



## IMPACT REPORT 2019-2022

A STATEMENT FROM OUR  
FOUNDER, DORAH RAINS

*As I reflect on the work of SGUW  
my sentiments are captured by  
the words of Liberian activist,  
Leymah Roberta Gbowee.*

*"We must continue to unite in  
sisterhood to turn our tears into  
triumph. There is no time to rest  
until our world achieves  
wholeness and balance, where all  
men and women are considered  
equal and free."*

# STRONG GIRLS UNITED WOMEN



### SGUW QUICK FACTS

**200**

Students In  
Adolescents Health  
Classes

**500**

Students with access  
to SGUW hygiene  
stations

**185**

Farmers and families  
in our Rice Farming  
Project

**0**

Teenage girls  
pregnant at SGUW  
schools

# A Message from SGUW

Strong Girls United Women (SGUW) was founded on the simple idea that all women and girls are valuable and have the right to live a life of their choosing, free from pain, physical threat, and fear. It was also founded with the knowledge that for many women and girls in Salone, this is not a reality, and it must change. This is the work of Strong Girls United Women.

SGUW is part of a larger movement – a global one- recognizing the inherent value of women and the myriad of barriers standing in the way of equity. In 2015, the UN passed the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Goals are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies to improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

The SDGs provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future and essential to all of the Goals is women's equality. In fact, Goal 5 is to achieve gender quality and empower all women and girls. Simply put it requires "Gender Equality."

At SGUW, we provide education, mentoring, community building, economic empowerment, health and sexual information. We advocate for change with our allies for land ownership and heredity laws to be changed; we advocate for more women in government and management; we advocate for more GBV prevention, trauma centered care and support for the many victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation. And, we urge the end of FMG in all its forms.

The first step is Adolescent Health classes which are our anchor in communities. The classes build trust between SGUW and the students, their families and community leaders. Two years ago we started with a weekly health class in four schools, we now have rice farming, pineapple farming, woman to woman training for mothers in remote areas, environmental clubs, employment training programs and more. As we've taken on more projects within our communities, our relationship has deepened as has our commitment.

As we look forward to the next three years, we see expansion. We are planning to expand geographically toward the middle and northern regions of Sierra Leone. We also plan to increase our programming in our current locations of Freetown and Bo. We see further partnerships with allied organizations to support their work and our communities. We will also be increasing our development and fundraising scope with a hope of doubling it within a year and then- with our larger footprint- to begin grant seeking on a larger scale.

With expansion comes the need for more administration both in the US and in Salone. In order to accommodate our larger footprint including more staff and volunteers, we will be renting office space in Freetown.

Speaking of SGUW's volunteers - they are the secret sauce to our success. Our volunteers in the US and Salone have journeyed with us from the start. We appreciate their commitment, we thank them and hope their roles with SGUW will grow in the future.

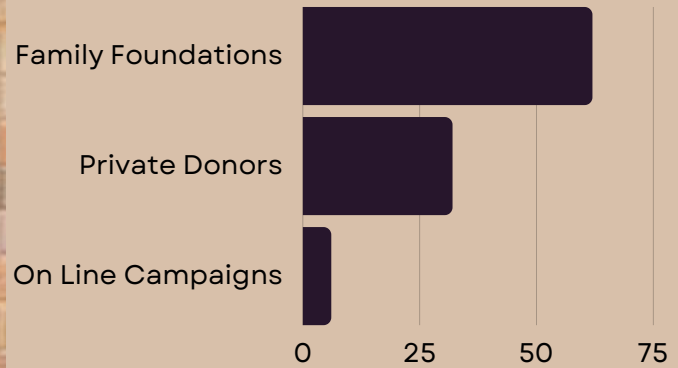
Lastly, we could not possibly have completed the last three years on such a high note, with so many splendid successes- without our Directors Sonia and Tewoh. They are the backbone of SGUW, working daily to improve the lives of women and girls in Sierra Leone. They have taken everything we asked of them and with genuine enthusiasm- improved it.

**The SGUW Leadership Team**





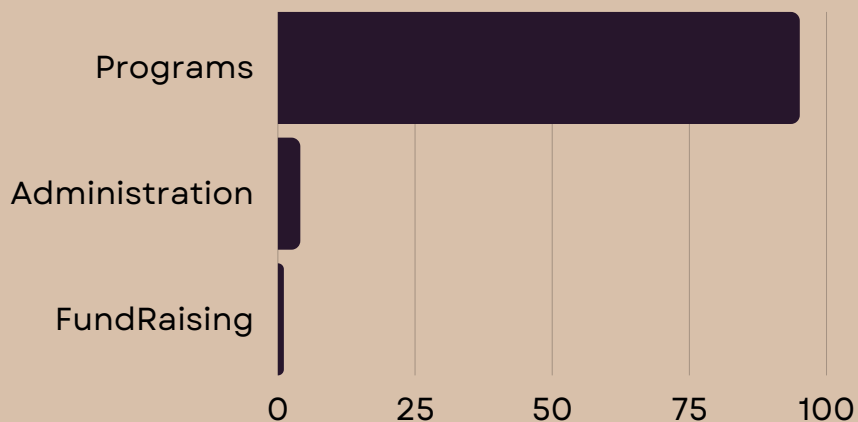
## WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM



**FUNDS RAISED**  
**\$36,475**



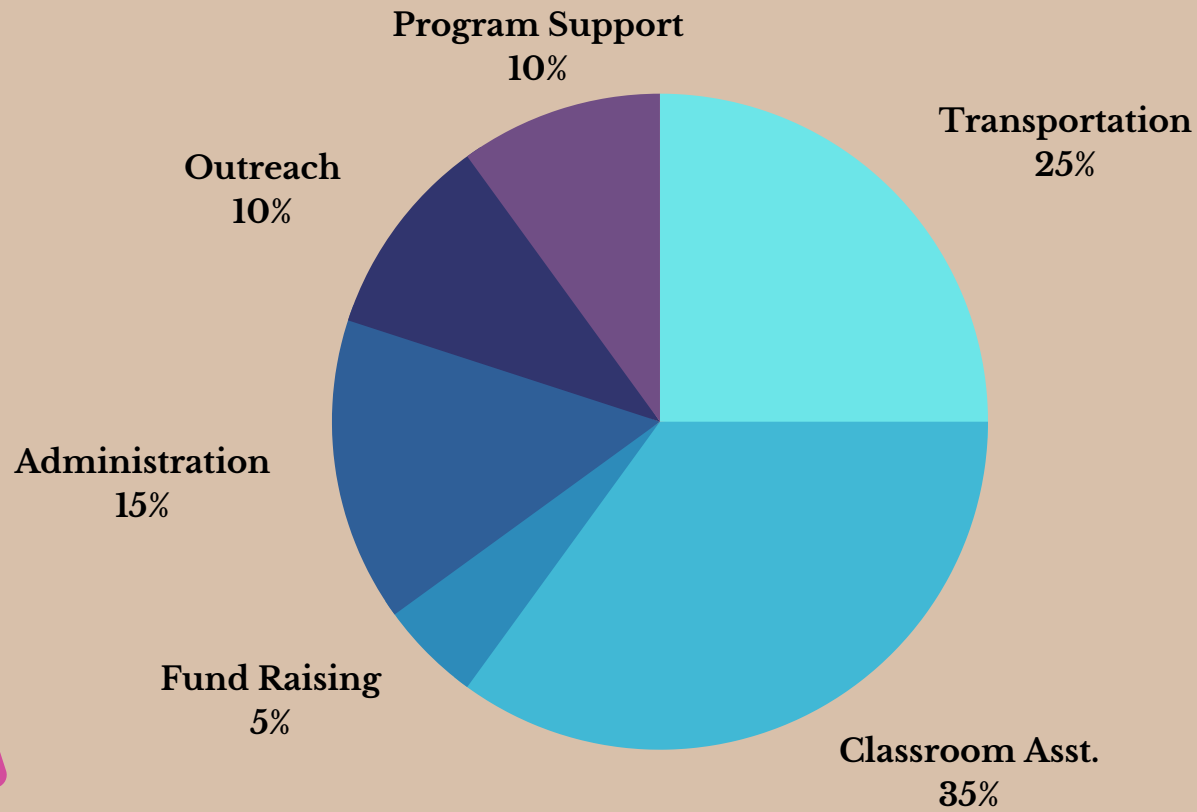
## WHERE OUR FUNDING GOES



**95 % of SGUW funds  
support programs**

*CharityWatch considers a charity to be  
highly efficient with a Program  
Percentage of 75%*

# SGUW VOLUNTEERS



SGUW Volunteers = 3 FT staff members per year



# Programs, Projects & Partners

Adolescent Health Classes  
200 STUDENTS



Hygiene Kits and Hand Washing Stations  
50 KITS                      500 STUDENTS





# Programs, Projects & Partners

## The Environment Project 1 SCHOOL 20 GIRLS



## Activism



16

**END  
DOMESTIC**

**Freetown Fire Response  
250 MEALS DISTRIBUTED**



# Programs, Projects & Partners

## Training for 'Out of School' Girls

OOS girls face difficult prospects in Salone. They are at high risk for exploitation, pregnancy, marriage, GBV, poverty and HIV. Our employment training program provides a way forward for these girls.



### Bakery Training

Baking is a skilled trade that is highly desired in Freetown where cakes and pastries are the rage. We partner with Elvie's baking school in Freetown.

**3 STRONG GIRLS**



### Tailor Training

Being a tailor is a highly skilled position and is widely needed in Salone. We partner with the SLOIC vocational school in Bo town.

**1 STRONG GIRL**





# Programs, Projects & Partners

## Women's Economic Empowerment Program

Rice Farming  
185 family members



Pineapple Farming  
35 Farmers





# **WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.**

**Creating change takes a many hands. The people below  
have shown unwavering support for our work from the  
very beginning. We thank them.**

## **Lions (\$2500-\$20,000)**

John Ordway

Molly Power

The Ordway and Power Charitable Fund

Dr. James Feldman and Rebecca Feldman

## **Leopards (\$1,000-\$2,500)**

Wilson Rains

Anita Salsberg

Matthew and Dorah Rains

## **Wild Cats (\$200-\$1,000)**

Meredith Kantor

Jessica B.

Jessica Rienes

Elyssa Ann Torres

Anonymous

Network for Good

**We thank all of our other donors and supporters who have helped  
out in ways big and small.**



# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS.



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