Dr. Daniela Ligiero  
Executive Director & CEO of Together for Girls

In less than 10 years, the Together for Girls partnership has made monumental progress in achieving a safer world for every child, adolescent and young person.

We are now in the midst of a global awakening to the twin epidemics of violence against children and violence against women. In 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals prioritized addressing violence against children and youth like never before. In the past year, large-scale global movements, such as the #MeToo campaign and major protests from India to Brazil, have helped shatter the silence around gender-based violence and spark collective action.

The time is now, and our partnership is proud to be at the forefront of this movement.

From the leadership of national governments, to the extraordinary technical expertise and mobilization of partners, to the ongoing support of donors, the accomplishments reported here are a tribute to what true partnership can achieve.

Together for Girls continues to grow and evolve with two new partners joining us in 2017: The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children. To date, Together for Girls partners have contributed more than $100 million USD combined toward our collective partnership work.

In 2018, a record four new governments launched Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys, with technical support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as part of the Together for Girls partnership. And over the past two years, four other countries launched new multi-sector national action plans.

On the advocacy front, our audience continues to grow: Overall, the partnership now has more than 13 million social media followers, and we continue to raise awareness among key decision-makers through successful high-level events and our Every Hour Matters global campaign focused on post-rape care.

Although we have made incredible progress, there is still much work to be done. We believe there is strength in numbers: Only by working together, with partners and supporters like you, can we break the cycle of violence and create a safer world for all.

Gary M. Cohen  
Founder of Together for Girls  
Executive Vice President, Global Health, BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company)  
President, BD Foundation

Dr. Daniela Ligiero  
Executive Director & CEO of Together for Girls

2 3
INTRODUCTION

Together for Girls (TfG) is a global public-private partnership that works to end violence against boys and girls, with a special focus on ending sexual violence against girls. Founded in 2009, the TfG partnership brings together national governments, UN entities and private sector organizations working at the intersection of violence against children and violence against women.

THE PARTNERSHIP MODEL

We believe that addressing violence is essential to promoting and achieving individual rights, well-being, gender equality and sustainable development. To do this, the partnership uses a three-pronged model: data, action and advocacy to promote evidence-based solutions, galvanize coordinated response across sectors and raise awareness.

GLOBAL PARTNERS

TfG partners are global leaders in their areas of work and each one contributes unique expertise and skills to strengthen our collective impact at national, regional and global levels. Partners include the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the following organizations:

COUNTRY PARTNERS

National governments lead the process of addressing violence against children and youth, working under the direction of a multi-sector task force of government and civil society members. To better understand the issue, TfG country partners first undertake the Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), a nationally-representative household survey of 13-to-24-year-olds that provides critical, never before available information on violence against boys and girls. The VACS are led by national governments with technical support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the TfG partnership.

Armed with reliable, country-wide data, TfG countries take information from the VACS and use it to drive national and local action tailored to their own contexts and specific challenges.

MAP OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUTH SURVEYS (VACS)

VACS Completed — Implementing Response
- Cambodia
- Haiti
- Kenya
- Lao PDR
- Malawi
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Eswatini
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia

VACS In Progress
- Colombia
- Guatemala
- Kenya*
- Moldova
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- *Second VACS in progress

VACS Completed — Report Forthcoming
- Botswana
- Côte d’Ivoire
- El Salvador
- Honduras
- Lesotho
- *Second VACS in progress

* Status as of November 2018
We cannot begin to address the problem of violence against children and youth without first understanding it. That’s why all of our work is guided by data. We do this primarily through the Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys (VACS), led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as part of the Together for Girls (TfG) partnership in close collaboration with national governments. The VACS are designed to measure the prevalence, past 12-months’ incidence and circumstances surrounding sexual, physical and emotional violence in childhood, adolescence (before age 18) and young adulthood (before age 24). The surveys also identify risk factors, protective factors and consequences of violence.

In 2017, TfG coordinated with CDC to update the VACS core questionnaire to increase alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and comparability with other nationally-representative surveys. Over the past two years, we have seen many exciting developments with the VACS, which now provide reliable data for more than 10% of the world’s population under the age of 25.

The VACS answers key questions that inform programmatic action such as:

- What is the magnitude and consequence of violence?
- What are the connections between violence against women and violence against children?
- Which youth are particularly vulnerable to violence?
- Where is the violence occurring?
- Who are the perpetrators?
- What are specific risk and protective factors?
- Do the victims of such violence have access to and/or use services that can help them recover?

Key highlights include:

- **DATA FOR 13 COUNTRIES:** The partnership now has VACS data for 13 countries in Africa, Southeast Asia and the Caribbean.

- **2 NEW REGIONS:** The partnership continues to expand into new regions, beginning work in Eastern Europe and Latin America. In 2017, El Salvador and Honduras completed data collection for the VACS, under national government leadership with technical assistance from CDC and support from The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Moldova is the first Eastern European country partner.

- **80% OF DREAMS COUNTRIES:** VACS data for 80% of focus countries implementing the PEPFAR DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe women) partnership, focused on preventing HIV among adolescent girls and young women, are complete or are in the process of being completed.

- **2 REPEATING VACS:** Zimbabwe and Kenya will complete a second VACS to monitor change, examine progress and ensure data is current.

- **4 NEW REPORTS:** In 2018, the greatest number of VACS reports were released in the history of the partnership. National governments, working with TfG partners, launched VACS reports in Lao PDR, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia.
Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Colombia joined the partnership and started planning for a VACS in late 2016, with support from USAID, IOM and CDC. In February 2017, TfG, The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and other partners organized the Regional Meeting on the Prevention and Response to Violence in Childhood and Adolescence in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Over 150 individuals, including representatives from the governments of Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia and Paraguay, had the opportunity to discuss the state of violence against children, and violence against women with global and regional experts. TfG partners also introduced the VACS model and the “INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children” framework to key stakeholders in the region.

The nature and consequences of violence in these four countries joining the partnership led to the inclusion of a new module on experiences of migration as well as specific questions on gang violence and weapon carrying. This new data from the VACS will help generate knowledge around violence as a driver of migration and the linkages between household, community or gang violence. Honduras and El Salvador have successfully collected and analyzed VACS data while Guatemala and Colombia are making great progress.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE VACS DATA

Girls and boys experience alarmingly high rates of violence, often with devastating consequences.

% of youth who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Girls and boys often experience multiple forms of violence.

In Nigeria, % of youth who experienced no violence, one type of violence or multiple types of violence prior to age 18

- No violence: 24% (Girls), 21% (Boys)
- Sexual violence only: 4% (Girls), 4% (Boys)
- Physical violence only: 38% (Girls), 32% (Boys)
- Emotional violence only: 7% (Girls), 2% (Boys)
- Two or more types of violence: 2% (Girls), 41% (Boys)

2/3 of those who experience sexual violence before 18 experience multiple incidents.

© UNICEF/Estey
**GIRLS AND VIOLENCE**

**GIRLS EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE**

Age of first incident of physically forced or coerced sex in childhood among those who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

- **Haiti**: 19% 13 & UNDER, 37% 14-15, 44% 16-17
- **Kenya**: 23% 13 & UNDER, 43% 14-15, 34% 16-17
- **Malawi**: 9% 13 & UNDER, 49% 14-15, 42% 16-17
- **Nigeria**: 19% 13 & UNDER, 29% 14-15, 52% 16-17
- **Tanzania**: 10% 13 & UNDER, 51% 14-15, 39% 16-17

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE OFTEN OCCURS IN FAMILIAR LOCATIONS**

Location of first incident of sexual violence experienced by females prior to age 18

- **Home**: 52% Cambodia, 67% Lao PDR, 44% Malawi, 51% Nigeria, 78% Rwanda
- **School**: 12% Cambodia, 26% Lao PDR, 15% Malawi, 15% Nigeria, 9% Rwanda
- **On a road**: 7% Cambodia, 2% Lao PDR, 15% Malawi, 16% Nigeria, 12% Rwanda
- **Someone else's home**: 30% Cambodia, 18% Lao PDR, 30% Malawi, 31% Nigeria, 13% Rwanda

**OVERALL MORE THAN 1/4 OF GIRLS’ FIRST SEXUAL INTERCOURSE WAS PHYSICALLY FORCED OR COERCED**

**FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS, INTIMATE PARTNERS ARE OFTEN PERPETRATORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

- **Rwanda**: 30%
- **Malawi**: 33%
- **Nigeria**: 40%
- **Lao PDR**: 54%
- **Zimbabwe**: 78%

% of females whose first sexual violence incident was perpetrated by a boyfriend/partner, among females who experienced sexual violence before age 18

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESULTS IN HIGH UNINTENDED PREGNANCY AMONG ADOLESCENTS**

% of females who experienced physically forced and/or coerced sex and reported a resulting pregnancy prior to age 18

- **Nigeria**: 15%
- **Kenya**: 30%
- **Malawi**: 33%
- **Zimbabwe**: 48%
- **Rwanda**: 52%

**TOLD SOMEONE ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

- **14%**: Cambodia, 61% Lao PDR, 38% Malawi, 52% Nigeria, 53% Rwanda

% of females who told someone, sought and/or received services for sexual violence, among those who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

**SOUGHT SERVICES FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

- **0%**: Cambodia, 10% Lao PDR, 5% Malawi, 10% Nigeria, 4% Rwanda

**RECEIVED SERVICES FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

- **0%**: Cambodia, 9% Lao PDR, 4% Malawi, 4% Nigeria, 3% Rwanda

**GIRLS WHO EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE ARE NOT GETTING THE SUPPORT AND SERVICES THEY NEED**

Females who told someone, sought and/or received services for sexual violence, among those who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18
BOYS AND VIOLENCE

BOYS EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

Age of first incident of sexual violence among males who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

- LAO PDR: 36% 18% 46%
- MALAWI: 32% 23% 45%
- NIGERIA: 39% 16% 55%
- UGANDA: 25% 24% 31%

Sexual violence often occurs in familiar locations

Location of first incident of sexual violence experienced by males prior to age 18

- Home: 31%
- On a Road: 13%
- School: 13%
- Someone Else’s Home: 13%

Most common perpetrators of first incident of sexual violence among males who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

- Peers (Classmate/Friend): 37%
- Intimate Partners: 15%
- Neighbors: 15%
- Family Members: 14%
- Other: 10%

Sexual violence is linked to negative health outcomes in boys*

- 2/3 of boys who experienced sexual violence report mental distress later in life

Boys who experience sexual violence are not getting the support and services they need

Males who told someone, sought and/or received services for sexual violence, among those who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

- Told Someone About Sexual Violence: 47% 36% 27% 45%
- Sought Services for Sexual Violence: 33% 2% 3% 2%
- Received Services for Sexual Violence: 25% 0% 2% 2%

Boys who experience sexual violence in childhood are more likely to perpetrate violence against a partner*

- 2/3 perpetrated violence against a partner
- 1/3 perpetrated violence against a partner

Boys who experienced sexual violence in childhood

Males who did not experience sexual violence in childhood

*As reported by Malawi males, 18-to-24-year-olds

All data among 18-to-24-year-olds from the VACS, led by CDC as part of the TfG partnership.

24%
Data is only useful if it spurs action. The action pillar of our model focuses on supporting and enabling the leadership of national governments to use the data from the Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys (VACS) to develop policies and programs that can change the lives of generations to come.

