

FIVE TALENTS

Transforming Lives through Economic Empowerment

2018
Annual
Report



Celebrating
Twenty Years



VISION

Five Talents' vision is to eradicate extreme poverty by restoring human dignity and creating strong, sustainable communities.

MISSION

Transforming lives through economic empowerment.

INSPIRATION

Five Talents is inspired by the biblical Parable of the Talents (which teaches that we should all work to multiply the resources we are given) and the call of Jesus to minister good news to the poor.

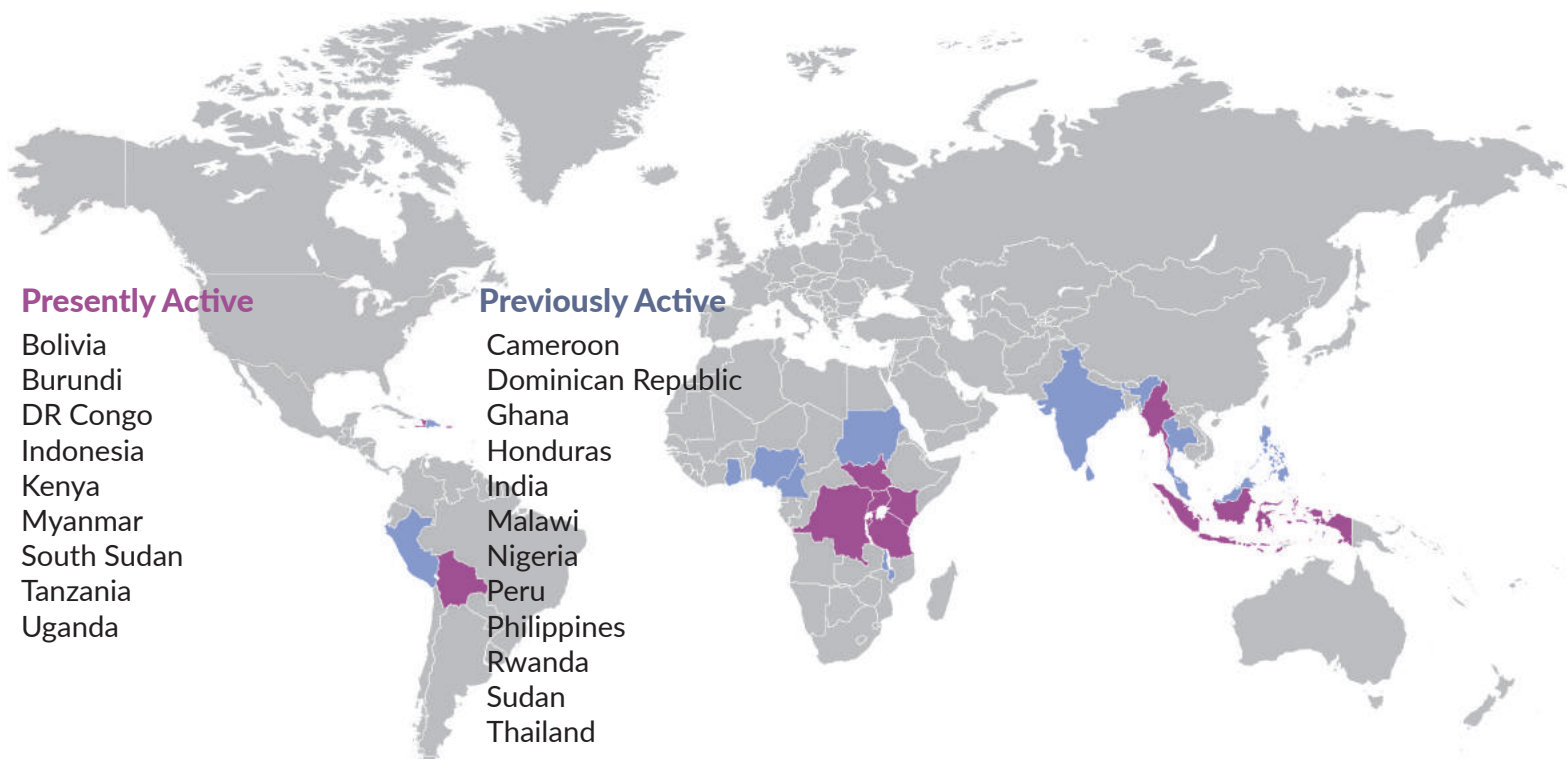
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This Annual Report highlights the work of Five Talents USA. Additional Five Talents programs are coordinated by our sister organizations: Five Talents UK and Five Talents Kenya.

