Thanks to you, we have made significant strides in 2019 to address violence against women and girls around the world.

We dedicate this newsletter to you, for all that you have helped us to achieve.

A Letter of Gratitude from the CEO

As we approach the end of 2019, we extend our deep appreciation to you, our Global Rights for Women community, for all the ways you contribute to furthering our mission. You enable us to promote women and girls’ human right to freedom from violence through sustainable systemic and legal reform that is urgently needed throughout the world.

Every day, we see our global partnerships empower leaders, inspire innovation and result in changes that make a concrete impact in women and girl’s lives. You make this happen. Thank you!

In 2019, we have responded to requests for assistance from our visionary and fearless partners working to end violence in Moldova, Georgia, Ethiopia, Gabon, Armenia, Morocco, Mongolia and Australia. We are thrilled about new partnerships in sub-saharan Africa and Central America.

In one example, GRW was invited to work with legal system professionals in Ethiopia in the fall of 2019 to improve the response to violence against women. In our workshop in Addis Ababa, a shelter leader explained that under the current law, stealing a cell phone results in a greater penalty than assaulting your wife. Arrests for physical and sexual violence are extremely rare; even in the most brutal cases, impunity is the norm. In our workshop, GRW equipped Ethiopian leaders with new strategies to reform policy, practice and law. These professionals are dedicated to change and, with your help, GRW will return to Ethiopia in 2020 to help sustain progress there.
This year, your generosity and support allowed us to tap into the skills of U.S. based judges, prosecutors, police and skilled advocates, all with decades of experience keeping women safe and holding offenders accountable. They join our Global Rights for Women team and work with their counterparts abroad to build skills. You make these partnerships possible.

In 2019, we continued our work with the United Nations to promote global policies and practices that ensure women’s and girl’s human right to be free from violence. GRW's work with the United Nations has grown over the years, building on progress and expanding in reach.

In December, our team will travel to Central America to assist with improved enforcement of the laws on violence against women and girls in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

We are so inspired by the global energy to end violence against women and girls and are honored to have your continued support to broaden our impact!

Thank you!

Cheryl Thomas, CEO

Grateful for Extending our Impact to Sub-Saharan Africa

Your support has always given us flexibility to explore new partnerships and innovative ways of addressing violence against women. This fall, we are thrilled that you helped us expand our work to Sub-Saharan Africa through visits to Ethiopia and Gabon.

Read about our recent efforts in Ethiopia and Gabon this fall.

Creating Lasting Partnerships

As our work begins in one place, it continues in another. We are grateful to our GRW community’s belief in sustainability, directly allowing us to create the true systems change and ongoing partnerships that eliminate widespread violence.

Our Director of International Training Melissa Scaia’s worked with partners in both Fiji and Georgia in October.
Our Supporters’ Efforts in Action

Your generosity has come in many forms over the months of September and October. Through a beautiful Washington, D.C. gathering, our annual fall fundraiser, and a New York City benefit recital, our work is made possible. Here are some examples of the incredible efforts made by our community and supporters this fall:

A Gathering and Fundraiser at the Watergate in Washington, D.C: Hosted by Rebecca Bentzinger and Lynn Schubert at her home in the iconic Watergate Complex in Washington D.C., over 80 community members and our D.C. Advocates gathered to learn about and support Global Rights for Women’s work. Visit the link here to see photos from this event.

Global Rights for Women Fall Fundraiser: On September 23rd, over 450 of our community members came together in Minneapolis for this monumental event, and heard from powerful speakers Imrana Jalal, Cheryl Thomas, and Pille Tsopp-Pagan. The impassioned audience at this event makes our work possible year after year. We were thrilled by the generosity of all who attended. See photos from this event here.

New York City Benefit Recital: Global Rights for Women was hosted for a beautiful benefit recital in New York City organized by musicians Timothy Thomas, Karen Stewart, and William Glazier, and volunteers Rose Smith, Ann Blanc, and Karen Wright. The event featured incredible music, a lively reception with speakers CEO Cheryl Thomas and Board Chair Richard Ihrig, and a full house! We look forward to continuing to build on the energy and passion in New York City! Visit this link to see photos from New York.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all those in our GRW community who made it a successful fall of growth and impact. With gifts received this year and through the recent efforts like these, Global Rights for Women has gained momentum to accomplish significant work currently around the world and in the months ahead.