At Unbound, we want the young people and families we work with to know that they don’t need to be held back by their circumstances. Through sponsorship, we want them to have space — space to dream, space to achieve, space to reach their potential.

Our sponsors and donors help create that space. Your generous support, combined with their energy and commitment, makes an incredible difference for these families. It gives them the freedom to see possibilities instead of just limitations, and that kind of vision is one of the greatest assets any human being can have as they go forward.

The enthusiasm with which our families embrace opportunity motivates those of us who work for Unbound to continue to hone our own ability to serve. We take satisfaction from the excellent ratings we’ve received over the years from the various charity watchdog groups, but we’ll never rest on those. We’ll always work hard to earn your trust and honor our commitment to the families we serve. We consider that a sacred trust.

We are now pleased to present you with the most recent edition of our annual Unbound Stewardship Report. Here you’ll find updated data and financial reporting as well as examples that we hope will not only illustrate the effectiveness of the Unbound program, but also inspire you.

Ultimately, this report is not so much a collection of data as it is a testament to the nobility of the human spirit. Thank you for your role in allowing that testament to be brought forth.
PUTTING FAMILIES FIRST

RESPONSIBLE, TRANSPARENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IS A HALLMARK OF UNBOUND. WE PUT A PREMIUM ON PLACING SPONSORED FRIENDS AND THEIR FAMILIES FIRST.

Unbound’s total contributions and revenue reached $134 million for the 2018 calendar year, with $110.7 million disbursed directly to our field projects in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Unbound is immensely grateful to our sponsors and donors, whose support helps the families in our programs bring about change in their own lives and communities.

93.1% program support
3.5% administration
3.4% fundraising

SOURCE: 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Public support and revenue
Sponsorships .......................................................... $121,856,938
Contributions .......................................................... 12,010,431
Total Public Support ............................................. $133,867,369
Other Revenue .......................................................... 1,857,164
Unrealized loss on Investments ................................... -1,481,759
Total Public Support and Revenue ............................ $134,242,774

Expenses
Program
Funding to Projects ................................................... $110,728,091 (85.1%)
Program Support Services ........................................... 10,412,776 (8.0%)
Total Program Expenses ............................................ $121,140,867 (93.1%)

Fundraising ............................................................. $4,471,562 (3.4%)
Administration ......................................................... 4,460,908 (3.5%)
Total Supporting Services ............................................ $8,932,470 (6.9%)

Total Expenses ........................................................ $130,073,337 (100%)

Net asset increase .................................................... $4,169,437*

*Change in Net Assets from Operations
Advance payments from donors received
in 2018 for distribution in 2019 ................................. $495,436
Net additions/reductions to Management-Designated
reserves and property and equipment ........................ $3,674,001
Total Net Asset Increase .......................................... $4,169,437
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Note: Each year the independent accounting firm of BKD, LLP conducts an audit of Unbound’s financial statements and accounting practices in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. A copy of this audit report is available upon request or online at www.unbound.org.

Unbound is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, federal EIN: 43-1243999. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law unless otherwise noted.
HOW WE WORK

We believe the surest path out of poverty is a self-directed one. In our programs around the world, children, youth, elders and families partner with local staff to develop individual and family goals based on their distinct challenges, needs and skills. In 2018, more than 308,000 sponsored friends and their families partnered with Unbound to chart their paths out of poverty.

PERSONALIZED BENEFITS

Because we believe in self-directed paths out of poverty, sponsorship benefits are highly personalized. Families have the flexibility to use their benefits for what they really need. Social workers and other field staff work with families to identify and work toward goals. For many families, goals focus on their children’s education, but parents may also choose to use funds for other needs such as housing, developing new livelihoods or providing food for the family.
3 WAYS UNBOUND HELPS

SPONSORSHIPS

Children, youth, elders and families who take part in the sponsorship program set goals based on their specific challenges and use sponsorship benefits to reach those goals. Sponsorship gives them access to a supportive community, which includes sponsors, Unbound staff, parent groups and fellow sponsored members. These partnerships promote mutual respect, dignity and empowerment.

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

We believe in the potential of youth and that access to education is an essential part of the path to achieving that potential. Through scholarships, sponsored and non-sponsored youth are able to achieve their educational goals while learning about leadership and how to navigate a professional environment. In 2018, Unbound awarded more than $3.5 million in scholarships to 8,835 students.