Credits: Special thanks to Five Talents friends around the world for sharing their stories and pictures. With appreciation to John Cook for research assistance.

GLOBAL IMPACT





**Letter
from
the
Executive
Director**

The Road Less Traveled

Over the past twenty years, Five Talents has sought to bring hope and opportunity to the world's most vulnerable communities. This has meant taking the road less traveled, or in many places where we work, it means leaving the road altogether.

This work is not easy. Five Talents serves risky, hard to reach, and extremely poor communities. Generally, these communities lack access to basic infrastructure such as roads, electricity, water supply, and financial services. Illiteracy, malnutrition, and disease are common. In some areas, these challenges are exacerbated by conflict or natural disaster.

Over the past year we've expanded Five Talents programs in Bolivia, South Sudan, Burundi, Myanmar, and rural

Kenya. Recently, we've also launched new programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo and northern Uganda.

Time and time again we've found that even in the poorest and most desperate communities, there are men and women of great courage and character who are ready to work together for good.

It's an honor to walk together with these friends and with our faithful partners and supporters around the world. As I reflect on our organization's rich history, I look forward to the next season of ministry together as we transform lives through economic empowerment.

- *Dale Stan Hoyle*

Twenty Years of Impact



A RESOLUTION:

from the Virginia House of Delegates

“WHEREAS, thousands of church communities of all denominations have hosted and supported Five Talents programs, and the organization has fulfilled its mission with the generous support of countless volunteers, partners, and donors; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Five Talents USA hereby be commended on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.”

How it All Began: The Story of a Dream

Twenty years ago, Five Talents was just a dream.

A small group of leaders met on the back porch of the Rectory of a church in Fairfax, Virginia.

The Rt. Rev. Simon Chiwanga, a Tanzanian bishop and the head of the Anglican Consultative Council, talked about the hardships facing the rural communities in his area.

“How can the church respond wisely to extreme poverty?” he asked.

What began as prayer and discussion among this group was soon translated into action. A small group of leading thinkers and practitioners in economics, theology, missions, business, and community development prepared a strategy for empow-

ering the world’s poor through the ministry of the church.

These leaders were shaped by the Parable of the Talents and their belief that each person is created with God-given dignity, abilities and resources that can be identified, cultivated, and multiplied.

Around this same time, microfinance was blossoming in rural Bangladesh as a tool to help the poor access financial services. The new Five Talents team adapted elements of microfinance along with a Christian approach to training and business development. The team placed a strong emphasis on local ownership, community engagement, savings-led development, and serving the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. An approach to fighting poverty was born.

Over the years, Five Talents has helped the world’s poorest popula-

tions to recover their dignity, provide for their families, and build their own businesses.

Since 1998, Five Talents has served 3,347 churches in 21 countries, helping to train over 11,000 leaders. Together we’ve supported creation of over 80,000 new businesses, stimulated development and reached more than 1 million beneficiaries.

And yet there is still so much more to do. Demand for our programs has never been higher. With a replicable and scalable model, we are looking forward to continued growth and impact.

I’m proud that today the Five Talents dream continues.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Oakes'.

Jim Oakes, Board Chairman

A woman with a warm smile is seated in front of a wall made of reddish-brown bricks. She is wearing a vibrant blue headwrap and a black dress with intricate, colorful patterns in red, yellow, and white. Her hands are clasped in her lap. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an outdoor setting.

*“Give thanks to the
LORD and proclaim his
greatness.*

*Let the whole world
know what he has done.”*

– 1 Chronicles 16:8-9

Twenty Years of Transformation

1998

Five Talents is founded through a resolution at the **Lambeth Conference**, a gathering of church leaders representing over 160 countries. The Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, becomes the first Five Talents donor.



1999

Five Talents is incorporated and receives non-profit status.

2000

The first two Five Talents programs are funded in the **Philippines**, supporting microenterprise development through the Centre for Community Transformation.

2001

Five Talents begins supporting microfinance activities in **Uganda**.

Five Talents makes its first grant in **India**, building the capacity of the Community Development Society to serve poor entrepreneurs in the slums of Nagpur.

