TEACHERS

IN CANADA, children and youth in our Promoting Life Skills for Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program (100 per cent funded by Canadian donors), build their leadership skills through creative play.



Photo by James MacDonald

WHAT WE DO



THE POWER OF PLAY



By Professor Rachel Jewkes, the Executive Scientist for Research Strategy in the Office of the President of the South African Medical Research Council, Secretary of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative and the Director of the 'What works to prevent violence?' global program.

Working with Right To Play in Pakistan, I have witnessed the transformative power of play. Here, children face difficulties stemming from deep poverty and widespread child labor. Many children, especially girls, don't attend school or they drop out before they reach high school. The quality of education is poor and the schools lack toilets and drinking water, compromising the children's development, privacy and health. Right To Play's play-based programing is making school a safe space to learn in and bring joy to their lives.

With the Aga Khan University School of Nursing and Texas Women's University, I've evaluated Right To Play's work in schools. Particularly, the claim that play can change patriarchal gender attitudes and reduce violence between children and by teachers and parents.

Our team conducted a randomized controlled trial research with over 1500 children in 40 schools and the findings upheld these claims. Levels of peer violence were significantly lower in

schools with Right To Play programming, while mental health studies showed less incidents of reported depression. We also found a decrease in the use of corporal punishment. This is critically important in a country which has been wracked by violence for decades, as it shows Right To Play's peace-building potential.

At a Right To Play convention, several youth stepped forward, thanking the organization for making a difference in their lives—one, a non-gender conforming young woman, another with severe cerebral palsy who, I was told, could not talk three years prior to joining Right To Play.

These girls and boys are proof that play-based learning is advancing child development and is leaving no one behind. Through games, music and sports, Right To Play-trained teachers are decreasing patriarchal gender attitudes and violence. I have witnessed firsthand how play is changing these children's lives and building foundations for a better future.

“Levels of peer violence reported by girls and boys were significantly lower in schools with Right To Play programming”

IN PAKISTAN, a group of girls play numeracy games at school. Excelling at mathematics builds their confidence and courage, showing them that they have the same capabilities as boys.

Photos courtesy of Right To Play (Pakistan); Professor Rachel Jewkes

LEGEND

-  QUALITY EDUCATION
-  HEALTH
-  PEACE
-  REGIONAL OFFICE
-  NATIONAL OFFICE
-  COUNTRY OFFICE

WHERE WE WORK

WE HAVE PROGRAMS IN 15 COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, ASIA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AMERICA WITH SEVEN NATIONAL FUNDRAISING OFFICES ACROSS EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.



WE REACHED
1.9 MILLION CHILDREN
EACH WEEK AROUND THE WORLD IN 2017



50%
OF THE CHILDREN
AND YOUTH IN OUR
PROGRAMS ARE GIRLS

14,000 JUNIOR LEADERS

32,000
TEACHERS & COACHES

WE WORK IN
**52 REFUGEE
CAMPS**



WHO WE SERVE



REFUGEE & MIGRANT CHILDREN



INDIGENOUS CHILDREN & YOUTH

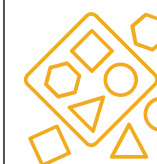


CHILDREN AFFECTED BY
POVERTY, DISEASE AND WAR

67% OF OUR
TEACHERS
AND COACHES ARE FEMALE



1200 PLAY-
BASED
LEARNING & TEACHING GAMES



IN JORDAN, girls and boys living in the Al Baqa'a refugee camp learn about gender equality by playing team sports.



Photo by Paul Bettings

OUR FOCUS

WE USE PLAY TO PROTECT, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER GIRLS AND BOYS.

PLAY SUPPORTS CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WE PLAY TO DRIVE QUALITY EDUCATION, CHILD PROTECTION, PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES, GENDER EQUALITY AND HEALTH.

