



SNAPSHOT 2024



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Message from Taylor



For 20 years Bikes for the World has stood out from the crowd because of the varied and imaginative ways that our donated bikes are used to positively impact individuals and communities. Our bikes are more than just bikes! They are the family vehicle that gets kids to school, transports goods to market, shortens the commute to a farm field and breaks down barriers for access to education, healthcare and vocational training. A single bike donated to a partner project is used by 4-6 people, expanding its impact even more. That means that the 200,000+ bikes we've donated to partner programs have impacted nearly 1 million people!

The programs that we support are not just focused on providing bikes for basic transportation or recreation, they are programs that elevate a bicycle to something much more meaningful. While a donated bike will get someone from A to B, what it's really doing is getting people to a better place in life. Our partners use donated bikes to provide education for young girls in West Africa, to deliver goods to market in Madagascar, to access clean drinking water in Burkina Faso, as vocational training tools in El Salvador, as the seeds of microcredit programs in Costa Rica and as vehicles for empowerment everywhere.

Together we have made Bikes for the World the leading US-based bicycle reuse organization through the over 200,000 bikes we've repurposed, transforming them from trash to transformative tools for personal and community empowerment. We work with local, regional and national groups

to divert unwanted bikes from the waste stream and put them to work in rural communities across the Global South where they create a pathway to self-sufficiency and community resilience. Over 20 years we have built a network of local bike shops, municipal governments and committed volunteers that have changed the world. Our donated bikes get people from poverty to self-sufficiency in an environmentally-conscious way.



20 Years



In 2005 Bikes for the World donated just over 5,000 bicycles. We had nine supported projects in nine different countries. Twenty years later we are still delivering bikes to four of those programs.

In 2024 we donated over 11,000 bikes. Over the past 20 years we have delivered over 400 containers to 32 countries, supporting 114 projects!

We are constantly evaluating the metrics within our partner programs, comparing the effectiveness of the project, the costs associated with supporting it, and the impact it has in its community.

The goals for each project are unique to the program. The bike projects provide affordable transportation, the creation of jobs, and usually support several other key missions of the program, such as education, increasing capital, and providing health and wellness initiatives.

In 2024 BfW supported 21 projects. Our goal in 2025 is to increase our level of support to our long term sustainable partners to help improve their communities .



Financial Snapshot

There are three main components that make Bikes for the World roll year after year. Bikes, money, and wrenches. Our focus to diversify the source of each of these components is what makes BfW sustainable.

Over 20 years we have continued to expand and improve our program based on our experiences and an ever changing world. In the past ten years we have evaluated and improved our efficiency by reducing the number of collections and empowering our collection partners to host more productive events, reducing our costs, while maintaining a consistent supply of bikes with financial support.

A significant source of our overall funding comes through our individual donors. A portion of that comes through our bike donors. Our “suggested donation of \$10 per bike” is language that has accompanied our collection events for the past 20 years. Even as our costs have increased, our request has remained the same.

The graphic to the right visualizes what that \$10 per bike really looks like and how it’s changed over the years. Since a majority of our bikes we collect are no longer coming from community led collection events our source of revenue from collecting bikes has declined.



In 2014 a combination of funding from a corporate sponsor, bike shop partners and recycling programs netted \$30,000. By the end of 2024 monetary donations with bikes had dropped by 90% to \$3,000 annually. We have managed this shortfall by relying on larger board contributions, corporate giving, and more attention to individual fundraising. The challenge is handling more bikes without accompanying donations.

The shift to picking up bikes from recycling centers filled the gap from the loss of an impactful partnership with Dick’s Sporting Goods. This pivot ensures a constant supply of bikes throughout the year that support our global projects. These bikes, picked up weekly, have also allowed us to expand and improve volunteer opportunities, providing work for our volunteer groups year round.

