



FUND FOR GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Annual Report
2024-2025



Strengthening Our Strategy

In this tumultuous moment of rising repression and shrinking civic space, our strategy centers on building the long-term collective power of people experiencing injustice. Throughout this report, we share highlights demonstrating how our approach is driving change and providing a source of stability and solidarity for activists around the world.

Resourcing Human Rights Activism in Closed Spaces

Our ability to deliver long-term funding in repressive places enables activists to hold the line against authoritarianism and seize strategic opportunities to push for justice—from supporting families of victims of state-sponsored violence achieving the arrest of former president Rodrigo Duterte in the Philippines to ensuring grassroots groups could reemerge in Syria following the fall of the Assad regime.

Investing in Systemic Change

By supporting groups addressing root causes of oppression and expanding activist networks across issues, geographies, and generations, we work to drive long-term, structural change. This means resourcing and connecting groups who are often underfunded, such as young people tackling climate change and its effects in Africa, and convening defenders from across regions to develop strategies for protecting human rights activism from threats to safety and criminalization.

Centering Lived Experience

Whether we are supporting communities in asserting their rights with mining companies to protect natural resources and their homes or women and LGBTQ+ people in overturning systemic discrimination, we focus on groups led by those most affected by rights abuses. By ensuring they have the resources and connections to amplify their voices and scale grassroots efforts, we fortify sustainable movements that turn bold ideas into transformational change.



\$15M
DELIVERED

TO



527
GRANTEE
PARTNERS

IN



68
COUNTRIES

A Reflection from Our President and CEO



In a year marked by crisis and adversity, our community bolstered resolve and cultivated hope.

This past year has seen grassroots activists in much of the world confront enormous challenges: emboldened authoritarian leaders, crackdowns on those protesting genocide or climate inaction, and devastating funding cuts. The Fund for Global Human Rights (FGHR) and our supporters proudly stood behind activists as they tackled injustices in their own societies.

We drew strength and motivation from the courage of these diverse human rights defenders: migrants, LGBTQ+ people, women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and many others. We believe that, with trust and the right resources, their collective power can transform our world.

This belief is built on more than 20 years' experience navigating barriers to provide activists in repressive environments with the support they need. To guide our next five years, and building on all our achievements, we sharpened our focus to ensure that we remain a true partner to grassroots activists—one that is flexible, continuously learning, strategic, and ready to stay the course, no matter the challenges.

We are grateful that you are with us. Together, we are investing in hope, in places where social justice movements are breaking through and where activism remains a guiding light against the darkness of repression.

Thank you for your commitment, your trust, and your belief in the power of human rights activism.

Warmly,

Gabriela Bucher
President and CEO

The Power of Activism

This year, your support helped activists keep going when it mattered most. Strengthened by FGHR’s flexible funding, strategic support, and community, activists around the world continued to push for justice and equality. Here, we share several critical moments of progress and human rights wins that demonstrate the power of your solidarity.

Staying the Course for Justice in the Philippines

Years of steadfast funding enabled Filipino activists to support the families whose loved ones were killed during former president Rodrigo Duterte’s brutal anti-drug campaign, which claimed up to 30,000 lives. Despite relentless persecution, grantee partners worked with victims’ families to seek justice. In March 2025, Duterte’s arrest on an ICC warrant demonstrated how long-term investment can empower activists to be ready when opportunity arises.



Photo: Families of victims of Duterte’s “war on drugs” hold a demonstration in The Hague, Netherlands.

Fostering Hope and Change in Syria

Since 2021, we’ve helped Syrian grassroots groups persist in standing up for their communities. Our flexible, long-term approach helped activists build networks and respond to the needs of fractured communities amid civil war. This includes Hope Makers (HOPEM), a group founded after the fall of ISIS in Raqqa to support war victims and champion disability rights, including those injured during the conflict. When the Assad regime fell, HOPEM mobilized to support returning refugees and prevent further violence.

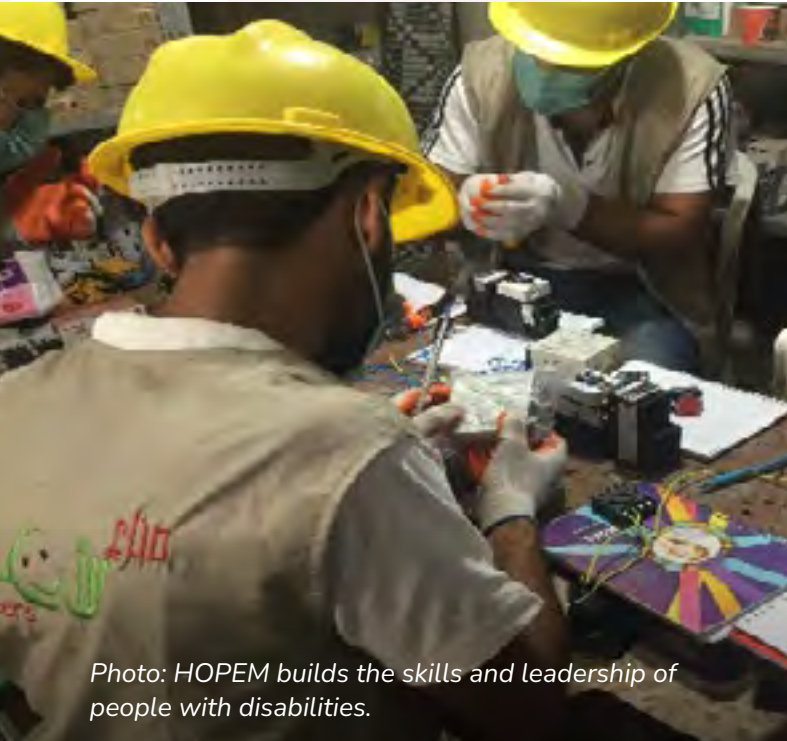


Photo: HOPEM builds the skills and leadership of people with disabilities.

Propelling Youth Climate Leadership in Africa

In Africa, communities find themselves on the front lines of climate change, though they bear the least responsibility. The Legal Empowerment Fund (LEF) partnered with FGHR’s Children and Youth Rights Program (CYP) to fund scoping studies on the opportunities and challenges young climate activists face in six countries—Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Uganda—and fund \$1 million in grants to 41 youth-led groups. The activists will harness the power of youth mobilization and legal empowerment to advance community-led responses to the climate crisis.



Photo: Young activists at the LEF-CYP Climate Justice Fund launch in Uganda.

Protecting Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon

When air strikes hit Lebanon in October 2024, FGHR grantee partners such as Anti-Racism Movement and Eгна Legna became lifelines for thousands of migrant domestic workers abandoned by employers and turned away from shelters. With \$50,000 in emergency support from FGHR’s community, the groups helped workers and families find shelter, distribute food and other aid, and develop digital maps to help them secure medical care. They continue advocating for workers who have lost homes or livelihoods and for reforms to the kafala system that leaves them at the mercy of employers with no protection from abuse.

Pushing Back on Criminalization of Migrants' Rights Activism

As more governments scapegoat migrants and pursue anti-immigrant policies, they are using digital surveillance and threats of criminalization to deter activists. In response, FGHR has invested in cross-regional and cross-movement work to protect migrants and those who stand up for them. For example, in December 2024, our Enabling Environment for Human Rights Defenders and People on the Move Programs brought together migrants' rights activists from Europe, North Africa, and the Americas. Drawing on research from grantee partner Statewatch, groups connected with each other and experts to explore the links between anti-migrant rhetoric, state misuse of security policies, and closing civic space and to share strategies.

Helping Prevent Hunger in Myanmar

In early 2025, funding freezes threatened food aid and basic services for over 100,000 refugees in displacement camps along the Myanmar-Thai border, with monthly rations dropping from \$7 to just \$2.50 per adult. FGHR's flexible support enabled grantee partner Karen Women's Organization (KWO) not only to rapidly reallocate funds to meet urgent needs, but also to secure a critical policy shift that expanded refugees' legal access to employment. We also raised an additional \$20,000 in emergency aid.



Photo: : An activist with KWO meets with women in a displacement camp in Myanmar.

Investing in Community-Led Climate Solutions in India

Driven by climate change, earlier and more intense heat waves endanger India's informal, agricultural, and construction workers' health and livelihoods. In Delhi, FGHR's support enabled a labor rights group to conduct research and advocate for updated policies and protections addressing the effects of heat waves on frontline workers. As temperatures soared in early spring 2025, the group was able to identify immediate actions that employers should take and engage with the local government to alert factories and construction sites on how to mitigate risks for workers. They continue advocating for updates and enforcement of occupational safety and health hazard policies.



Photo: Philippe Ruvunangiza accepts the 2024 Civil Courage Prize (Credit: Train Foundation)

Advancing Climate Justice in the DRC

In October 2024, Philippe Ruvunangiza, director of grantee partner BEST, was awarded the 2024 Civil Courage Prize by the Train Foundation for promoting the rights of mining-affected communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. FGHR's support has helped fortify a movement of Congolese groups working to strengthen implementation of the 2018 mining code and end human rights abuses by corporate and state actors. This year alone, the coalition, which also includes fellow grantee partners AFREWATCH and ACIDH, trained communities to advocate with mining companies, exposed mismanagement of profits intended for miners and their villages, and protected investigators examining whether corporations are meeting environmental and workers' rights commitments.

Supporting Activists' Safety in Latin America

In Latin America, where human rights defenders face criminalization and threats to their lives, FGHR supported a network of grantee partners furthering community-led protection of activists and their work. Building on years of partnership with grassroots groups throughout Central America, we funded groups strengthening security protocols, furnishing legal assistance to activists facing detention, and providing comprehensive support for activists forced into exile. In May 2025, we brought together 17 groups from across the region advocating on issues ranging from corruption to gender justice and Indigenous peoples' land rights; nearly half of the groups present reported experiencing a high risk of threats. The groups worked to analyze dangers, exchange strategies, and forge connections to continue collaborating.

Our Supporters

Your commitment keeps hope alive. More than ever, your support gives activists the resources they need to persevere— long-term flexible funding, hands-on strategic support, and emergency assistance. Because of you, grassroots leaders continue to stand strong for justice and equality. Thank you for investing in their power to create change and being part of our movement.

Thank you to the following foundation, government, and corporate supporters who enabled frontline activists to navigate complex barriers and build powerful movements for change this year.

| | |
|---|--|
| 11th Hour Project/The Schmidt Family Foundation | Human Capability Foundation |
| Alan and Babette Sainsbury Charitable Fund | Irene M. Staehelin Foundation |
| Apple Inc. | Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation |
| Capcon Foundation | Luminate |
| Charles Stewart Mott Foundation | Moriah Fund |
| Choose Love | Namati |
| Clooney Foundation for Justice | Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| Comic Relief | Oak Foundation |
| David and Lucile Packard Foundation | Open Society Foundations |
| Dutch Postcode Lottery | Overbrook Foundation |
| European Commission | Players of People's Postcode Lottery |
| Fondation Chanel | Rockefeller Brothers Fund |
| Fondation de France | Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency |
| Ford Foundation | WE Trust |
| Foundation for a Just Society | Wellspring Philanthropic Fund |
| Global Affairs Canada | William and Flora Hewlett Foundation |
| Hao Ran Foundation | |



GLOBAL ACTIVIST ALLIANCE

Thank you to the Global Activist Alliance, our community whose dedication to human rights helps activists resist repression and bring justice and equality to their communities.

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Anonymous | Matt Glickman and Susie Hwang Fund | Kay Noel |
| Joy and Jon Alferness | Hall Family Giving Fund | Elaine Nonneman |
| Jean Bills | Bluma Herman | Parimal Family Charitable Fund |
| Alexandra Bilodeau | Hinerfeld-Jaskowiak Giving Fund | Rajan-Young Family Fund |
| Blue Oak Foundation | Syed Hoda | Michael Reid |
| Blue Sky Social Justice Fund | Independent Franchise Partners (IFP) | Norman R. Rogers |
| Johanna Brenner | The Kane Family Fund | Shira Saperstein and Mark Rovner |
| Gabriela Bucher | Dan Kaslow | Schmidt Family Foundation |
| Chris Canavan | Jeff Klein | Emily Scott |
| Chhaya and Amar Justice Fund | David Lapello | Spencer Family Foundation |
| Christine and Douglas Rohde Fund | The Laurie Campbell Foundation | The Spottiswoode Fund |
| The Cumaresan/Muttulingam Charitable Fund | Joan Lund and Eugene Pizzo | The Estate of Mary Ann Stein |
| Jeremy Cusimano | Joshua Mailman and Monica Winsor | The Swig Foundation |
| Kalvinder Dhillon | Anish Malhotra | Trellis Charitable Fund |
| Fledgling Fund | Gina Maya and Richard Capelouto | William Vanderson |
| Constance T. Fong | Richard Moltzen | Joan Vermeulen |
| Frank Yellin and Mark R. Showalter Philanthropic Fund | Nehal and Jenny Raj Fund | Charles Weedon and Susan Devokaitis |
| French American Charitable Trust | | Wengert Family Fund |
| Fuller Family Charitable Trust | | |

Our Financials

We honor your generosity with a commitment to transparency and responsible stewardship of every gift. This year, we were delighted to be once again given the highest rating by both Candid and Charity Navigator.

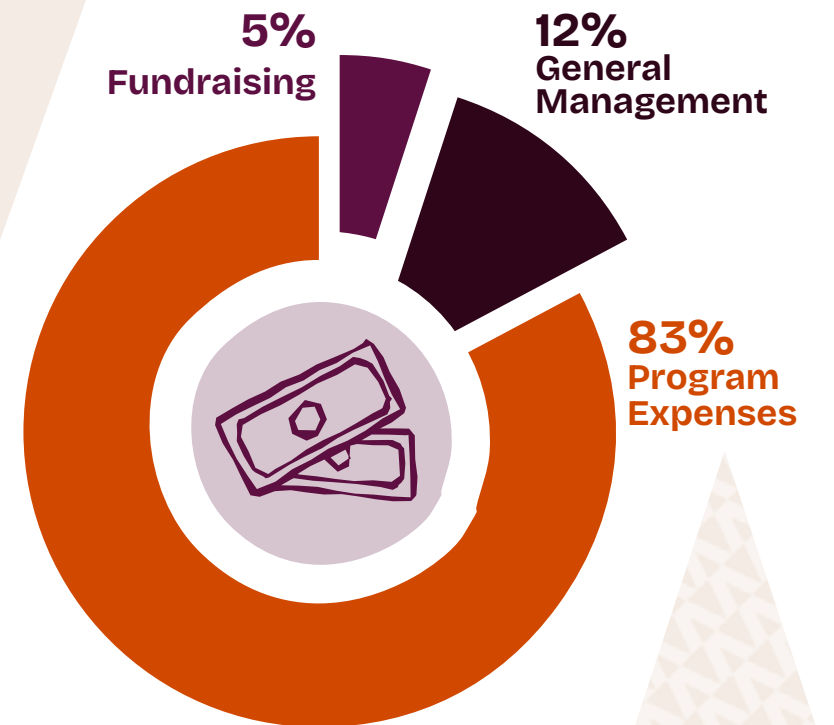
| Support and Revenues | 2024/25 |
|--|---------------------|
| In Year Contributions | |
| Institutional Contributions | \$18,913,166 |
| Individual Contributions | \$2,141,961 |
| Other Income | \$754,842 |
| Total Support and Revenues | \$21,809,969 |
| Expenses | |
| Program Services | |
| Grants Awarded | \$16,923,386 |
| Other Program Expenses | \$4,574,857 |
| Total Program Services | \$21,498,243 |
| Management and General | \$3,224,703 |
| Fundraising | \$1,308,557 |
| Total Expenses | \$26,031,503 |
| Change in Net Assets (Unrestricted) | -\$4,098,441 |
| Unrestricted Net Assets, Beginning of the Year | \$5,307,365 |
| Board Designated Operating Reserve | \$4,400,000 |
| Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year | \$1,208,924 |
| Change In Net Assets (With Restriction) | -\$123,093 |
| Restricted Net Assets, Beginning of Year | \$19,350,555 |
| Restricted Net Assets, End of Year | \$19,227,462 |
| Total Net Assets, End of Year | \$24,836,386 |

US and UK Entities Consolidated Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2025



Photo: Young activists strategize at the LEF-CYP Climate Justice Fund launch.

Our Expenses



For our latest financial information and regulatory filings, please visit: fundhumanrights.org/who-we-are/our-financials/

Cover photo: In El Salvador, LGBTQ+ activists and allies march for equality; Two activists in Myanmar work to support communities fighting land grabs; Defenders Coalition works to connect and support activists in Kenya protecting civic space; In Mexico, Elementa supports families in areas controlled by cartels in seeking justice for disappeared relatives; With support from RESBAK, families of victims of Duterte's "war on drugs" demonstrate in The Hague, Netherlands; Young people attend Nagrik Shala, a school in India provides training on constitutional rights and public services.

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The Fund for Global Human Rights is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization (Federal Tax ID 75-3029336) and a UK registered charity (Charity Number 1151043 and Company Number 08357053). The UK organization has NGOsource Equivalency Determination on file.