
WALKABOUT FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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ABOUT US



LETTER FROM THE CO-FOUNDERS

Although 2017 was somewhat of a challenging year on a personal level for us (Luis underwent an operation while Carolina was on pregnancy bed rest), it was a formidable year for Walkabout, which donated over 2,200 wheelchairs, provided daily life-changing rehabilitation to 60 children, and gave \$250,000 to spinal cord injury research. This huge feat was accomplished by our incredible team to whom we dedicate this year's annual report. Without the unwavering commitment and dedication of each and every one of our staff, led by our amazing CEO, Isabel Falkenberg, our ability to impact thousands and thousands of lives this year would not have been possible.

Looking back on the year there are several key moments that stand out to us, but perhaps the most significant one is our inaugural *Women4Walkabout Ladies Luncheon* which began as a small idea to host a lunch with a few friends and developed into a sold-out event at Claridge's Hotel, attended by over 300 people and sponsored by Buccellati. We raised a staggering £250,000 which surpassed all our expectations and the audience was moved to tears when Charity Nana, one of our first beneficiaries from Kenya, spoke about how her life has changed because of her Walkabout wheelchair. Her story is one of hope and, as a woman living with a disability in a rural village in a developing country, she is truly an inspiration to everyone she meets.

There is not a single day that goes by that we don't count our blessings for having supporters like you helping us on this journey that we're on. It's a long journey and we are only starting to scratch the surface; after all, 65 million people in the world need a wheelchair but can't afford one and there continues to be no official cure for paralysis. But every day, thanks to your support, we get closer to our goal: a world where everyone has the mobility they deserve and the ability to stand and walk on their own two feet again.

Carolina and Luis Gonzalez-Bunster
Co-Founders



LETTER FROM THE CEO

In 2015, when the UN General Assembly launched its Sustainable Development Goals, it did so with the core commitment to 'leave no one behind'. At Walkabout, these words resonate strongly with us. Every day, millions of children suffering from a mobility disability are left behind, unable to go to school and receive an education, play with their friends and integrate into their communities, let alone contemplate the possibility of having a job and providing for a family the day they grow up and become adults. The inability to walk and move around freely deprives them of those dreams coming true. It leaves them and their families behind - physically, socially, intellectually and economically.

Before I joined Walkabout, first as a member of the board and subsequently as CEO, I had given relatively little thought to what life is like without mobility. I wasn't aware of the staggering numbers of people in the world who need a wheelchair and cannot afford one - conservative statistics point to 65 million - I hadn't considered that many of these millions would have a chance to walk were they given adequate rehabilitation, and little did I know about the long list of life threatening side effects associated with a spinal cord injury, such as infections related to lack of bladder control or the inability to regulate body temperature, to mention a couple. It was only after my first wheelchair distribution that I truly realised the dimension of what we were doing: the transformative effect of something as simple and utilitarian as a wheelchair, the opportunities that present themselves through rehabilitation and the enormous value of every single penny we have invested in research so far, as each milestone reached by our researchers has become a stepping stone to finding a cure for paralysis.

By sharing our 2017 achievements in this report we not only want to thank our donors, volunteers and supporters all around the world, but we also hope to continue raising awareness and inspiring countless people like you to continue supporting us. Together we can truly transform lives, because no one deserves to be left behind.

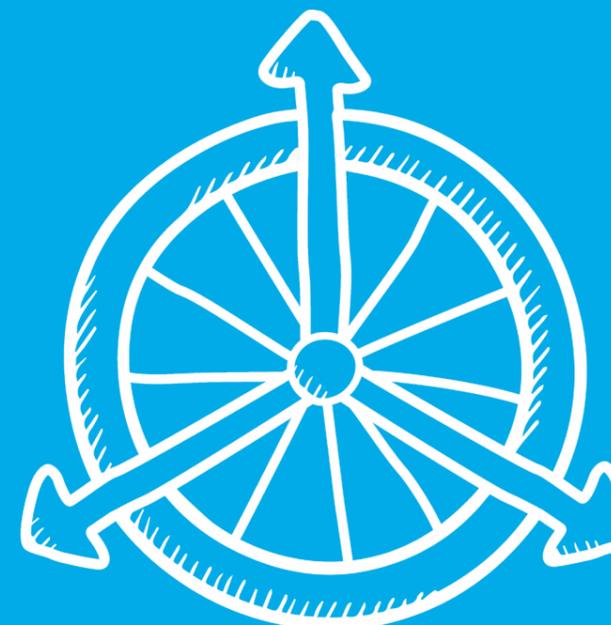
Isabel Falkenberg
CEO



OUR 3-PRONGED APPROACH

RESEARCH

We fund labs around the world in their groundbreaking research to find a cure for paralysis



WHEELCHAIRS

We distribute locally repairable, custom-fitted wheelchairs to people in developing countries

REHABILITATION

We provide care, education, therapy and training to children and adults with mobility disabilities

OUR MISSION



Our mission is to restore dignity, freedom and independence by providing wheelchairs and rehabilitation in the developing world and funding research to find a cure for paralysis.

