



Build Health  
International

20  
25

Annual  
Report



**Build Health International remains dedicated to promoting dignified and equitable healthcare access worldwide, even as global commitments to health equity shift.**

A new chapter for maternal and newborn health care is around the corner in Sierra Leone. A training center in Rwanda equips biomedical engineers and health ministry partners on how to service and maintain medical equipment. A recent campus expansion and laboratory renovation enables scientific research and collaboration for infectious disease prevention in Nigeria.

BHI experienced multiple successes this past fiscal year. However, there have been increasing obstacles. The elimination of health programming and funding from the United States federal government and shifting international priorities have rescinded fundamental rights to better health throughout the world.

We have seen the ripple effects impact our work directly, especially in Haiti, where our team has experienced tremendous political and social challenges. And it is unfortunate that the means to sustain and maintain healthcare infrastructure are among the first line items to be cut.

Among the tools we have at our disposal, innovation, adaptability, and determination are pivotal to moving forward. Our goals to provide adequate spaces and train and equip technical workforces in resource-constrained areas have become even more important. Dignified and sustainable infrastructure guarantees dignified and sustainable healthcare access.

At Build Health International, the work of building health equity happens through thousands of small and deliberate actions. This work is more important than ever before. Every task, every partnership, every container shipment, every hand, and every voice, builds the foundation for global health equity. In the face of growing challenges, we move forward with purpose, resilience, and resolve.

In solidarity,

**The BHI Leadership Team**



African Centre of Excellence for Genomics  
of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID)  
Institute of Genomics and Global Health  
Redeemer's University, Ede, Nigeria

# Table of Contents

**02**

A Note from Leadership

**05**

Year in Review

**07**

Fiscal Year Impact

**10**

Staff Stories

**15**

Special Report: Project  
Phases

**17**

Project Features

**25**

Our Community

**27**

Get Involved

# ✂ Year in Review

# 2024



In partnership with Mercy Ships, construction wraps up at the **Gamal Clinical Dental Training Center** at the University of Conakry in Guinea.



JUL

AUG



**Latricrete** visits The Maternal Center of Excellence in Sierra Leone to train the local team on how to install specialized flooring.



BHI Co-Founder receives the **American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)** Purpose Prize Award for nonprofit founders leveraging their experience and expertise to create meaningful change in the world.



SEP

OCT



**ACEGID** changes its name to the Institute of Genomics and Global Health and opens its doors to its campus development expansion for the first time.



BHI architects and project managers visit the **Terrowode Maternal Health Center in Uganda** to meet with partners and conduct a site assessment.



NOV

DEC



In partnership with Health Equity International and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, BHI prepares for solar commissioning at **St. Boniface Hospital in Fond-des-Blancs, Haiti** with the system's peak capacity to generate 554 kWp.



# 2025



BHI breaks ground on the **Dorma Dormitories and Training Center in Sierra Leone**, a new facility that will house and equip clinical personnel working at the neighboring government hospital.

JAN

FEB

*The Lancet* publishes a **comprehensive study** on the disparities in medical oxygen access, including advisory input from BHI, underlining the importance of technical collaboration to close gaps.



BHI travels to Cameroon to conduct a site visit for a future pediatric hospital with **the African Children's Healthcare Fund**.

MAR

APR

BHI's architecture team completes the renderings of **Onda Health**, a small medical mission operating out of Purulhá, Baja Verapaz, Guatemala.



Ground breaks on a **new hospital facility located in Rwibaale, Uganda**. In partnership with African Mission Healthcare, BHI provided the campus development plan, which includes inpatient and outpatient services, as well as an emergency department and maternity spaces.

MAY

JUN

The construction team furnishes the interior of the South Ward at the **Maternal Center of Excellence in Sierra Leone**, bringing the facility one step closer to opening in early 2026.



