

←Ĵ→FORWARD EDGE

extraordinary

OUR MISSION

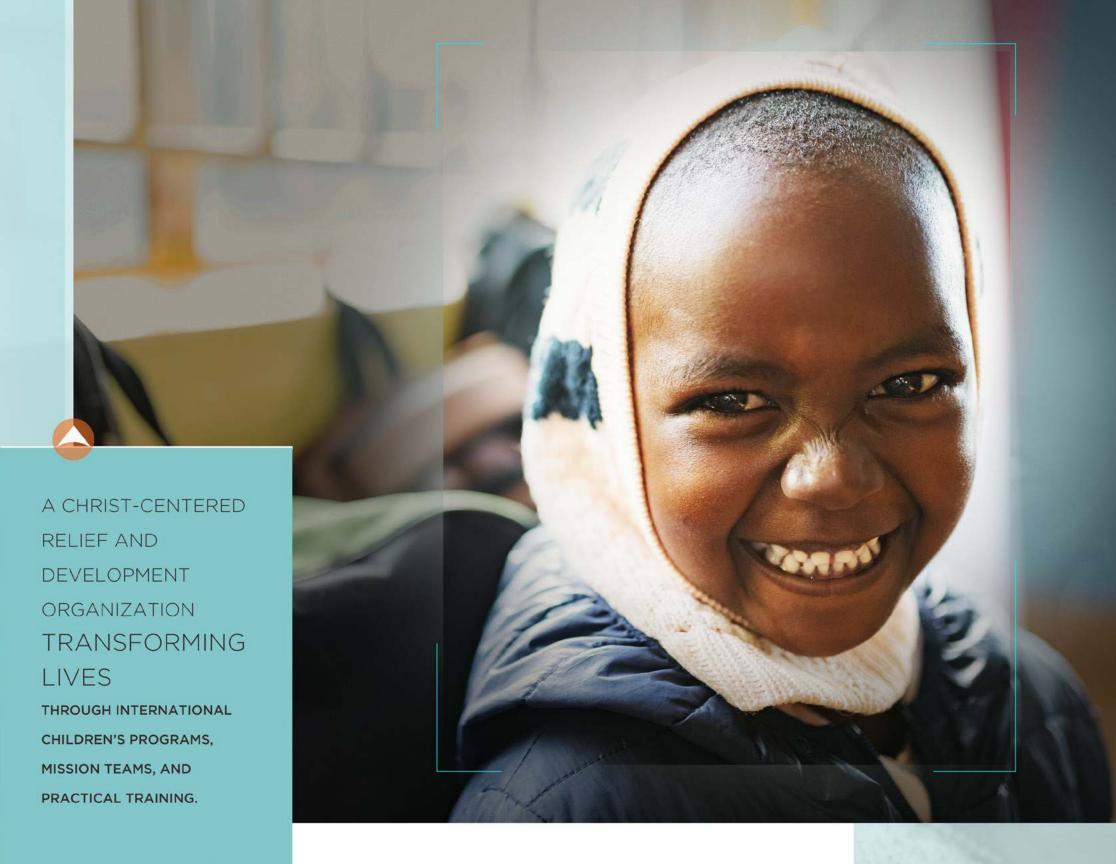
TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO DISCOVER THEIR TRUE WORTH AND PURSUE GOD'S EXTRAORDINARY PURPOSE FOR THEIR LIVES.

VISION

TO SEE ACTIVATED CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE US AND AROUND THE WORLD EMPOWERING THE VULNERABLE AND GROWING AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.

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A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It's not hyperbolic to say that 2020 was one of the most challenging years in the history of the world. With the possible exception of the Flood, no other event in human history simultaneously affected everyone on the planet like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Another encouraging byproduct of 2020's disruptions was the amazing generosity of our ministry partners. Unable to gather in person for our annual banquet, something we'd dor for 20+ years, we were forced to how our first-ever virtual event. Friends a

At Forward Edge, the pandemic had a tremendous impact on all our programs. The children and families we serve around the world could no longer gather in person; our mission-team program screeched to a halt; and our IHQ staff and Board of Directors could only gather via Zoom. It was a year of great disruption.

