

2022

END
FGM/C
U.S. NETWORK

IMPACT REPORT



Letter from the Director

Dear U.S. End FGM/C Network Supporters,

As I reflect on this past year, I can't help but experience an overwhelming feeling of appreciation and admiration for everyone that I have had the honor of collaborating and interacting with.

I started this year as the newest Director of The U.S. End FGM/C Network, and with any new job comes an abundance of learning and adjusting. However, this new transition for both myself and The Network has been seamless due to the commitment and dedication of our Steering Committee, members, partnerships, donors, and general supporters.

Reading through this report, I hope you will feel the same pride that we feel looking back at all of our accomplishments this past year. Despite the challenges and obstacles that we faced in 2021 including executive staff turnover and a continued global pandemic, we are so proud to have remained on track and continued the level of success that we have been able to accomplish during 2022.

With supporters like you, we are getting closer every day to ending female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in the United States and globally. This is a tough fight, which at times may feel overwhelming and impossible, but together we can accomplish the goal of ending FGM/C and protecting young girls and women nationwide and internationally. We are excited to see what is to come in the next year.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment to ending FGM/C and for your continued support of The U.S. End FGM/C Network.



Caitlin LeMay
Executive Director

About Us

Mission

The mission of The U.S. End FGM/C Network is to eliminate FGM/C by connecting, supporting, elevating, and advocating with diverse U.S. stakeholders engaged in prevention, education and care.

Core Values

1. **Deep Collaboration.** We engage in thoughtful processes so that all voices are heard and are part of our dialogue.
2. **Respect.** We respect one another's diverse experiences, ensuring that we honor rather than harm those we serve.
3. **Diversity/Inclusion.** We are an inclusive organization that supports diverse members across many dimensions—experiences, ethnicity, services and sectors, and geography. We value grassroots organizations and commit to elevating their voices and empowering their work.
4. **Tolerance.** We believe in approaching ending FGM/C and differing opinions with understanding, empathy, and sensitivity to prevent discrimination, targeting, blame, and shaming of individuals or communities
5. **Broad Framing.** We recognize that FGM/C is a violation of human rights which raises interconnected issues relating to health and gender equality. We seek to frame the issue broadly enough to support lasting change.
6. **Action Engagement.** We believe that members should ensure that sufficient time and resources are devoted to the goal of ending FGM/C.

Our Team

Steering Committee

Aissata M.B. Camara
Mariya Taher
Shelby Quast
Susan Gibbs

Staff

Caitlin LeMay, Director

Consultants

Patricia Mars
The Silver Kick Company

Our Members

The Network currently has 86 official member organizations and 248 individual members that share the Network's vision and values, and directly collaborate on the issue of FGM/C.

Our members span 20 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, with the majority of membership centered around the East Coast. The Network also has international members and partners across the globe in Europe, Africa, and India.



“

The Network is an invaluable global resource providing access to information, resources, and like-minded partners; advocacy opportunities; and up-to-date data and tools.”

-Too Young To Wed
New York, USA

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Accomplishments

- ✓ Provided consultation on global efforts to end FGM/C on topics relating to the impact of COVID19 on the anti-FGM/C movement and innovative financing;
- ✓ Successfully advocated for and disseminated the FGM/C report from the U.S. Department of Justice required per Section 4 of Public Law 116-309, *Strengthening the Opposition to Female Genital Mutilation Act of 2020*;
- ✓ Supported local efforts to pass anti-FGM/C legislation in the District of Columbia and Connecticut, including the creation of talking points, webinars, and providing written testimony;
- ✓ Publicly released statements in opposition of legislation linking FGM/C with gender-affirming healthcare;
- ✓ Increased the number of private donations to The U.S. End FGM/C Network threefold;
- ✓ Hosted, co-organized, or presented at 12 events with U.S. and international audiences;
- ✓ Published a report titled "*The Impact of Legislation on the Anti-FGM/C Movement in the U.S.;*"
- ✓ Updated our website to improve its accessibility and streamline processes, including revamping our resource page and making it easier to apply for membership as an individual or organization.

The Numbers

3233

Individuals reached through social media, newsletters, listservs, etc.

400+

Individuals reached through webinars, discussions, and virtual events

31%

Increase in membership to The US End FGM/C Network

20

U.S. states represented by Network members

248

The number of individual members of The Network

86

The number of organizational members of The Network

Our Impact

"The network is helpful from an advocacy perspective in keeping us up to date on the latest laws, policies and research related to FGM/C."

-Days For Girls International
Washington, USA

"It was nice to hear others' experiences and the many similarities in them. I felt less alone just being a part of [the listening session]."

- FGM/C Survivor,
Listening Session Participant

"We can end female genital mutilation in the United States because we are doing the work necessary to end the practice. We are educating the public and those on the frontlines of the girls' lives..."

-Global Woman P.E.A.C.E. Foundation
Virginia, USA

"Being affiliated with the Network means that we have the support of one of the best FGM/C focused organizations in the world. It also lends a legitimacy to our efforts that we did not have before."

- The CT Coalition to End FGM/C
Connecticut, USA

"The network is a good source for finding other individuals and organizations to collaborate with and to be informed about meetings, conferences, webinars, that we can participate in."

-Pastoralist Child Foundation
New Jersey, USA

"I came into the course with very little knowledge at all about the subject and some incorrect preconceived notions. I appreciate having a broader understanding of the topic."

-Workshop participant,
Training for Social Workers

Looking Ahead to 2023

-  Produce a training legal manual highlighting the history of FGM/C laws in the U.S. including case studies, activities, and more;
-  Continue updating The Network's website to make it more accessible, user-friendly, and helpful;
-  Begin planning a multi-day summit to rebuild momentum in the fight to end FGM/C in the U.S.;
-  Increase our revenue through additional grant funding, fundraising, and private donations;
-  Continue advocating for additional funding from government and private funders for The Network's members, including funding for prevention and supportive services;
-  Expand our Steering Committee by adding 2-4 new members;
-  Host a series of members-only webinars and discussions in addition to trainings for professionals and the general community;
-  Continue advocating for comprehensive legislation on the global, federal, and state level and ensuring that active laws are being implemented nationwide to their fullest potential.

Support The U.S. End FGM/C Network

Apply to become a member today

Interested in becoming a member of The U.S. End FGM/C Network? If so, visit our website and apply as an individual or organizational member at endfgmnetwork.org.

Join our Steering Committee

The U.S. End FGM/C Network is currently recruiting for new members of our Steering Committee. You can find the job description, including directions on how to apply here: <https://ideali.st/UrdHWh>.

Sign up for our newsletter

Visit our [website](#) to sign up for our monthly newsletter and stay up to date on FGM/C events, opportunities, new resources, and more! Members of The Network can promote their work in the newsletter by emailing communications@usendfgmnetwork.org.

Donate to support our work

With your donation, we can continue supporting our members and fighting tirelessly to ensure an end to this harmful practice. Donate by visiting our donation page at <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/endfgmnetwork>.

Acknowledgements

The U.S. End FGM/C Network cannot express enough appreciation to the Network's Steering Committee for their continued support, encouragement, and dedication.

The Network would also like to appreciate its members. Our members are the ones fighting tirelessly on the ground and are the reason why The Network exists to begin with.

Further, The U.S. End FGM/C Network would like to appreciate Wallace Global Fund not only for funding this incredibly important work, but for their continued dedication towards supporting grassroots advocacy.

**END
FGM/C
U.S. NETWORK**

The U.S. End FGM/C Network

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