

# 2020 Annual Report

Acacia Global was founded on the spirit of Ubuntu—an understanding that our humanity exists only in connection to others. That we are all bound together. This informs all that we do.

Ubuntu has never been more important nor more evident than it was in 2020. From a pandemic that created profound health and economic challenges to the murder of George Floyd that fueled a renewed commitment to addressing racial injustice in the U.S and around the world, 2020 was a year when we needed each other.

This summer, we were fortunate to host our first global conversation about the intersection of the pandemic and racial injustice with a panel of experts from South African and Minnesota and an audience from across the globe. It reminded us that we can—and must—create real change. It has never been more important.

Our mission—the mission that you share with us—will continue to guide our work in South Africa and in the United States. We enter into this new year with renewed hope for progress against the pandemics of COVID-19 and racial injustice. Because we know that, together, we can create a future that is more equitable for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support.



Jane









## **Acacia Global's Programmatic Priorities**

## Learning - Earning - Leading



### Learning

Acacia Global is proud to support educational support for students like Joshua Bakacheza. Joshua was born in Zimbabwe and in 2008 made his way to South Africa. He works full time while attending Cape Peninsula University of Technology. Josh started at CPUT in 2016 in IT Essentials and since that time has received certificates in CISCO Certified Network Professional and Cybercrime Security. Josh will finish his studies in 2022 in Software Development and Web Design.

## **Earning**

Through your generous support, The Activist Center for Education and Development was able to offer instruction, equipment, and materials to individuals seeking employment. Participants who attended the sewing courses have now graduated and in addition to creating masks for the community, they are also creating items for sale in Johannesburg. They are increasingly optimistic about prospects for a more secure future.





## Leading

Acacia Global is committed to investing in the development of ethical leadership. We continue to support the transformational work of two visionary leaders in South Africa. Vuyiseka Dubula, through the Activist Center for Education and Development, and Mandla Majola, through the Movement for Change and Social Justice. Their work is making a difference today and will have a profound impact in the future.

As COVID-19 took hold in South Africa and unemployment in townships grew worse, leaders turned their attention to assisting in any way possible, supplying critical essentials like masks and sanitary towels to different schools, and working with young people to educate them on the necessary steps to stay safe and access proper health care.



## 2020 Annual Report

54%
43%
3%
100%
97%
3%
0%
100%

Unaudited financials from 1/1/20 - 12/31/20.

## 2020 Global Leadership Award Recipients: Chris and Shanelle Montana, the Du Nord Foundation

Du Nord Craft Spirits, located at the center of the riots that followed George Floyd's murder, is the nation's first black-owned distillery. Its founders, Chris and Shanelle Montana, responded to the uprising by raising money for affected businesses and opening a food bank. A month later, the Du Nord Foundation was created to address racial inequities in the Twin Cities. Du Nord Foundation's three pillars include: addressing immediate food insecurity, preserving existing minority-owned businesses, and empowering communities of color through economic development. To date, the Foundation has raised nearly \$800,000. The work the Du Nord Foundation is doing in Minneapolis mirrors the work Acacia Global has been supporting in communities in South Africa.

Since the inception of its Global Leadership Award, Acacia Global has recognized outstanding leadership in the sub-Saharan African countries of South Africa and Namibia. This year, for the first time, Acacia Global's Global Leadership Award is presented to American visionaries, Chris and Shanelle Montana and the Du Nord Foundation in recognition of their inspiring leadership.



Acacia Global board member Kevin Winge presents the 2020 Global Leadership Award to Chris Montana.

## We would like to thank all of the donors who supported us in 2020.

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Frey Foundation

#### \$20,000 +

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Desert Horizon's Women's Club Ann Letourneau Kent Linder & David Plante

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