But for those serving with Forward Edge, the primary byproduct of all this disruption wasn't chaos, inactivity or despair. It was resilience, courage, and unrelenting outreach. Consider what our programs provided to children and families around the world:

- 169,458 meals and food packages
- 171,208 liters of safe drinking water
- 315,307 hours of education/tutoring
- 67,693 hours of discipleship

Another encouraging byproduct of 2020's disruptions was the amazing generosity of our ministry partners. Unable to gather in person for our annual banquet, something we'd done for 20+ years, we were forced to host our first-ever virtual event. Friends and partners from all across the country, as well as other countries, participated in the event, which was viewed by more than 1,200 people. The result? More net revenue raised than at any other fundraising event in Forward Edge history. In addition, the extraordinary success of our year-end fundraising campaign allowed us to enter 2021 in our strongest financial position in years.

Yes, God was gracious to Forward Edge in 2020. As we anchored our confidence and hope in Him, He did more than anything we could have ever asked or imagined (Eph. 3:20-21), confirming what we already knew about Him: He is faithful, and He is good.

In 2020, we also learned a lot about ourselves. We learned that even when faced with circumstances beyond our control, we could still move forward

as the Body of Christ. We could pivot and be guided by the Holy Spirit into new and effective ways of declaring and demonstrating the gospel. We could, in short, continue giving, serving, loving, and functioning as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Several years ago, I coined a word that explains how our response to unforeseen circumstances often determines the story of our lives. The word is "serendestiny," which I define as: "The phenomenon of discovering one's destiny by responding with faith and obedience to Godordained circumstances not anticipated or sought for." In 2020, by the grace of Almighty God, our board, staff, and ministry partners did exactly that, and God was glorified.

On behalf of the entire Forward Edge Team, thank you for joining with us in 2020 to create opportunities for thousands of children and adults—here in the US and around the world—to discover their true worth and pursue God's extraordinary purpose for their lives. You share in every victory won, and in the reward that will come in eternity.

Meals and Food Packages 169,458

Liters of Safe
Drinking Water
171,208

Hours of Education and Tutoring 315,307

Hours of Discipleship 67,693



Joseph Anfuso Founder & President





COMMUNITIES WE SERVE BY LOCATION

- El Cobre, Cuba
- Les Cayes, Haiti
- Kijabe, Kenya
- Oaxaca, Mexico
- Managua, Nicaragua
- Ponce, Puerto Rico
- Kampala, Uganda
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Southern Oregon

THE **PROBLEM**

Throughout the world, there are communities of people who are outliers, marginalized and forgotten by the rest of society. Families struggle to find jobs and steady income to feed their children. Children are born into a constant struggle for survival and aren't given the opportunity to be educated and dream of a better future. Communities are left hopeless.

But there is one who sees every face, every story, and knows every name. Jesus taught us, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

And it is with this heart that we serve children, families and communities - in seemingly hopeless situations - helping them find their true worth and purpose in Christ while meeting their tangible needs.



OUR

STRATEGY

CHRIST CENTERED

The Gospel is both word and action. Declaring and demonstrating the Good News of Jesus Christ has always been - and will always be - at the heart of everything we do. We work with a variety stewardship. Our aim is to equip of denominations and cultures, but the Gospel is what connects us all and leads us forward in unity and purpose.

CHILD FOCUSED

More than 70% of people who come to faith in Christ, do so before the age of 15. Childhood is the most receptive season in life, which is why Jesus said, "let the little children come to Me." Our programs equip and empower children to be Gospel-centered agents of change in their communities for generations to come.



LOCALLY LED

All our international relief and development programs are envisioned, initiated and led by local Christian leaders held to high levels of trust and and support the local Church as they spread the Gospel and meet needs in ways effective for their unique cultural environment.

PARTNERSHIP DRIVEN

Our God is relational. He loves to accomplish His work through meaningful relationships within His Global Church. That's why we believe partnering our church communities in the field with churches and schools in the US accomplishes the greatest long-term, holistic impact for all involved.

EQUIP & EMPOWER

Every person was created on purpose and for a purpose. No one else can live their purpose for them. We want to equip and empower every person we encounter - from the children in our programs to the volunteers on our mission teams - to live out their unique, God-given purpose.

HOLISTIC

Jesus demonstrated the Gospel by making people whole - mind, body and soul. Our programs are holistic, empowering children to thrive physically, spiritually, emotionally, and economically. Often times, meeting physical needs opens the door for the rest.



333 Children and adults served

OPERATION ENDURING HOMES

Samuel, María, and their six children have been living in a two-room sheet metal shack with a dirt floor. With the help of generous Forward Edge friends, our home-building ministry/business, Operation Enduring Homes, was able to make major repairs on their home. This included replacing the siding, building a safe stairway up the hill to the home's entrance, pouring a concrete floor, installing a safety fence, and expanding the home with an extra room. This has drastically improved their quality of life and the family is so grateful to all who worked and supported them.

A team of men from Living Hope Christian Church in New York took a trip to serve alongside and encourage the local men working at Operation Enduring Homes. They encouraged the men greatly, inspiring them to build strong "spiritual homes," loving, leading and protecting their families well.

FROM DRINKING WATER TO LIVING WATER

Program Name: Trigo y Miel

food distribution for families, medical monitoring and care, educational tutoring, safe water

Total Staff: 10

Directors: Victor and Lety Velasco

Ministries: Daily meals for children,

distribution, homes for families in need, scholarships for college students, local church partnership, children and youth

discipleship, micro-savings bank

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our Trigo y Miel program provided 5,000 liters of purified water each month to families in the community, and God used this to not only meet the physical needs of the people, but their emotional and spiritual needs as well.

The Jiménez Reyes family of seven saw God work in their lives this past year through the consistent provision of purified water from Trigo y Miel. When asked what the Trigo y Miel program means to them, they shared that it means strength, change, desire to continue, and many blessings. The family expressed their admiration for Victor and Lety's (our Directors) character, for the ways they treat others, and for their wisdom and guidance.





"We grew up believing that we could only reach God through images and worshipping them, but when we came to Trigo y Miel, we realized that we had been deceived. We met Jesus thanks to the pastor telling us about him and inviting us to their church. After a few months of going to church we opened our hearts to Jesus and now the whole family follows him."



HELPING AFTER HURRICANES ETA & IOTA

Many families were devasted by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, often losing access to safe drinking water. Thanks to generous partners, Villa Esperanza was able to help send over 500 gallons of water to families most in need. Forward Edge staff and volunteers spent countless hours helping rebuild homes, removing falling trees, and assisting with clean-up. We're so grateful for God's protection over His people, and for the many who prayed, sent words of encouragement, and gave so generously.

recovery

Program Name: Villa Esperanza

Directors: Wilbert Alvarado and
Gloria Sequeira

Total Staff: 30

Ministries: Girls residential program, boys discipleship program, VIDA (sexual purity training program), scholarship program, community food packages, men's discipleship, pastor training, hurricane recovery, micro-lending, local school support

5,694 Children and adults served

BECOMING A NURSE DURING COVID

Emely came from a broken home without much hope or confidence in herself. Our Nicaragua Director, Gloria Sequeira, observed that Emely felt different and less loved than others, with a need to prove her worth. Gloria shared that after Emely met Jesus at Villa Esperanza you could see a new fire inside her soul. She was now more confident, with real hopes and dreams for the first time. Emely wanted to finish nursing school and serve in a remote country. She graduated at the top of her class, but then felt her dreams were hindered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

After much thought and prayer, Emely chose to move past her fear and rest in the fact that she knew God was calling her to serve others through her work. She shared this with Gloria, and the two of them prayed together that God would provide an opportunity. Soon after, Emely received a call to work in a local COVID-19 area. She was surprised by this as she realized that God's plans for her were not to work abroad, but to serve people in her own country.





"I've learned to know God on a deeper level. I'm afraid, but I know that I'm not alone," Emely told Gloria. God has changed Emely over her three years at the Villa and He is already using her to make a significant impact in her community.

Program Name: Kid's Club

Director:

Jean Chavannes Jeune

Total Staff: 5

Ministries: Feeding program,

Sunday church, children's

discipleship, youth group,

safe water



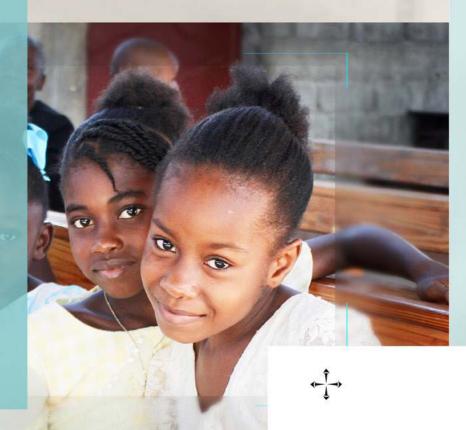
HUNGRY NO MORE

Haiti is one of the five poorest countries in the world, and children there suffer from unthinkable poverty and malnutrition. Yet, God's care for each child that encounters our Kid's Club program is evident, as it was for a young boy named Wesny this year.

