



**International  
TeamsCanada**  
Lives & Communities Transformed

# Annual Report 2021





# ABOUT ITEAMS CANADA

**iTeams Canada is a Christian charity working to end poverty by providing education and the necessities of life to vulnerable people around the world.**

Our Impact Programs — located in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, and Canada — work with locally-based partners around the globe to overcome poverty. Our approach to international development is unique. We do not seek to do the work ourselves, but rather to add velocity to the work of established leaders with a vision to transform their communities.

Our mission is to see vulnerable people move toward fullness of life characterized by dignity, justice, peace, and hope. Because sustainable transformation doesn't happen overnight, iTeams creates long-term partnerships between churches, supporters in Canada, and community leaders who work together on projects that will, over time, break the cycle of poverty.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Once again, we've had to find the strength to carry on through another challenging year, no matter where we live. The local leaders we work with around the world rose to the challenge in a truly admirable way, keeping their eyes on the bigger picture while also doing everything they could to meet the most basic needs of their communities. They were a source of consistent support to the most vulnerable people during a time when the only thing many of them could count on was the fact that things could – and would – change minute by minute.

As you'll see throughout this report, our programs have had many wins among the many losses. Impact Haiti mounted a significant earthquake relief effort with a profound local response to the most vulnerable and traumatized. Our partners leading Impact Uganda responded to the ongoing school lockdowns that increased the number of street-connected children and were able to resettle 22 children in their 'forever homes.' Impact Kenya Shangilia started transitional housing for girls escaping Gender-Based Violence as extended lockdowns increased the incidence of this form of domestic violence.



These stories inspire me, and I trust they will inspire you. It is an opportunity and a responsibility to serve on the Board of Directors. On behalf of the Board, I want to thank you for helping add velocity to the work of established leaders with a vision to transform their communities.

---

**Stuart Thomson**

**Chair of the Board of Directors, iTeams Canada**



# 2021 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

---

**REVENUE**

**\$1,994,613**

---

**EXPENSES**

**\$1,772,643**

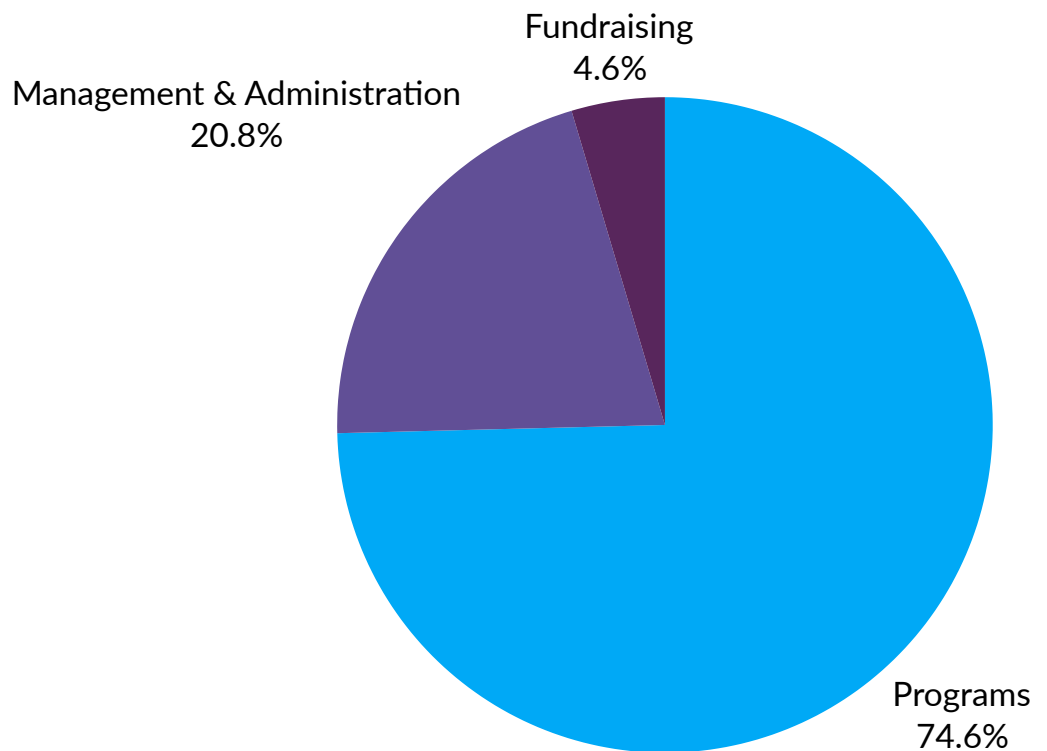
---

**NET ASSETS**

**\$1,136,059**

---

## Breakdown of Expenses:





# STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION







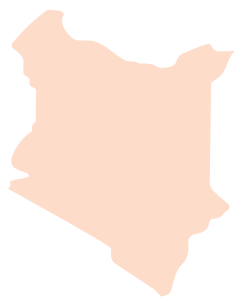
# EMERGENCY RELIEF IN HAITI

Impact Haiti partners with a wide network of churches, pastors, and community leaders, which allows them to have a deep impact on families and communities across Haiti. While the country was experiencing political turmoil, gang violence, and rising COVID-19 infections, Haiti was hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake that caused widespread devastation. Immediately, Impact Haiti's leadership was ready to step in and help communities with our support.