Five Talents **serves its 1,000th entrepreneur**.

2002

Five Talents develops a partnership with the Gerhati Foundation to empower poor communities in **urban slums of Indonesia**, the world's most populous Muslim country.



2003

Five Talents provides technical assistance to microfinance ministries in Cameroon, Kenya, and Tanzania.

Five Talents begins supporting missionaries and **Economic Development in Bolivia and Honduras**.

2004

Five Talents serves tsunami-affected fishing villages in Madras, southern India.

2008

Five Talents begins a partnership in **Tanzania** with the Mama Bahati Foundation.

Five Talents coordinates **Business as Mission** trainings in Uganda and Rwanda.

Five Talents starts ministry in the **Dominican Republic**, serving urban poor.

Thika Community Development Trust officially launches in Kenya.

Five Talents coordinates the **Christian Economic Development Institute** serving development leaders from across Africa.

2005

Five Talents helps to establish Talent Bank in Imo State, **Nigeria**.

Five Talents begins programs in South Sudan, **ministering to the rural poor** through literacy, financial education, and community savings.

2006

The Five Talents **United Kingdom** office opens.

Five Talents Uganda is officially registered, serving Kabale, Kasese, and Kampala regions.

2007

Five Talents serves over 2,000 clients in Peru.

Five Talents reaches 2,000 active members in 5 villages of Chennai, India.

2014

2013 The Five Talents Peru program “graduates” into a fully self-sustaining entity. It serves over 7,000 beneficiaries with access to **growing savings and loans for business development**.

2012 Five Talents begins work in Kitgum, Uganda, an area once debilitated by war.

Five Talents partners with George Mason University to offer advanced certificates to micro-entrepreneurs in the Philippines.

2011 The Gakui Community Bank opens in Kenya, **the first community bank in the region**.

Five Talents’ savings group membership grows to **over 30,000 participants**.

Five Talents partners with Mother’s Union in **Myanmar** to build capacity for community savings and business development.

2010 Five Talents pilots its Literacy and Financial Education Program with the Mother’s Union in Burundi, **servicing families in one of the world’s poorest countries**.

2009 The Amat Wuot Community Bank is dedicated as a “union of communities.” The first **community-owned bank in South Sudan**, the bank unites previously warring clans.

Five Talents opens a new branch in Huancavelica, Peru in partnership with the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund.

Five Talents helps the Mama Bahati Foundation to achieve self-sustainability in Tanzania, reaching **over 5,000 women** with financial services.

Five Talents opens its third branch office for community banking in Uganda in Kisoro.

2015 The Five Talents Bolivia programs **achieve 100% loan repayment rate**.

The South Sudan Community Bank opens in Kuajok, the first community-owned bank in the region.

Five Talents programs in Kenya and Tanzania begin using **mobile phone technology** to manage community savings and loans.

2016 The Five Talents Kenya Office is officially launched, supporting **over 12,000 members and three community-owned banks**.

Five Talents Uganda reaches more than 15,000 members across five regions.

Five Talents’ work in the Philippines continues to bear fruit **reaching over 170,000 members**.

2017 Five Talents launches new savings programs in Morogoro, Tanzania and Karamoja, Uganda.

Five Talents’ impact in **Burundi** grows with over 30,000 members of savings groups in 1,300 communities across the country.

Five Talents expands ministry in Myanmar to serve returning refugees.

2018 Five Talents launches a new program in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** aimed at empowering 60 rural communities.

Five Talents expands its work among displaced communities in South Sudan. New training curricula incorporate trauma counseling and gender based violence awareness and prevention.



Five Talents Worldwide Revenue Growth:	2015	2016	2017	2018
	\$1,624,000	\$1,675,000	\$1,736,000	\$1,852,000

Testimonies

from around the world

"My time in savings groups and the testimonies of other women helped me appreciate who I am."

- Maria, Bolivia

"Before joining the group we only managed to get one meal a day. . . Now we get more than two meals per day and I can pay the school costs."

-Elizabeth, Tanzania

"With God's help I was able to grow my store to what it is now."

-Maritess, Philippines

"The program has really changed my life, health, and the whole family."

-Margret, Sudan

"What keeps us together is love. Money will finish, but love will remain."

-Burundi Savings Group Motto

3,300
Churches Engaged

3,100
Savings Groups Formed

220,000
Entrepreneurs Empowered



*"I learned how to do a Business Plan and I feel more confident that now I really will make my dreams a reality."
-Emna, Peru*

*"With the loans from my group I bought tools for my business - a water pump and a small tractor trailer."
-Daw Maw, Myanmar*

*"Before we only had the men's income, but now with our own money we stand on our own legs."
-Rajalakshmi, India*

*"Today I have managed to employ two people in my stationary shop and six people in the restaurant."
-Nicholas, Uganda*

*"My success is that I can now pay school fees for my children."
-Mary, South Sudan*

*"At first, I used the increased profits to pay school fees. Then I improved my home. And now, I have even bought a pick-up truck."
-Jane, Kenya*



~80%
Women Membership

84,000
Businesses Developed

130,000
Jobs Created

through Five Talents ministries worldwide

84% of female members report a positive change in household relationships.





The Power of Social Capital for Community Change

Around the world many development organizations focus on financial transactions and investments. At Five Talents, our priority has always been on building strong relationships and cultivating local resources.

Rather than pouring money into projects, Five Talents helps people discover and develop their own capacity.

This is because we believe that immense value is found in the relationships and resources that already exist within local communities.

Five Talents leverages social capital to bring about lasting change.

So what is social capital?

Social capital refers to relational networks and the value that these have within a community. Social capital includes things like goodwill, trust, friendship, respect, emotional support, cooperation, power, influence, shared ideas and more. These intangible assets are often overlooked, but they play a key role in business development. In fact, we believe that social capital is at the heart of good business.

By helping to form savings groups, Five Talents leverages and strengthens existing social capital.

Let's illustrate this with an example. Consider the case of Mary. When she joins a savings group in South Sudan, Mary finds herself learning in a community of friends and neighbors. While taking lessons in savings and financial management, Mary grows in her understanding of Christian values like honesty, transparency, accountability, faithfulness, planning, and stewardship; she recognizes the importance of these values in good business.

Over the course of about a year, Mary's group develops strong structures to manage savings and loans, and their level of cooperation and trust grows. Mary receives encouragement and prayer support each week, and her friends offer advice as she makes plans to start her own business, a small tea shop.

When Mary is ready to take her first loan, the group is eager to support her and ensure that she succeeds. They know that their continued success is linked with hers. With a new kettle and tea mugs, Mary sets up

her shop. Members of Mary's group become her first clients, and she benefits from the influence, goodwill, and reputation of her group. Mary is able to use the existing social networks to market her business - word of mouth spreads quickly among her friends. As new needs arise in her business, Mary is able to look to her group again for advice as well as to access loans of increasing size.

“ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another. . . ”

-Hebrews 10:24-25

Over time, Mary's tea shop grows into a restaurant employing five others from her community and serving over 100 guests a day. Mary's respect and influence also grows. She is able to use the profits from her business to send her children to school, cover medical costs, and put a new roof on her home. While the financial loans enabled Mary to purchase assets for her business, social capital served as the driving force for her development and success. This is how Five Talents powers change - leveraging local gifts, talents, resources, and networks.



*Top: Five Talents trainers walk to a savings group meeting in Bolivia
Bottom: Entrepreneurs serve transportation needs in Kenya (by Adam Dickens)*



Why Leadership Matters

Leadership is about serving and bringing out the best in others.

Great leaders bring us together to work for good. They promote a vision that is both beautiful and true.

Five Talents is proud to be on the journey with friends like you to develop leaders around the world. Through your support, men and women develop their God-given talents and use them as leaders in their homes, businesses, and communities.

Over the years, Five Talents has helped to equip and empower over 11,000

community leaders. Today these leaders continue to serve and bring hope to some of the world's most marginalized regions.



Meet our Patron:

Archbishop Justin Welby serves as a leader in the global Anglican Communion and is proud to be the Patron of Five Talents.

FTUSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (FY2018)

Jim Oakes, Chair | Kimberly McClure Pacala, Vice-Chair | Kathleen Crow, Secretary | Aimee Davis, Treasurer
Dr. April Young | The Rev. Corky Eddins | Bill Eggbeer | Dr. John Beyer | Paul Collins | Art Medici
Stephen Tees | Stacey Carlson | Jim Lewis, Pro Bono Legal Counsel

11,000 Leaders Equipped

“Through the program, women leaders are carrying out awareness and advocacy to all people of different tribes to unite, make peace, to reduce violence against women and to [stop] tribalism. Women have become counselors for the widows and orphans, traumatized, and marginalized.

And I am now in the High Council of the county, supporting the issues of unity and peace and for people to return to their normal life and use their local resources.

Now the area local authorities are trying their best to meet the needs of their people. Health centers, schools, and other services are being offered.”

--Mama Ayak Anyieth, a beneficiary and volunteer with Five Talents in South Sudan



Total Family Members Impacted

1 Million

500,000

0

1999

2003

2008

2013

2018



"Now I thank God that my family's daily needs can be fulfilled and I can also save."

- Siti, Mother of two in Indonesia

1.1 Million Beneficiaries

including the ministries of Five Talents worldwide

Our Typical Savings Groups

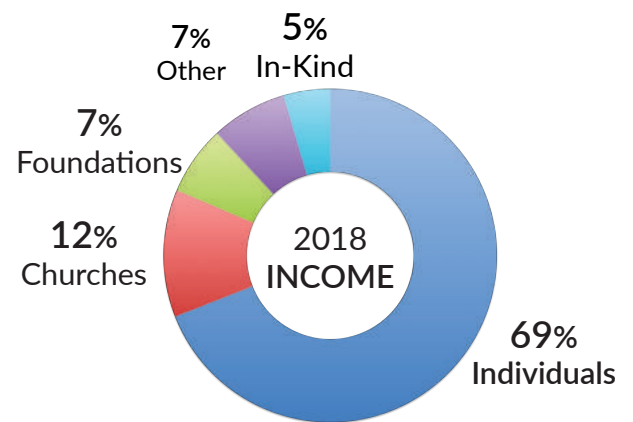
Have 15-30 members | Meet weekly | Develop their own constitution | Establish an emergency fund
 Appoint their own leaders | Earn interest on savings | "Graduate" within two years | Achieve >90% loan repayment



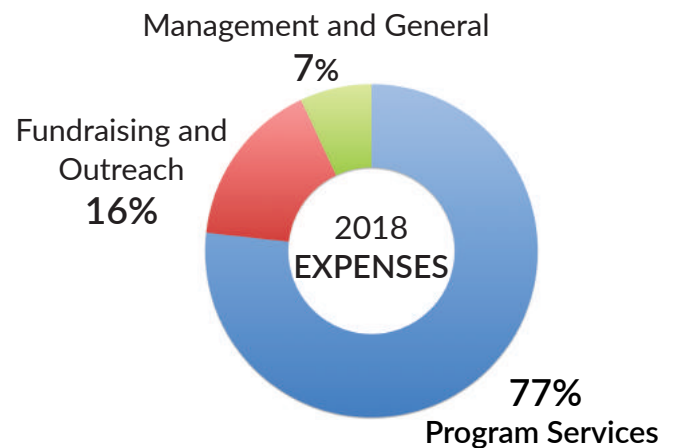
FT USA Financials



INCOME	2018	2017
Individual Contributions	\$634,499	\$540,930
Church Contributions	\$113,559	\$81,795
Foundation Support	\$61,523	\$72,067
Other Contributions	\$67,723	\$30,360
In-Kind Donations	\$41,727	\$65,359
Total Revenue	\$919,031	\$790,511



EXPENSES	2018	2017
Program Services	\$695,744	\$578,379
Fundraising/Outreach	\$147,766	\$172,739
Management/General	\$63,295	\$61,354
Total Expenses	\$906,805	\$812,472
Net Assets, End of Year	\$191,792	\$179,566



Our Commitment to You

Five Talents is committed to wise stewardship of its funding to empower the world's poor. We view every donation as a sacred trust, and our programs operate with efficiency, transparency, and the highest standards of accountability. Our independently audited accounts, external accreditations, and platinum rating attest to our commitment.



Financial Notes

Five Talents USA is a member of the Five Talents International Family, which includes sister organizations in the United Kingdom and Kenya. FT USA was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia in March 1999 as a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The office is located in Falls Church, Virginia outside of Washington, D.C. Our external auditors are SB & Company, certified public accountants in Washington, DC and statements are available upon request.



How to Give

You can donate by check payable to:
Five Talents USA

Five Talents USA is a registered 501c3 charity organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible.

Visit our website for more giving options:

