

**“BELOVED, I PRAY THAT
YOU MAY PROSPER IN
ALL THINGS AND BE IN
HEALTH, JUST AS YOUR
SOUL PROSPERS.”**

3 John 1:2



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**WE ARE LINKS
WE ARE IN IT TOGETHER**

2023

“BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.”

Acts 1:8



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Welcome to our 2023 magazine where we will be reviewing the amazing faithfulness of God, as He has taken us through another year of connecting people, confronting poverty and creating potential!

In 2023 we have had the privilege of joining with amazing partners across the globe, impacting untold thousands of lives! Together we have been able to empower through raining, set-up projects and businesses to release people from the grip of poverty, ensure life-saving healthcare and provide much-needed aid and relief in extremely difficult circumstances. 2023 saw appeals around fighting injustice and raising up World Changers, and we are forever grateful for all those who have joined this adventure with us! None of what Links does would be possible without you, our Links family, standing with us in love, prayer and support, through your financial investments into God's Kingdom being advanced among the nations. On behalf of every life changed and community transformed we offer our deepest thanks!

Throughout this magazine you will also read about our vision and plans for 2024, which we are declaring will be a 'Year of Doors

of Breakthrough' – not only for us in Links and our partners around the world, but also for you as you stand with us. God's word says in Proverbs 11:25 that, 'A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed' and, again in response to generosity in 2 Corinthians 9:11, 'You will be enriched in every way, so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.'

We hope that, as you read, you will feel as inspired as we do, seeing the impact being made around the world and knowing that you have been a part in making history throughout 2023. We really do believe that we are in this together and, as we all step up to do our part, God releases His Shalom, His wholeness and healing over all of us.

THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US AND HERE'S TO AN EVEN GREATER 2024

We are in this together!

Joe Gisbey
CEO



A YEAR OF DOORS OF BREAKTHROUGH

So David went to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, "As waters break out, the Lord has broken out against my enemies before me." So that place was called 'Baal Perazim'.

- 2 Samuel 5:20

Time for 'Breakthrough'

I love this time of year; I love the challenge of the impending new year, new obstacles and new opportunities that come with this season of transition from one season to another. I am particularly excited for this year, as, prophetically, I strongly believe that it is going to be a year of breakthrough for us and for the Church around the world!

A breakthrough is 'a dramatic act or instance of moving through or beyond an obstacle'. Really, everything that we enjoy or benefit from in life has, in some way, come as a result of either one or a series of breakthrough moments, where someone or something moved beyond an obstacle or barrier.

We are creatures of breakthrough, called to reflect our God who goes from glory to glory.

Breakthrough or breakdown

On the flip side of this, however, the enemy of our souls seeks to do everything he can to stop us in our tracks and thwart God's plan for us to cover the earth with His glory. Poverty is in many ways rooted in that Genesis moment, where our human trend to breakdown, rather than breakthrough, all began. In Links we are committed to stand with those reversing the trend.

Baal Perazim - The Lord of Breakthroughs

In 2 Samuel 5 we see the story of Israel's newly appointed King, David, facing an all-out attack from the Philistines. However, the God of breakthrough turns this opposition into an opportunity. First David inquires of God and then responds in obedience and God gives him victory over his enemy. He names that place, 'The Lord of Breakthroughs'.



Prophetically, I believe that this is a year of specific doors of breakthrough. The Jewish New Year of 5784 began at the end of September 23. As many will know, Hebrew (and Greek also) are alpha numeric and, in Jewish thinking, words have values and numbers have meanings. 80 = pey, which in Hebrew means both declaration and breakthrough; 4 = dalet which, amongst other things, means 'doors' or 'transition'. Interestingly the previous decade, the 70s = ayin which, in Hebrew, means vision, envisioning etc. I believe God is saying that it is time to declare and

see worked out all that God has been envisioning in His people over the previous decade.

We are choosing to believe, for us and our partners around the world, that this is a year that together we will see God opening doors and bringing breakthrough! We pray and believe this also for you, our amazing Links family. None of what we do would be possible without your love, prayers and investment into our work. On behalf of all those being impacted around the world we offer our deepest thanks. This 2024 let's join together, rise up, breakthrough and take spiritual territory, as we connect people, confront poverty and create potential!