THE NEED

100 MILLION

people in the world need a wheelchair

65 MILLION

people cannot afford one

2%

of the US population is
paralysed - that is

1 IN 50

people

EVERY 60 MINUTES

someone is spinal cord injured in the USA

EVERY 15 MINUTES

someone is spinal cord injured in India



OUR GLOBAL IMPACT



23

countries reached



12,000

wheelchairs distributed



36,000

lives impacted

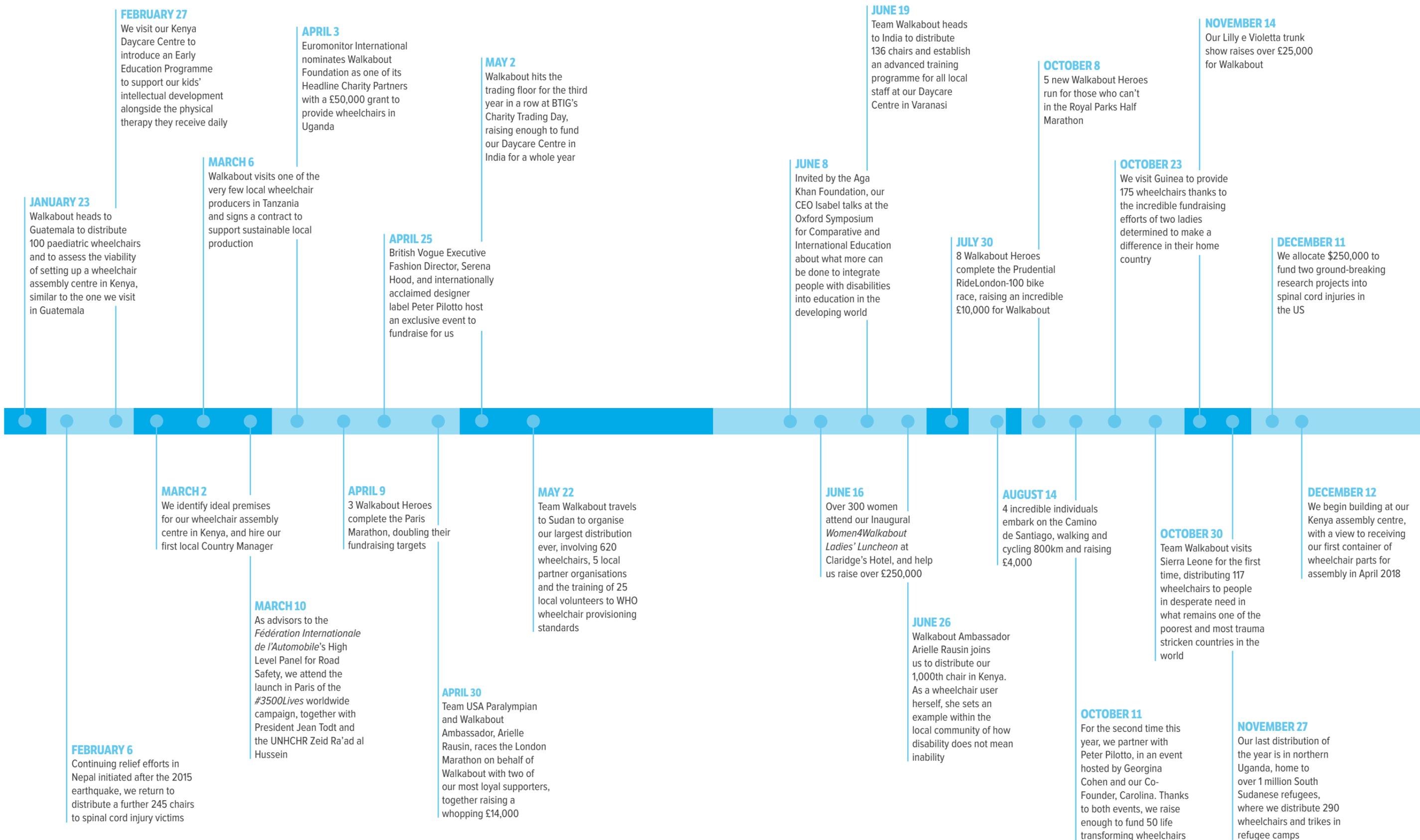


\$1,250,000

given to groundbreaking research



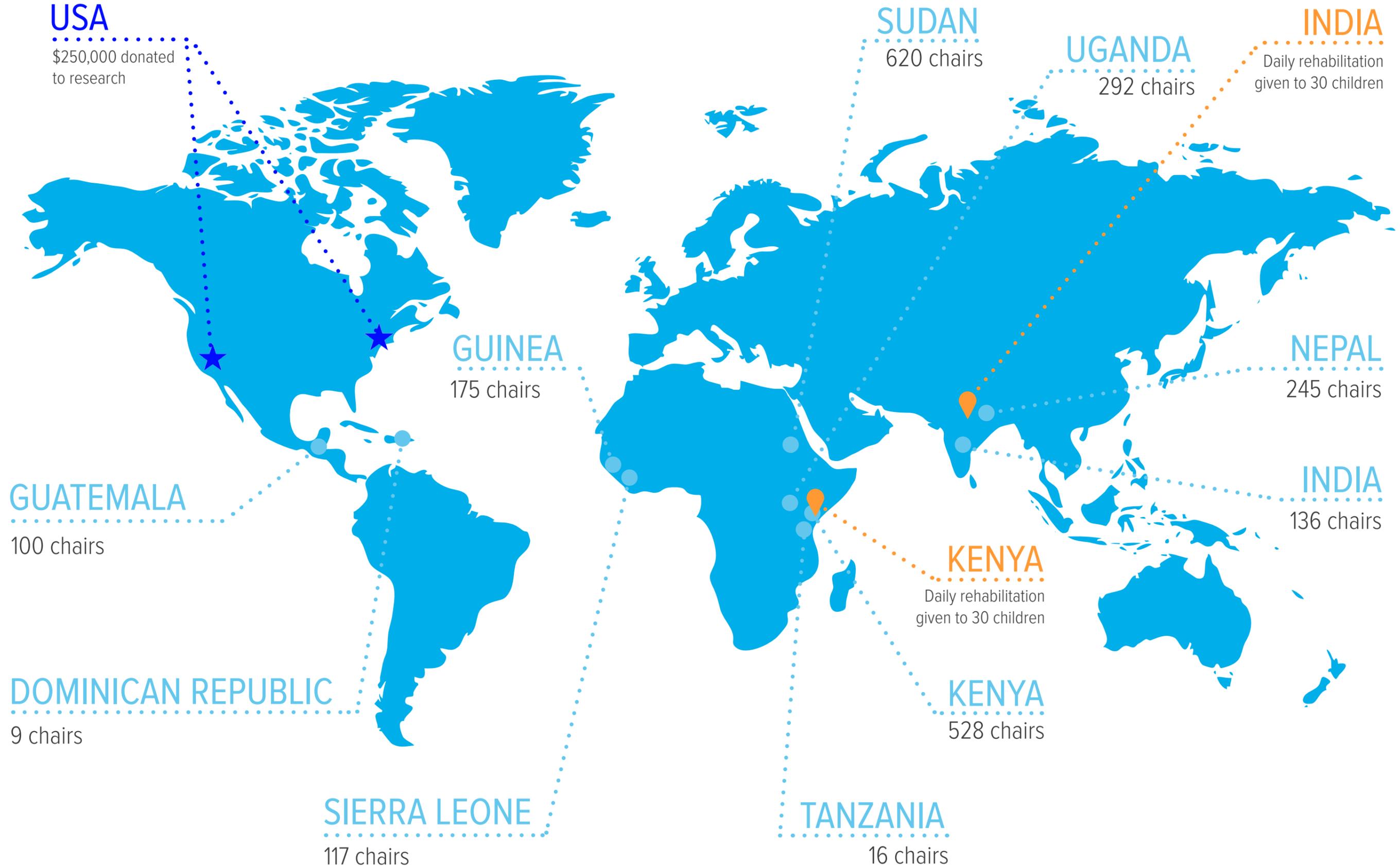
2017 AT A GLANCE



PROGRAMMES IN 2017



OUR REACH IN 2017



INVESTING IN RESEARCH

OUR MOTIVATION

The brain and spinal cord are your body's central nervous system. The brain is the command centre for your body, and the spinal cord carries the messages back and forth from the brain. In a spinal cord injury (SCI), the pathway between the brain and spinal cord is disrupted.

