# 2023 Annual Report





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# A WORD FROM THE CEO

Thanks to your support, Medical Bridges had its best year ever, providing 265 tons of medical supplies and equipment worth \$12.6 million to where the need is greatest. Over 2.4 million people were able to get treatment as a result of your generosity. We could not do it without you.

Sadly, the world is on fire. More is needed now, and with your help, Medical Bridges will provide more material to more healthcare heroes to improve health and save the lives of more people.

The European Commission last year rated Africa as the most under-reported crisis with hundreds of millions of people displaced. Ukraine, Gaza, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Haiti, and Ethiopia are on almost every top 10 list of world trouble spots. Last year, Medical Bridges served each of those countries and many others throughout Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

Global medical gaps are dire. 2024 is the year to double down. Medical Bridges is committed to do more. Please continue to support Bridges' Medical global humanitarian mission. We cannot do it without you.

With our gratitude,

Walter Ulrich



MEDICAL BRIDGES 2023

# **IMPACT**

In the past year, Medical Bridges has achieved remarkable milestones, translating philanthropy into tangible, life-saving outcomes. The numbers tell a powerful story of our collective impact:

Value Delivered: \$12.6MWeight Shipped: 265 Tons

Containers Sent: 61

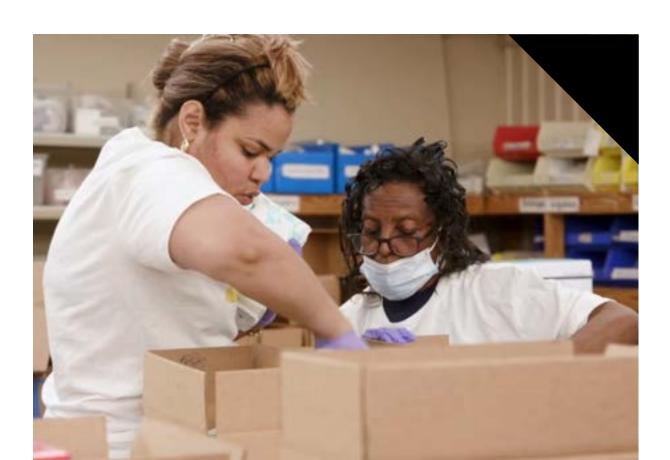
This equates to nearly 2½ million treatments for the injured and ill. Each container, valued at over \$200,000 and weighing more than 4 tons, is a beacon of hope for communities in need.

What truly sets us apart is our extraordinary leverage: for every dollar of philanthropy, Medical Bridges shipped \$15 in medical items.

The impact on individual lives is profound. For every dollar of philanthropy, 2.9 treatments were provided globally.

Incredibly, for every 34 cents of philanthropy, someone, somewhere in the world, received a treatment they wouldn't have otherwise had access to.

Medical Bridges is not just filling the healthcare gap; we're advancing healthcare equity and saving lives, one shipment at a time.



MEDICAL BRIDGES 2023



# **COUNTRIES SERVED**

**AFGHANISTAN** 



**GUATEMALA** 



KAZAKHSTAN



NEPAL



**PANAMA** 



UKRAINE



DJIBOUTI



HAITI



KENYA



NIGERIA



**RWANDA** 



**ZAMBIA** 



**ETHIOPIA** 



**JORDAN** 



MOZAMBIQUE



**PAKISTAN** 



SIERRA LEONE





# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



### **KENYA**

Gratitude to the efforts of the Care for a Child's Heart medical team! They accomplished a total of 49 successful pediatric heart surgeries. Medical Bridges is privileged to have played a humble role in this extraordinary mission.



# **JORDAN**

In 2023, Medical Bridges, with the support of HHRD, shipped numerous pallets filled with vital medical supplies to Jordan. These resources will play a crucial role in enhancing the health and well-being of the Jordanian people. Let's join forces to create a positive impact!



# **ZAMBIA**

This picture captures not just the physical transformation but also the incredible spirit of independence and dignity being restored to individuals who need it most. Our partners' commitment to improving the lives of those in need is truly inspiring.

# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



# **DJIBOUTI**

Thanks to HHRD, numerous pallets of medical equipment were distributed last year and are set to help transform healthcare in Djibouti! Strengthening the Ministry of Health, they'll improve emergency response and expand healthcare access.