# FY 2025 Impact



**93**

Active Projects



**18**

Countries with active projects



**40**

Completed BHI projects



**37**

Organizational partners

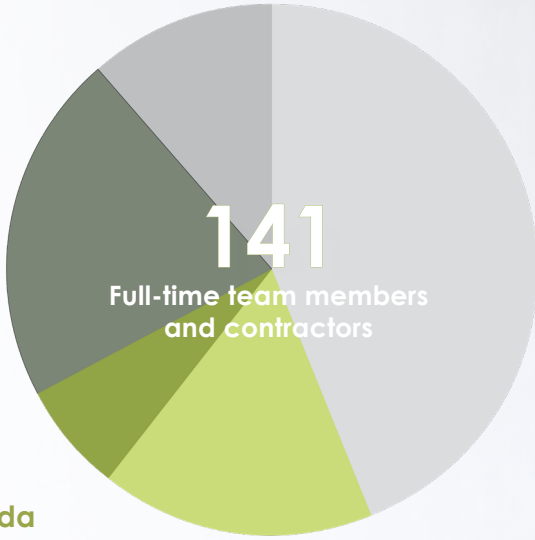


**25**

Countries of origin represented  
on staff

15  
In other  
countries

28  
Sierra  
Leone



58  
United  
States

9  
Rwanda

22  
Haiti





# Staff Stories

---

At Build Health International, our team is a vibrant mix of talented professionals from around the world who contribute unique skills and perspectives. This collective diversity shapes our ability to deliver innovative global health solutions. Whether through architecture, engineering, logistics, or training, each member of our team shares a commitment to ensuring that dignified healthcare is possible everywhere.

**Together, we are not only building facilities and systems: we are building trust, capacity, and a healthier future.**



Keysi De Los Santos

Logistics Support Coordinator | USA

---

“Building hospitals means saving lives—and our work in the warehouse makes that possible.”

For Keysi De Los Santos, the warehouse isn't just about pallets and packing slips—it's where dignified healthcare begins. As BHI's Warehouse Logistics Support Coordinator, Keysi plays a vital role in ensuring that lifesaving materials reach hospitals and clinics safely and efficiently. He manages a fast-moving inventory, packing and shipping supplies on tight timelines from BHI's expanded warehouse in Gloucester, Massachusetts. With each shipment, he considers the conditions on the receiving end—rough roads, limited equipment, seasonal climate—and prepares accordingly to ensure everything arrives safely. For a specific shipment to Haiti, he custom-built a crate to protect an anesthesia machine; it fell off a flatbed truck on a bumpy road in transit but arrived at the hospital completely intact. Keysi's attention to detail and craftsmanship meant the equipment was ready for installation at arrival, allowing doctors to safely deliver critical care. Through every crate and container, Keysi helps deliver not just supplies—but dignity, safety, and hope.



Sola Da Silva

Architect | USA

“We’re building the conditions for people to thrive—and that’s the kind of work I always hoped I’d get to do.”

Sola joined BHI, inspired by the organization's work in Nigeria, where she was born. As a student of architecture, she was drawn to BHI's focus on healthcare and its commitment to building in communities that are often overlooked. That personal connection continues to shape her work today. One of the most impactful projects Sola has contributed to is the Institute of Genomics and Global Health (formally the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases) in Ede, Nigeria. The new campus is designed to support biomedical and genomics research and train the next generation of African scientists. The project reflects BHI's long-term vision—strengthening local capacity, building sustainable systems, and creating spaces where solutions are developed by and for the communities they serve.