Joe Gisbey

CEO

"KEEP ASKING, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; KEEP SEEKING, AND YOU WILL FIND; KEEP KNOCKING, AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED TO YOU. FOR EVERYONE WHO KEEPS ASKING RECEIVES; HE WHO KEEPS SEEKING FINDS; AND TO HIM WHO KEEPS KNOCKING, THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED."

Matt 7:7-8



AFRICA UPDATE

What does togetherness look like for you? The Hebrew word for one 'echad', which is used to describe God, signifies more than just a digit, it demonstrates a unit moving together with one purpose and belief. In 2023 we've seen a great number of 'echad' moments with our connections and partners across Africa.

One highlight for me was seeing our six Malawian partners learning from one another their successes and challenges of solar irrigation projects that generate income for their community programmes. Another highlight was being part of church leaders' conferences agreeing, in spirit and action, that unity is vital to seeing God's Kingdom expand and reach the continent's most vulnerable.



The world economic and climate crises have hit the areas our partners work in hard. The rising inflation, currency devaluation, and natural disasters, like Cyclone Freddy, have meant Links and our partners have had to be as innovative as ever to manage and meet the needs of the poor. Our partners continue to show such resolve, bouncing back from disaster, continuing to assist hundreds of households through MED, deliver community healthcare to new unreached groups of society, and being Jesus' hands and feet in the midst of chaos.

Throughout 2023, the Links Africa office has served and carried out training with 12 partner organisations across Kenya, Zambia, Malawi and Uganda. And in 2024 we are excited to move forward with developing our regional hub in Kenya. This new hub will create more partnerships within East Africa, become a site of excellence to showcase Links' core areas, provide locally sourced income for our involvement on

the continent and provide an administrative centre to serve our Africa partners more effectively. We are really excited with the expansion God is doing for this region and believe it will even impact our global network of partners. Let there be more 'echad' moments ahead!

Sam Walker

Africa Region Coordinator



USA UPDATE

'ALIVE and ACTIVE' are biblical truths we see in the work of Links each and every day. We have seen God move in mighty ways this year. His Word is alive, and it is actively making a difference in the lives of those in desperate need.

RELIEF WORK in Malawi, Sudan, India, Turkey and Syria was a big focus this year. We served refugees with no country to call their own. We responded to the needs of persecuted families who were left homeless. We provided survival supplies, medical attention and grief counselling to those who had been injured or lost loved ones. We estimate that these relief efforts directly impacted over 15,000 lives in 2023.

As our offices collaborate together, we have seen the impact of our Links Family literally take 'good news to the poor' in very tangible ways.



CLEAN WATER in Zambia, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama, Malawi and Pakistan was provided to save lives, increase health and hygiene and open doors to the Gospel.



LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Through technology, we were able to provide Youth Leadership training to help reach the next generation. Our ongoing 'Link de Lideres' pastor and mission worker training were provided to our partners in Latin America.

TEAMS & TRIPS

In the summer, we took an amazing team to Nicaragua for the first time since the pandemic. Our team served in powerful ways including constructing beds for those who have never had one, buying mattresses to lift them off of dirt floors, providing food essentials, giving water filters to local families and training leaders. Together, we are 'setting the oppressed free' from sickness and death.

PEOPLE & PROJECTS

Through the generosity of our Links Family, and the tireless work of our partners in the nations, we have been a part of starting several new churches in India, Pakistan, and El Salvador as well as adding 5 new partners in 4 different countries. Through a partner in



Pakistan, we were able to purchase the freedom of an enslaved widow and help her find sustainable income to taste freedom for the first time in 10 years. This was quite literally helping to 'proclaim freedom for the prisoners'.

As we give God thanks and glory for our efforts in 2023, we look forward to continuing our work into 2024. We will continue to love God's people, to confront more poverty, create more potential, and leave a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve.

Jason Bollinger
CEO, Links USA

FIND OUT MORE > WWW.LINKSINTLUSA.ORG

APPEALS & RELIEF



COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

- ♥ 10 goats were given
- ♥ 10,500 fruit trees planted
- ♥ 20 hectares of community land irrigated
- ♥ 7 beehives started
- ♥ 1 community tearoom set up
- ♥ 95 community healthcare volunteers trained
- ♥ 230 water filters distributed
- ♥ 300 mosquito nets
- ♥ Medical camps served **500 families**

BUSINESS AND EDUCATION

- ♥ 52 micro-enterprise committee members trained
- ♥ 50 new micro-enterprise development businesses started
- ♥ 300 micro-enterprise development businesses topped up and growing
- ♥ 150 women/girls empowered through education or vocational programmes



RELIEF

- ♥ 7,280 food packages/emergency meals provided
- ♥ 608 families received help with shelter/house repair
- ♥ 645 people received emergency household items
- ♥ 1,215 blankets distributed
- ♥ 164 refugees received help
- ♥ 500 children received clothes



- ♥ 500 football kits given away
- ♥ 300 milk powder packs for babies
- ♥ 500 scholarships for family care
- ♥ Sent money to **free** an enslaved family

FAITH AND LEADERSHIP

- ♥ 11 partner consultancy visits
- ♥ Trained 80 partner organisation leaders
- ♥ Trained 350 church leaders
- ♥ Supported 600 children
- ♥ Over the past two years, 15 new churches have begun in communities we were able to serve
- ♥ Washed feet and distributed new shoes to over 200 children and several adults
- ♥ Home visits and prayer for families in need
- ♥ Food and ministry to the elderly

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)



ACT4YOU

In just over 20 years, our Act4You accounts have come and gone, but overall have grown from a handful of supported projects to around 130 today.



129

Act4You accounts

32+

Countries reached

106

Account holders

4

Business accounts

123

Run by individuals

2

Church accounts

- On average we arrange about 60-90 transfers per month for our Act4You family of which around 60% will be to overseas accounts and the remainder to UK accounts.
- 34 payments are sent out each month on a regular basis; the rest come in as ad hoc requests.
- In 2023 individual transfers carried out ranged from just £15 to £27,000!
- The type of projects supported by our Act4You family: General Mission, Personal Support for Christian Workers, Education, Children, Widows and Orphans, Refugees and Vulnerable People, Healthcare, Building, Agriculture, Teaching, Worship, Churches.

'Since I started working for Links International in 2005, part of my role has always been to manage the Act4You accounts, but I officially gained the title of Act4You Manager in 2019. I love working with our Act4You family across the world – such a wonderful variety of individuals, projects and passions – building relationships and helping them, in some small way, to fulfil their own dreams to change the world.'

Lynda Hubbard

Act4You Manager



'I am so thankful for the administrative help and support provided by Links. Links is a major part of what I do. Without them it would be very difficult to carry out the impactful work that we do. It is a life saver!'

Nigeria

'The partnership with Links' Act4You has been a real answered prayer for us. We are a small mission and do not have the people or time to set up as a UK charity. Links provides a way that the funds can be donated and accounted for in a trusted way. We are grateful.'

The Philippines

'We are grateful for the opportunity Links offers to channel donations for projects and church initiatives in a way that reassures donors.'

Mexico

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR ACT4YOU SERVICE HERE

TRIPS & STORIES



MALAWI



Since its beginning Bunches has always wanted to be a business that makes a positive impact on the world, giving from its profits to make a difference to people's lives. Links and our partners are so blessed to have an ongoing connection and support from Bunches.

In August Bunches' directors, Dan and Dani Turner and their three daughters, came to see the work of our Malawian partners where Bunches' support has made the greatest impact, particularly in helping set up larger income-generating projects in the last few years.

During their week in the warm heart of Africa they visited five partners focusing on multiple solar irrigation projects and MED schemes. The impact of these projects is reaching hundreds of vulnerable and poor households across Malawi.

THAILAND



Joe Gisbey, his son Zion and Sam Walker spent some time in Thailand visiting our longstanding partners HANDS. HANDS are doing so much amazing work including sensitisation to prevent trafficking, supporting families, running a children's home and community centre and managing agricultural projects.

During their trip they were able to visit a number of families with members who have additional needs.

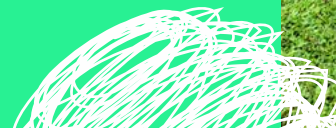
Whilst they were there, they were able to find the perfect wheelchair for a 12-year-old boy with cerebral palsy. It was such an amazing example of God's timing!

Having Sam there as a trained physiotherapist was invaluable as he was able to show the family exactly how to use the new chair to best support and develop the child's muscles as he continues to grow.

It was beautiful seeing the joy this brought!
Thank you Jesus!

READ ABOUT MORE OF OUR 2023 TRIPS HERE

We want to hear about what countries are on your heart. Where would you like to go? How do you want to adventure with us in 2024? Get in contact and we can chat with you further about upcoming trips!



'ARISE, SHINE, FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD RISES UPON YOU. SEE, DARKNESS COVERS THE EARTH AND THICK DARKNESS IS OVER THE PEOPLES, BUT THE LORD RISES UPON YOU AND HIS GLORY APPEARS OVER YOU.'

Isaiah 60:1-2



MED & BUSINESS

LARGER INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES

In 2023, our partners in Malawi went bananas together - but in a sustainable and impactful way! As part of Links' aim to empower our partners to become more self-sustaining through larger income-generating community projects, we have been helping to resource and train our partners in fruit plantations, in particular bananas!

We gathered in Lilongwe to do farm site visits together, to learn from one another the successes and challenges of maintaining and expanding banana plantations. Through using solar irrigation systems the bananas receive the right amount of water and nutrients direct to each plant, and therefore increase their yield, see a reduction in disease and utilise less water overall. The partners will harvest and sell the bananas to the vast local markets to sustain their farms, but also use the profits to develop their community programmes and trainings.

MED BUSINESS STORIES

(MED Business 1) Mary Paul (43) received a MWK 120,000 (~£100) loan. Mary opened a small community grocery store where she sells essential items for her community. The committee visited her business and found her excited about her sales. Mary is on track with her repayments.



(MED Business 2) Loyce Francis (40) received a MWK 90,000 (~£75) loan. Loyce owns a tearoom (Kanchedzera) and the capital has boosted her business with more stock and reach of customers. When the committee visited her they saw how busy her tearoom had become and how many customers are now using her service. She has already managed to make 30% of her loan repayments.



(MED Business 3) Yosifina Zigoma (38) obtained a MWK 90,000 (~£75) loan. The capital helped her expand her business selling material wraps in the community. The committee visited Yosifina and found her busy selling the cloth wraps as well as showing the increased orders she had taken from customers. Yosifina is able to order and sell more material now to meet the demand, therefore her profits are increasing which is transforming her livelihood.



(MED Business 4) Liviness and her husband received a MWK 70,000 (~£60) loan. They have expanded their small grocery store in the community. The committee visited them and found Liviness busy selling different grocery items including eggs, puffs, soap, cooking oil and many more items.

(MED Business 5) Dorothy received MWK 100,000 (~£90). She was operating a small shop at her house by the roadside, selling locally-brewed beverage (Thobwa). Her business was struggling to grow but, when she got a first cycle of loan, Dorothy used the money to grow her business so that she included the selling of cold drinks and barbecued meats. After her second cycle, Dorothy started providing a take-away service to a nearby high school, and her business has continued to grow!



“BUSINESS HAS HELPED OUR FAMILY TO BECOME FOOD SECURE, HAVING ENOUGH FOOD FOR OUR FAMILY FOR THIS YEAR,”

says Dorothy



FUNDRAISING

links
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Thank you for supporting us in our fundraising! We want to take this further in 2024 and we would love you to get involved! Let's put the fun into fundraising together.

GET INVOLVED WITH FUNDRAISING

SHINE WINTER HEALTHCARE APPEAL



Hi Links family! We want to take this opportunity to introduce you to our Shine Winter Healthcare Appeal.

We believe in the fundamental right of access to a life of health and wellbeing that shouldn't be dependent on where you happen to be born. Part of God's Kingdom that Jesus demonstrated was that people should be made whole physically. We believe that all health and healing, whether miraculous or through medical science and knowledge, ultimately comes from God. So, as an organisation connecting with people making an impact all around the world, one of the key areas that we find ourselves working into is that of health and

well-being. Through incredible advances in medical science it is clear that a world where major sicknesses and diseases are being confronted and eradicated is finally possible.

Over the years, Links has had the privilege of impacting untold lives and communities across the globe through our healthcare training and projects.



