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## The Peery Family Foundation Commits \$1 Million to the BOMA Project to Scale its Innovative Resilience Building Model

**May 2018** Fundraising is one of the greatest challenges for any nonprofit organization. As the BOMA Project sets its impact goals ever-higher and as the scope of BOMA's work with ultra-poor women and families in East Africa expands, our funding needs increase. And so too do the requirements and parameters around money coming from funders. Partners who share our vision and place their trust and commitment in our program and in our team not only enable us to move our work forward, but reinvigorate our belief in ourselves and our mission.

This month, the Peery Family Foundation, a Palo Alto-based foundation established in 1978 by Richard Peery, committed one million dollars in unrestricted funding to the BOMA Project over the next four years. The funding will help BOMA scale its innovative, gender focus poverty graduation model across the drylands of Africa to reach 1,000,000 women and children by 2022. Peery's core mission and work—to strengthen youth and families to build lives of dignity and self-reliance, through investing in outstanding social entrepreneurs—align with the very heartbeat of the BOMA Project.

"We believe in supporting organizations leading the way forward on solving some of the world's toughest social problems. By pushing for data-driven results, BOMA has proven that their poverty graduation model works. Their commitment to replicating that model at scale will help lift millions of vulnerable people who are caught in the crushing trap of extreme poverty. We are grateful to be part of their story," says Lindsey Padjen of the Peery Foundation.

Since 2014, Peery has steadily increased their funding commitment to BOMA. Peery's thoughtful, grantee-centric approach to investing in social change has allowed BOMA to be innovative, adaptive and nimble as we tested and refined our model in Northern Kenya. This past year, BOMA has undergone enormous growth: we doubled the number of employees on the ground in Africa, launched partnerships with other organizations to expand into three new counties and one new country, and enrolled nearly 5,000 new women in our program—double the enrollment number of the previous year.

With growth come challenges, and a foundation and a thought partner committed to supporting BOMA with multi-year, unrestricted funding helps us to meet those challenges and continue to execute and expand with excellence. A new book, *Unicorns Unite*, by social sector sages Jessamyn Shams-Lau, Jane Leu and Vu Le (read the preview here <https://bit.ly/2E53WMY>) discusses—with often-hilarious honesty—the many challenges inherent in the nonprofit/foundation relationship. When we team up with foundations like the Peery Family Foundation, who share our ethic of rolling up our sleeves to tackle tough problems, we know we are building an epic partnership to end extreme poverty in some of the most difficult-to-reach places on earth.

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The BOMA Project  
[www.bomaproject.org](http://www.bomaproject.org)

Peery Foundation  
[www.peeryfoundation.org](http://www.peeryfoundation.org)