IN BURUNDI, WE REACHED

30,000+ GIRLS & BOYS AND
TRAINED TEACHERS **313**

IN OUR SPORT AND PEACE EDUCATION SINCE 2016



OUR PRIORITY AREAS

EDUCATION



Play ignites a lifelong love of learning in every child, making it active and engaging. Play builds life skills like confidence and courage. We train teachers to use play-based learning to create safe and supportive environments.

GENDER EQUALITY



Play breaks down barriers that hold girls back and empowers them to learn and lead. We educate teachers and parents on gender equality, to reduce gender-based violence and discrimination in classrooms, communities and at home.

HEALTH



Through play, children discover how to make safe and healthy choices and protect themselves. We train teachers to create environments where kids can talk openly about HIV and AIDS, malaria, sexual reproductive health and hygiene.

CHILD PROTECTION



We create child-friendly spaces where children can learn about their rights and protect themselves from child labor and early marriage. We train teachers about children's rights and child-friendly behaviour, so that they can be positive role models.

PEACE



Games, sports and play help displaced children overcome conflict, violence and emotional pain. We train local teachers to use play to activate healing and engage with local organizations and global partners to create acceptance, inclusion and cooperation.



IN LEBANON, at a primary school, children practice their numeracy skills. Teachers use games like this one to enhance learning.

Photo courtesy of Right To Play (Lebanon)

JULIENNE, CHILD LEADER

“I know I can become a doctor, because anything is possible for me,” says Julianne. “I am determined to achieve my highest goals.”

As the head of her primary school’s Right To Play Leadership Club, the 12-year-old girl advocates for children’s right to education.

In rural Rwanda, education often takes a backseat to economic survival. Here, many parents rely on their children to work in the fields and tend to younger siblings and household chores. As a result, these children frequently miss school or are forced to drop out.

Changing this status quo is the Club’s focus. Along with knocking on doors to encourage parents to let their children attend and stay in school, the members put on plays and sing songs for their community—all to build awareness about the importance of education to decrease the risk of early marriage and child pregnancy, and increase eco-

nomic opportunity.

“We even started a campaign called ‘Let girls go back to school,’” adds Julianne. “Because girls, like me, are still missing education.”

The Club’s members identified the homes where girls were not attending school and increased their door-to-door efforts to educate the parents. Within three months, 78 absentee children were attending school every day.

“Within three months, Julianne and the leadership club encouraged 78 children to enroll in and attend school every day.”

By examining their rights, speaking publicly and contributing to social change, these children are developing analytical skills and the ability to respond to everyday challenges.

“Every child deserves to go to school and to choose any career,” says Julianne. “School is a place where children can be changed. Our Club is not only about being able to read, write and count, it is where we have become confident and supportive of each other.”



CHILD
PROTECTION



GENDER
EQUALITY



EDUCATION

IN RWANDA, Junior Leadership clubs are teaching boys and girls, like Julianne, about their rights and gender equality.

IN THAILAND'S Umphang Refugee Camp, two primary school girls help each other with their storytelling. Trained in our play-based approach to learning, their teachers use creative writing as a way for the students to practice their reading and writing.



Photo by James MacDonald

OUR TEAM

OUR INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF NEARLY 500 STAFF STRIVES TO DRIVE CHANGE IN CHILDREN'S LIVES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

IN UGANDA

92%

OF CHILDREN

VS 50% OF CHILDREN NOT IN OUR PROGRAMS **KNOW HOW TO PREVENT HIV** FROM SEXUAL TRANSMISSION



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Plot 78 Old Kira Rd, P.O. Box 33098, Bukoto, Kampala, Uganda +256 41 531 308/313

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+ 1 646 649 8280 www.righttoplayusa.org

IN PAKISTAN, as part of one of our Junior Leadership clubs in Thatta, a group of school girls gather to talk about how they can further promote gender equality in their community.



Photo courtesy of Right To Play (Pakistan)

IN GHANA, these boys play a literacy game in class. Not only is it fun, finding the right words to make each sentence is helping the children learn English, while showing them how to work as a team.