**TOGETHER WE CAN CONFRONT POVERTY AND
CREATE POTENTIAL. TOGETHER WE CAN SHINE.**

WE SEE HOPE LIGHTING UP COMMUNITIES

We see hope lighting up communities through our healthcare training that, over the years, has caused massive prevention of all manner of sicknesses and diseases. For this reason, we call our healthcare training, 'The SHINE programme' - SHINE being an acronym for Sanitation, Hygiene, Immunisation, Nutrition and Empowerment.

WE WORK IN DIRECT RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR PARTNERS

As with all our different training programmes, the way that our SHINE training is carried out is in direct relationship with partners working into communities all around the world. Whether in person or digitally, or oftentimes a mixture of both, our training sessions will cover the whole SHINE syllabus. Whilst we make this open to the whole community, the training is tailored towards preparing a core team of committed community influencers to become voluntary healthcare workers. Links then helps this



team discover how they can bring positive change to the key issues their community is facing.

WE BELIEVE IN SUSTAINABILITY

Links' healthcare training is sustainable and constantly growing to impact more and more communities. As a result, we are seeing communities are not only healthier but also able to independently develop their own healthcare strategies and spread the word to others.

LET'S SHINE TOGETHER

Thank you for joining with us and the untold thousands of heroes around the world that Links has the privilege of partnering with. By giving to our appeal, you are enabling our work around the world to continue.

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READ MORE ABOUT OUR SHINE APPEAL

BREAKING THROUGH IN 2024

We believe that this year is going to be a year of breakthrough, and our vision is to go further and to achieve more than ever, as we stand together with amazing heroes around the world.

Here are some of the ways that we see that playing out in 2024:

REGIONAL OFFICES

We are so excited to announce that our Africa Regional office is moving to a new base in Kenya. This will provide us with the opportunity to develop a centre of excellence where we can invite partners to come and receive innovative training and will also help us to better connect with our partners across the continent.

We are also thrilled with the amazing way that Links USA and their Central American representation in El Salvador continues to develop, under the great leadership of Jason and Holly!

INCREASED PARTNERSHIP

Another exciting development has been our growing church partnerships, one of which is with Pioneer International.

Pioneer is an apostolic network of churches across the world, and Links partner specifically to input into the areas of social action and community development. In 2023 we were able to join with Pioneer for conferences in Dubai and Kenya and, in 2024, we will be together for conferences in Latin America.

We also continue to see business partnerships developing across the UK. Through Act4You, we are able to form genuine partnerships with businesses to intentionally make a hands-on difference together around the world.

TRAVELLING TOGETHER AGAIN

The world is on the move again post pandemic and people are ready to travel and join teams! These are always life-changing experiences.

This 2024 let's join together, rise up, breakthrough and take new territory, as we connect people, confront poverty and create potential!

If you are interested in partnering with us in any way, or want to help Links facilitate a trip, please do contact us at hello@links.charity.

LINKS GIFTS

TRAIN A HEALTHCARE WORKER £45

WATER FILTER KIT £45

MORINGA TREES £10

MOSQUITO NETS £7

TAKE A LOOK AT [LINKS.CHARITY/SHOP](https://links.charity/shop) TO SEE THE FULL RANGE OF WAYS YOU CAN GIVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

BECOME A WORLD CHANGER

Changing the world is an amazing concept isn't it? But how do we make it a reality? Where on earth do we begin?

The needs in the world can seem so big and so extreme, that more often than not we are left feeling overwhelmed, or feeling like we are too small to make a difference. What we can give is just a 'drop in the ocean'.

But...we have seen and fully believe that it is possible to change the world and we want to stand together with you to be a part of that ripple effect.

Giving regularly to Links enables our work around the world to continue and to grow. It allows us to go further and impact more lives and more communities. You can make a difference. You can bring change.

Never think that what you have to give won't make an impact because it does. And, as we join together, that impact multiplies.

At Links, our heart is to come alongside you and enable you to dream big and see those dreams come to fruition. How do YOU want to change the world? What's on your heart?

We ask that you join the fight against poverty with us – that you intentionally step out in generosity to give regularly to our work and bring transformation globally.



WE'RE IN IT TOGETHER. TOGETHER WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.

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