I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well at this time. COVID-19 continues to present unprecedented challenges and yet demonstrations of resilience, solidarity and hope also abound.

Health care systems in many countries have had to go above and beyond to make essential services available and deliver respectful, compassionate and equitable care to all. There is no ‘normal’ anymore, no routine services.

I am delighted that this Appeal highlights just some of the phenomenal impact our community has had in the last year. From the provision of PPE to wellbeing support, partnerships have been working tirelessly in their evenings, over weekends and in breaks between their hours in the health service to support one another regardless of borders. Their leadership and resilience gives us hope for the year to come.

The work illustrates the varied and successful experiences from across Africa as they manage COVID-19. These are worthy of recognition by the global health community and form a valuable body of knowledge which should be utilised to inform progress in other countries.

We know there is a long way to go. Vaccine equity remains limited, accounts of stigma and violence towards those working on COVID-19 are on the rise and many health systems have been set back by decades. At this critical time we are asking our friends and supporters to give whatever you can.

Thank you for your generosity.

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**WORDS FROM OUR COMMUNITY**

**Has your Health Partnership continued to be valuable over the past year?**

“We have learnt a lot about how we work together and our capacity to face a critical incident such as this.”

“The commitment of all partners has been and is such, that it has been possible to work together, to develop innovative ways to work together to complete activities as the pandemic has progressed. A strength of our partnership has been its flexibility and sustainability in all circumstances.”

**How has your Health Partnership changed in the course of the past year?**

“There has been a more collegiate approach and a more level playing field across professions and organisations”

**Thinking about 2021, what do you hope to get out of your Health Partner-**

“There is a current strengthening of the partnership and a feeling of solidarity but this has to be harnessed. It would be good to move forward together in a supportive, compassionate and constructive way.

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Join us online and donate at [www.thet.org/donate](http://www.thet.org/donate)
Following the onset of the pandemic in 2020, THET set up the Health Worker Action Fund to protect the health and well-being of health workers. Thanks to generous donations from individuals like yourself, we have been able to provide the training, equipment and support needed to protect health workers in the riskiest areas.

2,758
HEALTH WORKERS RECEIVED TRAINING

This project has exceeded expectations; the partners are delighted to have been able to deliver workshops that have supported all staff and students... the outcomes will be sustained well beyond the lifetime of this short intensive project. - Birmingham City University and Lusaka College of Nursing & Midwifery

2,346
GAINED ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT

When I was visiting, I found these PPE packs at Luwi Mission Hospital, deep in North Western Province about 80km off road. It is so good to see how far these PPE packs have reached.” - Global Anaesthesia Development Project and University Teaching Hospital, Zambia

1,020
RECEIVED EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

“Feeling isolated or lonely can be a vicious cycle when dealing with such pressure... loneliness can be detrimental to self-esteem and cause the ‘bull in our Brain’ to become stronger. Finding a connection with others can help overcome some of these struggles.” - King’s Global Health Partnerships Somaliland

One of the Health Partnerships supported through the Health Worker Action Fund was the link between Health Action Leicester and the University of Gondar in Ethiopia. Over the past year Dr Ashenafi Tazebew, Yalelet Fentaw Shiferaw, Addisu Ambaw and Sandra Kemp have been working to ensure health workers have access to the information and equipment required to tackle the pandemic. We hear from them on what partnership has meant to them and their hopes for the times ahead.

What role has your Health Partnership played over the last year?

“We have benefited a lot from our partnership. Health workers in our institutions have both saved themselves and their families from the pandemic and played a critical role in prevention, awareness creation, care, and treatment of COVID-19 patients. Had it not been for our partnership, all this would have been difficult and the catastrophe we experienced could have been worse.” - Dr Ashenafi Tazebew, Yalelet Fentaw Shiferaw and Addisu Ambaw, University of Gondar Hospital.

What progress do you hope to see for health workers in the time ahead?

“Our project has enabled us to work across continents, increase knowledge of healthcare staff and the community that they serve, and improve health for so many people. It has helped our colleagues in Ethiopia to deliver excellent healthcare practice and information that is vital during this pandemic. I hope this work can continue.” - Sandra Kemp, Health Action Leicester for Ethiopia.

2021 is the International Year of Health & Care Workers. What does this mean to you?

“As health professional working in a health institution with a significant number of COVID-19 clients, we are happy that the world has given recognition to the dedication and commitment we have shown for the lives of our patients, putting ourselves at the forefront in prevention, awareness creation, care, and treatment of COVID-19 patients. Had it not been saved themselves and their families from the pandemic and played a critical role in our partnership, all this would have been difficult and the catastrophe we experience for our partnership, all this would have been difficult and the catastrophe we experience could have been worse.” - Dr Ashenafi Tazebew, Yalelet Fentaw Shiferaw and Addisu Ambaw.

Donations such as yours are vital for THET to continue expanding its charitable activities. From reducing maternal deaths in Somaliland to improving the quality of care for patients with non-communicable diseases in Ethiopia, we work to strengthen local health systems and build a healthier future for all.

Whether you decide to make a one-off donation or give a regular gift, we promise that the donation you make to THET will be used to help train the next generation of qualified health workers in the communities where they are needed most. If you would like to support our work, please donate through one of following methods:

Send a cheque to THET’s new office:
1 St Andrews Place, Regent’s Park, London, NW1 4LE.

Complete the enclosed Direct Debit form here and return to fundraise@thet.org or
1 St Andrews Place, Regent’s Park, London, NW1 4LE.

Bank Transfer to Tropical Health and Education Trust, Account Number: 00004198, Sort Code: 40-52-40.

Online, via our website: www.thet.org/donate

At this time, we kindly ask you to turn to online donations where possible, as this will enable us to process your gift promptly and safely. We apologise in advance for any delays in processing postal donations due to working from home arrangements. If you have any queries or require assistance please email our team at:

fundraise@thet.org

Thank you!