

## Who We Are

Fistula Foundation is the global leader in treating fistula and other childbirth injuries that leave women incontinent, ashamed, and—all too often—shunned by their communities. We believe that no woman should lead a life of misery simply for trying to bring a child into the world.

Since 2009, our organization has provided more than 90,000 life-transforming surgeries to women across sub-Saharan Africa and Asia.

We are an organization built and led by women, and we empower local leaders in all countries where we operate.



*Andrew Kelvin Rutto (right), a fistula nurse at our partner Gynocare Women's and Fistula Hospital in Eldoret, Kenya, interacts with a fistula patient.*

## What We Do

Obstetric fistula is a childbirth injury that occurs when a woman has a prolonged, obstructed labor but is unable to access emergency obstetric care, such as a C-section. As a result, the woman can develop a fistula—a hole between her vagina and her bladder or rectum. If left untreated, a fistula will cause a woman to leak urine, stool, or both for the rest of her life.

At least one million women suffer needlessly from this devastating condition across sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. Fistula is curable through a surgery that succeeds in restoring a woman's health and hope in the vast majority of cases.

We partner with local teams in more than 30 countries to find women in need of fistula repair surgery, provide care free of charge, and support women's reintegration into society.

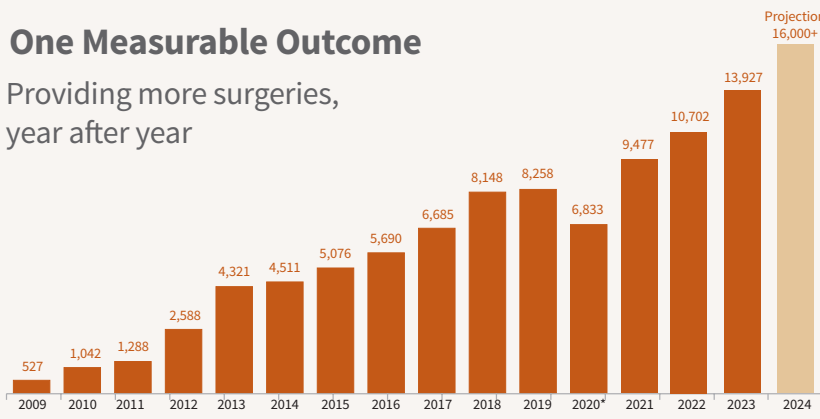
## How We Work

We pursue a dual strategy to end the suffering of women with childbirth injuries.

- First, we partner with local community organizations, hospitals, and surgical teams to identify and treat women with fistula.
- Second, under our Fistula Foundation Treatment Network model, we build comprehensive treatment networks that work on a country-by-country basis to provide integrated outreach, training, and reintegration services.

### One Measurable Outcome

Providing more surgeries, year after year



\* In 2020, surgical output was dramatically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Our Impact Since 2009

**90,000+**  
surgeries provided to women in need

**35**  
countries served in Africa and Asia

**140+**  
partner hospitals and community-based organizations supported

**4**  
treatment networks built—in Kenya, Zambia, the DRC and Tanzania