Wesny had been very ill with a swollen belly from eating sand and charcoal, which is not uncommon among children with malnutrition and disabilities. His parents couldn't afford a doctor's visit so they reached out for help to Papoute, our Program Coordinator at Kid's Club. Thanks to support from our financial partners, Papoute was able to get Wesny and his mother to the hospital. Wesny was able to receive assistance with nutrition and medicine for Pica disorder, malaria and anemia. Since then, Wesny's health has dramatically improved.

EDUCATING TO END CHILD SLAVERY

During a special training in 2020, church and community leaders completed a 12-week course focused on ending child slavery. They were taught to recognize children living in domestic child slavery (otherwise known as restaveks), and to educate their communities on this subject. One graduate shared, "Some people have given away their children due to lack of training. I can and I want to get involved in this battle for the freedom of restaveks, because I too was a restavek and lived with much suffering." Lives were changed and the leaders were equipped and encouraged to begin making a difference in the community for children.





Program Name:

Good Samaritan's Club

People Baptized: 92

Director: Alex Coronado

Total Staff: 2

Ministries: Feeding program, Sunday church, children's discipleship, youth group, safe water



443 Children and adults served

GOD SUPPLIES RICE

Cuba has experienced a significant food shortage over the past year. Buying food for the program has been especially challenging and lies on the shoulders of Pastor Alex and the volunteers. God has miraculously provided many times, but perhaps the most memorable one was when He brought them rice in December.

Pastor Alex and Oney, his Church Administrator, tried to buy rice from many places, but were unsuccessful. They planned to try again the following day, but before they went home, they prayed together for God's provision. As they were saying goodbye, Pastor Alex heard a man calling for him. The man told him he had rice for sale, but whoever bought it would need to buy it all.

Cost was a big concern, so when they asked the man the price, they were amazed to find it was the cheapest rice they had ever bought! They had never seen this man before, nor have they seen him since, but they left that day rejoicing in God's miraculous provision and care for His children.

Program Name: Mama Beth's

Children's Program

Director: Jane Wathagana

Total Staff: 7

for women

Ministries: Daily meals for children, food distribution for families, children and youth discipleship, preschool education, education support, sewing business training

295 Children and adults served **KENYA**

REMEMBERING MAMA BETH

Mama Beth began feeding hungry neighborhood children in her home in the 1980s. Since then, Mama Beth's personal ministry has grown into a full-fledged program serving hundreds of families and children (many of them orphans) all throughout the impoverished community of Kijabe, Kenya.

In December of 2020, Mama Beth passed away into the arms of her Heavenly Father. She touched hundreds of lives over the years and will be greatly missed. Her legacy lives on through her daughter Jane Wathagana, who now runs Mama Beth's and has extended its impact to even more children and families.

Please keep Jane and her family in your prayers as they aim to carry on Mama Beth's legacy of impact. Proverbs 31:31 reminds us of Mama Beth: "Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."



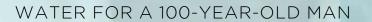
Program Name: Light a Candle **Director:** Bonny Lugayizi

Total Staff: 8

Ministries: Weekly meals for children, food distribution for families, children and youth discipleship, education support, care and support for specially made children, Christian guidance counseling in high schools, microsavings bank, child re-unification

NEW PRESCHOOL FUNDED

On #GivingTuesday our generous supporters fully funded the construction and startup costs for a new preschool building at Mama Beth's! With this new facility, we'll be able to provide more local children with a knowledge of God and a quality education, the two most important factors in overcoming extreme poverty.



Access to clean and safe water continues to be a challenge in most parts of Uganda, and especially in the smaller villages where residents have only one functioning borehole for over 100 families. In most cases, community members are forced to share water with animals, which further exposes them to water-related infections.

100-year-old Mzei Yusuf is blind and unable to access safe water. He represents many other elderly people and children who are unable to stand for hours in the long lines to get water.



In July of 2020, our program, Light A Candle, was able to construct a water tank for Mzei and others in the community of Lusanja. Praise God this new tank now makes it safe for Mzei, other elderly people, and children in the community to access safe drinking water!

