



Impact Report

Organisation name

Forever Projects

Your name and position

Mark Dombkins, Strategic Director

Please tell us a short story about someone who has benefited from this funding.

Today in Tanzania, Restituta is an independent grandmother providing for her family thanks to you. When we first met, her daughter had suddenly passed away in childbirth, leaving a newborn baby named Esther without a source of support. For a grandmother living on 18 cents a day, there was no way she could afford the nutrition Esther needed. Thanks to the funding from the TFN community, people like Restituta are able to get the empowerment they need from our local partners. A year later, her life has transformed—Restituta started a business selling dried fish and already increased her income by 12 times! With the income she can feed her family a great diet three times a day, she can always afford medicine, knows more about keeping this family healthy, and has a better quality of life. The best part? The family is together, in their community, able to thrive, forever.

Please describe the impact that the specific TFN funding has had.

We've been able to fund 12 families like Restituta's in Mwanza, Tanzania. Additionally, as promised during the pitch, we've been able to expand this successful project to a 4th location - Tanga, on Tanzania's east coast. The generous support from the TFN community also helped fund 12 families through the pilot phase of that expansion.

Please provide a quantitative breakdown of how TFN funds have been used

In line with our pitch (and ask) at the TFN event:

\$15,000 was used to empower 12 families in Mwanza (see story above)

\$15,000 was used to empower 12 families as part of the pilot phase of the project expanding to Tanga

The remaining \$816.90 was used for Australian operating costs.

Describe any ways the funding was used that differs from that described your original pitch

None.

How many people have been affected by programs or activities that were supported with TFN funding?

24 families x 6.2 beneficiaries per family ~ 149 total beneficiaries (rounded up)

This calculation is based on the data collected about each family in our program, where on average each family includes one caregiver, one at-risk infant, and 4.2 siblings.

What measures did you use to assess the impact?

1. Improved health of babies

Measured by weekly weigh-ins and three monthly mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurements. Charted as red, amber, and green (RAG) in line with age determined averages and gains <14%; 14-30%; >30%

2. Increased household income

Measured by initial then six-monthly surveys assessing current weekly income; children in school; availability and variety of food for the last week; affordability of medicine when required.

3. Improved health and quality of life

Measured by initial, then six-monthly surveys assessing life satisfaction; frequency of illness in the family; knowledge of what causes malaria and how to treat it; knowledge of HIV and how to prevent it.

Current outcomes for our project:

- 97.6% of babies increased their weight by >15% in 6 months
- >90% of families have increased income after 12 months, on average by 4 times (400%)
- 92.2% increase in disease knowledge and prevention
- 71.2% increase in ability to buy medicine

Describe three ways that your organisation has changed in the last 12 months since the event

1. We have much more self-belief, having pitched our story to an audience who mostly knew nothing about us. The strong way we resonated with the guests on the evening - evidenced by their strong support - has energised us to further leverage our story to new audiences who we believe will also want to join us.

2. This has been a catalyst for crafting our pitch into an outline we believe is concise, clear and invitational. We're in the final stages of producing a video of this pitch, based on footage of Mark (our founder) and his family during a visit to Tanzania in July 2019. We'll share this with the TFN staff (and hopefully wider community) as a symbol of the immense value TFN has added to our journey.

3. The rich and diverse network of connections made on the night continue to bear fruit (see below). We're very aware of the domino effect of people who know people, and the power of an introduction. Many of our most fruitful leads towards growth in the last 6 months have come following the opportunity to engage in networking during and after the TFN event.

Over the last 12 months, did you receive any additional financial support from anyone you met through TFN?

No

Over the last 12 months, did you receive any goods in-kind and/or pro-bono services from anyone you met through TFN?

Yes, pro-bono services

What did you receive and from whom?

Mentoring and referrals from a number of guests present (eg James from Hello Sunday Morning, Claire from LinkedIn)

How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives this year?

We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding

Has the TFN pitch coaching and mentoring helped you successfully secure funding from other sources you did not meet through TFN?

No

What were some of the other benefits of participating in TFN?

The pitch process was singularly instrumental in helping us to craft our pitch - the origin story of Mark Dombkins, our founder. We're in the final stages of production for a video of his story which the pitch was the catalyst for in terms of messaging etc. We will share this link with the TFN team in the coming week.

For both Mark (founder) and our team, we've experienced first-hand that people resonate with our cause, story, and ways of communicating. We've really leaned into these areas, and are building some additional capacity and infrastructure to better leverage these assets we are now more acutely aware of.

We've built a solid network of connections from this event, and continue to stay in close and regular contact with 10-15 of these people. We are sure these will bear significant and ongoing fruit throughout 2020 and beyond.

Finally, being endorsed by the TFN brand and selected as finalists to pitch is such a strong signal to other funding bodies that we're an efficient, effective and engaging cause. Having been part of this experience is a badge of honour we're proud to show off!

Do you have any other comments or feedback on the TFN experience or funding process?

Thank you to the generous and capable team at TFN for seeing us, believing in us, backing us, and guiding us throughout so many years of applications, feedback, and ultimate success. We believe this partnership with TFN is ongoing, and look forward to finding mutually beneficial ways of working together in the future, adding strong value to each another's journeys of change.

Thanks also to KWM for hosting the event in such an epic location!