Even though our data shows a high prevalence of violence against children and youth around the world, there are effective, evidence-based solutions that can mitigate the impact of violence and address root causes to stop the cycle of violence from repeating. One tool Together for Girls (TfG) uses to help partner countries develop actions is the “INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children” framework. Developed in 2016 with leadership from WHO and other TfG partners including PEPFAR, PAHO, UNICEF, USAID, the Global Partnership to End Violence and CDC, INSPIRE is a groundbreaking collaboration. For the first time, it showcases consensus among key actors around a group of strategies distilled from the best available evidence with the greatest potential to reduce violence against children and youth. In 2018, the “INSPIRE Indicator Guidance and Results Framework” and “INSPIRE Handbook” were launched to further guide this work.

Examples of actions taken by Together for Girls partner countries include:

• In Nigeria, the country identified a need to scale up state-level child protection systems as a particular goal after completing the VACS and finding that only 3.5% of girls and 1.5% of boys who experienced violence received services.

• In Cambodia, the government launched measures to promote the use of positive discipline by parents and in schools after the VACS revealed that 53% of girls and 54% of boys experienced physical violence (read more on page 19).

• In Tanzania, the information gathered in the 2009 VACS helped lead to the development of a 2016 joint action plan on violence against children and violence against women, a first for the partnership (read more on page 20).

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Action: Policy and Program Response

INSPIRE: SEVEN STRATEGIES FOR ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGY</th>
<th>APPROACH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>• Laws banning violent punishment of children by parents, teachers or other caregivers • Laws criminalizing sexual abuse and exploitation of children • Laws that prevent alcohol misuse • Laws limiting youth access to firearms and other weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>• Changing adherence to restrictive and harmful gender and social norms • Community mobilization programs • Bystander interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>• Reducing violence by addressing “hotspots” • Interrupting the spread of violence • Improving the built environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>• Delivered through home visits • Delivered in groups in community settings • Delivered through comprehensive programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>• Cash transfers • Group saving and loans combined with gender equity training • Microfinance combined with gender norm training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>• Counseling and therapeutic approaches • Screening combined with interventions • Treatment programs for juvenile offenders in the criminal justice system • Foster care interventions involving social welfare services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>• Increase enrollment in pre-school, primary and secondary schools • Establish a safe and enabling school environment • Improve children’s knowledge about sexual abuse and how to protect themselves against it • Life and social skills training • Adolescent intimate partner violence prevention programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Together for Girls Receives World Bank Innovation in Preventing Gender-Based Violence Award

TfG won the World Bank Group-Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) 2017 Innovation in Preventing Gender-Based Violence Award, which supports a collaboration between TfG and CDC to pilot a Data-to-Policy Fellowship in Honduras and Violence Against Children and Youth Survey Research Fellowship in Rwanda. The fellowships are part of TfG’s broader effort to build in-country technical capacity for developing evidence-based policies and programs to address violence against children and youth, and support governments undergoing the VACS initiative.

Cambodia Launches National Action Plan

Cambodia’s National Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children, launched in December 2017, was a result of cross-sectoral cooperation involving all government departments, civil society organizations, religious leaders and youth and adolescents.

“No single individual, ministry or sector can face this challenge alone,” said His Excellency Yong Sauth, Cambodian Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, during the launch of the plan. Cambodia’s Action Plan supports efforts to develop and implement effective child- and youth-friendly strategies to prevent violence and improve services for both girls and boys who experience violence.

“Violence against children knows no cultural, gender or geographic borders, and is present in all contexts and in all countries,” said Marta Santos Pais, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (UN SRSG-VAC), at the plan’s launch. “But evidence shows that violence against children is not a fate. It can be effectively prevented through strategic interventions such as those foreseen in Cambodia’s Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children.”