GLOBAL **PARTNERSHIPS**

Church and School Partners: 41 Mission Trip Locations: 9 People Served by Mission Teams: 525

In a year of lockdowns, God used a mere 45 short-term missionaries in extraordinary ways. These January and February teams were able to pave the way for our programs and partners to press on amid the pandemic. Two early teams to Baltimore - North Summit Church (Idaho) and Kings Way Christian School (Washington) worked on renovation projects for our partner, The Transformation Center, which helped them open a screenprinting business later in the year. This business provides healing and recovery With travel unavailable for most to individuals experiencing poverty, addiction, and prior incarceration through meaningful employment.



A February team from Grace Community Church (New Hampshire) was able to prepare the kitchen at our Oaxaca program, Trigo y Miel, for a second-story renovation project. Little did they know, this preparation would prove extremely helpful for the feeding distribution program to pivot gracefully during the pandemic.

of 2020, our amazing church and school partners found other ways to continue making a difference. Many canceled teams donated their trip deposits to the programs and did special fundraisers, like Mifflin County Community Church (Pennsylvania) who covered 12 weeks of tutoring for the children in Oaxaca, and Grace Community who held a church-wide sponsorship campaign and recruited 40 new sponsors!

Other partners participated with our field staff in virtual forums to keep in touch and pray together, and in June, we had our first virtual mission trip -TrueLife Church (Washington) with Villa Esperanza!



OREGON FIRE RECOVERY

God also opened a door for teams to serve survivors of the Almeda Fire that raged through communities in Southern Oregon. One of our newest church partners - Lifespring Foursquare (Washington) - was the first to serve by sifting through the ash with homeowners who lost everything. Among the highlights was finding precious WWII medals right before Veteran's Day for a veteran's daughter. At the conclusion of their time together, she showed her thanks by leading the team in Amazing Grace on the sidewalk in front of the ashes of her home. Later in the week, the team was able to witness the complete transformation of a Chinese woman from despair to restored hope as treasures were found in the ash, in each other, and in a powerful time of prayer together. One of the team members was also able to communicate in their shared Chinese language, a precious gift from God for both the team member and the homeowner.





CHILD **SPONSORSHIP**

The real impact of sponsorship is so much more than any number could express. Child Sponsors have the opportunity to deeply affect the trajectory of a child's life, not only through their financial support, but through their special one-on-one relationship. Our sponsors encourage, disciple, listen to and love their sponsored children through letter writing and in-person visits while on mission trips. Thank you child sponsors! Your support truly has eternal impact.

Total Sponsorships in 2020: 583

Increase in Sponsorships from 2019: +30%

FROM CHILDREN:

"I like that I have been able to meet my sponsors. They have come twice and they played with me, they also went to my house. We have written letters and they tell me about their family and I can tell them about mine. That makes me feel they love me." - Silvia, Mexico

"What I like the most from having a sponsor is that there is love and friendship without even meeting her and I know she prays for me."

- Dailin, Cuba

FROM SPONSORS:

"I wanted to fully honor and thank the Lord for His continued provisions in my life. I realized that if I was limiting myself to only financial donations, I was, in a way, ignoring how the Lord has met my non-financial needs. I really like to be a man of Christ. I mean, at respect Forward Edge for seeking to meet the emotional, relational, and spiritual needs of those in poverty, not basic needs." - Bryton Hall just their physical needs. I prayerfully decided that sponsoring a child with Forward Edge was a simple way to give back with more than just finances." - Nicholas Robinson

"Seeing the post about Andy and his age and the young man he will become shortly really motivated me to sponsor him. The idea that I could write letters to him and maybe show him what it's the least, to show him in words who Jesus is and be able to provide his





"It is my joy to start every day at my desk, looking at my little girl's picture and praying for her. The letters we send one another are so important to me as I've watched our relationship grow. Sponsoring her is one of God's many blessings in my life." - Elizabeth Hightower

NEW E-COURSE LIVING ON PURPOSE

JOIN JOSEPH ON A 7-WEEK JOURNEY

Forward Edge all began with the idea that normal Christ-followers could do extraordinary things with God for His Kingdom when they understood their unique God-given purpose and were given the opportunities and tools they needed to live it out. That's why we place a high value on the experience of one-week mission trips, because God often uses them as accelerated discipleship opportunities to set people on a new, Holy Spirit-led trajectory in their life. Similarly, this course is a 7-week journey to a deeper understanding of who God created you to be and how you can partner with Him in His amazing plans for your life.