OUR SUPPORTERS

RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO SHARE OUR BELIEF IN THE POWER OF PLAY.

OUR CORPORATE, FOUNDATION AND GOVERNMENT PARTNERS; INDIVIDUAL DONORS; NATIONAL CORPORATE PARTNERS; NGOS; SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK.

IN PAKISTAN,
CHILDREN
TAUGHT BY
RIGHT TO
PLAY-TRAINED
TEACHERS
SCORED

10%
HIGHER ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS
THAN CHILDREN WITH NO RIGHT TO PLAY TEACHERS



Photo by Ben Bennett & Mat Barkley



Photo courtesy of Right To Play (Thailand)

BISMACK BIYOMBO, GLOBAL ATHLETE AMBASSADOR

To give back to his home country of Congo, Bismack Biyombo set up a Foundation and has been changing children's lives by building schools, basketball courts, running training camps and creating opportunity. This same motivation drew him to Right To Play.

Bismack visited Right To Play programs in the Middle East where he played football with the girls and boys living in the region's refugee camps, before sharing his life story with them. Recently, he ran basketball clinics for refugee children in displacement camps in Thailand. "It's great to be happy," says Bismack. "But it's even better to bring happiness to others and inspire them."

Born and raised in Lubumbashi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bismack grew up poor and hungry. "When I was 12, I dreamed about playing basketball and making it my job," says Bismack. "All you can do is hold on to your dream and keep

working at it without losing hope."

At 16, Bismack's dreams came true when a basketball coach saw him at a youth tournament and signed him to a professional team. Today, he is the power forward for the NBA's Charlotte Hornets. "Basketball gave me my opportunity in life," says Bismack. "That's what Right To Play is doing for children. These kids face similar obstacles to the ones I faced and more, because many live in refugee camps and can't move freely. I want to support Right To Play by impacting and inspiring kids who have been forgotten."

It's this shared experience, says Bismack, that connects him to the children in our programs. His ability to overcome his challenges and succeed fills them with hope and reinforces our belief that play is a driving force in shaping the lives of children around the world to succeed and lead.

"It's great to be happy," says Bismack. "But it's even better to bring happiness to others and inspire them."

THANK YOU TO ALL THE AMBASSADORS WHO ACTIVELY USED THEIR INFLUENCE AND PLATFORMS TO SUPPORT AND AMPLIFY OUR WORK IN 2017.

- A**
Paul Accola, Alpine Skiing, Switzerland
Ade Adepitan, Wheelchair Basketball, United Kingdom
Nathan Adrian, Swimming, United States
Chemmy Alcott, Alpine Skiing, United Kingdom

B
Stig André Berge, Wrestling Greco-Roman, Norway
Bismack Biyombo, Basketball, Headquarters
Bonnie Blair, Speed Skating, United States
Johannes Thingnes Bø, Biathlon, Norway
Tarjei Bø, Biathlon, Norway
David Boudia, Diving, United States
Brittany Bowe, Speed Skating, United States
Billy Bridges, Para Ice Hockey, Canada
Marco Büchel, Alpine Skiing, Switzerland
Jason Burnett, Trampoline, Canada

C
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Joey Cheek, Speed Skating, United States
Tiril Sjaastad Christiansen, Freestyle Skiing, Norway
Elise Christie, Speed Skating, United Kingdom
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Dougie Crawford, Alpine Skiing, United Kingdom
Crista Cullen, Hockey, United Kingdom

D
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Z
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Mats Zuccarello, Ice Hockey, Norway



Photo courtesy of Right To Play (China)

OUR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

THIS NETWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LEADERS IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING OUR WORK. WE THANK OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP.