Kevin Ndeti

Electrical Engineer | Kenya

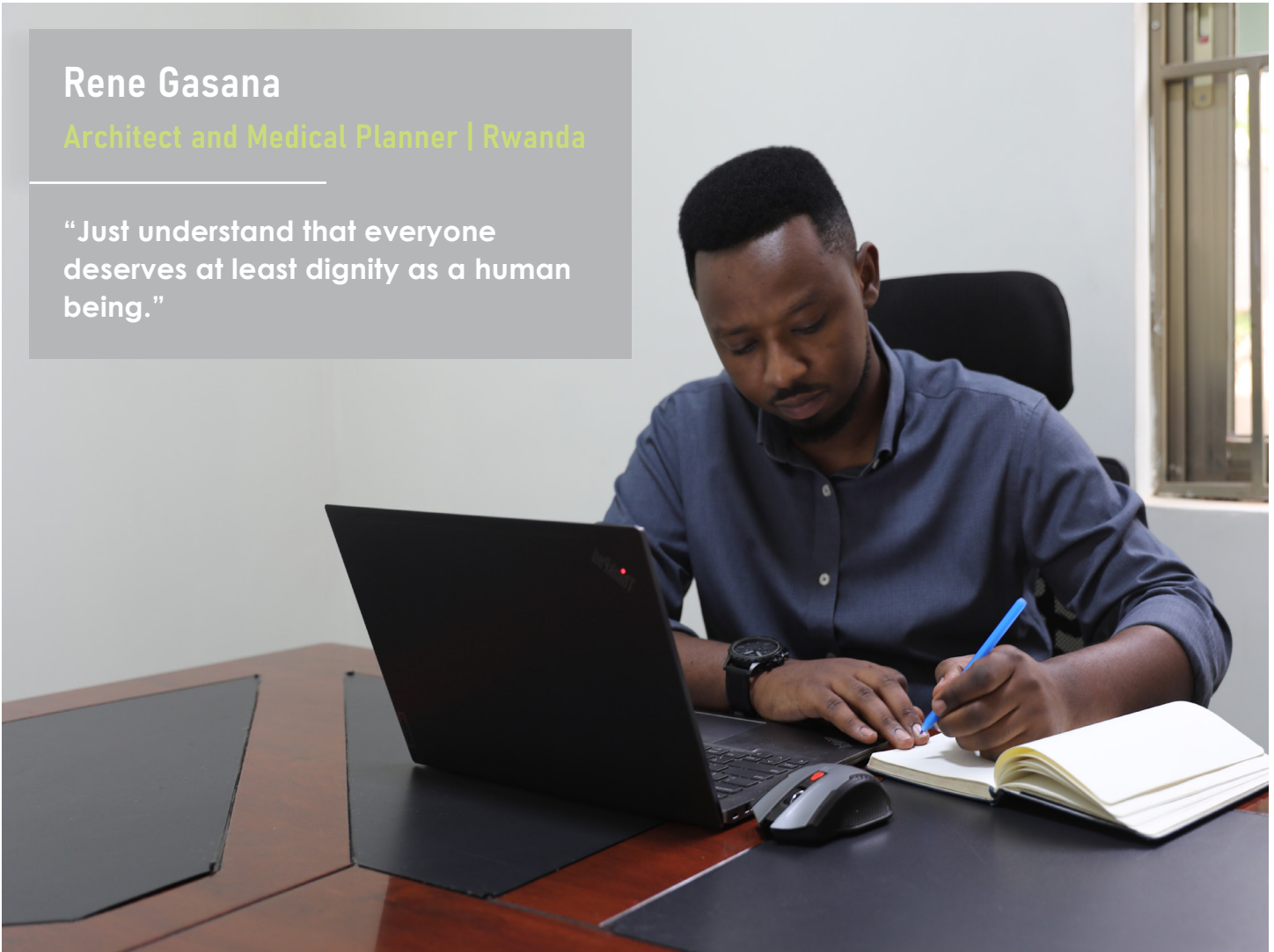
“Healthcare dignity starts with infrastructure integrity.”

With a background and professional experience in electrical engineering in Kenya, Kevin approaches each project with a focus on equity, collaboration, and long-term impact. At BHI, Kevin's work goes beyond technical design. He partners closely with healthcare workers, technicians, and plant operators to understand the day-to-day realities of healthcare delivery. This collaborative process ensures that every system is tailored to the local context—from solar-powered oxygen plants to energy-efficient hospital upgrades. Kevin supported an electrical assessment at AIC CURE Kijabe Hospital in Kenya, where his team helped implement a solar solution that eliminated frequent power outages and improved operations across the facility. He also provides ongoing technical support through Project BOXER, ensuring that life-saving oxygen continues to flow where it's needed most.

## Rene Gasana

Architect and Medical Planner | Rwanda

“Just understand that everyone deserves at least dignity as a human being.”



