



Helping to alleviate hunger one project at a time since 1976

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2019

BANGLADESH

In memory of Carol Lutz, one of the founders and a long-time board member of GWHA, we funded a community development project in Faridpur, Bangladesh in the fall of 2017. In cooperation with the Church of Bangladesh Social Development Program (CBDSP) our partner organization *Global Ministries* formed 43 community groups with a total of 900 members across Bangladesh. With the help of the funds



members of 100 farming families received training on drought-tolerant wheat cultivations, homestead gardening, techniques for mulching, bagging, composting, and grafting agricultural crops. In addition, over 50 sanitary latrines were installed, and a pond was re-excavated through this project. Ummeton (see picture left) is a member of the project which introduced her to bottle-drip irrigation, a cost-effective and sustainable strategy for irrigating her barren land and turning it into a productive, income-producing farm (see picture above).



INDIA- WEST BENGAL

We are happy to report that our partner organization *Ankur Kala* which serves the poor in Kolkata and in surrounding rural areas, recently received the **Mahatma Award for Social Good** during Impact NGO Expo Conference held in New York in September 2018.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgLViEMv698>

GWHA provided funds for the “Empowerment Training Programme for Marginalized Women” which implemented vocational training activities in the districts of Sonarpur and Mathurapur, two rural project areas outside Kolkata. 68 Girls were given basic training in stitching under the guidance of a trainer. After completing their training, these girls started taking and fulfilling orders at home, and earning an income. In addition, 28 girls in the villages of Gopalnagar and Gubberia joined tutorial classes where three teachers are tutoring them in various school subjects.





60 women in 4 villages in Mathurapur have started their own nutritional garden in their backyards where they have been trained by local women trainers to grow seasonal vegetables, fruits, and herbs using organic farming practices. This enables them to feed their children healthy food. And finally, our funds were used to start poultry and mushroom farming projects in 4 villages in Mahturapur. The selected female participants received training and the programs

are monitored to ensure good results. Lastly, three women trainers are continuing training in processing and marketing jam, squash, and pickled fruit and vegetables which are then bottled and sold in households and small shops. Ankur Kala writes: "We are grateful to GWAH for granting funds for our Rural Empowerment Training Programm. This year has been a fruitful one. We were able to reach out to many more women...and provide opportunities to many more poor and marginalized rural women to achieve economic and social empowerment."



HAITI

The people living in the Greater South of Haiti are constantly threatened by excessive rains, flooding, droughts, and civil unrest which lead to food insecurity, especially for children. Malnutrition and dehydration are the leading cause for the high infant mortality rate. The majority of Haitians live on less that \$1.25 per day and rely on their crops as both a source of food for their families and income from selling them at the market. In cooperation with our partner organization *Hope for Haiti* we helped fund a sustainable school garden project which has created school gardens in three remote rural communities: Tête Source, Ravine Sable, and Boisrond.



Nutritious crops such as spinach, carrots, okra, moringa, and mangoes are provided for 1,583 students and their families. In the school gardens students and parents are educated on crop propagation, best planting practices, and soil conservation. Once the gardens are thriving, families are given seedlings for planting at their home plots during *Hope for Haiti's* Annual Reforestation Celebration Day in May. The gardens provide a sustainable source of nutritional produce for students and their families, and engage the local community members as partners and leaders in improving health and overall economic opportunities. *Hope for Haiti* ensures also bi-monthly visits to home plots and a final evaluation of the project by an agricultural program coordinator. We will keep you posted!

For more information about GWAH projects please visit: www.greenwichworldhunger.org