



Focusing Initiatives International: 2024 Annual Report

Letter from Directors

2024 was a transformative year for Focusing Initiatives International.

Daniel Ocen Osako's participation in the Community Solutions Program brought global recognition of his work, [Better World for Kids](#), and our approach to new groups and organizations. He gave presentations at USAID and the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. In Uganda, the partnership Daniel created with ICSF reached over 850 individuals in Nakivale. His team trained grandparents as storytelling facilitators, supported caregivers, and saw a 95% reintegration of children into school—evidence of the power of culturally grounded psychosocial support.

Brighter Tomorrow in Pakistan installed solar infrastructure, led inclusive educational and psychosocial workshops, and began partnerships with disability networks. Although the students from Afghanistan were forced out of his program by government actions, other students flocked to the school.

We are excited to see these initiatives gain momentum and independence.

We are happy to report that Pat worked with others in the Focusing community to expand our Community Wellness Focusing trainings with two year-long certification programs—one international and one in Oregon.—resulting in seven new certified professionals. In addition, our online work continued with free Focusing webinars and active collaborations in Cameroon, reflecting our deep commitment to community-led healing.

As we move into 2025, we are inspired by the collective strength of our global network and remain dedicated to fostering agency, connection, and resilience in every community we serve.

Warmest wishes
Melinda and Pat

Better World for Kids

In 2024, Daniel Ocen Osako, participated in the prestigious **Community Solutions Program (CSP)**, a professional global exchange program of the U.S. State Department. During his fellowship with *Search for Common Ground* in Washington, D.C., Daniel deepened his experience in business development, policy engagement, and community-led mental health approaches. He presented the *Cultural Resilience and Well-being Initiative*, a FII flagship program, at global forums including USAID and the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, positioning FII as a thought leader in intergenerational mental health support for refugees. This enhanced our strategic direction, strengthening donor relations and enriching our localization model through global best practices.



2024 also marked a transformative year for FII through our partnership with ICSF, we reached **over 850 direct beneficiaries** in the Nakivale refugee camp, and **6,560 individuals** since project inception. We delivered structured MHPSS sessions, trained **41 grandparents** as storytelling facilitators, supported **204 caregivers**, and expanded positive discipline models for children. This reinforced the importance of culturally embedded healing methods, with community

feedback highlighting improvements in child behavior, emotional well being, and school re-enrollment (95% reintegration rate).

These milestones reflect FII's commitment to combining global insight with grassroots innovation positioning us for stronger partnerships, deeper impact, and scalable mental health interventions in 2025 and beyond.

Brighter Tomorrow - helping child laborers in Pakistan



In 2024, Brighter Tomorrow installed solar panels to provide lighting during short winter days and power fans during scorching summers, when temperatures can reach 49°C (120°F). As an active member of the District and Provincial Coordination Committees, it shared this model with NGOs across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for potential replication.

The organization also conducted a psychosocial first aid training with support from Fortified Services for Reforms and Transformation and the district government; facilitated a workshop for civil society partners on designing inclusive lesson plans for children in challenging environments; and organized a session on effective listening at Benazir Women University, attended by over 40 students and faculty members.

Brighter Tomorrow also initiated collaboration with networks of persons with disabilities.

Psychosocial Support (PSS)

As our oldest initiative, and the basis for most of our work in communities, our psychosocial support programs are based on specific requests from communities for support and training. In 2024, Nina Joy Lawrence and Pat Omidian launched 2 year-long courses for Certification in Community Wellness Focusing. An online Focusing Certification course included 16 students from many countries, including Italy, Germany, Pakistan, India, Tanzania and the USA. This was a professional level training with attention to how one would teach and use Focusing organically in groups and in communities. We also offered an in-person course for people living in the USA's Pacific Northwest, with ten students enrolled.



In total, seven students received certification as Community Wellness Focusing Professionals through TIFI.

With the success of this program, Charlotte Faris, Cammi Broadbent and Pat Omidian worked to create a two-year course. It includes all three 2025 courses- Psychological First Aid, Psychosocial Support, and Deepening Community Wellness Focusing- and the 2026 final Focusing Certification course- Community Wellness Focusing.

In addition, Nina Joy and Charlotte Faris continue to run the Basic Focusing Bits class on our Free Webinar Platform. This is a weekly one-hour meeting for anyone interested in a light-hearted practice of Focusing that can be immediately shared with others.

Other ongoing projects

Since 2020, we have provided a **Free Webinar** platform where our international colleagues could offer no-cost workshops and training which empower people to connect with others, problem solve together, and recognize commonalities in the face of differences. This continued with Focusing Bits, Saturday Listening, Helping the Helpers, and Wholebody Focusing.

We continued to work with a lively group of social workers and teachers in Cameroon.

Board Member Anna Willman represents FII at a coalition Climate Group and Board Member Wendy Robinson, with Nina Joy Lawrence, use CWF in Corvallis, Oregon Quaker Meeting.

2024 Income and Expenses

Income	Amount	Description
Unrestricted donations	103,197	General donations
Restricted donations	82,551	Project specific donations
Training	12,784	Fees for classes
Totals	\$198,531	Income, all sources

Expenses	Amount	Description
Personnel	80,418	Staff
Professional fees	3,388	Bookkeeping, etc
Office Operations	4,905	Supplies and fees (banking, etc)
Projects and programs	65,455	Pakistan and Uganda Fellowship Projects
Websites, Marketing, Advertising	14,964	Website improvements and maintenance
Total expenditures	\$169,131	

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