Rene Gasana sees architecture to be more than just construction; it is a tool for social justice. This belief stems from his upbringing in Rwanda, where he witnessed the stark contrast between private comfort and public neglect, which instilled in him a resolve to challenge the notion that some people deserve less. Since joining BHI, Rene has channeled this passion into numerous high-impact projects. Rene points to his work on the Cameroon Children's Hospital, where the partner, a doctor, had a strong vision for the layout of surgical and emergency departments. Rather than imposing a different plan, Rene's team demonstrates BHI's collaborative method: presenting multiple options with clear pros and cons to find the most effective solution. Looking ahead, Rene is most excited to see BHI's impact deepen across Africa.



# Trace the Development of a BHI Design-Build Project

## PHASE 1



### Pre-Design

Early on, BHI works with partners to translate healthcare goals into initial design ideas and explores how spaces should look, feel, and function. The BHI team evaluates the site, zoning, and infrastructure to ensure feasibility and alignment with clinical needs. This phase also provides a rough understanding of potential fundraising and/or planning costs and lays the groundwork for a design that is both practical and patient-centered.

## PHASE 2



### Schematic Design

This phase refines the pre-design concept into a more detailed and visual plan. BHI's architectural and engineering teams collaborate to develop preliminary drawings that clarify layout, function, and aesthetics – helping partners better understand the project's direction and identify key opportunities or challenges before moving forward.

## PHASE 3



### Design Development

During design development, BHI engages in developing the necessary details of the approved design. BHI works to plan room layouts, including design elements such as structural and mechanical systems. BHI then works with the partner to advance the design to meet required functional and regulatory compliance. Next, BHI and the partner coordinate major equipment requirements for compatibility and flexibility with the design.

Designing and building healthcare infrastructure can involve many steps and stakeholders. BHI meets the unique needs of every partner to conceptualize, develop, and implement innovative solutions that address some of the most pressing health issues across the globe. Design projects begin with a project definition which defines the scope. In addition to design services, BHI also provides construction management, technical advisory, procurement, and facility maintenance support services.

#### PHASE 4



#### Construction Documents

As the final stage of the design process, this phase translates the approved design into a comprehensive set of technical drawings and specifications. BHI's team details architectural, structural, and engineering components to prepare the project for permitting, bidding, and construction as well as meet local code requirements.

#### PHASE 5



#### Pre-Construction

BHI facilitates the transition from planning and design to construction by preparing key documentation, providing contractor support, and overseeing initial stages of the pre-construction process. This phase is customizable, allowing partners to select the level of support that best fits their project needs.

#### PHASE 6



#### Construction

BHI oversees the construction process to meet quality, compliance, and alignment with the project's timeline and budget. Depending on the setting, BHI may provide full construction services or work closely with local firms to manage the build on behalf of the partner.



# Maternal Center of Excellence (MCOE)





**KOIDU,  
SIERRA LEONE**

In collaboration with Partners In Health Sierra Leone, BHI is finalizing construction on the first phases of the Maternal Center of Excellence in Kono to improve outcomes for women and children in a region where maternal and neonatal mortality remain high. Designed and built with sustainability and dignity at its core—and led by a majority-women construction team—the MCOE will serve as a regional referral and clinical training center, expanding access to quality maternal and newborn healthcare across West Africa. Beyond MCOE, BHI is driving several other high-impact projects in Sierra Leone. Each strengthens healthcare infrastructure, equips local communities, and paves the way for a future where every person can access dignified, accessible care.



## African Centre of Excellence



## for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID)



EDE,  
NIGERIA

BHI partnered with the Institute of Genomics and Global Health to complete the first phases of the African Centre for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID), strengthening infrastructure for epidemic preparedness. The collaboration included renovating a high-containment BSL-3 lab and designing an eight-building campus expansion with new labs, classrooms, and housing. These upgrades support ACEGID's mission to train the next generation of African scientists and enhance the region's ability to detect, study, and respond to infectious diseases before they become global threats.



# CURE Hôpital

**cure** 

# des Enfants



NIAMEY,  
NIGER

BHI is supporting CURE Niger's plans to expand surgical capacity and improve patient care. This includes building new operating rooms, renovating existing spaces for recovery and anesthesia, and enhancing the hospital's solar power system. These upgrades will increase surgical access, support training of healthcare workers, and reduce environmental impact—helping CURE clinicians provide higher-quality care while strengthening its long-term service to the community.