## **UKRAINE**

NOVA Ukraine and Daar Foundation, our steadfast collaborators, remain resilient pillars in the healthcare connection to Ukraine. In the past year, a significant value of medical equipment and supplies, totaling millions of dollars, were dispatched to bolster the efforts of healthcare heroes in Ukraine.



# **PAKISTAN**

In 2023, vital medical shipments graced Pakistan, extending their reach to numerous healthcare facilities. These shipments generously facilitated by the unwavering support of HHRD, are poised to bring substantial benefits to hundreds of thousands of individuals, enriching their well-being in meaningful ways.

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



Medical Bridges' CEO, Walter Ulrich, was honored by Ukrainian President Zelenskyy for the organization's efforts in aiding the Ukrainian people during the crisis. This recognition signifies the impact of Medical Bridges' work.

Zakat Foundation's Executive Director and Founder Halil Demir presented an award to Medical Bridges for the organization's dedicated service to humanity.





Sigma, the International Nursing Honor Society, honored Medical Bridges at its 47th Biennial Convention with its Archon First to Lead award for global impact.

Medical Bridges was chosen as one of the honored nonprofits at the 2023 Halliburton Charity Golf Tournament! We had the pleasure of being present on-site, connecting with industry leaders and fellow charitable organizations.



These awards are not just symbols of recognition; they are a testament to the unwavering commitment, passion, and excellence demonstrated by the Medical Bridges team, partners, sponsors and volunteers. Each acknowledgment is an inspiration to reach new heights and continue making a positive impact. Many thanks to all who have supported and celebrated our achievements. Together, we strive for even greater success in 2024.

# 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS



#### MEDICAL BRIDGES GALA

A heartfelt thank you for our unforgettable gala night! Your presence, sponsorship, volunteerism, and donations made it truly magical. Together, we're shaping a brighter future. Grateful for our amazing community!



# MILESTONE SHIPMENT TO UKRAINE

By October 2023, Medical Bridges had successfully delivered medical equipment and supplies to Ukraine, marking a significant milestone with a total value of \$10 million. To commemorate this achievement, an informal ceremony took place at Medical Bridges, featuring brief remarks from Consul General Vitalii Tarasiuk.



# **AFRIEXPO**

Powerful Expo! Akinyi Adoyo, Marketing Manager at Medical Bridges, and Lady Dentaa Amoateng MBE, CEO of The GUBA Enterprise, last year at the AfriExpo2023. The event was a testament to the power of collaboration and the potential for positive change when great minds unite.

# 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS



# **HHRD AT MEDICAL BRIDGES**

Medical Bridges had the pleasure of hosting over 70 dedicated team members from Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD). Since 2013, together, we've shipped over 230 containers, carrying essential medical supplies and equipment valued at over \$44 million and weighing over 900 tons, to destinations around the world. This collaborative effort has brought hope and healing to countless individuals in need.



# AROUND THE WORLD WITH WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Akinyi Adoyo, Marketing Manager at Medical Bridges, and Sarah Echandy, Managing Director, attended the 'Around the World with the World Affairs Council of San Antonio' fair. This event showcased the rich diversity of 25 countries represented in San Antonio, some of which Medical Bridges has had the honor of serving.



# **UKRAINIAN GRATITUDE DINNER**

We celebrated unity and unwavering dedication at a heartfelt Thanksgiving event hosted by Ukrainian Charity Organizations Razom, Nova Ukraine, and HTX4UKRAINE. Together, we expressed gratitude to those supporting Ukraine and honored the exceptional individuals that have put in so much effort since the beginning of the crisis, including Medical Bridges' President and CEO, Walter Ulrich, Logistics, Events and Special Projects Manager, Gidget Swift, and Global Health Manager, Dr. Tadia Diallo, for their outstanding commitment.



# PRIORITY SDGS

In 2015, Medical Bridges adopted the United Nations global goals to frame its global health progress and hone into four interlinked global goals - SDG3, SDG10, SDG12, & SDG17.



#### ENSURING HEALTHY LIVES AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL

In 2023, Medical Bridges distributed and staged more than \$12.6M in medical resources to supply dedicated healthcare professionals serving vulnerable patients living in extreme poverty.



#### REDUCING INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES

Medical Bridges is improving access and quality of healthcare to ensure that every person has the opportunity to thrive regardless of income, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, race, class, ethnicity, or religion.