The diverse network of drop off sites and collection partners came in clutch in 2020 when the pandemic caused significant predictability. Recycling centers and municipal partnerships carried us through that challenging year. In a year when we only hosted a dozen community-led collection events, yielding only 2,000 bikes, we still managed to collect over 8,000 bikes. By the end of 2024 recycling centers had firmly supplanted one-time collection events as our largest single source of donated bikes!

20,000 Volunteers



05



10



06



11



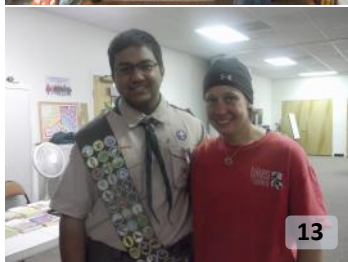
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In 2024 we hosted nearly 100 groups and surpassed last year's volunteer records, logging more than 6,300 hours across 1,768 volunteers. We've come a long way since 2005 when the bulk of our hours were logged by a core group who would respond on a moment's notice to load a container over two days.

Many of the student hours donated in subsequent years came through a safety and education program run in conjunction with the city of Rockville, but not necessarily supportive of our overall mission.

Ten years ago we shifted to hosting larger groups focused on loading containers and occasionally compacting bikes.

Over the last five years we utilized the eager and skilled volunteers in our area to better serve our overseas partners and beneficiaries. We now work with more groups, smaller in size, so that we can provide a more rewarding teachable experience for each of our volunteers. The hands-on approach also allows us to interact with all of our volunteers on a more personal level.



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24

200,000 Bikes



200k Loading Crew:

Anna Doyle— compacted bike
Linda Hansen— St. Mary of Sorrows
Cindy Brown— Otterbein UM Church
Valerie Van Hollen— Western Md Wheelmen
Kate Kidwell— Western Md Wheelmen
Pamela McCormick— Western Md Wheelmen
J Long— Stone Ridge Social Action program
Carol Goodloe— longstanding BfW volunteer
Karen Hendrixson— BfW Board Chair
Yvette Hess— BfW Outreach Coordinator



Uplifting Women

Although significant progress has been made in women's rights, there is still much to be done to achieve true gender equality. The bike projects we support around the world are focused on uplifting women in rural communities who lack access to training, education, and opportunities. Bikes are transformed into tools of empowerment which contribute significantly to their autonomy and self-sufficiency.

Women are also making a difference at home, providing leadership and muscle to move our program forward. We gathered a crew of women who have made significant contributions to BfW over the years to highlight the importance bikes have in the lives of women around the world.



Rachel—200k bike

In 2024, the MIBICI project successfully established a strategic alliance with the Costa Rica Foundation for Children. This foundation provides support to children and adolescents at social risk in Costa Rica. Rachel received our 200k bike through this collaboration. She now saves time and energy and nearly \$250 in transportation costs thanks to her new bicycle. Receiving a bicycle represents a step toward independence in mobility, especially for those who, upon reaching adulthood, need to find work. With a bicycle, they gain the ability to travel more easily.

1,000 Sewing Machines

Otterbein United Methodist Delivers.



María Jesús González

María Jesús has worked as a seamstress her whole life. She learned the craft from her mother when she was a young girl. She started by doing small clothing repairs for neighbors and family. Over time she built her business and a legendary reputation in her community. At 79, she's thrilled to be using a new sewing machine and is especially grateful to the entire team at Bikes for the World and MiBici for choosing her as the recipient of the 1,000th sewing machine.

Our sewing machine project has been around since 2005. It started with a donation of just a handful of machines to a couple of our partners. At the end of 20 years we had donated 1,028 sewing machines to eight different programs.

Many of our sewing machine donations come from our collections at faith organizations, which have older members and sewing circles. One of our biggest champions over the years has been Otterbein United Methodist Church in Hagerstown. They joined us this summer when we shipped our 1,000th sewing machine alongside the 200k bike!



Cindy Brown (left) had the honor of placing the machine in the container along with Executive Director Taylor Jones. The machine was donated by Becky Fritts (below) a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church.

Otterbein holds the record for a single day collection event when they collected over 400 bikes in 2018. To date they have donated 5,000 bikes to BfW.



Ghana



20 years, 30,000 bikes

BfW has been donating bikes to Ghana for over 20 years. Village Bicycle Project is our second largest beneficiary of bikes going back to 2005 when they officially became a partner. VBP reserves a portion of every shipment to support their Learn To Ride program where they deliver bikes to rural communities throughout Ghana. Through this effort, they are training new cyclists and new mechanics and providing affordable transportation that transforms communities. A majority of our donated bikes are ending up in the hands of students, farmers, and health professionals.

Hannah, above left, is a student who received a bicycle through the Learn To Ride program.

"I used to arrive late and exhausted, struggling to concentrate. My bicycle has changed everything. Now I'm confident, punctual, and determined to become a doctor. "

Madagascar



10 years, 14,000 bikes 6 communities

In Madagascar, bikes were introduced by a USAID funded health initiative to assist volunteers caring for distant rural patients. In order to help incentivize the volunteers and help make the program more sustainable, USAID expanded the program to include a bike component. Ten years ago BfW started shipping bikes to four pilot programs in four small communities in northern Madagascar. Our bikes created jobs and helped make the program sustainable and successful by bringing affordable transportation to rural villages. It also helped stabilize the volunteer led health initiative and helped save lives. When the USAID grant ended, the program continued and we now ship bikes to six different communities in northern Madagascar. To date we have donated over 14,000 bikes to our partners in Madagascar. Each project operates independently and each regularly gets a resupply shipment of bikes from BfW.

Rising Force

Ready to Compete. Ready to Succeed

Racing is gaining popularity within our African programs. Specifically women's racing. It's been a long ride since the first Black African men competed in the Tour de France. A decade later, women are taking their place on the podium.

As women gain confidence through competition they are improving their self image. Cycling is making women stronger and their successes are turning heads and changing attitudes.

Racing teams bring competition into the spotlight for many young girls. It's beginning the conversation and sparking dreams. The projects we support, that support racing are focused on empowering women through the sport of cycling. They are training hard, learning mechanics, building relationships, and tearing down barriers for future girls. Our partners are giving women opportunities through learning new skills and encouraging them to become bike shop owners

"Girls are capable of achieving greatness. They proved with determination, bravery, and skill, girls can take on any challenge and come out on top. Their victories inspire others, showing that girls are more than ready to lead and excel in any field."



Other Projects

Stepping Stones



BfW donated another round of bikes to **Stepping Stones** to expand a pilot bike program for court-involved males, ages 14-18 in the city of Fairfax.

The participants learned basic bicycle maintenance repair, road safety and trail courtesy. Through recreation rides they explore their community, learn to push themselves and enjoy the mental health benefits of nature and exercising.

This highly-structured program is designed to reduce chronic delinquent behavior and emphasize the acceptance of personal responsibility by participants. The bike program allows the guys to work on their soft skills.

Global Collaborations



Local collaborations offer us a unique way of reaching more programs in more countries. Over the years we have donated bikes in countries like Afghanistan, The Gambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; in other words, countries where we don't have a supported program. These are typically partial shipments of bikes, sometimes only a handful at a time. And always in conjunction with another organization's shipment.

In 2024 we partnered with **Helping Hand for Relief and Development** when they had a container going to Jordan. This year we also had the privilege to donate bikes for the first time in Cuba.

Less than 1% of our donated bikes fall into this 'Other' category. We have donated 703 bikes over 20 years to these collaborative efforts.

Chocolate City Ride



BfW again partnered with **Major Knox Adventures** to provide bikes to local youth during the annual Chocolate City Community Ride.

This event stresses the importance of diversity and inclusion within the cycling community. A bicycle can open the door to learning more about a community, specifically in DC, the history of our nation.

Our donated bikes connect city youth and underrepresented communities to the health benefits of cycling.

Together, we can pedal toward a more sustainable, inclusive, and active future.