# Biomedical Engineering and Oxygen Training



60

Countries supported with  
technical advisory to date

1,829

People trained  
to date

120

Educational resource  
documents published in  
English, French, Spanish,  
Portuguese, and Russian

To ensure sustainable access to oxygen, BHI partners with multilateral stakeholders such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria through Project BOXER to lead hands-on training programs for biomedical engineers and technicians, as well as hospital personnel in low-resource settings. These sessions focus on maintaining pressure swing adsorption (PSA) plants and repairing critical medical equipment. In collaboration with the Wagner Foundation, the Skoll Foundation, and other key partners, BHI provides technical assistance, coordination, infrastructure upgrades, and comprehensive training to ensure sustainable access to medical oxygen in low-resource settings. By building local capacity and partnering with Ministries of Health and hospitals, BHI supports long-term system resilience—ensuring oxygen systems remain functional, reliable, and safe.

# Our

# Community



Build Health  
International

Thank you to the generosity and kindness of our global community.

Our supporters organized campaigns that raised awareness and critical funds to promote BHI's impact. They became monthly donors, partners, and project sponsors; provided in-kind materials or software to enable our work; funded operating expenses; and stayed committed to building health equity.

We are grateful to everyone who made our work possible.



Dr. Austin Demby

Minister of Health | Government of  
Sierra Leone

“

The Maternal Center of Excellence [in Kono, Sierra Leone] reflects the power of partnership in advancing maternal and child health in Sierra Leone. Together with Partners In Health and Build Health International, we are making lasting improvements that will benefit generations to come.

”



Dr. Dave Lowrance

Senior Specialist | The Global Fund

“

BHI has been a vital partner to the Global Fund by supporting robust implementation of our medical oxygen infrastructure and financing. Their work consistently reflects core values of country-led design and operations, focusing on essential health system capacities and sustainability features. BHI is synonymous with genuine partnership based on can-do attitudes, and commitment to quality regardless of the context and challenges.

”



**Dr. Regan Marsh**

Associate Medical Director for Health Equity at Mass General Brigham | BHI Board Member

“

Oxygen is too often unavailable or in short supply in the places BHI works. When I worked with Partners In Health in Haiti, our team managed critical patients every day, from pregnancy complications at delivery to trauma. Reliable medical oxygen was fundamental to our care. It saved newborn babies, stabilized critical patients, and allowed us to provide the best possible care. Having access to oxygen was the most important investment we made in infrastructure - it saved more lives than anything. BHI enables uninterrupted access to oxygen every day.

”



**Jaime Mchunu**

Assistant Director | Center for Global Health Equity at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“

The Center for Global Health Equity (CGHE) at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is excited to be developing a new partnership with BHI. It is clear that in both mission and action we are closely aligned and there are many opportunities for collaboration. We are thrilled to work with BHI, an organization that shares this vision, and we look forward to continuing to explore opportunities for joint training and education activities and utilization and sharing of existing supplies and resources.

”

# The

# Board

- Dr. Patricia Maguire Meservey (Chair)
- Bob Broudo (Vice Chair)
- Dr. Harry Dumay (Treasurer)
- Jennifer Aliber (Clerk)
- Andrew DeFranza
- Bonni Theriault
- Herby Duverné
- Father John Unni
- Karen Keating Ansara
- Mark Michalowski
- Dr. Patrick Ulysse
- Dr. Philip Onyebujoh
- Dr. Regan Marsh
- Stuart Meurer

Build Health International's Board of Directors is comprised of a diverse set of visionary and driven leaders committed to equity. Their professional experiences and expertise range from clinical medicine to education and philanthropy. We are grateful for their critical guidance and support, which is helping shape BHI's future.



Building the Foundation  
for Global Health Equity

## Contact Us

Beverly Office  
100 Cummings Center  
Suite 120B  
Beverly, MA 01915  
United States

info@buildhealthinternational.org  
+1-978-338-9002

## Join Us



[buildhealthinternational.org](https://buildhealthinternational.org)

## Follow Us



@BuildHealthInternational



@Buildhealthinternational



@BuildHealthIntl



Build Health International



Build Health International



Build Health International

