OpenMRS is a global community of volunteers from many different backgrounds including technology, health care, and international development.

Together, we’re working to build the world’s largest and most flexible technology platform to support delivery of health care in some of the most challenging environments on the planet.

OpenMRS.org
Friends,

We have accomplished so much together over the past 10 years. Our first annual report is designed to celebrate our progress together as a community, guide ourselves toward effective growth, and inform others about our amazing work.

Together, we have been learning and growing as a community for years, driven by a fundamental desire to dramatically improve the health of the poor and underserved. We believe information is care, so we’ve focused upon improving the efficiency and quality of health record keeping practices of individuals cared for within underserved environments. The foundations of OpenMRS include its deeply collaborative community approach, its core data and software technologies, its partnerships, a clear set of values, and most importantly, its participants. These aspects of OpenMRS will continue to underpin us as we grow over the next decade.

We move into 2016 in the midst of an exciting, important transitional time within the OpenMRS community. Thanks to your collective action, over a half dozen countries have made national-level commitments to implement OpenMRS at scale. Community participation is growing rapidly. Expectations for what we have collectively developed have never been higher. This report will help you get a better sense of this growth, the impact of that growth, our goals, and the structure we have designed to achieve those goals.

As a mission-driven, open source community, we are committed to supporting better health record keeping practices in resource constrained environments. The only way to ensure sustained impact is to put users at the center of the whole process, solve real problems for real people in health systems, and create appropriate technologies and content that people love to use. The tools, technologies, and approaches for developing medical record systems should be empowering rather than cumbersome or intimidating. Success and bright spots should be replicated and scaled without unnecessary constraints. We believe this annual report is one of the many ways that we demonstrate the power of the community. Thank you for being a part of our community.

Onward and upward!

Paul Biondich, Project Leader
The mission of OpenMRS is to improve health care delivery in resource-constrained environments by coordinating a global community that creates a robust, scalable, user-driven, open source medical record system platform.

WE ENVISION A WORLD WHERE...

➤ Models exist to implement health IT in a way that decreases costs, increases capacity, and lessens the disparities between wealthy and resource-poor environments.

➤ Open standards enable people to use health IT systems to share information and reduce effort.

➤ Concepts and processes can be easily shared to enable health care professionals and patients to work together more effectively.

➤ Medical software helps ease the work of health care providers and administrators to provide them with the tools to improve health outcomes all over the world.
PRINCIPLES

In addition to our community values, we adhere to the Principles for Digital Development that are living guidelines for technology enabled organizations.

- User centered design
- Open and community-driven process
- Creating safe & friendly spaces for community members to actively engage in the work necessary for OpenMRS to be successful

GOVERNANCE

In late 2015, a new governance model for the OpenMRS Community was launched, designed to improve our efficiency and ensure that we remain true to our mission. The new community governance model includes:

- A redesigned OpenMRS Leadership Team
- A new Advisory Council designed to support and strategize with OpenMRS Leadership
- A decision making structure to support improved transparency and efficacy
1149 Reported Sites

>5.1 million Active Patients

- Bangladesh
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Chile
- Ecuador
- Ghana
- Haiti
- India
- Israel
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Mali
- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Nepal
- Peru
- Philippines
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Tajikistan
- Uganda
- Vietnam
The OpenMRS Community remains at the center of our work and is the engine that empowers the creation of our software and the building of our world-class expertise.

During 2015, our community members continued to support the OpenMRS mission through active community engagement, software development of our Platform and Reference Application software products, and supporting our implementations around the world. In the past year, we increased both the number and communication activity of our volunteer contributors, ensuring we can effectively engage with our customers throughout the world.

Here are a few 2015 stats from OpenMRS Talk, our online hub for community interaction.
“I am part of the community because I want to join them in the process of saving lives through the software.”

“I first saw OpenMRS as a box of legos and wondered what I could build out of it. Then I realized I’ve found a box of gems!”

“I am part of OpenMRS because it takes a community to create change.”

“OpenMRS is not software. OpenMRS is a community of people from all over the world working together to write code and save lives!”

“I am part of the community because it matters.”

“OpenMRS is my non-biological family.”
In 2015, we had...

**6,297 commits to 117 code repositories**

including the OpenMRS Platform, Reference Application, add-on modules, and other community software

- **FHIR Module**
  - 341 commits from 10 committers

- **Ebola Module**
  - 460 commits from 8 committers

- **OpenMRS Core**
  - 615 commits from 78 committers

**174 COMMITTERS**
people whose code contributions have been incorporated into an OpenMRS repository on GitHub

**NEW COMMITTERS to OpenMRS in 2015**
63%

**RETURNING COMMITTERS from prior years**
37%
Since 2015, OpenMRS releases a new version of its Platform annually. This year, we released Platform 1.11, in addition to 9 maintenance and security updates to previous versions.

**February**
- Platform 1.11.0
- Kaweesi Joseph, Release Manager

**March**
- Platform 1.11.1

**April**
- Platform 1.11.2

**May**
- Platform 1.9.9
- Platform 1.10.2
- Platform 1.11.3

**September**
- Platform 1.11.4

**November**
- Platform 1.9.10
- Platform 1.10.3
- Platform 1.11.5

**Platform 1.11 New Features**

- Added drug ingredients to OpenMRS API
- Improved search for concepts and drugs
- Improved startup process for add-on modules
- Upgrade HL7 support to version 2.6
- Allow support for overlapping patient visits
- Improved security for viewing & editing encounters
- New Hindi & Chinese user interface translations
Also in 2015, we released two new versions of OpenMRS Reference Application, both led by volunteer release managers.

**Reference Application 2.2** — April  
Sri Maurya Kummamuru, Release Manager

**Reference Application 2.3** — October  
Tharunya Pati, Release Manager

**Reference Application 2.3.1** — December  
Security updates based on feedback reported to security@openmrs.org

> **Appointment Scheduling**  
Originated as a student project in Israel, further developed by Partners In Health and ThoughtWorks for the Mirebalais project

> **Chart Search**  
Originated as a Google Summer of Code project, most recently worked on by Kaweesi Joseph

> **Ability to add Custom Apps**  
without programming

> **Administrative User Interface**  
New user experience matching that of managing OpenMRS

> **Support for MariaDB**  
Keeping true to our open source philosophy

> **Hundreds of smaller changes**  
To the 38 modules now included in the Reference Application
The coming year will see the OpenMRS community work toward six strategic goals to help us accelerate our impact on improving care.

These goals address our historic work, including improvements in our various software products. We also know that our customers and implementers are critical to our success, so we will work to increase support for distributions and service providers. We will develop educational opportunities for those who support OpenMRS software in the field and for our contributors around the world. Finally, as our community continues to grow, we will continue to improve the operational infrastructure that can support partnerships, funding, communication, and reporting. Together, we are increasing our focus to improve the OpenMRS community to help support its evolving needs.

For more on our operational plan: go.openmrs.org/2016

**6 Goals for 2016**

- Develop and evolve the foundational technical products of our community
- Develop and evolve a pre-configured EMR application to be directly used in health delivery settings
- Improve attention, identification and support of best practices for distributions
- Increase commitment to education to support OpenMRS
- Support implementations through development of effective service providers
- Maximize efficiency and effectiveness of the community through enhanced operational infrastructures
LOOKING AHEAD: GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

Information is critical to the delivery of health care, and OpenMRS plays an essential role in that care delivery cycle. Our software facilitates the gathering of information and the translation of information to data and knowledge at the point of care. Our success relies on the talent of a global community of independent and organizationally-sponsored volunteers, who work together to improve the health care delivery system, moving us closer to the goal of health equity for all.

Since its creation, this distributed network of OpenMRS volunteers has grown with very limited centralized funding. The non-profit OpenMRS Inc. plans to embark on a central fundraising campaign in 2016 to meet the needs of our open source community as we prepare for the exponential growth that is at our doorstep. We encourage you to participate as more information is made available later this year.
Our diverse community of volunteers are the lifeblood of OpenMRS. They participate in all parts of OpenMRS, including idea conception, design, software programming, testing, language translation and communication.

Our community volunteers are based in every part of the world, and have varied backgrounds and education. We love programmers, but we also really need clinicians, health care team members, and people with skills in documentation, quality control, management, and more. There are many ways to help in our mission to save lives that don’t include knowing Java or AngularJS — or even knowing what those words mean!

1. Visit the community page: go.openmrs.org/help
2. Fill in the ‘Interested?’ form.
3. Visit the introduction page on OpenMRS Talk: go.openmrs.org/hello
   Introduce yourself and read about others in the community.

We look forward to learning about you and working together as you become part of our global community!
SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

AMPATH
Centers for Disease Control, U.S.
Fogarty International Center, NIH
Google
Harvard Medical School
International Development Research Centre
Jembi Health Systems
Medical Research Council, South Africa
Millennium Villages Project
Partners In Health
Regenstrief Institute
Rockefeller Foundation
Salesforce
SolDevelo
ThoughtWorks
University of California San Francisco
University of Washington
World Health Organization

... and many others!