Where PCI Works

- United States
- Mexico
- Guatemala
- Nicaragua
- Haiti
- Mali*
- Burkina Faso*
- Burundi*
- Zambia
- Tanzania
- Botswana
- Kenya
- Ethiopia
- India
- Malawi
- Botswana

*PCI works through local partners in these countries.
CEO Message

At PCI, we know that talent, motivation and intellect are equally distributed around the world... but opportunity is not. In our work across Asia, Africa and the Americas, we encounter people every day who show incredible strength, resilience and courage, even in the face of extraordinary challenges. We are privileged to work with these inspiring people, and we are honored to partner with you, our generous donors, as we empower families and communities to enhance health, end hunger, overcome hardship and advance women & girls.

If numbers alone told the story, we helped improve the lives of nearly 10 million people last year. But numbers merely scratch the surface. To get to the heart of our impact, you have to see our programs through the eyes of those who are on the frontlines—our field staff and the remarkable individuals with whom we partner and serve.

We are proud to present a snapshot of what we accomplished together in 2018.

Thank you for making this work possible!

Carrie Hessler-Radelet, President & CEO

PCI’s mission is to empower people to enhance health, end hunger, overcome hardship and advance women & girls.

In 2018, PCI impacted the lives of 10 million people around the world.

Cover photo by: Gesler Castillo
“When I had two children before this, I had no information about anything. I only knew what elders would tell me. … Now things have changed. I want all women of Bihar to become aware.”

— Khushbu Devi, JEEViKA self-help group member
At least 46 million children in India are stunted because of malnutrition and 25.5 million more suffer from “wasting,” or do not weigh enough for their height (Global Nutrition Report 2018). That’s why PCI partners with the Government of Bihar’s Rural Livelihoods Mission known as JEEViKA, which mobilizes more than 9.2 million women living in the most vulnerable and marginalized communities in India to meet in self-help groups where they learn about microfinance, savings and livelihood activities.

With support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Bank, PCI integrates health, nutrition and sanitation interventions into these groups and related community structures. Community Mobilizers teach group members about exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, proper handwashing and other healthy practices. They also connect members to frontline health workers and services to ensure women and children receive the proper nutrition and support they need during the critical stages between pregnancy and a child’s second birthday.

More than 1.4 million community members participated in peer/self-help groups to improve health and nutrition behaviors.

8,438 women and adolescent girls were reached with cervical cancer prevention and/or screening.

25,314 orphans and vulnerable children received support to improve their health and well-being.

40,728 individuals were tested for HIV and 6,680 HIV+ individuals received HIV treatment.

100% of the 934 expecting mothers who received care at Casa Materna, PCI’s maternal waiting home in Guatemala, had successful births.
“PCI has taught me that women have a lot to contribute, and I have discovered many abilities that I didn’t think I had. Before I thought that I wasn’t capable, but now I am sure that I am.”

— Estela Martín Vicente, PCI program participant
In the department of Huehuetenango in Guatemala’s Western Highlands, a staggering 69% of children under five suffer from chronic malnutrition. PCI’s food security program increased local food access and availability in 76 communities by assisting farmers to diversify and increase their agricultural and livestock production, strengthening women’s business and leadership opportunities and improving access to local markets. Nearly 5,000 families have benefited from increased access to nutritious vegetables and protein.

Estela Martín Vicente began participating in PCI’s program to help feed her two young children with the monthly food ration offered by the program. She joined a Women Empowered (WE) group, along with 15 other women from her community, to steadily build her small savings and gain confidence and courage. She used her savings to invest in a coffee parcel, which serves as a small but important source of income for her family. And she began actively participating in trainings on nutrition and farming and working in the community garden established by her WE group to improve her family’s nutrition.

18,135,324 meals were served to 220,705 primary school children.

1,848 teachers in 525 primary schools received literacy training and education materials, benefiting 133,212 school children.

27,536 farmers, 73% of whom are women, were provided with improved agricultural production practices and technologies.

