

IMPACT 2023



SPOON



SPOON's mission is to nourish children who are highly vulnerable to malnutrition by empowering their caregivers around the globe. We envision a world where all children are counted, valued, and nourished.

THE NEED

SPOON serves two groups of children: those with disabilities and those living outside of permanent family care. These children are at great risk for malnutrition because existing systems fail to meet their nutrition and feeding needs.



Children with Disabilities



Children Living Outside of Family Care



This report illustrates SPOON's impact on vulnerable children around the world in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 - September 2023).

250 million children worldwide could benefit from SPOON's work



OUR MODEL

Using an innovative, evidence-based model combining training, a digital health app, and national and global advocacy, **SPOON amplifies our impact to nourish millions.**

TRAINING

Develop capacity of professionals and local partners to support caregivers to safely feed and nourish their children through dynamic in-country training programs.



NUTRITION & FEEDING APP

Support trainees to use our app, *Count Me In*, to assess and monitor children's nutrition and feeding and provide individualized, ongoing care that meets their needs.



ADVOCACY

Use comprehensive data collected through *Count Me In* to inform advocacy to include ALL children in national and global nutrition policies, services, and investments.



TRAINING

SPOON trains professionals who work with children & caregivers on topics related to nutrition, feeding, and disability.

In 2023, SPOON impacted over 10,000 children by training nearly 700 people in 10 countries.



“SPOON’s trainings taught me that an effective meal not only includes adequate nutrition, but mental and emotional support for the child as well.”

– SPOON trainee in Da Nang, Vietnam



NUTRITION & FEEDING APP



Count Me In, SPOON's app, is used to identify and treat nutrition and feeding challenges in children around the world.

In 2023,
196 SPOON trainees
conducted over 10,000
nutrition, feeding,
and disability assessments
on 2,135 children.
These children came from
62 sites across
8 countries.



ADVOCACY

SPOON works with local partners to leverage data from *Count Me In* and advocate for inclusive policies, investments, and actions to fulfill every child's rights.



SPOON and our partners...



- Highlighted disability-inclusive nutrition and feeding at global events, including the Child Health Task Force annual convening and the USAID/ UNICEF Global Convening on Children with Feeding Difficulties
- Drew attention to nutrition and disability in Uganda by presenting at the National Nutrition Symposium
- Developed a national policy brief on Mainstreaming Disability-Inclusive Nutrition in Zambia, with recommendations for policy makers and health system leaders
- Shared recommendations based on data with national Technical Advisory Groups, partner governments, global funders and implementers, and US Congress

SPOON STORY

While working in Mbarara, Uganda, a mother came to me with her 2-month-old child. She was very frustrated because she was not producing enough breastmilk, and she had resorted to using cow's milk in a bottle. Her baby was struggling with constipation and was nearly choking on every feed. The mother had cut the bottle's nipple to increase the flow of milk, as that made feeding easier.

I used my knowledge from SPOON's training to support her. After our talk, she understood that the altered bottle nipple was the reason the child was choking on almost every feed. The volume of milk released was more than the child could handle, and she ended up choking, putting her at risk for aspiration. The baby was constipated because her digestive system was not developed enough to handle cow's milk.

I saw this mother a month later and was delighted to learn how her child's feeding had improved. Also, she had become an advocate for better feeding practices in her community. We gave her more reading materials to facilitate her learning, and we were proud to have contributed to the wellness of this mother, her child, and the entire community.

- Lutgard Musiime,
SPOON Lead
Trainer in
Uganda



“SPOON's training has strengthened our work. We are now able to sit down with the parents and share ideas on how to care for children, and also to show them good practices that may help the child to grow well and prevent damage to their health.”

- SPOON trainee in
Lesotho



OUR REACH IN 2023



Croatia

Provided training and tools in nutrition & feeding best practices to 6 Peer Trainers and over 110 participants from schools, community, and rehabilitation centers



Democratic Republic of Congo

Facilitated remote training sessions on nutrition & feeding best practices and use of *Count Me In*



Zimbabwe

Local service providers used training resources to facilitate educational sessions for caregivers of children with disabilities through outreach clinics in Harare



Zambia

Achieved multiple advocacy successes, including integrating nutrition & feeding training into child protection programming, submitting a community education tool to national nutrition authorities, and using data to draft submission for peer-reviewed publication



Uganda

- Lead Trainers incorporated nutrition & feeding into community outreach and facilitated centralized training for all country sites
- Contributed to creation of research study to better understand nutritional status of target population and identify barriers and opportunities for building inclusive nutrition programs and policy change



India

Provided virtual training for a children's rehabilitation team in Jharkhand



United States

With federal grant support, ensured online feeding & nutrition training will be accessible to service providers and families of children who have experienced trauma throughout Oregon



Tanzania

Supported local partner to conduct nutrition & feeding assessments to facilitate family reunification efforts



Vietnam

- Trained 30 International Social Services staff from 3 provinces on nutrition & feeding during reintegration
- Launched Mealtime Magic project with OneSky to provide holistic and inclusive care for children in home-based childcare centers in 4 provinces



Lesotho

- Developed, piloted, and rolled out tools and guidelines to identify children at risk of developmental delays using *Count Me In* to 57 Lead Trainers from 10 districts
- Disseminated outcomes to UNICEF-Lesotho, the US Embassy, an EU delegation, INGOs, and the media

SPOON Chair

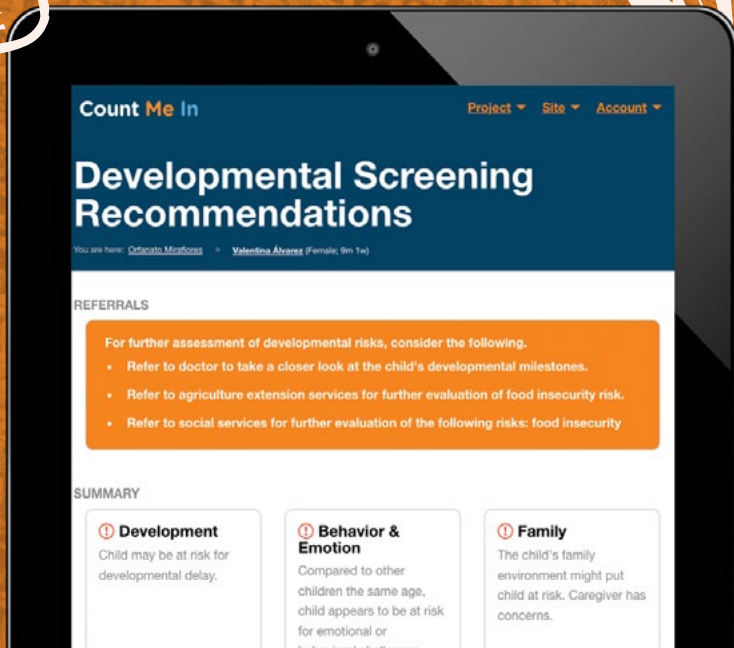
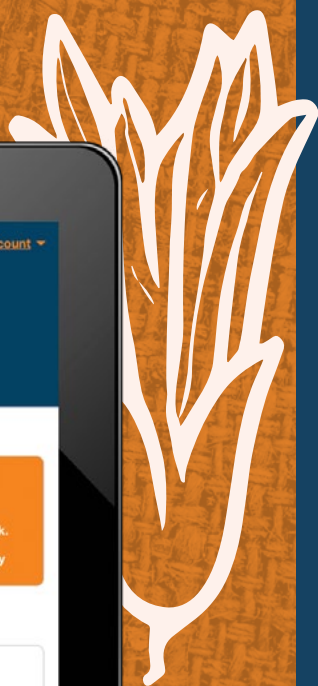
Redesigned key elements to incorporate Uganda pilot findings, which were disseminated at conferences and webinars

SPOTLIGHT ON EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF DISABILITY

In 2023, SPOON began to prioritize the early identification of disabilities through use of a developmental screening tool on children as young as 6 weeks.

Identifying disabilities and developmental delays in children as early as possible means they can be matched with services and provided with interventions sooner, which improves their chances of growing up healthy.

In partnership with UNICEF-Lesotho, Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled, and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, SPOON rolled out the developmental screening tool in Lesotho, with plans to expand it to other countries soon.



DONORS & PARTNERS



Thank you to the generous **individuals, institutions, and partners** that believe in our mission to nourish **ALL** children.

Institutional Funders

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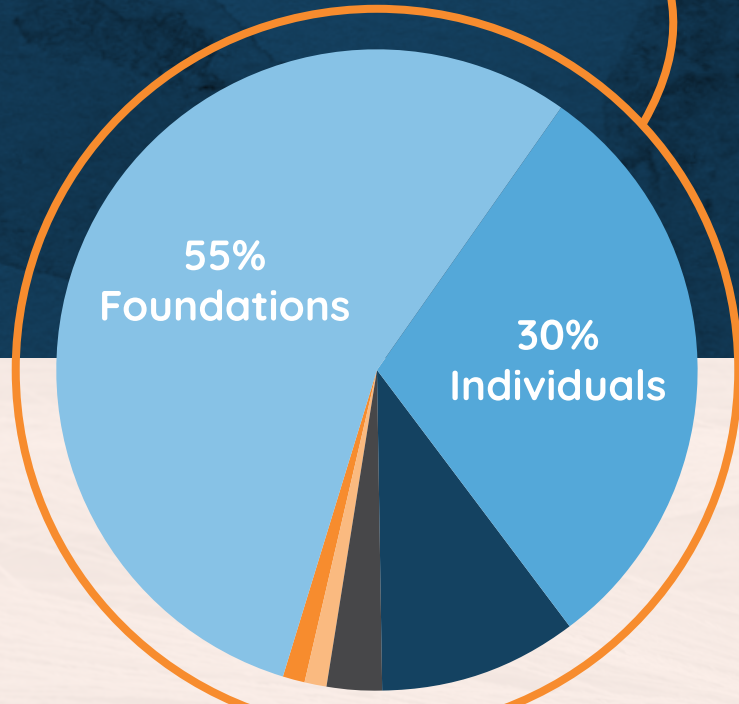
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| Access to Health Zambia | Kupenda for the Children | Technical Advisory Group / Core Team (Uganda, Zambia, Lesotho) |
| Association of Religious in Uganda | Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled | United Aid for Azerbaijan |
| American University | Ministry of Labour, Invalids, and Social Affairs of Vietnam | UNICEF-Lesotho |
| Better Care Network | Oregon State University Extension Service | University of San Francisco |
| CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital | Perkins International | University of Colorado, School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Nutrition Section |
| CORE Group | Sally Mugabe Children's Hospital | USAID Advancing Nutrition |
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| International Disability and Development Coalition | Seva Sadan | World Rehabilitation Alliance |
| International Social Services | Shonaquip Social Enterprise | |
| Global Orphan Foundation | The Small Things | |
| Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health | Thrive Coalition | |
| Keystone Human Services International | | |

*Indicates corporate match for employee donation.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

\$1,353,772* REVENUE

\$1,562,256 EXPENSES



Earned Income: <1%

In-kind: 1%

Corporate: 3%

Government Grants & Contracts: 10%

*Does not include a federal grant that was awarded in FY23 but recognized in FY24.

OUR TEAM



Thank you to SPOON's committed staff, Board of Trustees, & volunteers for dedicating their time in service of our mission.

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Uganda Lead Trainers

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