#### ENSURING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

Medical Bridges offers a solution that enables sustainable consumption and efficient supply chain in the healthcare industry to leave a positive environmental and social impact.



#### STRENGTHENING AND REVITALIZING PARTNERSHIPS

Medical Bridges' mission continues humming thanks to the support and contribution from stakeholders invested in improving the quality of healthcare locally and globally.

Medical Bridges - A leader in global health equity

# San Antonio PEagle Pass

# SAN ANTONIO -FOSTERING GROWTH THROUGH COLLABORATION













In the heart of San Antonio, our operation has been a steadfast pillar of our organization's success over the past year. The key to Medical Bridges' thriving presence in this vibrant community lies in our commitment to collaboration and strategic partnerships.

Building Strong Foundations: Our journey in San Antonio has been marked by a spirit of cooperation. Through collaborative efforts, Medical Bridges has established strong foundations, enabling us to navigate challenges and capitalize on opportunities. Together with local businesses, community leaders, and organizations, we've forged connections that extend beyond mere transactions, creating lasting relationships that contribute to our shared success.

**Strategic Partnerships**: Partnerships are the bedrock of our success. Medical Bridges has cultivated strategic alliances that amplify our capabilities. These partnerships have not only expanded our reach but have also brought diverse perspectives to the table.

In the coming year, we remain committed to fostering collaboration and building even stronger partnerships. It is through these connections that we believe we can continue to thrive and contribute meaningfully to bridging the global healthcare gap.



# 2023 SAN ANTONIO ADVISORY COUNCIL

Many thanks to the esteemed members of the Medical Bridges - San Antonio Advisory
Council. Your invaluable insights, wise counsel, and steadfast support have played a pivotal

Gloria Canseco, MA
Linda Elliott
Dr. Mark Gilger, MD, F.A.A.P.
Jann Harrison, RN, MSN
Eric Peter
Howard Skillrud, CRPC, CLTC
Kirsten Spevak
Mary Stefl, Ph.D.
Jocelyn Whalen

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Sarah Echandy









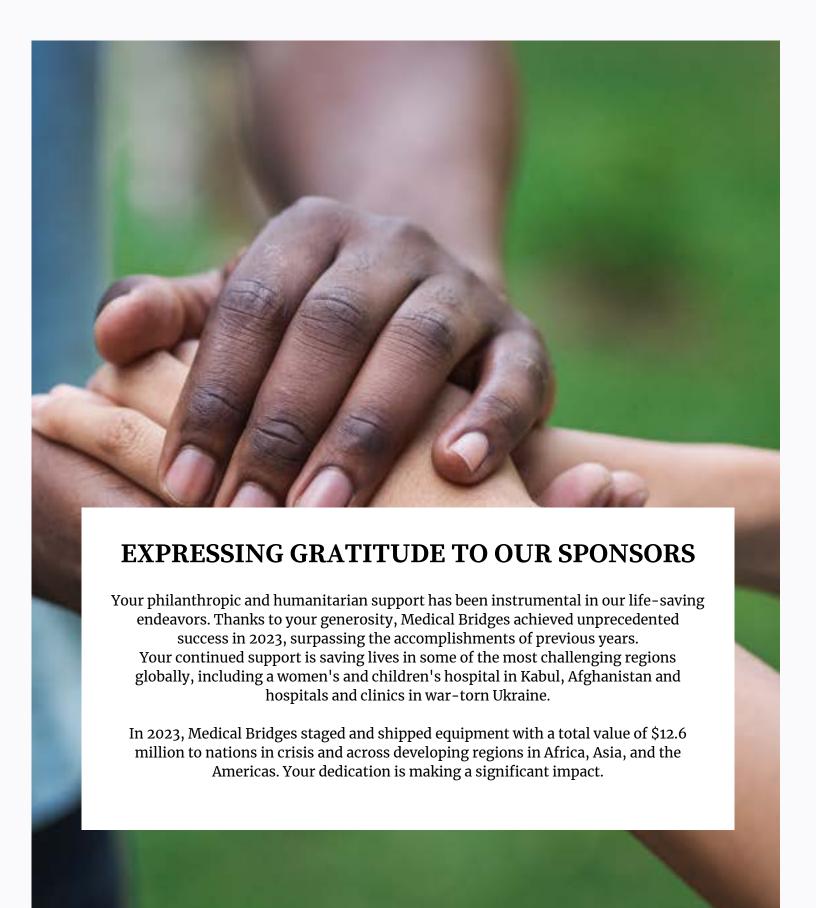
# **EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO OUR PARTNERS**

