

# WORD MADE FLESH RWANDA

Annual Report 2020





# A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Anita\* is one of our Kundwa Collective artisans. Although her life has been relatively steady since she started working for us a year ago, over the last several years that we have known her she has experienced a lot of hardship. Her marriage has been unsteady with her husband in and out of the picture, leaving her to care for her four year old son, Cedric, on her own with no income until she joined Kundwa Collective.

Her husband was back in her life for a brief part of this year and she became pregnant again. About six months into her pregnancy, the other artisans came to us and said that they were concerned about Anita's mental and physical health. Even though all of the artisans make a living wage and we work with them to save, budget, and plan for the future, the other women had noticed that Anita had been spending her entire salary on irrational purchases, leaving her and her son to go without food for days at a time. They were especially worried that she was going to harm her baby with the poor way she was caring for her pregnant body. The way she talked and carried herself had changed too, and from the knowledge they gained from the various mental health and trauma workshops we have done over the last few years, they thought her behaviors might point to depression. They had decided they wanted to intervene in their friend's life to help her get back to a healthy place and were asking our staff to join them to surround Anita with love and support.

And this, I believe, is the greatest outcome of our ministry--that while we ministered to women in our community and offered tools and resources that they





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could use to improve their mental, physical, and spiritual health, some of those women have taken those things to heart enough that they could minister to other women around them. We truly serve *among and alongside* the most vulnerable on their journey to abundant life. For some it takes a little longer than others, but as we say in Kinyarwanda, *turi kumwe*, we are together.

There have been so many moments over the last year that I have seen hints of fruit from the slow and patient work that we have been doing with these women. But this moment--seeing the women show up for Anita with so much seriousness and love--felt like waking up one spring morning to a tree suddenly in full bloom.

As with nearly everyone around the world, COVID certainly created some obstacles to the plans we had for 2020. In the midst of all of the pivoting we have had to do this year, we have still achieved so much:

- Offered food relief to 450 families affected by Rwanda's strict 2-month COVID lockdown;
- Saw a 66% increase in Kundwa Collective sales, most of which was in local markets;
- Moved into a new ministry center that will allow us to better serve our community;
- Supported 25 women through savings groups and discipleship;
- Created resources for supporting pregnant mothers and women's health.

2020 saw the Lord continuing to do amazing work through Word Made Flesh Rwanda. It was a year of deepening, growth, and creativity. None of this would have been possible without your prayers and support. Thank you.

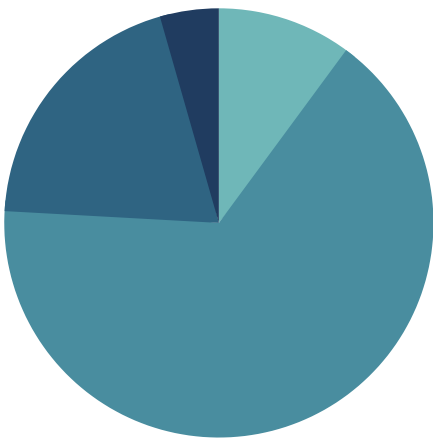
Shelbye Renfro  
Field Director

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2020, we expected a significant increase in our expenses from past years as we took on large expenses that had been previously covered by our partnership with the local diocese of the Anglican Church of Rwanda. These day-to-day program expenses, as well as our investment in food relief to thousands of our neighbors in Kangondo during Rwanda's COVID lockdown, were covered by friends both in Kigali and all over the world who generously shared their resources.

## Income

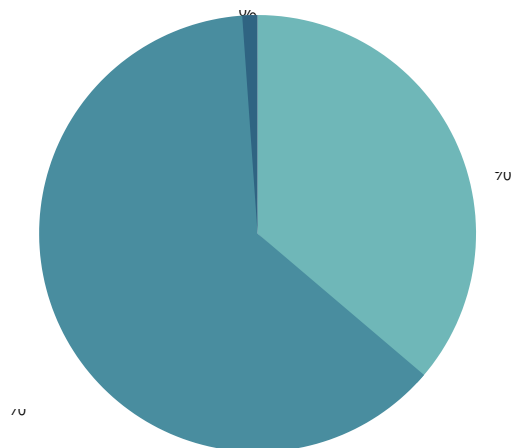
Total: \$32,657



- Individual & Church Gifts: \$20,961
- Local Donations: \$6,729
- Other: \$1,514
- Kundwa Collective Sales: \$3,453

## Expenses

Total: \$30,278



- Programs: \$18,974
- Advocacy: \$340
- Administration: \$10,964

For more information about our work, impact, or finances email [shelbye.renfro@wordmadeflesh.org](mailto:shelbye.renfro@wordmadeflesh.org) or visit our website [wordmadeflesh.org/rwanda](http://wordmadeflesh.org/rwanda)



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