Most people understand a SCI to mean simply the loss of sensation or of the ability to walk, but for the majority of victims of spinal cord injury, the implications extend much further. The spinal cord is indispensable to the regulation of the most important bodily functions including heart rate, sexual function, breathing, temperature, and bladder and bowel control – which means that some or all of these functions are often lost when it is damaged, depending on the injury. In addition to the dramatic physical implications, there is a huge financial burden related to spinal cord injury – both as a result of high medical costs and a potential loss of earnings.

Spinal cord injury can happen to anyone at any time, and the dramatic consequences mean that it completely changes the lives of those affected, with outcomes for people in the developing world especially stark and often fatal. In spite of this, SCI research is staggeringly underfunded, with perceptions of the condition as 'incurable' and 'not life threatening' leaving it side-lined in the medical research community.

That's why, in 2010, Walkabout Foundation began investing in studies into reducing and reversing the effects of spinal cord injuries. Almost a decade later, we have funded \$1.25 million in SCI research. The discipline has made incredible progress, and leading scientists are hopeful about the prospect of finding a cure in the near future. Until recently, it was thought that regeneration of the spinal cord after injury was impossible. Now, thanks to this research, we know this to be untrue.

Investing in groundbreaking research projects across the world is still at the forefront of Walkabout's mission - in the hope that we will one day find a cure for the millions of people affected by SCI.

\$71 MILLION vs **\$3.78 BILLION**
spent on SCI research in the US in 2016
spent on HIV/AIDS research in the US in 2016

\$5.6 BILLION
spent on cancer research in the US in 2016¹

There is currently
NO CURE
for spinal cord injury

People with a spinal cord injury are
2 TO 5 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DIE PREMATURELY
than people without an SCI²

People with an SCI have a global unemployment rate of
60%³

¹National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Research, Condition, and Disease Categorization (RCDC) data
²World Health Organization
³ibid

INVESTING IN RESEARCH

ONE STEP FURTHER

In 2016, we fulfilled our \$1 million commitment to Dr. Reggie Edgerton's lab at the University of California, Los Angeles. Thanks in a large part to our funding, the lab was able to develop a groundbreaking treatment known as *epidural stimulation*, which involves implanting a small device, about the size of a french fry, near the spinal cord, which uses electrical currents to excite the muscles. This treatment, combined with intense physical rehabilitation, enables the spinal cord to be re-engaged. To date, it has allowed nearly a dozen patients to regain the ability to voluntarily move their own limbs.

The logical next step is to harness this technology in the safest, least invasive way possible. To do this, Dr. Edgerton's lab is developing a new technique known as *transcutaneous stimulation* - which uses the same concept as epidural stimulation, but delivers the electrical currents through the skin, removing the need for an implant.

In 2017, excited by the promising results arising from epidural and transcutaneous stimulation, we decided to fund two studies that take this research one step further.

1

The first study that we are funding, called *The Big Idea*, is in partnership with the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and the University of Louisville. This clinical trial will study the impact of epidural stimulation on 36 individuals with chronic spinal cord injuries, and evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment in improving cardiovascular function, standing and voluntary movement, as well as assessing improvement in sexual, respiratory and bladder function. Additionally, *The Big Idea* will track the impact of this intervention in alleviating the financial burden of spinal cord injury on individuals and the healthcare system. We have committed \$300,000 over 2 years to support one individual through the trial, in the hope that the implantation of an epidural stimulator will not only make a real difference to their life, but also make a lasting contribution to research in this field.

2

Loss of bladder control is one of the most serious effects of SCI and can seriously hinder independence and quality of life. It also dramatically increases the risk of urinary tract infections, which can be fatal, especially in the developing world where access to healthcare is limited. Surveys amongst SCI subjects revealed that bladder function was ranked as their most important health priority - higher than walking, pain and sexual function.¹

That said, little progress has been made in developing any intervention that will enhance bladder function after SCI. The second study we are funding, this time with Dr. Edgerton's lab, is a promising study into bladder control, whereby the team aims to make SCI patients completely independent of catheters by having them use a transcutaneous stimulation device several times a day to voluntarily empty their bladders. This will improve significantly their quality of life, as well as that of their caregivers and immediate family.

Thanks to epidural stimulation, people like me, who were told that recovery was impossible, are now embracing a four-letter word—hope. Hope that someday we will get out of these chairs but, more importantly, enjoy a healthier, more independent life thanks to technology.

Rob Summers

First participant in the original epidural stimulation trial



WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS

We believe that everyone should have access to the dignity, freedom and independence that mobility brings. That's why we provide wheelchairs in places where people otherwise wouldn't have access to them. In doing this, we aim to contribute to the pursuit of the key commitment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: leaving no one behind. A wheelchair is so much more than just a chair; it opens the door to education, employment, healthcare and social opportunities.

TYPES OF WHEELCHAIR

We adhere to the World Health Organization wheelchair provisioning guidelines, which specify that a wheelchair has to be appropriate for the user's needs and environment. This is why we distribute different types of chairs according to the age, medical condition and lifestyle of each recipient.



PAEDIATRIC

For children with extra postural support needs - includes head, thigh and trunk supports



BASIC

Rough terrain chair with bike tyres, making it durable and locally repairable



TRIKE

Allows users to travel further for longer - perfect for people with good upper body strength

OUR SUPPLIERS

We purchase the majority of our chairs in bulk from social enterprises that share our ethos and vision of getting high quality wheelchairs to those in desperate need. Where possible, we buy chairs from local suppliers, in order to support local infrastructure and jobs. In 2017, for example, we signed a contract with one of the few wheelchair producers in Tanzania - a workshop that uses local materials and resources to manufacture excellent basic chairs and tricycles.

We work closely with our suppliers to assist with product development to ensure that the field of wheelchair production and provision is continuously making progress so that we can get more of the right chairs to people all over the world.

OUR PROCESS

A wheelchair is not one-size-fits-all; it must be modified and fitted to each user. Therefore we send our trained team to every distribution to personally carry out the following steps...



ASSESSMENT

Every beneficiary is medically assessed to make sure they are provided with the appropriate care and device



TRAINING

Users receive training in how to use and look after their wheelchair



FOLLOW-UP

Each recipient receives a follow-up call or visit from our local partner to make sure they are getting the most out of their new chair



FITTING

Chairs are fitted to users according to the user's condition, postural support needs, and ability

LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Every place we go is different, with varying needs, customs, and ways of working. We rely on our local partners all over the world to help us understand how to achieve our aims most effectively and efficiently, and to perform pre- and post-distribution community outreach work. We invest in the training of local teams to establish a reliable and competent group of field-based individuals.

This is all done with the ultimate goal of making each place that we work in self-sustainable. An excellent example of this model is in Kenya, where we now have a Walkabout Country Director and a team of 12 individuals trained in WHO Wheelchair Provisioning to Intermediate level, alongside the physical and occupational therapists at our rehabilitation centre. Not only has this meant that our wheelchair service programme in the region is thriving, but also that we now have established a strong enough base to set up a wheelchair assembly centre that will provide a constant flow of wheelchairs to the region, as well as create jobs for local wheelchair users.

WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS

UGANDA

Northern Uganda is the epicentre of one of the biggest refugee crises in the world. With thousands of people flooding into the country every single day, mainly fleeing conflict in South Sudan, life in the sprawling camps is a constant battle for survival. Just imagine living in one of these camps without mobility.

Thanks to the corporate sponsorship from Euromonitor International, we travelled to Northern Uganda in November. Together with our local partners Hope Health Action and World Action Fund, we distributed 250 wheelchairs and 40 trikes to refugees and host communities.

This is one of the poorest parts of the country, and the additional strain on resources resulting from the refugee crisis meant that almost every person we met had never had a wheelchair before.

The unique opportunity I have to go on wheelchair distributions and meet and fit beneficiaries myself brings incredible value to our fundraising work. For me, every trip is a powerful reminder of why we work so hard to raise every penny.

Camilla Fitzgerald
Events Manager

250,000
population of refugees in
MOYO

165,000
population of refugees in
ARUA

SOUTH SUDAN

DRC

UGANDA

There are

1.4 million
refugees in Uganda



WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS



UGANDA RICHARD'S STORY

Richard arrived at our distribution dragging himself along the dirt floor with the help of a rice bag underneath him. He had suffered a serious hip injury a few years before, dislocating it and leaving his right leg extremely difficult to move. Without the help of any medical attention or physiotherapy, his condition worsened and rendered him immobile and unable to stand, let alone walk. He has never had access to a wheelchair.

Richard has lived in Palorinya refugee camp in Moyo since he had to flee his home in South Sudan when the war broke out. He was overjoyed with his first ever wheelchair, which means that he will be able to regain the dignity that he has lacked for so long.

SELINA'S STORY

Selina is the youngest of 7 children. She was displaced from her home in South Sudan two years ago; her loving parents travelled for three days, her mother carrying her on her back, to get to safety at the Ugandan border. Born with cerebral palsy, Selina has never been able to walk, therefore relying on her older siblings to carry her to school. As she grew, she became too heavy for her sisters to bear her weight on the three hour walk, so they would often leave her on the side of the road and only pick her up on their way back home.

Now, thanks to her first ever wheelchair, Selina will be able to return to school, and she'll be able to play with her siblings rather than being left inside alone. For Selina, her wheelchair means the opportunity to have a childhood - something that every little girl deserves.



WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS



SIERRA LEONE

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world, still trying to heal the scars of a brutal 10-year civil war which ended in 2002, leaving the country with a serious lack of infrastructure and overwhelming poverty. In 2014, it saw its already extremely fragile healthcare system collapse even further when it was struck by Ebola, causing a large number of international aid organisations to leave.

We travelled to Sierra Leone in October where we distributed 117 wheelchairs. Many of our beneficiaries had been disabled as a result of disease and lack of adequate care, but many others are still a living reminder of the cruelty of the civil war, in which amputation was a signature atrocity.

We met Lamin, a 40-year-old local, who lost his leg during the war. He is now a member of an amputee football team, many of whom we gave wheelchairs to, and was delighted with his new chair, which will allow him to travel longer distances and farm vegetables to support his wife and five children.

I'm very proud that more and more we are reaching the neediest people in difficult and remote areas. Wars, humanitarian crises and natural disasters disable many people and hit hardest those that already have disabilities. Serving the most vulnerable and seeing the change mobility brings in the face of so much adversity is astounding and life-affirming.

Izzy Cumming-Bruce
Programmes Manager



WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS



GUINEA

In April, we were approached by friends Maria Ricart Karaouni and Jida Khazaal who had a huge goal: to raise enough money to distribute an entire container of wheelchairs in Guinea, the country which had welcomed them and been their home for the past 10 years. They had been overwhelmed by the number of people with disabilities that they saw every day, many victims of polio and congenital disease, crawling on the ground to get around because they had no wheelchair. Guinea ranks among the 20 poorest countries in the world.

In October, we travelled to Guinea to distribute the 175 wheelchairs that Jida and Maria had funded. It was inspiring to see how the determination and passion of two individuals can truly transform so many lives.

My first trip with Walkabout was a life-changing experience. Seeing the joy of those who received a new wheelchair and sharing moments with them was truly amazing. They taught me how little is needed to be happy.

Amina El Allam
Fundraising and Communications Associate



WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS



NEPAL

In April 2015, a devastating earthquake shook Nepal, killing nearly 9,000 people and injuring nearly 22,000. A few months after, in collaboration with SIRC, a spinal cord injury rehabilitation centre near Kathmandu, we sent a relief container of 100 wheelchairs, with the hope of restoring mobility to the people who had lost so much.

The repercussions of the disaster are still being felt across the country, adding further strain to a population mostly living below the poverty line. That's why we returned in February this year to distribute an additional 245 chairs to spinal cord injury victims, continuing our relief efforts in the region.



INDIA PRAKASH'S STORY

In June, we distributed 136 chairs in Bangalore and Varanasi, in some cases reaching recipients from extremely remote villages. It was here that we met Prakash, a 14 year old boy whose last wheelchair broke four years ago. This was the first time he had left his house since.

Prakash was initially extremely shy - understandable for someone who has been inside one room for the past four years. But little by little, he began to relax, telling us how excited he was to finally be able to move around his village again and regain the independence that he deserves.

WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS



KENYA

In June, we distributed a container of 228 paediatric wheelchairs in Kenya, followed by a second container of 250 rough terrain chairs and 50 trikes in November. This means that we have now distributed almost 1,400 wheelchairs in Kenya from our base in Nanyuki, Laikipia, reaching 21 out of the 47 counties, and impacting over 3,000 lives.

The need however continues to be immense, with requests flooding in from all over the country every single day. That's why this year we initiated works to set up a brand new wheelchair assembly centre in Nanyuki. Our vision is to reduce waiting times by providing a constant supply of wheelchairs, and to develop sustainable local know-how and capacity to perform adaptations and repairs. What's more, the bulk of our workforce will be wheelchair users, providing employment opportunities otherwise unavailable and setting yet another example in our fight against the stigma surrounding people with disabilities. We expect to receive our first container of wheelchair parts for assembly in April 2018.

ARIELLE'S STORY

Walkabout Ambassador Arielle Rausin, a 21-year-old Team USA Paralympic athlete from Florida, joined us in Kenya this year, after raising enough money for 10 wheelchairs in the 2017 London Marathon. All the children on the distribution loved talking to Arielle about her racing, and she taught them how to push and transfer into their new chairs. For many of the recipients, and for their parents, meeting Arielle demonstrated first-hand all the possibilities that are available with the mobility of a wheelchair. And there really is no better way to learn how to use your first ever wheelchair than practicing with a world-class athlete!



WALKABOUT REHABILITATION CENTRES

We have two rehabilitation centres - one in Kenya and one in India. Here, our 31 trained members of staff give 60 children with mobility disabilities the best possible chance in life. Children are picked up on a specialised bus every day and taken to a safe, comfortable and caring environment where they receive education, therapy, and the chance to interact with other children their age - an opportunity that many of them have never had.

EDUCATION



Many of the children at our centres are bright and competent but because of their disability have been unable to attend school. Therefore, all the children receive a structured, comprehensive education catered to their needs and abilities. Thanks to our intervention, nine children are already attending mainstream school.



CARER SUPPORT



At our centres, we offer parents and carers education on how best to look after their little ones. This includes educating them on how to help their children with simple daily living activities, communicate with and better understand their child, carry out simple therapy exercises, and provide basic hygiene and nutrition to keep their child healthy. They are also offered counselling and advice on what they are entitled to from the government.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our outreach officers travel to surrounding communities every day, where they identify people in need of our help, work with families of people with disabilities to build trust and increase understanding, and modify people's homes to make them more accessible. As well as all of this, we aim to educate communities, to reduce, and eventually eliminate, the disgraceful stigma that is attached to disability.

THERAPY



Children at Walkabout Rehabilitation Centres receive specialised physical and occupational therapy every day from dedicated physiotherapists and caregivers. The effects of regular appropriate therapy have been astounding; every child has made physical progress, from those who were unable to sit independently gaining muscle strength and control, to those who have learned to walk for the first time.



WALKABOUT REHABILITATION CENTRES

THE JJ WALKABOUT CENTRE VARANASI, INDIA

Alongside our experienced partner, Jeevan Jyoti Institute for the Disabled, we set up the JJ Walkabout Centre in Varanasi, northern India, in 2016. The project was so successful that we decided to develop it into a long-term partnership and we now serve 22 children that attend the centre every day, as well as 8 home-based children who our staff visit regularly.



AAKASH'S STORY

Aakash is 8 years old and is a sweet, intelligent boy with an adorable smile. When Aakash's mother was pregnant with him, she was unwell, but couldn't afford to go to the doctor. Aakash was born with cerebral palsy, and was never able to walk. Nor did he ever go to school – in spite of his intellectual ability – and spent most of his time inside his house, a one room hut in a village outside Varanasi.

When we first met Aakash, we gave him a wheelchair and enrolled him at our centre, ensuring that he received regular therapy and education. We also sent our community outreach team to travel to his house and modify it by adding a ramp, railing and concrete throughout.

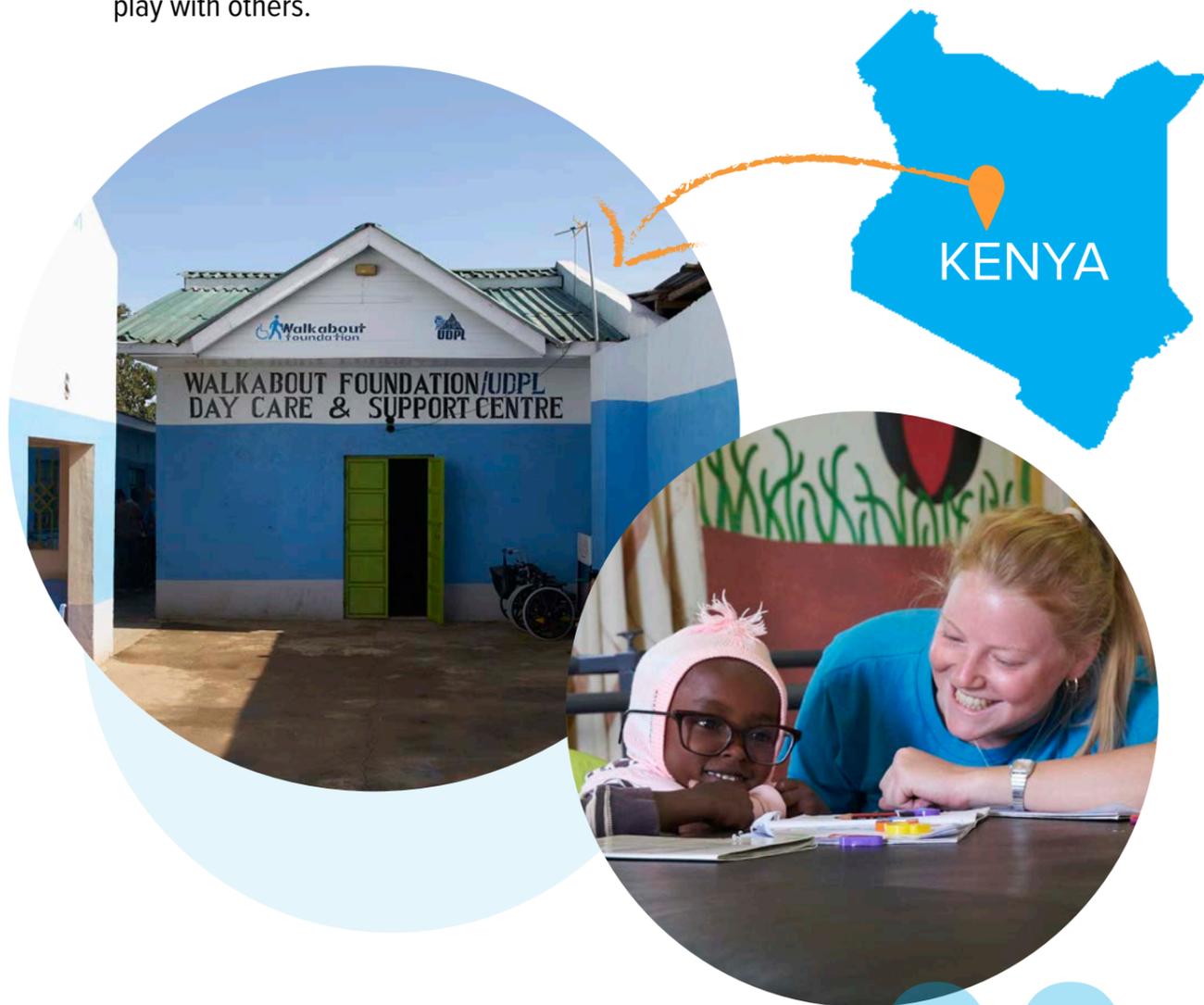
These changes made a huge difference to Aakash's life. Now that his house no longer has steps or an uneven, muddy floor, he can move around it in his wheelchair, and will no longer have to sit in the mud during monsoon season. What's more, thanks to the physiotherapy he receives at the centre daily, he is learning to walk, and the therapists at the centre are confident that he will soon be able to do so independently. He practices his walking outside his house holding on to the newly installed railing – with a look of much concentration and a big smile on his face!

Perhaps most exciting of all is that, after years of being unable to go to school, Aakash is now able to get an education. He has learned to read and write (both in Hindi and English), knows his times tables, and loves to paint. He is incredibly studious and determined, and enjoys helping other students with their work. Now that he's been able to catch up on all the years that he's missed, he is attending a mainstream school every day - and receiving the education that he, and every other child, no matter their circumstances, deserves.

WALKABOUT REHABILITATION CENTRES

WALKABOUT/UDPL DAYCARE & SUPPORT CENTRE, LAIKIPIA, KENYA

In 2016, two years after we started distributing wheelchairs in Kenya, we opened the Walkabout Daycare & Support Centre in Nanyuki, Laikipia, in central Kenya. Here 30 children receive daily life-changing therapy and have the opportunity to learn and play with others.



It is amazing to see a child that has never walked before and had no chance to attend school, moving around independently for the first time and showing you how they can now count from one to ten! The fact that what we're doing could give these children a real chance in life is very exciting.

Merren Wallace
Programmes Associate

KEVIN'S STORY

Kevin is 5 years old and lives with his mother Jane and younger brother in Nanyuki. He has cerebral palsy, which has meant that he has never been able to walk. Before he started attending the Walkabout Daycare & Support Centre, Kevin spent most of his time at home, not able to socialise with other children his age. A single mother, Jane was also forced to stay at home with Kevin, unable to go out to run the business that used to provide vital income for the family.

Kevin joined our centre in 2016, and thanks to the regular therapy he has received so far, he has learnt to walk with a rollator and stand without support. Jane says that he loves coming and interacting with the other children - so much so that sometimes he refuses to have breakfast in the morning because he's worried about being late!





FUNDRAISING IN 2017

WOMEN4WALKABOUT LADIES' LUNCHEON

£250,000

raised thanks to

320 attendees

86 auction donors

41 committee members

3 kind underwriting sponsors

WOMEN4WALKABOUT LADIES' LUNCHEON

On June 16th, we hosted our inaugural *Women4Walkabout Ladies Luncheon* at Claridge's Hotel in London, bringing together over 300 ladies to raise money for women affected by disability all over the world.

The event, which raised over £250,000, was entirely sponsored by Italian high jeweller Buccellati and two private donors. Our Master of Ceremonies, CNBC broadcaster Tania Bryer, welcomed guests, who generously bid both on our silent and live auction. The latter was led by Sotheby's UK Chairman, Lord Harry Dalmeny.

We were touched by the overwhelming enthusiasm of guests, sponsors and donors alike, all of whom rallied to support us in an event that sold out in less than 48 hours. However, the most moving moment of all was when Charity Nana, one of our first beneficiaries in Kenya, took to the stage and spoke about how her wheelchair continues to transform her life.



Tania Bryer



Lord Harry Dalmeny



Monica Gonzalez-Bunster, Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster, Anna Hu, and Clara Martinez Thedy de Safa



Charity Nana and Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster



Isabel Falkenberg and Princess Corinna zu Sayn-Wittgenstein



Heather Kerzner



Our generous sponsors from Buccellati, Maria Cristina Buccellati and Managing Director, Lord Bruce Dundas

CHALLENGE EVENTS



▲ Will Hayden, Matias Gonzalez-Bunster and Brandon Muto at Prudential RideLondon-100

This year, 25 Walkabout Heroes (of which 15 were new to our fundraising family) raised over £30,000 for our cause when they partook in the world famous London Marathon, Paris Marathon, Royal Parks Half Marathon, Prudential RideLondon-100 and the gruelling but rewarding Camino de Santiago de Compostela.



▲ Daniel and Robert Taylor at Prudential RideLondon-100



▲ David Alegre and Katharina Tuerke cycling the Camino de Santiago



▲ Sian Hurst, Thomas Spencer and Marigold Freeland at the Paris Marathon

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS



▲ James Fitzgerald, Euromonitor employee, joins us in Uganda

We were once again very fortunate this year to be supported by several incredible corporate partners.

Euromonitor International chose us as one of their Headline Charity Partners, enabling us to send an entire container of 290 wheelchairs and trikes to Northern Uganda. We were joined on our distribution by Euromonitor employee James Fitzgerald, and thanks to this partnership were able to truly change hundreds of lives of both local Ugandans and South Sudanese refugees.

For the third year in a row, we were invited to take part in BTIG's annual Charity Trading Day in London, where the day's commissions are donated to non-profit organisations nominated by clients. Walkabout was lucky enough to be nominated yet again, raising enough to fund the JJ Walkabout Centre in Varanasi, India, for a whole year.

Another great supporter in the financial world was Cantor Fitzgerald. Thanks to our inclusion once again in their Charity Trading Day, we were able to raise enough funds to distribute 15 wheelchairs in Sierra Leone.

We also continued to benefit from the ongoing support and generosity of, among others, Stirling Square Capital Partners, QW Capital LLP, Arnold Hill and Clifford Chance.

SCHOOLS ON BOARD



▲ Christmas card designs by Francis Holland students, part of a school competition to raise awareness about disability and inclusion

Students and teachers from schools around the globe are still some of Walkabout's best advocates. In 2017, we were named *Charity of the Year* at Francis Holland Junior School and Wetherby Senior School in London. We had the opportunity to visit them to talk about disability, accident prevention, and our work around the world and raise awareness among their pupils, who showed a great degree of enthusiasm in joining our activities. We also continued to count on the generosity of Greenwich Country Day School in the US, our loyal supporter for the past five years, and finally Isabel, our CEO, spoke to over 200 international students at the Global Issues Network Conference on Facilitating Sustainable Change through Education and Integration, hosted by the International School of Luxembourg.

We also believe in giving hands-on opportunities to young adults interested in learning more about our work and the NGO sector. This year we hosted 15 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers from London schools and gave 10 internship opportunities to university students from all around the world.

Last but not least, invited by the Aga Khan Foundation, our CEO Isabel also spoke at the Oxford Symposium for Comparative and International Education about what more can be done to integrate people with disabilities into education in the developing world.

BRAND PARTNERSHIPS



▲ Peter Pilotto, Georgina Cohen, Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster, and Christopher de Vos

PETER PILOTTO

This year we developed a fruitful collaboration with internationally acclaimed designer label Peter Pilotto, which raised enough to fund 50 life transforming wheelchairs through two incredibly successful events. In April, British Vogue Executive Fashion Director, Serena Hood, co-hosted with us an exclusive preview of the brand's Autumn/Winter collection. This was followed by an event hosted by Georgina Cohen and our Co-Founder, Carolina, in October. Both events were attended by the brand's designers Peter Pilotto and Christopher de Vos, who personally fitted and styled attendees.



▲ Isabel Falkenberg, Sarah Harris and Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster

LILLY E VIOLETTA

In November, we partnered with Italian fashion brand Lilly e Violetta for the second year running. The event, held at Brown's Hotel in London, was hosted by Lady Aliai Forte, with Sarah Harris, British Vogue Fashion Features Director, giving guidance and styling advice to guests. The morning was an incredible success, with over 90 attendees and we raised a record-breaking £25,000 for our cause.

THIS YEAR, WE'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK...



STAR FUNDRAISERS



JEROEN, JOÃO, KATHARINA & DAVID

In August, these four courageous athletes took on the world-famous Camino de Santiago de Compostela, walking and riding no less than 800km over 14 days. As well as raising almost £4,000, Jeroen (from the Netherlands), Katharina (from Germany), David (from Spain) and João (from Portugal) raised crucial awareness for our cause across Europe for which we could not be more grateful!



MONICA

Our Co-Founders' mother, Monica, has always been the biggest supporter of Walkabout, from joining us on distributions to playing an active role in events and fundraising. This year, she went one step further, personally hand-making almost 1,000 gorgeous flower napkin rings and selling them, both at a dinner she hosted in the Dominican Republic and at our *Women4Walkabout Ladies' Luncheon*. Her efforts alone raised almost £50,000!



CLARA & LORENZ

Instead of asking for wedding presents, Clara and Lorenz gave their guests the option to donate to Walkabout Foundation on their wedding gift list, and raised an incredible €4,000! They said 'Instead of just collecting presents for ourselves we wanted to allow our guests to contribute to something more meaningful. We are very grateful that our guests donated in such great numbers!'



VASCO & RODRIGO

Brothers (and budding entrepreneurs) Vasco and Rodrigo from Lisbon spent their summer making handmade bracelets and selling them to raise money for Walkabout! They raised an amazing €250 - which they hope will go to someone less fortunate than them. They're already planning a new venture for next summer and aiming to double what they raised this year!



MATIAS

Matias Gonzalez-Bunster, our Co-Founders' brother, is back once again in the fundraising hall of fame! This year, he not only completed the Prudential RideLondon-100 (for the FOURTH time!), but also ran three marathons on behalf of Walkabout: Miami Marathon, Toronto Marathon and Bank of America Chicago Marathon. It seems there's no stopping this Walkabout Hero!



JIDA & MARIA

Best friends Jida and Maria moved to Guinea 10 years ago and were overwhelmed by the need for wheelchairs. In March, they approached us with a huge goal: to raise enough money for an entire container of wheelchairs for their home country. Not only did they smash this goal in just 6 months, but they also rallied all their friends to help as volunteers when we went in October to distribute 175 wheelchairs.



ARIELLE

Arielle Rausin was spinal cord injured in a car accident at the age of 10, paralysing her from the waist down. She's now 21 years old and a Team USA Paralympic athlete, and she competed in the London Marathon for us this April, raising enough money to buy 10 wheelchairs! Arielle joined us in Kenya in July to distribute these wheelchairs herself - and to show hundreds of children with disabilities that they can do anything they set their mind to!

Every penny raised through these campaigns really does count - and we love seeing new and exciting ways of fundraising!

Linda Garbarino
CFO

OUR FAMILY



OUR FAMILY

OUR BOARD



**CAROLINA
GONZALEZ-BUNSTER**
CO-FOUNDER



**LUIS
GONZALEZ-BUNSTER**
CO-FOUNDER



FADI ABUALI



AZIZ ALMASHAL



STEFANO BONFIGLIO



ZEINA NASSIF



**ADRIANA
CHRYSSICOPOULOS**



**ROLANDO
GONZALEZ-BUNSTER**



JHUMAR JOHNSON



**ALEXANDER
VAN HOLK**

OUR TEAM



ISABEL FALKENBERG
CEO



LINDA GARBARINO
CFO



MARINA NAKANO
COO



IZZY CUMMING-BRUCE
PROGRAMMES
MANAGER



MERREN WALLACE
PROGRAMMES &
COMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATE



CAMILLA FITZGERALD
EVENTS MANAGER



AMINA EL ALLAM
FUNDRAISING &
COMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATE

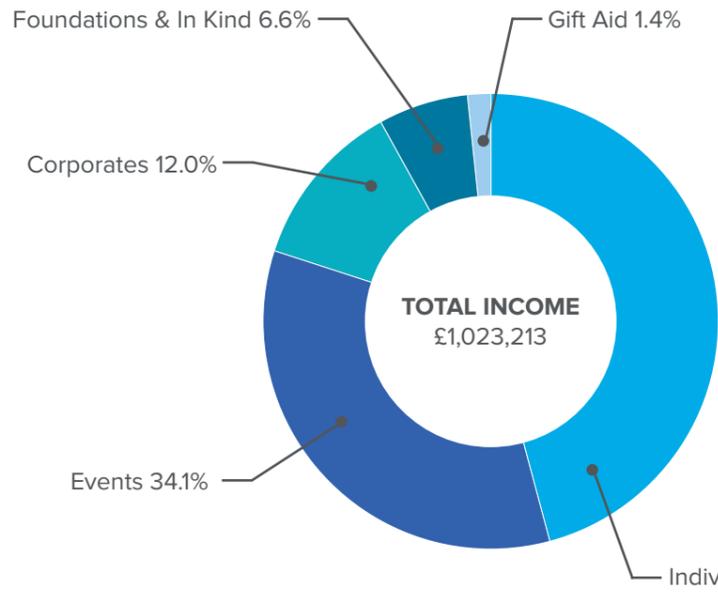


HENRIQUE SERUCA
PHOTOGRAPHY
& VIDEO

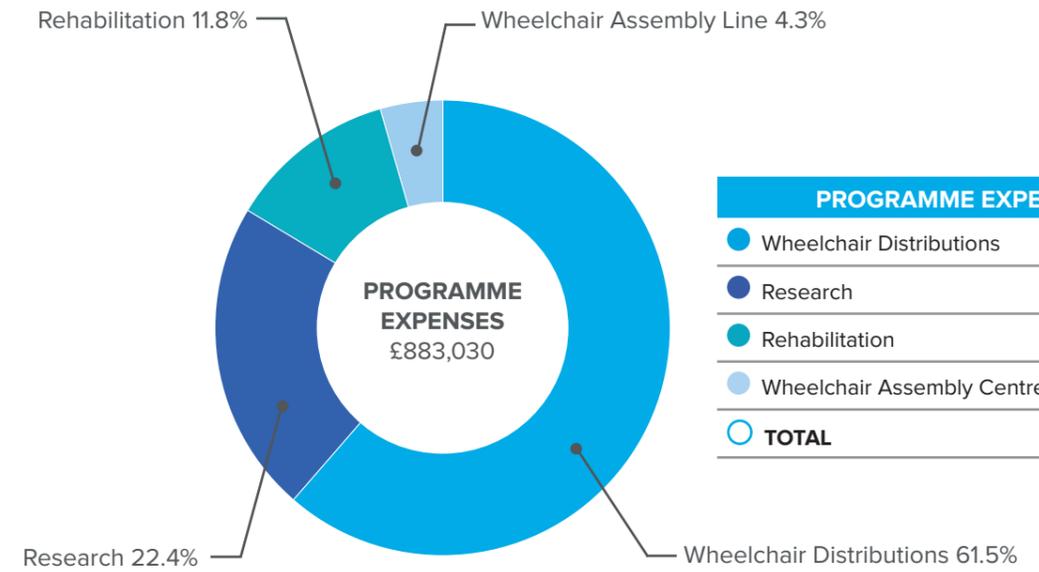
FINANCIALS



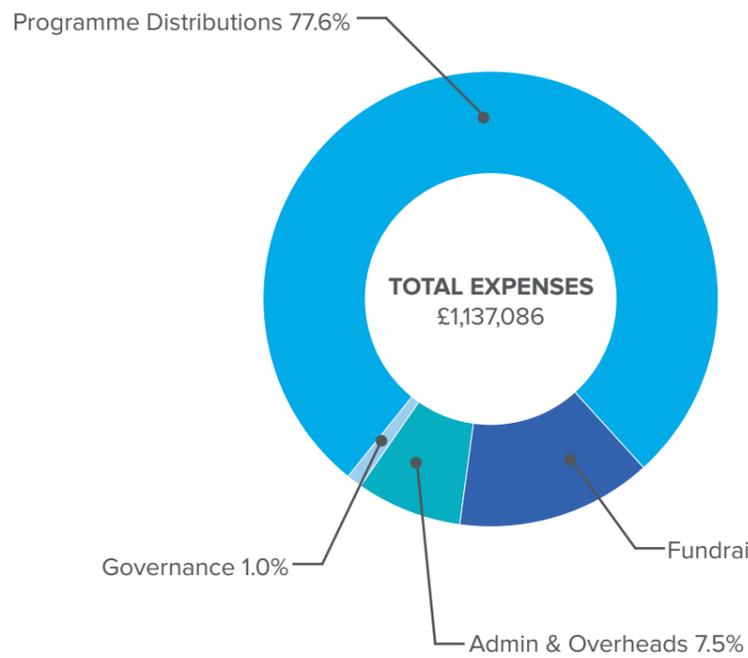
2017 FINANCIALS



TOTAL INCOME	
Individuals	£469,590
Events	£348,479
Corporates	£122,665
Foundations & In Kind	£67,802
Gift Aid	£14,677
TOTAL	£1,023,213

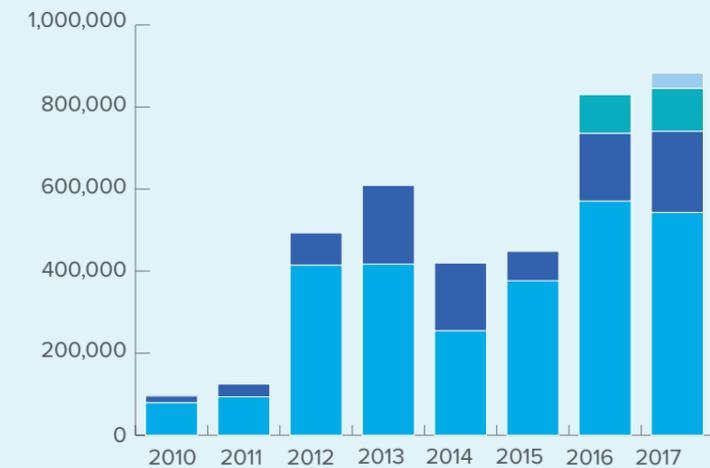


PROGRAMME EXPENSES	
Wheelchair Distributions	£542,962
Research	£197,627
Rehabilitation	£104,583
Wheelchair Assembly Centre	£37,858
TOTAL	£883,030



TOTAL EXPENSES	
Programme Distributions	£883,030
Fundraising & Development	£157,640
Admin & Overheads	£85,392
Governance	£11,024
TOTAL	£1,137,086

FUNDS DISTRIBUTED SINCE INCEPTION



2010	£95,304
2011	£124,796
2012	£493,185
2013	£608,911
2014	£419,566
2015	£448,340
2016	£830,164
2017	£883,030
TOTAL	£3,903,296

● Wheelchair Distributions
 ● Research
 ● Rehabilitation
 ● Wheelchair Assembly Centre

GET INVOLVED



DONATE



BE A WALKABOUT HERO

GIVE MONTHLY



A little every month can go a long way! After a year, just £5 a month will have paid for training a mother of a disabled child on how to provide basic therapy and proper care for her little one, £20 will have paid for a custom-fitted wheelchair, and £100 will see a child through a whole year of therapy at one of our rehabilitation centres, including early learning and three meals a day.

WALK, RUN OR RIDE



Walkabout Heroes raised thousands of pounds this year by getting active! Whether you decide to run a marathon, climb a mountain or cycle an ancient pilgrimage, we'll be with you every step of the way to support you!

GET FUNDRAISING



Raise money for Walkabout by doing something you love - from bake sales to bungee jumps, anything goes! You can even create your very own fundraising page on our website, meaning 100% of the proceeds of your hard work go toward our projects.

SPREAD THE WORD



Raising awareness is just as important as raising funds! Spread the word of Walkabout by chatting to your friends about us, shouting about us on social media, and sharing our stories.

- Walkabout Foundation
- walkaboutorg
- @walkaboutorg
- Walkabout Foundation



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UK Registered Charity: 1140850
US Registered 501(c) (3): 37-1582823

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Some names have been changed to protect the privacy of individuals.