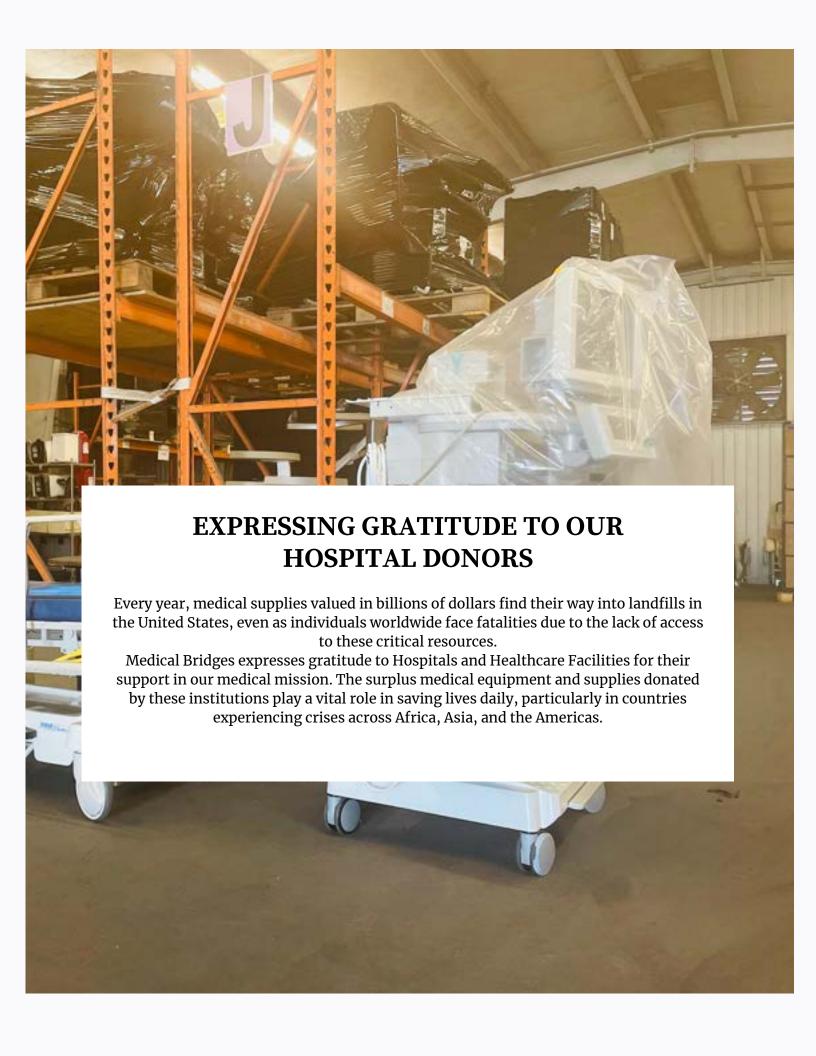
Medical Bridges extends aid to individuals and communities facing challenges. Our contributions are guided by the needs of our global health collaborators, and we allocate resources where they are needed most.

Your support enables us to not only save lives but also to uplift individuals, fostering a path towards health equity. In 2023, our collective efforts resulted in the delivery of 265 tons of crucial medical equipment and supplies to nations experiencing crises and those in the process of development across Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Eastern Europe, including Ukraine.

Together, we are shaping a more promising future for healthcare.











Bridging the healthcare gap worldwide

#### BUILDING BRIDGES: HONORING SPONSORS, VOLUNTEERS, DONORS, AND PARTNERS

Many thanks to the sponsors, volunteers, donors, and partners who have woven their essence into the fabric of our success. Together, you have not only supported our endeavors but also enriched the very soul of our collective achievements, turning them into a masterpiece of shared dedication and collaboration

Rhonda and Blake Abbott Farida Abjani **Ann Aergeons** Dr. Kumar and Mrs. Bridgett Alagappan Dr. James and Mrs. Ann Allison Janet and Dave Amend American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons **Angi Lewis Studios Apache** Archangels of Merci, Inc. Asmlash-Grant Foundation Astros Caravan Group **Astros Foundation** Athens First Methodist Church Dr. Fernando Avila AXion The Bank of America Gift Fund Donna Baptiste and Robert Half Beth Baubie **Baylor University BUILD Bayou Surgical Solutions** Because Marketing Renee Bellemere Berger Family Foundation Dr. Neera Bhatia, MD Joseph Birkofer Ann Bison Pamela and Hayne Blakely Blessings International Natasha and Michael Bleyzer Blue Skies of Texas **John Brewer** Mary and Clint Brisco Cathy Brock Christian Brock Kate and Micheal Brock Dr. Patti Brock Howard and Steve Howard Becky and Jack Browder Chris Brown Jim Brown BUILD at TX A&M Dr. Edmund and Diane Burnett

Don Buttermore

Christine Caldwell

Larry Campagna

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Les Cave, III

Chapelwood Charter Healthcare Group Chevron U.S.A. Children's Shelter of SA CITOC Stacy and Richard Clark Leslie Cohan CommuniCare Health Centers **Gary Cunningham** Daar Foundation Kimberly and Scott David Mindy and Joshua Davidson Dr. Jeffrey Davis Holly Day Michele and John Dearborn Scott Denham The Dr. Satish K. Gupta Charitable Fund Melissa and Brent Dyer Patricia and Henry Everitt Dr. Arthur and Gail Faris Ron Farmer Virginia and David Ferer Sue and Bill Ferguson FIGS First United Methodist Church Del Fischer Linda and Gustavo Flores Forces of Nature Linda and Joe Fowler Craig A. Fox Tammy Franks-Rogas French Medical Institute for Mothers and Children (FMIC) Frio Regional Hospital Krissy and David Gagliardi **Andrew Gardener** Alicia and Winston Gilpin Give Lively Foundation Gizaw Medium Clinic Cindy Gloria Dr. Peggy Goetz Rhoda Goldberg **Niel Golightly** Debbie Gonzalez **Grits Foundation** Michelle Hagood Halliburton Charitable Foundation

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#### Bridging the healthcare gap worldwide

#### BUILDING BRIDGES: HONORING SPONSORS, VOLUNTEERS, DONORS, AND PARTNERS

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Paul Herman

Martha and Brian Herrick Barb Holcomb Samantha Holroyd **Houston Methodist** 

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Reserve 101

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Rice University Pangaea Club

Richmond Foundation

Susana Rigato

Gay Roane

Mr. and Mrs. David Robbins

Frank Roberto

Catherine and Robert Roberts



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Bridging the healthcare gap worldwide

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Dr. Scott and Catherine Roberts Barbara and Corbin J. Robertson, Jr. Kimberly and Spurgeon Robinson Rotary International Dist. 5890 Inc Sambuca The San Francisco Foundation Mitzi Sandell Julia Sarkar The SAVE Clinic Sharon Schroeder Dr. George and Lynn Schroth Nancy and Thomas Schulz Cindi and Richard Scruggs Shell Oil Company Foundation Carol Singletary Jann Harrison and Howard Skillrud Robert W. Smith Won Suk Song Spec's Family Partners Spirt of Golf Foundation Amie and Jeff Springmeyer St. Luke's Hospital - Sugar Land Carol and Bill Stallings Dee Starling Mary Stefl Stevens Alumni Mary Morgan and Reed Stevens Sandra and Jeffrey Stone Cynthia and Carl Stutts Sugar Land Baptist Sutar-Sutaruk-Meyer Foundation **SVP** Development

Tapeats Fund

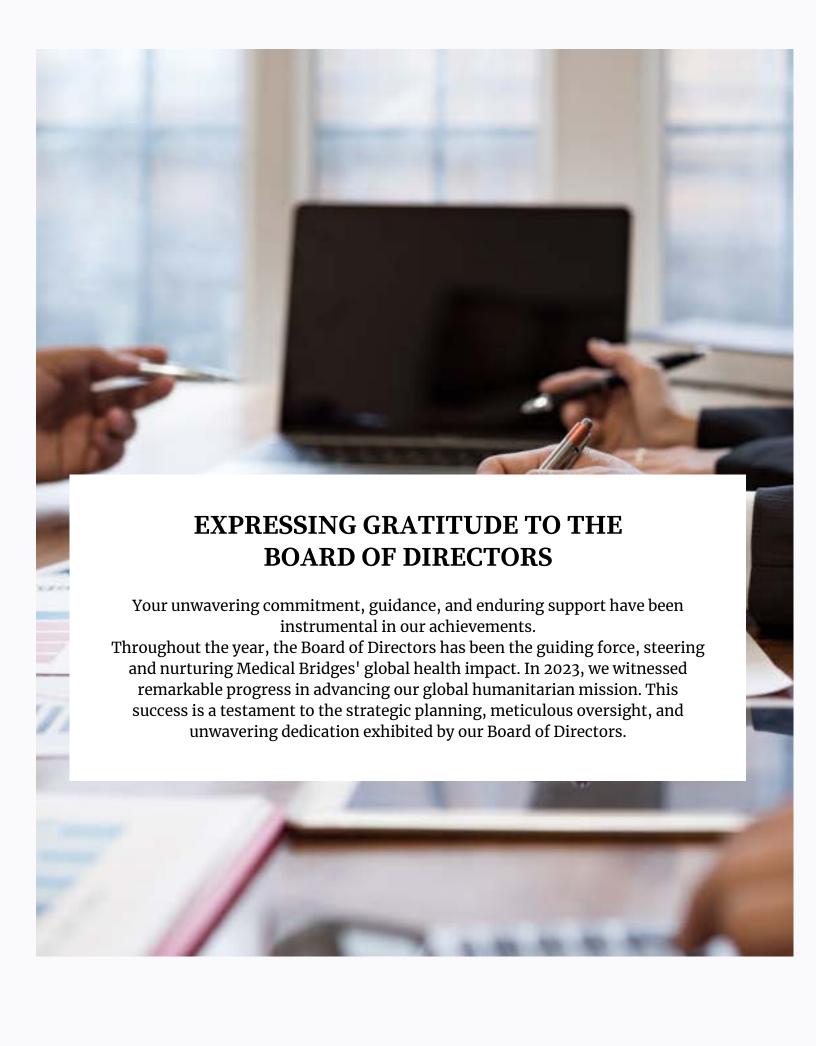
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Tenenbaum Jewelers

Texas Children's Hospital Texas Medical Center

Texas Oncology - New Braunfels Dolly and Jeff Thomas Dr. Peter and Nancy Thompson TLN Family & Cosmetic Dentistry John Tomochek Total Wine & More Harriet R. Trevas Linda Trov Beth and Walter Ulrich **USLED** UTHealth Houston Valor Healthcare James Versalovic Victoria House Resort & Spa Visual Edge IT Dr. Victor and Mrs. Deborah Vlahakos Volunteers in Medicine Judith Wade John Wageman General and Mrs. Don Wagner Kim and Mike Weill Philip Werner West University United Methodist Church Wendy Weston Jenifer Wheeler Kristine and Charles White **Iovce and Colin Wilkinson** Judith Williams Mark J. Williamson, DDS Carol and David Willis The Wilson Sexton Foundation Linda and Charles Winston Barbara Wisecup Kristen and Joe Woodcox

John Zipprich, II





# 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Many thanks to the esteemed members of the **Board of Directors.** Your visionary leadership, unwavering commitment, and strategic guidance have been instrumental in bridging the healthcare gap worldwide.

Bryan Lastrapes, Chair
Dr. Patrica Brock Howard
Hayne Blakely
Dr. Peggy Goetz
Niel Golightly
John Melko
Dr. Mary Neal
Craig Nunez
Spurgeon Robinson
Carl Stutts
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President & CEO, Walter Ulrich, Ex Officio





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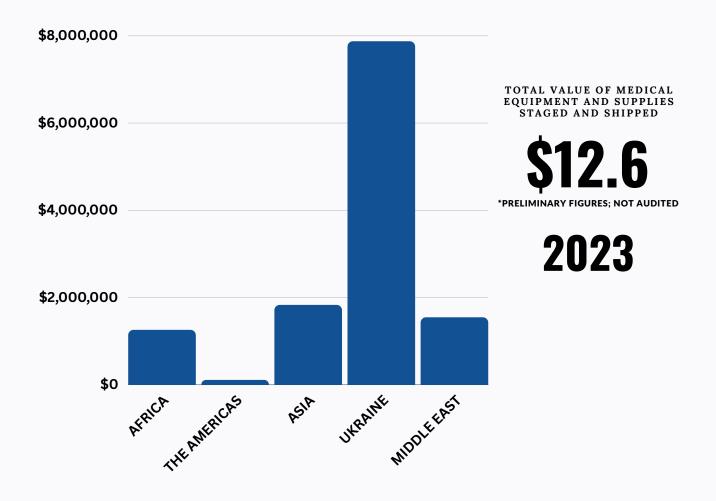
Many thanks to the esteemed members of the Medical Bridges - Houston Advisory Council. Your invaluable insights, wise counsel, and steadfast support have played a pivotal role in helping bridge the healthcare gap worldwide.

