



A Woman's Life Changed. One Million Still Waiting.



Torline, a fistula survivor

© Francky Dovan

For four years, Torline leaked urine from a childbirth injury. Isolated, ashamed, and unable to work, she thought her life was over—until a single surgery changed everything.

Torline regained her life, and returned to work selling doughnuts in her community. But across Africa and Asia, at least one million women still suffer from untreated fistula and perineal tears—severe childbirth injuries caused by prolonged, obstructed labor without access to emergency C-sections. Both injuries leave women incontinent, leaking urine, stool, or both. Ashamed and too often socially shunned, they lose their health, their livelihoods, and their futures.

Understanding Fistula



At least one million women live untreated, across Africa and Asia, where access to care remains limited



On average, women are 27 years old at the time of injury



The women we treat have suffered 5.7 years, on average, before receiving care

SURGERY IS THE ONLY CURE

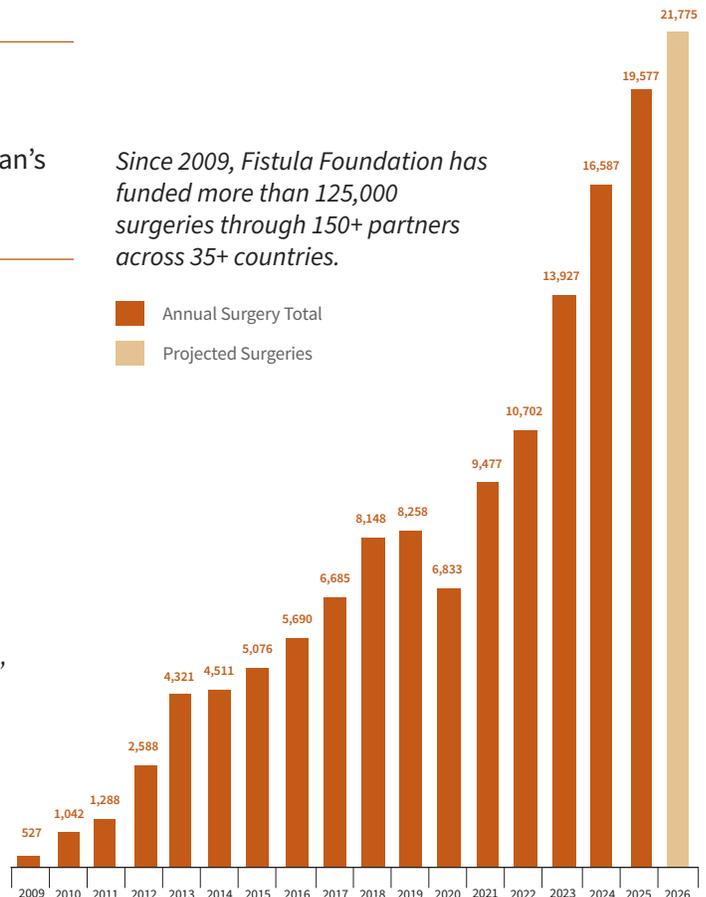
For \$624, on average, a single surgery can end a woman's suffering and restore her health and her future.

One Surgery, 40 Years of Restored Health

Today, women with fistula suffer needlessly due to lack of access to care. Yet a single surgery, averaging \$624, can restore 40+ years of healthy life for one woman.

This highly cost-effective intervention—for one of humanity's most disabling injuries—has benefits that reach far beyond the operating room. Results from Kenya, the site of our longest-standing countrywide treatment program, show that 85% of women are able to socialize, work, and participate fully in their communities within a year of surgery. The economic impact for a woman, her family, and her community is profound.

Since 2009, Fistula Foundation has funded more than 125,000 surgeries through 150+ partners across 35+ countries.





Doing the Most Good With Every Dollar

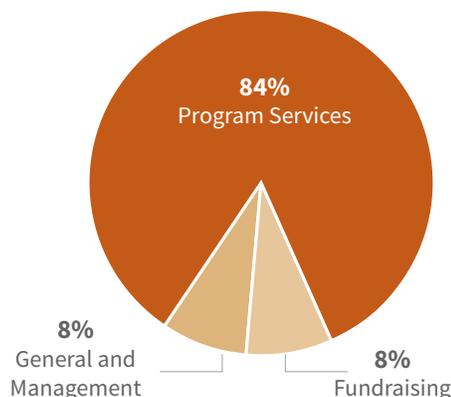
As the world’s largest private funder of fistula repair surgery, we work hard to deliver the greatest good with the funds entrusted to us. Our laser focus on one critical outcome—the number of women we can heal—has allowed us to closely track results and continually improve our efforts to remove all barriers to care:

- 84¢ of every \$1 donated goes to program services, supporting partners and program staff
- While our revenue has grown 9x since 2009, we’ve increased surgeries more than 30x
- We rely on trusted local doctors and amplify their impact—90% of funded surgeons are from the regions they serve

Strengthening Care Where It’s Needed Most

Fistula Foundation doesn’t just fund surgeries—we help build sustainable solutions. Our network strategy is designed to coordinate service delivery and builds in-country capacity:

- Community outreach reduces stigma and identifies women in need
- Healthcare provider training enables local surgeons and medical teams to deliver high-quality, culturally appropriate care
- Referral networks improve outcomes for complex cases
- Leveraging government programs (such as national health insurance) helps to amplify impact



Scaling Care. Ending Suffering.

Our model is built to scale—and it’s working. In 2023, when MacKenzie Scott invested \$15 million—our largest gift to date—we put it to work, increasing surgeries by 83% in just three years, from 10,702 in 2022 to 19,577 in 2025.

Our ability to scale rapidly and responsibly ensures every new investment goes directly to the field, transforming lives, communities, and healthcare systems.

We strive every day to end the suffering of women injured in childbirth—and to ensure that no woman is left behind.

About Fistula Foundation

Fistula Foundation is the global leader in fistula repair surgery, partnering with trusted local surgeons and hospitals in areas of high unmet need. Together with our global community of supporters, we deliver more life-changing surgeries than any other organization in the world.



Fistula Foundation is consistently recognized for transparency, efficiency, and proven impact.