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The Annual Report was edited by
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Cover Syrian refugees in Lebanon © Marco Palombi
Graphic design Accent on Design, Milan
Dear friend of AVSI-USA,

During the past year, we strove to live up to the provocation of Pope Francis to go out to the peripheries, to the ends of the world and to those most in need in our society. Our goal is that we might reflect, through our work, compassion and hope that not only alleviate suffering, but also transforms lives. Heeding this call requires, in addition to technical competences and a commitment to a specific place, relationships in which we can continuously be educated and renewed.

At AVSI-USA, we feel privileged to serve as a bridge connecting people whose daily lives may appear to be so different and distant but who are actively, eagerly striving for an ideal. Take a simple family living in New Jersey whose young children set aside a portion of their spending money to support Syrian refugees. As summer vacation began they sent a note with their donation: Thankful for a great year at school! Or think about the humble social worker at a community center in rural Rwanda, who told us how amazed she was to hear about us in the US doing what we can to gather funding for her adult literacy classes to which she walks hours each week, faithfully. Worlds apart, yet motivated by the same heart and guided by persistent attention to what reality has offered them.

We thank all of our donors, supporters and friends who have contributed in countless ways to our work this year. We hope that you enjoy reading this short review of our main activities and our renewed organizational statements that are the fruit of a collective effort.

Ezio Castelli, President
Jackie Aldrette, Managing Director

AVSI-USA Annual Report 2015

Vision
We envision a world where all persons are aware of their infinite human dignity and are protagonists in their lives.

Identity
AVSI-USA is a member of the AVSI Foundation, a network of 36 organizations world-wide which share the same vision and method. An international NGO started in 1972, AVSI Foundation continues today its mission of promoting human development, with a focus on education, according to Catholic social teaching. AVSI Foundation implements over 100 humanitarian and development projects in 30 countries in partnership with private donors, bilateral and international agencies and businesses. AVSI-USA is a non-profit organization with 501 (c)3 status.

Mission
Our mission is to help individuals and communities to restore dignity and build resilience in the face of poverty and marginalization.

Action
AVSI-USA sustains long-term partnerships with local organizations to enhance capacity and broaden impact in the areas of education, early childhood and youth development, economic livelihoods, health and nutrition. AVSI-USA also connects people across borders, creating opportunities for solidarity and friendship that go beyond simple economic support towards enriching life experiences.

OUR WORK IS CONCENTRATED IN THESE 5 MAIN PILLARS

US Government Funding and Partnership for AVSI network
Foundation Relations for Priority Long-Term Partnerships
Individual Donor Relations for Priority Long-Term Partnerships
Communications and Outreach
Emergency Relief
AVSI Foundation and the United States Government

For the past 20 years, AVSI has worked with the U.S. Government, developing innovative, person-centered programs that have had long-lasting impact on communities. Our dedicated staff brings depth of local knowledge and understanding that results in context specific programming and effective engagement of local actors and resources.

To U.S. Government and other partners, AVSI provides
1) on the ground, local knowledge;
2) capacity and flexibility to partner in different ways; and
3) a strong commitment to the people and, therefore, to quality in everything that we do.

AVSI-USA supports AVSI Foundation in the management of its portfolio of U.S. Government programs including relationships with the funding agencies and partner organizations.

UGANDA - SCORE Project, USAID - 2011 > 2017
Supporting the internal resilience and asset building of the most vulnerable households.

Having completed its 5th year, the SCORE project has exceeded its goal of reaching 25,000 households. Over 29,000 households are benefiting from this innovative approach to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC). Two graduation ceremonies have taken place, celebrating the achievements of 7,000 households which have proudly graduated from direct services. Median income of SCORE households increased from a meager $7/month to $25/month.

KENYA - Education Pathways for Refugees in Dadaab, State Department PRM - 2014 > 2016
Quality education for all refugees eager to learn, building skills for tomorrow.

Through this multi-year project in the largest refugee camp complex in the world, AVSI is offering strategic educational interventions which are improving child development in the short term and the capacity of teachers and administrators for the long term. AVSI revitalized the adult education centers, granting nearly 4,000 young adults the opportunity to return to school while still working, under the leadership of 57 newly trained teachers. 200 female pre-school teachers continued their training cycle and put into practice their new skills on a daily basis with their young pupils.

UGANDA - Family Resilience (FARE), FHI360 with funds from USAID - 2015 > 2018
Empowering families to give children what they need most: a safe home environment and love.

Through the FARE project, AVSI Uganda and partners including Retrak and COWA will demonstrate the power of an integrated model that addresses the issue of family breakdown and unnecessary child-family separation by working with child care institutions as well as with the communities and families. The goal is to reintegrate children back into appropriate and safe family care while also preventing additional separation.