Spotlight: Cambodia

Although corporal punishment is prohibited in Cambodian schools, it is a common practice for teachers to use physical violence as discipline in classrooms. The 2014 Cambodia Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS) shines a light on students’ personal experiences of facing physical violence from teachers in schools. In the survey, both female and male students reported feeling “embarrassed”, ‘sad’, ‘angry’ and ‘scared’. Some students also expressed their disinterest in continuing studies.

In response to the VACS, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) and UNICEF recently launched the country’s first-ever teacher training program on positive discipline that emphasizes a non-violent, child rights-based approach to classroom management.

Teaching staff and the principal at Panha Primary School in the northwestern region of Cambodia are among the first in the nation to participate in the training program.

“I did not realize the significant impact negative words and corporal punishment can have on the classroom environment and students’ learning experiences until I received the training,” said Sin Chek, a Grade 6 teacher at Panha Primary School.

In order to ensure that the school maintains ongoing positive discipline training for teachers, MoEYS and UNICEF provide training guides for deputy school directors and staff from district and provincial education offices. Teachers are also given instruction materials so they can resolve conflicts through open dialogue with students and without the use of violence.

By Hanna Persson and Theavy Leng, UNICEF
Bridging the Gap in Addressing Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children: An Integrated, Innovative Approach in Tanzania

The Tanzania Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS) sparked a series of coordinated, strategic actions to end violence, including the creation of a multi-sector task force and the release of a National Plan of Action in 2013. In 2016, the Government of Tanzania took an additional groundbreaking step, launching the “National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children.” This plan aims to cut violence against women (VAW) and children (VAC) in half by 2022. It also highlights the important link between VAC and VAW, and the cyclical nature of violence. For example, the data shows that child abuse and domestic violence often co-occur and have many similar root causes, including poverty and gender inequality.

“Addressing these issues is a central development goal in its own right and key to achieving other development outcomes for women, their families, communities and the nation,” said Ummy A. Mwalimu, Member of Parliament and Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children.

Spotlight: Tanzania

Upendo A.’s childhood in Mbeya, Tanzania, was not easy. An orphan, she bounced around to different homes, and was raped for the first time at just nine years old. After being severely beaten at age 11, police were called in to intervene. Although Upendo told police the entire story of the abuse, the authorities did not follow up because her family told them it was a “private matter.”

Upendo continued to experience physical and sexual violence until many years later, when she was approached by a peer educator working with the Henry Jackson Foundation, an implementing partner of PEPFAR’s DREAMS partnership, which aims to reduce HIV infections among adolescent girls in sub-Saharan Africa. They asked her to come to the health center to get tested for HIV and STIs where she also received intensive counseling and education. For the first time in her life, Upendo felt empowered. Today, she is employed as a DREAMS Ambassador helping vulnerable girls in similar circumstances receive care.

As a result of the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children, more resources have been mobilized to help adolescent girls like Oliver and Enesi, survivors of childhood violence who now serve as peer educators for the DREAMS-supported Kihumbe Center in Mbeya, Tanzania.

One example of a successful intervention is the Mbeya police gender desks, funded by UNICEF and the Henry Jackson Foundation, which provide a separate, safe, confidential space for victims to report sexual violence and rape. Using a multi-sector network of social welfare teams and hospitals, police follow up to ensure the victim is safe and cared for while the investigation and prosecution is ongoing. As a result of the gender desks, there has been a dramatic increase in reporting and convictions in Mbeya.

As for Upendo, she now regularly volunteers at the police gender desks to ensure girls are connected to the services they need. So far, she has helped 324 girls, and she doesn’t plan on stopping any time soon. “Had I known where to go, I probably would have been rescued earlier,” she said. “My life is what I can use to help others. I have to be strong.”

Empowering Survivors to Help Break the Cycle

DREAMS Ambassador uses her own experience to connect other survivors to critical legal and health services.
Our communications and advocacy work plays a critical role in raising awareness and driving coordinated action, with continued attention to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and mobilizing resources for the work. Together for Girls (TfG) is increasingly recognized as a thought leader and a convener, ensuring that violence against children and youth is on the agenda for key global moments. In the past two years, the TfG partnership’s audience has continued to grow substantially, with a vast global reach of more than 13 million followers combined on social media.

**GLOBAL EVENTS**

TfG works with our partners to identify and leverage key global moments to raise awareness about the problem, advocate for solutions and policy changes and build an engaged cohort of global advocates and influencers. Over the past two years, TfG has hosted high-level events including International Day of the Girl (IDG) with United States and Canadian government leadership in Washington, D.C., convened side events supporting the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, and facilitated events in Brazil for the Sexual Violence Research Institute (SVRI) Forum. Additionally, TfG leadership, including Founder Gary Cohen and CEO & Executive Director Dr. Daniela Ligiero, routinely spoke at high-level events, including the UN General Assembly, ensuring that violence against children and youth was part of these important conversations.

Safe, TfG’s digital storytelling platform, provides a space for TfG partners, youth advocates and survivors to share stories and highlight their incredible work. TfG honors the achievements of the world’s most influential heroes dedicated to ending violence with the #16Heroes campaign. These heroes exemplify how tackling global problems starts with individual action. To date, TfG has honored more than 132 heroes during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

They each have a unique story: From Brisa de Angulo, who used her personal experience to start A Breeze of Hope in Bolivia to ensure other young survivors of sexual violence could access critical services, to Indian journalist Yusuf Omar, who used innovative technology to profile survivors while protecting their anonymity. Read more about these incredible heroes at: togetherforgirls.org/16heroes

Safe also serves as a creative space for youth to express their views through a variety of mediums. In 2017, TfG partnered with the Coalition for Adolescent Girls on the second “World in Your Hands” Art Contest. We received entries from nine countries. In addition to being featured in Safe, the winning artwork was distributed at TfG’s 2017 Commission on the Status of Women event.
Every day, hundreds of millions of people – including many children and youth – experience sexual violence, yet very few survivors ever tell anyone about their experience or access services (including mental health care) to support their healing process. Many do not understand the importance of these services or the fact that, after rape, every hour matters in preventing potentially lifelong health problems. That’s why the Every Hour Matters (EHM) campaign was launched in 2016 to raise awareness about the importance of quickly accessing post-rape care and call on national and community leaders to ensure comprehensive services are widely available. EHM resources include fact sheets, infographics and policy briefs available in English, Spanish, French and Swahili.

Spotlight

EVERY HOUR MATTERS

Do You Know Why Every Hour Matters After Rape?

Every hour matters after rape to prevent many lifelong physical and mental health consequences. Here’s what you need to know about the short window of time available to access critical services:

72 HOURS:
- Take post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) within 72 hours of a rape for HIV prevention. After 72 hours, HIV testing is still important, as is appropriate treatment, counseling, and support.

120 HOURS:
- Take emergency contraception within 120 hours for pregnancy prevention.

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:
- Get a physical examination to identify and treat injuries.
- Take medications to prevent other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- Get a physical examination to identify and treat injuries.
- You may be referred to other services, including the police, legal service providers, and case managers.

ANYTIME:
- Counseling and other psychosocial support can help you work through trauma.

EHM partners include:
- Women Deliver
- The Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health
- The Global Women’s Institute (GWI) at the George Washington University
- CARE
- Save the Children
- Population Services International (PSI)
- Child Helpline International
- Rise Up
- SafeTrek
- Jhpiego
- Pathfinder International

In 2018, TfG launched the Every Hour Matters Youth Engagement Toolkit, a set of resources guiding youth-led organizations in delivering information on post-rape care. The toolkit was developed by youth, for youth, with the assistance of 10 EHM Youth Champions from Uganda and Kenya, who piloted the toolkit in 2017. TfG is currently working with the Champions to disseminate the toolkit in Uganda and Kenya and also developed a replication guide for additional countries.