198,780 people were directly assisted through PCI’s food security programming.
“Because of what communities have learned from [PCI], many lives have been saved. Assets that mitigate the impact of disasters and support agricultural production have been created in 45 communities and natural resources have been managed. As a district, we are confident that communities will be able to sustain what has been created.”

— Shepherd Jere, Department of Disaster Management Affairs, Machinga District
Overcoming Hardship

In southern Malawi, PCI has been working to improve food security among 63,400 vulnerable households that have long battled the devastating impact of drought, floods and other climate-related disasters. To improve how natural resources are used and conserved in these vulnerable areas, PCI introduced communities to techniques to harvest water, minimize runoff, retain soil moisture, irrigate fields and restore lands. Village committees selected by community members decide which interventions they want to implement with technical support from PCI.

In Kadzuwa village, community members had been dealing with severe flooding for more than two decades. Farmers suffered huge losses in crops and livestock, and some villagers even lost their homes. Sanitary facilities were often destroyed, putting the community at a higher risk for diseases like cholera. PCI trained community members in a riverbank stabilization project that resulted in the first year without flooding in 22 years. Farmers were finally able to harvest enough food to support their families.

930,172 people benefited from PCI’s risk reduction and resilience programming globally.

646,632 trees were planted to increase resilience to climate change and to improve livelihoods and the environment.

18,229 hectares of watersheds were rehabilitated or managed to increase resilience to climate change and improve livelihoods.

544,883 people benefited from PCI’s emergency response efforts.
“[We have to] work hard to change the future, because the future belongs to us. ... If we all work hard, we can be whatever we desire to become.”

– Elsie Banda, 13, DREAMS participant/ambassador
Advancing Women & Girls

In Botswana and Malawi, PCI is helping adolescent girls develop into Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) women, so they can forge a path to a brighter future. Through weekly group and individual mentoring sessions and access to health care, social services, education support and post-violence counseling, DREAMS counters risk factors like poverty, gender inequality, sexual violence, orphanhood and a lack of education that contribute to girls’ vulnerability to HIV.

In the Mixco and Villa Nueva municipalities of Guatemala, more than 190 women graduated from a pilot program developed between PCI and Gap Inc. For many women who never had the opportunity to attend school before, it was their first graduation. Participants ranged in age from 18 to 80 years old.

The curriculum that served as the foundation of their weekly meetings is based on a combination of Gap Inc’s P.A.C.E. (Personal Advancement & Career Enhancement) program and PCI’s Women Empowered (WE) methodology. Based upon the positive results of the WE P.A.C.E. Pilot, PCI is expanding P.A.C.E. training to WE groups in northern Guatemala as well as rural Tanzania and Nicaragua, with a target of reaching 11,500 women over the next two years.

7,178 adolescent girls were tested for HIV to identify and link HIV+ individuals to treatment.

85,079 new Women Empowered (WE) groups formed in programs across Asia, Africa and the Americas, totaling 908,298 new members.

$894,242 was saved by 48,000 active WE members in Africa and the Americas to improve their lives, households and communities.

8,825 women received basic business skills training in Africa and the Americas.
In 2018, PCI implemented a range of programs to improve the health and well-being of the most vulnerable populations in San Diego and the border states. Our local programs increased access to prenatal and early childhood care among low-income Hispanic families, improved the socioeconomic empowerment of women through financial literacy and small business classes, and trained Community Health Workers to educate their neighbors about chronic diseases and link patients to health services.

PCI also partnered with the San Diego District Attorney’s Office and the County Office of Education to combat the growing problem of human trafficking. PCI’s Project ROOTS is an after-school program for boys and girls that addresses the root causes of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and unhealthy relationships through group mentoring and social emotional learning. Project ROOTS is now part of the San Diego Trafficking Prevention Collective – a comprehensive trafficking prevention education and youth empowerment program aimed at school children across San Diego.

325,000 individuals in San Diego learned how to take action against human trafficking.

More than 650 low-income women received a well woman visit with a doctor.

More than 600 children under 2 received a well child visit.

More than 700 low-income families now have a medical home.