RWANDA - Twiyubake, Global Communities with funds from USAID - 2015 - 2020
Household centered support for the most vulnerable drawing upon years of experience of AVSI and other partners.

Twiyubake is a prime example of an integrated approach to OVC care which has the cross-cutting goal of building the capacity of local organizations and the Rwandan Government to sustain strategic responses even after the project finishes. This new project, launched in 2015, will reach 50,000 households across Rwanda.
AVSI-USA Long-Term Partnerships

Partnership is at the core of our work. This approach reflects a way of looking at the world which recognizes complexity, celebrates the diversity of gifts, and embraces inter-dependence. AVSI-USA is honored to support these amazing partners.

Cardinal Maurice Otunga High School, Kenya
Believing in the unique capabilities of each student motivates adolescents to become the protagonists of their own future. This is true even in countries like Kenya where 42% of the population still lives below the poverty line. Cardinal Otunga High School, which opened its doors in 2005, serves 135 students, the majority of whom come from low-income households, and is a beacon of hope in the greater Nairobi area. Thanks to the generosity of donors, the school made improvements to its athletic fields so students can grow in mind and body.

Luigi Giussani Institute for Higher Education, Uganda
It is generally recognized that education in Uganda is in a state of crisis: drop-out rates are appalling and even those students who remain in school are not learning. Luigi Giussani Institute for Higher Education (LGIHE) is working to drastically improve the quality of education through leadership training for faculty and school administrators based on the person-centered principles found in The Risk of Education. LGIHE’s staff of dedicated education professionals, in conjunction with Notre Dame University, is developing evaluation tools and resources to help school officials turn their institutions around. 250 teachers and school administrators from 18 schools participated in the program in 2015.

Crecemos, Mexico
Crecemos means “Growing Together” and this community-based organization serves the academic, nutritional and social needs of nearly 500 families in the semi-urban and rural areas near the city of Oaxaca, Mexico with dedication, intelligence and hope. In 2015, Crecemos also provided children and their mothers with courses in healthy cooking and classes in nutrition, violin and traditional dance.

Emergency Response: Refugees and Us
Our network and constituents responded generously to AVSI’s initial appeal in 2014 on behalf of the displaced people in Syria and Iraq. In 2015, we launched a special ambitious campaign, Refugees and Us: We are all on the same road. During this time of unprecedented global migration, the scope of this appeal is to accompany refugees even if only for a portion of their journey. First, we enable families to remain in their home country by supporting the reception center in Aleppo, Syria. Second, we ensure temporary care and a new start along the middle of the road in Iraq and Lebanon. Finally, we welcome refugees as they arrive in our cities, both in Europe and in the US. Our continued response affirms the importance of the issue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Refugees and Us</th>
<th>2014 Refugee Response (Iraq, Syria Combined)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>$20,788</td>
<td>$18,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Support</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total 2015-2014</td>
<td>$38,788</td>
<td>$18,276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AVSI-USA Financial Statements 2015

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Grants</td>
<td>542,175</td>
<td>471,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Service Revenue</td>
<td>3,979</td>
<td>16,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>19,470</td>
<td>3,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$565,727</td>
<td>491,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Programs</td>
<td>472,202</td>
<td>480,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>7,931</td>
<td>20,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>27,786</td>
<td>62,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$507,919</td>
<td>562,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>57,808</td>
<td>78,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>168,983</td>
<td>90,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$226,791</td>
<td>168,983</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES 2015

- Management: $27,786 (5.5%)
- Fundraising: $7,931 (1.5%)
- Overseas Programs: $472,202 (93%)

AVSI-USA CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THE AVSI NETWORK

In 2015, AVSI-USA generated $345,000 in grant funding for AVSI Foundation partners and founding members in more than 10 countries.
In addition, AVSI-USA leveraged support for US Government and institutional funding which amounted to about 16% of AVSI Foundation’s consolidated budget of $51 million in 2015.
“In the year documented in this report, I have been able to cross borders and visit cities and villages in the different countries in which AVSI operates, in some now for more than forty years. In meeting people, our expatriate staff and local personnel and those who in the language of cooperation are called “beneficiaries”, I am always shown a clear certainty; it is not we who respond to the most profound needs of the poorest of the poor, or to the cry of the person who has become a refugee because of war, famine, or persecution. We only try to “climb down from the balcony,” as Pope Francis would say, to participate in the epochal change that now affects us at all levels. You can’t stop [change], but you can give it your all, according to your specific assignment. I’d venture to say that we are an NGO with a unique profile that, in this Annual Report, gives a detailed account of itself. Not as single heroes, but one person alongside the other, from the heart of Africa to the Middle East, from Latin America to Asia”.

Giampaolo Silvestri, Secretary General, AVSI Foundation
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avsi-usa.org/donate

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