AGENTS OF CHANGE

Agents of Change is an innovative platform that makes grants available to established Unbound parents groups so they can make improvements and enhancements in their communities. It’s a way to support people’s investment in the neighborhoods, towns and villages where their families are rooted. It helps support the kind of stable, safe and life-giving communities where people can thrive instead of just survive. Once a group has identified a common need — installing a bathroom at a school, making a soccer field level, building a covered waiting area outside a health clinic — they complete the Agents of Change application process, which includes an analysis of projected costs and existing resources as well as a cohesive plan for completion. In 2018, Unbound awarded $300,000 in Agents of Change grants, funding initiatives in seven countries.
PLANNED GIVING

We offer several planned giving options to support our mission and meet your charitable goals at the same time. Whether it’s an IRA Rollover Donation or an estate donation, Unbound makes it easy to plan for now and the future.

PLANNED GIVING ALLOWS YOU TO:

• Make immediate or future contributions to benefit a sponsored friend
• Give to a specific program such as scholarships or disaster response
• Support the general mission of Unbound

In 2018, gifts received through planned giving options totaled almost $2.2 million and primarily supported scholarships for youth, urgent needs of families, sponsorship of children and youth, and grants to assist the work of Unbound programs around the world.

“As an Unbound sponsor, I have had the opportunity to be part of a reliable community which gives hope and helps others to achieve their dreams.”

— Lillian Acevedo
Unbound sponsor
Unbound earns high rankings by meeting and exceeding standards set by respected third-party organizations that evaluate charities. The recognition demonstrates the work Unbound puts into solid financial stewardship.

**CHARITY NAVIGATOR**

Charity Navigator rates charities based on factors in two main areas: financial health and accountability and transparency. It awarded Unbound 4 out of 4 stars, with the highest score of 100 in the area of accountability and transparency.

**CHARITYWATCH**

CharityWatch gave Unbound an A+, its highest ranking. CharityWatch evaluates charities on how much of their budgets are spent on programs, fundraising costs, governance practices and financial transparency.

**BBB WISE GIVING ALLIANCE**

The BBB Wise Giving Alliance requires that a charity meet 20 rigorous standards for accountability in order to qualify for its charity seal. Unbound met all 20 standards, which evaluate how an organization spends its money and governs itself.

**GUIDESTAR**

Unbound holds the Platinum Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar.
GOVERNING BOARD

The Unbound Governing Board represents sponsored individuals, their families and sponsors. The board operates under a policy governance model that determines and demands appropriate organizational performance. Transparency and clear communication allow the board to work positively with the Unbound staff in providing direction and inspiration for the organization while holding management accountable.

David Herbison
Chief Governing Officer
Banking and financial services
Tigard, OR

Vicki Berger
Deputy Chief Governing Officer
Retired museum curator
Phoenix, AZ

Alison Avayu
Health and wellness coach
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Joe Barker
Teacher and community outreach director
South Fulton, GA

Dennis Bernardo
Information technology consultant
Chicago, IL

Emma Miller
Marketing manager
Chicago, IL

Cindy Ricks
Career law clerk
Salt Lake City, UT

Rich Swan
Attorney, sales manager
Denver, CO

Mónica M. Gómez Arias
Unbound coordinator (non-voting)
Medellín, Colombia

Vincent Murmu
Unbound coordinator (non-voting)
Dumka, India

Father Greg Schmitt, C.Ss.R.
Unbound preacher (non-voting)
Kansas City, MO

Martin Kraus, Treasurer
Director of finance, Unbound (non-voting)
Kansas City, KS

William Hansen, Secretary
Finance manager, Unbound (non-voting)
Kansas City, KS

Scott Wasserman
President/CEO, Unbound (non-voting)
Kansas City, KS

WHERE WE WORK

Bolivia • Chile • Colombia • Costa Rica • Dominican Republic • Ecuador
El Salvador • Guatemala • Honduras • India • Kenya • Madagascar
Mexico • Nicaragua • Peru • Philippines • Tanzania • Uganda
OUR MISSION

UNBOUND’S MISSION IS TO WALK WITH THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED OF THE WORLD.