The Champions are extraordinary young people working for youth-led organizations dedicated to violence prevention and response, sexual and reproductive health, and girls’ empowerment.

MEET THE EHM YOUTH CHAMPIONS

Christine Adero
Program Officer
Girl Child Network Uganda

“My inspiration dates back to my childhood, when I witnessed my own sister suffer from the effects of sexual violence – giving birth at 12 years old, dropping out of school and suffering stigma and discrimination. After witnessing both the physical and psychological violence, coupled with stigma and discrimination undergone by my elder sister and many other adolescent girls I have met, I decided to take action to stop this suffering. Young people are energetic, enthusiastic and willing to directly engage in opportunities to make change. My work has provided a platform for adolescents and young people in Uganda to participate and shape policy. Every time I see young people engage and share their views in policy processes, I am convinced that we are on the right path.”

Patrick Mwesigye
Founder and Team Leader, Uganda Youth and Adolescents Health Forum

“My inspiration dates back to my childhood, when I witnessed my own sister suffer from the effects of sexual violence – giving birth at 12 years old, dropping out of school and suffering stigma and discrimination. After witnessing both the physical and psychological violence, coupled with stigma and discrimination undergone by my elder sister and many other adolescent girls I have met, I decided to take action to stop this suffering. Young people are energetic, enthusiastic and willing to directly engage in opportunities to make change. My work has provided a platform for adolescents and young people in Uganda to participate and shape policy. Every time I see young people engage and share their views in policy processes, I am convinced that we are on the right path.”

Beatrice Muema
Head of Programs
Childline Kenya

“Young people learn best from each other. When they are involved in empowerment and violence prevention work, their message will sink deeper if they hear it from their peers as opposed to from an adult. If they are involved in girls or youth empowerment then they will participate better in their own protection and the protection of others.”
The TfG model is designed to promote coordination and leverage resources from partner organizations, including government, United Nations and private sector entities, as well as other generous donors. Funding is channeled through several mechanisms, depending on which activities the funds are intended to support. The majority of the funds are transferred internally within partner organizations – and are accounted for through their audited financial statements – or partnership work is undertaken directly by partners. In addition, the CDC Foundation, the United Nations Foundation and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF have received and administered funds that support partnership activities.

Together for Girls, Inc. – a 501(c)(3) entity – was also established to enable funding for the TfG partnership and secretariat from individuals and organizations as well as to reduce costs associated with the use of fiduciary and fiscal agents. Together for Girls, Inc. is governed by a board of directors, which has fiduciary responsibility for the 501(c)(3) entity and supports its fundraising and communications efforts. Together for Girls, Inc. is responsible for all secretariat operating costs, including staffing. Together for Girls, Inc.’s audited financial statements may be found at togetherforgirls.org/financials.

For 2016-2017, Together for Girls’ largest donors and implementing partners were PEPFAR, USAID, UNICEF, the Government of Canada, CDC, Oak Foundation and BD. These partners have largely funded our country partners’ survey, policy and program response work, which represent the majority of the partnership’s investments. The complete list of donors to the partnership can be seen on page 29.
The Together for Girls partnership has made incredible progress in the past two years. This progress is made possible by our donors, partners and supporters.

**MAJOR DONORS 2016-2017**
Katya Andresen
Anonymous Donor 1
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BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company)
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Ignite Philanthropy: Inspiring the End to Violence Against Girls and Boys
Oak Foundation
UNAIDS
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
UN Women
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)
World Bank Group/Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)

**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONS**
BD
CDC
Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children
Government of Canada
Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)
UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (UN SRSG-VAC)
Together for Girls Secretariat
UNAIDS
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
UNICEF
UN Women
USAID
Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Health Diplomacy
World Health Organization (WHO)
One individual or sector alone cannot end violence. Partnership is critical to a future free from violence, and we need you to be part of it.

Together, we can create a safer world for every child, adolescent and young person.

To learn more and find out how to get involved, visit us at togetherforgirls.org