# 2023 ADVISORY COUNCIL HOUSTON

General Donald B. Wagner, Chair Michael E. Ascoli The Honorable Jose Barillas Billy Bickford Iean Bouadou **Gordon Carstens** Beth Baubie Jeff Davis Michael Dooley Dr. Raza Farrukh Elizabeth Hawkins Elizabeth Kanaly Cory Kennedy Edward Laborde **Bryan Lastrapes** Dave Lee William Lowerre James McIngvale Jr. Rodrigo Mejia Mohsin (Mo) Meghji Kevin Pasha **Greg Phillips Bob Shaw Jeff Sheldon** Andy Steinhubl Randall Thomas Walter Ulrich David VanHorn The Honorable Rene Verduguez Lori Warrens Michael A. Weill **Zachary White** Colin Wilkinson David Yadin John L. Zipprich, II

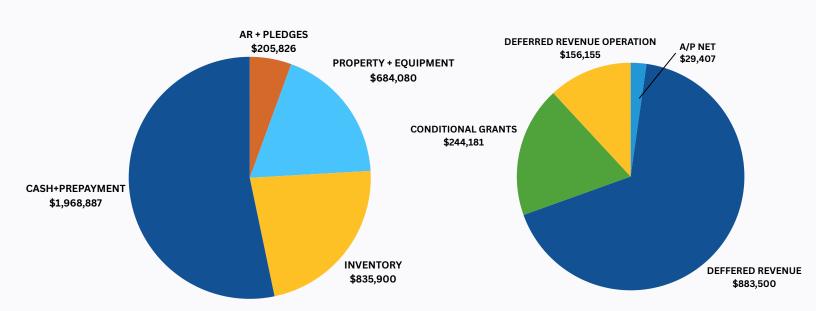
> Honoree Member Sebastian Blachno

# FINANCIAL UPDATE



#### ASSETS

#### LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS



We owe our financial fitness to great partnerships, generous philanthropy and a successful Gala.

# **WAYS TO GIVE**

Medical Bridges gratefully accepts:



# **01. Cash Donations**

Thanks to the donated medical items, every \$1.00 generated nearly \$15.00 of donated medical supplies for those in need.



# 02. Stocks

Get the full value of the security as a tax-deductible donation and avoid capital gains on the increase in value of highly appreciated securities.



# **03. Donor Advised Funds.**

Donations from Donor Advised Funds.



# 04. Cryptocurrency.

Similar to stocks, get the full value of the tax-deductible donation from tradable cryptocurrency.



# **05. Physical Assets**

Physical assets in good condition including property, cash producing leases, vehicles, and more so long as there is a market for it.



# 06. IRA Funds

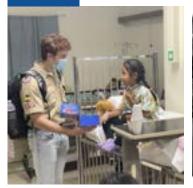
For donors 73 and older, Medical Bridges accepts Charitable Qualified Donations eliminating the tax when making Required Minimum Deductions.

And more including **life insurance**, **bequests**, **and charitable remainder trusts**. In all cases, check with your tax advisors.

# BRIDGING BORDERS, CHANGING LIVES

BRIDGING THE HEALTHCARE GAP WORLDWIDE

20 23

















# **HOW YOU CAN HELP**



# DONATE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Please help by allowing Medical Bridges to pick up your surplus medical equipment and supplies. To donate, please reach out to: Marcel Benavides **Procurement Manager** mbenavides@medicalbridges.org 713-766-6554

#### **VOLUNTEER**

Caring people like you make a difference. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to:

Bonnie Oggero Volunteer Coordinator boggero@medicalbridges.org 713-766-6576



LIKE FOLLOW SHARE

If you share our passion for improving access to healthcare, please like, follow, and share our















stories on social media.



# FINANCIAL DONATION

Donations are graciously accepted by check to Medical Bridges and through PayPal. Medical Bridges, Inc. 2706 Magnet St. Houston, TX 77054 www.medicalbridges.org