Paul Edgerley	Deborah and John Harris	Dwight Poler	Michael Siefke	Paal K. Weberg
Rainer-Marc & Tatjana Frey	Ragnar Horn	Heather M. Reisman	Ariel Somes	Florian Wendelstadt
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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO DONATED \$25,000 OR MORE IN 2017:

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IN JORDAN, 11-year-old Esraa and other Palestinian and Syrian children living in the Al Baqa'a Refugee camp learned communication, gender equality and leadership skills in our photography, arts and crafts program.

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OUR BOARDS

EIGHT BOARDS SUPPORT OUR LONG-TERM GROWTH

Photo by Paul Bettings

A LETTER FROM THE 2017 CHAIR OF THE U.S. BOARD

In the last 15 years, I have seen Right To Play transform from a movement serving a small community in Rwanda to a global organization serving 1.9 million children weekly in 15 different countries. As the Chairman of the U.S. Board of Directors, I am proud to work with my colleagues on the Board, as well as the donors and staff in the U.S. to expand Right To Play's mission to bring play-based education to children around the globe. Thank you to everyone here in the United States making Right To Play's work possible.

The U.S. was able to continue raising critical funds in 2017 through many of Right To Play's signature events like the Summertime Ice Classic, Grand Slam for Good and Breakfast with Champions. I was also pleased to join the first-ever Global Leadership Council chaired by our Founder, Johann Olav Koss. This is a group of international leaders who are committed to supporting Right To Play's mission of educating, empowering and protecting the world's most vulnerable children.

I am sure you have found from this year's report, the message is clear: our work is changing the lives of the children, their families and the communities where we operate. We are so thankful to all our donors for their philanthropy and their guidance, which makes our work possible. I would also like to thank my fellow Board members, and the staff of Right To Play U.S. for their true dedication. Together, we will keep providing quality education so children can learn while also doing what they love: playing.

Sincerely,



Mark Hantho
Chair, U.S.A. Board of Directors



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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO DONATED IN 2017!

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SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITIONS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	21,393,529	18,183,096
Contributions receivable	5,407,805	5,587,772
Harmonized Sales Tax receivable	178,152	136,612
Prepaid and other expenses	1,029,787	736,969
	28,009,273	24,644,449
Capital assets	367,332	111,885
	28,376,605	24,756,334
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	3,443,380	3,301,433
Deferred contributions	15,681,918	12,952,926
Deferred lease inducement	33,133	33,133
	19,158,431	16,287,492
Long-term		
Deferred lease inducement	276,113	309,246
Deferred capital contributions	513,095	-
	19,947,639	16,596,738
Net assets		
Invested in capital assets	172,726	111,885
Internally restricted net assets	4,025,387	4,003,591
Unrestricted	4,230,853	4,044,120
	8,428,966	8,159,596
	28,376,605	24,756,334
Revenue		
Restricted - programs	35,146,458	32,940,304
Restricted - other	3,354,733	3,834,502
Unrestricted	13,896,409	17,198,058
Donations-in-kind - other	-	319,330
Total revenue	52,397,600	54,292,194
Expenses		
Program expenses		
International programs	37,375,268	36,955,058
International program development and management	3,499,607	2,841,113
Development education	1,785,783	1,800,905
Institutional partnerships, monitoring and evaluation	1,871,858	1,314,091
Policy and advocacy	166,568	268,248
Total program expenses	44,699,084	43,179,415
Non-program expenses		
Administrative	1,629,890	2,555,423
Fundraising	5,799,256	6,510,996
Total non-program expenses	7,429,146	9,066,419
Total expenses	52,128,230	52,245,834
Excess of revenue over expenses	269,370	2,046,360

TO SEE A FULL AUDITED REPORT OF OUR
2017 FINANCIALS VISIT RIGHTTOPLAY.COM

IN MALI, two primary school teachers gather the girls and boys in their classrooms into small groups to play literacy and math games. Playing games creates an inclusive and child-friendly environment for the children, while building their trust and relationship with their teacher.



Photo courtesy of Right To Play (Mali)

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