In 2021, our leaders at Impact Haiti were able to provide emergency relief for over 12,500 people by building houses and distributing critical supplies such as hygiene kits, food packages, cash, water filters, and seedlings. These new homes and essential supplies not only helped families survive the devastating events of the year but also provided a sense of hope for them as they looked toward the future.

We believe that there is no one better equipped to transform a community than their own leaders and we were privileged to play a role in helping Impact Haiti's network care for their communities during a year of crisis.





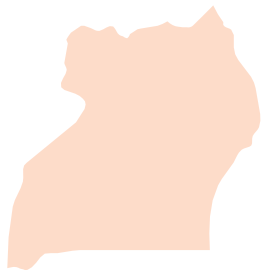
# PROVIDING SAFE HAVEN IN KENYA

Throughout the pandemic, many countries around the world have seen an increase in domestic abuse and gender-based violence. In 2021, our partners at Shangilia Children's Home in Kenya have opened their doors to become a refuge for young girls who are fleeing from abusive homes. When there are cases of gender-based violence or abuse in the county, Shangilia Children's Home is often the only safe place for children to escape to. Our local leaders are well equipped to come alongside victims and ensure that they are cared for and supported as they go through the court process.



Grace is a young woman who grew up in an abusive home, always fearing for her own safety and wellbeing. When our leaders at Shangilia Children's Home heard her story, they welcomed her with open arms and provided a safe place for her to heal, learn, and grow with the Shangilia Children's Home family. Through support from social workers, the love and care of the community, and the influence of a Christian environment, girls like Grace have the opportunity to experience healing, encouragement, and a deeper understanding of God's love for them.





# HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE IN UGANDA

Davis and Arnold are two brothers whose lives have been transformed through Jinja Connection and the commitment and love shown by our local leaders.

As the eldest brothers in a family of 6 with no father, Davis and Arnold provided for their family by collecting scrap metal and plastic to sell, scavenging for food, and begging for money from strangers. When Jinja Connection staff met them on the streets and got to know the brothers, they began to support the children by inviting them to their education and empowerment program and enrolling them in school. After Davis and Arnold's mother passed away, the brothers were left without a home and feared they would end up back on the streets. The Jinja Connection team immediately stepped in to support them and help them find a relative who could provide them with a safe home. In 2021, Jinja Connection continued to work with the family so they would stay together and the boys would remain in school. With consistent counselling, encouragement and care from the Jinja Connection team, children like Davis and Arnold have a new home and hope for their future.

In 2021 twenty-two children were settled successfully into their forever homes and we are inspired by every single one of these children and the patience, compassion and efforts of the local leadership as they worked to reunite these families.





# A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

We've experienced the pandemic here in Canada as challenging, even exhausting. For our partner leaders and local communities, this past year and the cumulative effect of COVID have been devastating. Yet, those leaders and their teams continue to respond to the daily challenges with courage and compassion. And God multiplies our support and prayer, expressed in practical ways, even when we were feeling weak and stretched, such that together we care for the most vulnerable in our communities.

As you will remember, Haiti experienced waves of disruption in 2021. First COVID-19, then political upheaval and violence, followed by a devastating earthquake that left many without food, clean water and shelter. Enel, our Impact Haiti leader, and his team were in the right place at the right time – and had the right kind of plan to respond! They prioritized female-headed households and those with disabilities and targeted the most immediate needs like home repairs, funerals, cooking fuel, clear water, and counselling and support.

Under Enel's leadership, Impact Haiti has the on-ground footprint and long-term trust to deliver relief. In addition, they continue to leverage support to this day with a home rebuilding program.

Lastly, as I write these words, a war is raging in Ukraine, and over four million people have fled the country, seeking refuge and safety. Under Dina Nechita's leadership, Impact Romania has a long-term presence in Cluj, Romania, and has been able to welcome thousands of Ukrainian refugees, primarily mothers travelling with children. I cannot stress enough that our capacity to mount a crisis response is dependent on local leaders like Enel in Haiti and Dina in Romania.

Your generosity fuels the support as our local leaders step into the gap, and together we meet the needs of the most vulnerable.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Ostrander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

---

**Neil Ostrander**  
**CEO, iTeams Canada**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



**International  
TeamsCanada**  
Lives & Communities Transformed

**PHONE:** 519.669.8844

**TOLL-FREE:** 800.465.7601

**WEBSITE:** ITEAMS.CA

**EMAIL:** INFO@ITEAMS.CA

1 UNION STREET ELMIRA,  
ONTARIO, CANADA N3B 3J9