In the Fall of 2020, amid many canceled teams, we released this course to help people continue learning and living their purpose no matter where they found themselves in the tumultuous year. *Living on Purpose* is a compilation of lessons learned over Joseph Anfuso's 40+ years in ministry and missions. Full of practical tools like a Gifts Inventory and Passion Profile and engaging, animated storytelling, this course is already transforming lives, and we can't wait to see how God continues using it in the years to come.

For more information or to take the e-course go to www.living-onpurpose.org.



"The online course was truly life changing for me. It helped me to clearly see where God has brought me, how He has designed me, and what parts of my life are most important. The videos were very engaging, and the workbook encouraged me to dream big while equipping me with steps to take. I finished the course with excitement for the adventures God has planned for me." - Melanie Kruse

"I've taken the course myself and was deeply impacted by the depth and breadth of the journey it took me on. It's a standout resource for personal discovery and purposeful living. I look forward to passing this course on to others who are ready to live from the center of God's plan for each of them."

- Pastor Rick Vogt

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SELL A HOME

SAVE A CHILD

Even though the pandemic canceled many events, our program for Real Estate professionals called Sell a Home, Save a Child (SAHSAC) still made a significant difference in 2020 for the children in our programs. Twenty-two members continued to provide vital monthly support, and they were joined by dozens of other SAHSAC supporters at the following events:

Hatch Golf Scramble in August: \$14,000
Hatch Coaching Summit in September: \$115,700

Through God's grace and the generosity of many Real Estate professionals, the total amount of donations made through Sell a Home, Save a Child from its birth through 2020 is \$1,883,300. We are so thankful for our amazing Sell a Home, Save a Child members and supporters!





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WORTH & PURPOSE VIRTUAL BANQUET

2020 brought us our first-ever Virtual Worth & Purpose Banquet. Condensing our typical live events from around the country into one allowed us to come together as one giant family to advance God's mission through Forward Edge.

Praise God, we raised more support for our programs than ever before – over \$412,000 – and had 1,258 viewers tune in from all over the world!

Thank you to all those who participated, and especially to our generous corporate sponsors who led the charge:

Andersen Construction, Einstein's Oilery, ADT, Chick Fil A Portland, Chick Fil A Cascade Park, Chuck's Heating and Cooling, Dantona Industries, Corinthian Textiles, and McNair Septic Design & Consulting.

FINANCIALS

2.4M Total Revenue in 2020

IN 2020 WE INVESTED:

1.6M Into Our Programs
397K Into Our Operations

NET ASSETS:

918K **2019** 1.3M **2020**

partners

ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

Programs

81%

Admin

16%

Fundraising

3%





You can view our full financial report at forwardedge.org/about-us.



OUR BOARD

Dave Andersen

Joseph Anfuso

Karen Anfuso

Lisa DaSilva

Brad Fenison

John Greholver

Kay Moore

Wendell Robinson

Greg Seifert

Gabe Winslow

OUR **PROMISES**

85 CENTS OF

EVERY \$1 you give goes directly toward programs that help vulnerable children, disaster victims, and communities in need (15 cents to administration and fundraising).*

ALL YOUR GIFTS to help vulnerable children go toward effective programs dedicated to long-term, holistic transformation.

YOUR DONATIONS

TO HELP disaster victims are used to help the most vulnerable return to their homes (widows, low-income families, single moms, etc.).

We're Highly Accredited by:

Standards of Excellence in Short-Term

Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO)

Evangelical Council for Financial

Charity Navigator

Missions (SOE)

Great Nonprofits

Accord Network

Accountability (ECFA)

GuideStar

YOUR INVESTMENT EMPOWERS credible, local leaders caring for their own people.



*Sometimes program funds aren't sufficient to cover program costs, and in those instances, we borrow from the General Operations Fund (the 15%). Some years we borrow, and some years we're able to pay it back, which results in expenditure ratios that aren't always precisely 85/15. Typically, our expenditures fluctuate between 80-90% of donations received — very high for the industry.

A HUGE THANK YOU

TO OUR 1,368 DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS IMPACTING THE GLOBAL KINGDOM OF GOD THROUGH THEIR TIME, RESOURCES, PRAYERS, LETTERS, SWEAT AND TALENTS. FORWARD EDGE ONLY EXISTS IN AND THROUGH PEOPLE LIKE YOU ALLOWING GOD TO DIRECT YOU TO PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION.