# WITH YOU, WE ARE REACHING MORE ORPHANS THAN EVER.

2019 Mid-Year Impact Report



# **GLOBAL ORPHAN CARE**

Reaching orphans & vulnerable children with the Gospel; meeting basic needs; providing education, discipleship, and long-term support.

### Where we serve:



Abraham, opposite, leading prayer in Thailand. One of our main goals is developing young leaders who have a heart for reaching their communities.

In Bukeka, Uganda, opposite far right, our students-like Estherreceive two hot meals a day to help them focus during school.

Pastors and leaders, opposite bottom, gather in Bercy, Haiti for a pastors' conference.

## Every child we serve will:



Not want for food, clothing, medical care, or shelter



Be taught the Gospel and how to live as followers of Jesus Christ



Receive a quality education to provide a foundation for their future



Experience continued love and support as they transition into adult living

## YOUR GIVING HAS IMPACT.





1,374 staff and volunteers







So far this year



2,166,910 meals served to children in our care

# **CHRIST-CENTERED CARE**

Above all things, our goal is to reach orphans and vulnerable children with the love of Christ.

In early July, 74 young men from our Student Life program in Zambia gathered for a weekend of biblical teaching and Christian fellowship. The theme–Kingdom Men–focused on breaking away from Satan's lies in the culture around them. Talks covered areas like alcohol, drugs, pornography, and respecting women.

The topic was extremely relevant. In the nearby compound (a local village known for its violence and crime), Satan's lies run rampant, and many of the young men we serve are only taught that version of manhood. Having witnessed many of the behaviors discussed, the talks hit close to home. Many young men opened up, and three eighth-grade boys made the decision to follow Christ.

The Gospel message isn't exclusive to only the children and students we serve. For this reason, it's our hope that the communities we serve within be transformed by Jesus, too. We work with local pastors and church leaders to ensure that community members have access to God's truth. In Haiti, for example, we hosted a pastors' conference to encourage and equip indigenous church leaders.



1,218
Bibles distributed



1,159
children living in family style homes, including Student Life and transition homes



commitments of faith in Jesus Christ and baptisms



"It was important to me when choosing a ministry to choose someone we could build with. I really wanted to be purposeful about building a relationship, so that through that relationship we could show the love of Christ."

AMANDA PITTMAN
MISSIONS DIRECTOR, GENERATIONS CHURCH





Students, above, receive a quality, Christcentered education across our three school campuses in Ethiopia

Lamar, left, has placed first in his class the last two years at Lifesong School in Haiti.

## **EDUCATION**

Providing a quality education is one of the most effective methods to empower orphans and vulnerable children.

Lamar lives in Haiti, the youngest of nine children. Due to the steep cost of local schools, his chances of receiving any education were incredibly slim. But because Lifesong School offers free tuition, books, and supplies, Lamar is able to come to school every day and expand his skills.

Thanks to generous people caring about students like Lamar, he's reaching his God-given potential. For the past two years, Lamar has placed first in his class.

Lamar beating the odds to reach amazing academic achievements is just a glimpse of the powerful ways God is working through education at Lifesong.

In Zambia, where only 37% of students start secondary school and a mere 8% finish, 10 students graduated from Lifesong School-including 6 girls. Lifesong School ranks 18th among all 300 schools in the Zambian Copper Belt Region, putting it in the top 6% of schools in the region.

In Ethiopia, for the fourth year in a row, 100% of the eighth-graders passed their national exam-an achievement that's completely unheard of in that country. Even more, three of our students received the top three scores in our state-one of whom even received a perfect score.

"I am thankful to our friends who are supporting us...The textbooks we have, the help and support we get, you don't find in many private schools here."

PRISCA LIFESONG ZAMBIA 2ND GRADE TEACHER

> These significant accomplishments are the direct result of our students' hard work, our teachers' dedicated effort, and God's hand to faithfully fulfill His purpose.



Lifesong Zambia finished in the

o**top 6%** 

out of 300 schools in the Copperbelt Province.









2016

## 100% pass rate

in 8th grade national exams over the last four years for our students in Ethiopia



Pray for our students and those graduating as they take the next step with college. vocational training, or apprenticeship.

## **TRANSITION**

It's our desire that each child we serve be equipped with the skills and resources necessary for a successful future. This comes not only through a quality, Christ-centered education but also through discipleship and vocational training.

We believe that a deep understanding of Scripture and guidance from mentors is vital to our students' safe and secure transition into adulthood.

In Ukraine, we see Arthur coaching and mentoring a Lifesong soccer team through weekly Bible studies and corporate prayer. In Cambodia, Sam is intentionally discipling younger children and leading student outreach to nearby villages. And in Zambia, we find house parents in the Student Life homes creating a safe, loving, Gospel-centered home environment for the most at-risk children. Discipleship-based relationships like these are found in nearly all areas of our ministry.



While we focus on our students' spiritual health first, we also recognize the importance of equipping the children in our care with employable skills. In the past year, the ministry in Zambia has launched a three-part vocational program consisting of auto-mechanics, agriculture, and hospitality.

We believe God gives children talents and blessings to lead the next generation. Through people like you, our students are discovering and exercising their God-given skills in ways they never have before.







On average,

## 4 out of 5

young adults in Ukraine will experience crime, prostitution, suicide, or overdose within two years of aging out of the orphanage. Since 2006, over

## 520 graduates

have been reached through ministry programs. And over

## 410 graduates

since 2009 have been employed through Lifesona Farms Ukraine and ministry.



**140 graduates** of our schools or programs are currently attending college or vocational schools.





Arthur, above, leads a devotion at Lifesong Ukraine's summer camps for children from local orphanages.

In Zambia, right, students learning auto mechanics in the newly developed vocational program.

## JOB CREATION

Through sustainable businesses initiatives that employ orphan graduates, we seek to prevent orphans, create jobs, and support local communities.



What began as two Ukrainian graduates' simple idea has snowballed into a highly profitable business–Lifesong Farms. Farm leaders from Ukraine visit Zambia regularly to help teach the latest farming methods, and a recent trip included the installation of a new hydroponics system. With this new system, the Zambian team harvests 1,000 lbs. of produce each week, and that amount increases 5-10% weekly.

Our sustainable business projects expand past agriculture, though. Across the ocean, our ministry partners at Welcome Home Haiti have developed a successful block building business. Additionally, we operate a guest house in Bercy, Haiti that employs caregivers of the children we serve. Serving as lodging for mission teams we host, the guest house provides more money to directly impact the children we care for.

These projects mean nothing if we overlook the employees who work there daily. With daily wages come medical care, meals, uniforms, and numerous other benefits. And most of all, these stable jobs provide a sense of dignity and purpose.





Prenathne and Lulune, right, have stable jobs washing clothes and sheets at the guest house in Bercy, Haiti.

Young men and women, above, in Ukraine have the opportunity to learn advanced skills-like hydroponics-on the farm.

> New branding, top left, for Lifesong Farms.

Pelijah, top right, proudly displays strawberries grown through the new hydroponics systems in Zambia



"[my family] knew a lot of suffering. But God was gracious with me because now I can buy food for them."

HHHINE HAITI GUEST HOUSE EMPLOYEE



## Nearly 80%

of the population of Bercy, Haiti, are unemployed.

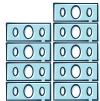


Now through Lifesong Farms and Guest House, 75 Haitians are gainfully employed.



Less than \$1.90/dav

average daily income for half of Zambia



Up to \$9.00/dav

working for Lifesong



of Lifesong Farms Ukraine management are orphanage graduates.



of farm employees have orphanage history.

# **ADOPTION**

We believe every child deserves the love of a family. Through interest-free loans, matching grants, and fundraising support, it's our goal to make that happen.

The Owens knew God had called them to build their family through adoption—so that's exactly what they did. Since 2012, they have brought home three children from China through adoption.

International adoption was far beyond their financial means, especially during the most recent adoption of their daughter. Even with their home equity line of credit maxed out and their only decent car sold, they still needed more funds as they prepared to travel to China to bring her home.

But God intervened. He used the generosity of His people to provide for their family. One of the most significant moments of provision occurred through matching grants from Lifesong and a church adoption fund partner. With the help of these grants, the Owens raised \$8,300 for their adoption.

The timing couldn't have been better. The Owens wrote our church adoption fund partner, Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, "I received notification of your generous grant while we were still in China. I knew that we had loans to repay and fresh medical expenses waiting for us when we returned home. Your generosity was confirmation from our Heavenly Father that He can always be trusted."

Many of the families we work with face what appears to be impossible financial circumstances in their adoptions. But with every obstacle comes another opportunity for God–through generous givers like youto prove His faithfulness.

The Owens family represents just one of over 7,500 adoptive families Lifesong has helped through adoption financial assistance.



"God used the generosity of His people to make provision for our family. Just as the bills were due, someone would step up and make a sacrifice for Leila's adoption."

CHAD & MANDY ADOPTED FROM CHINA



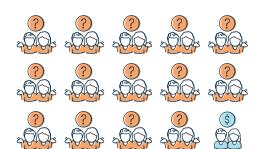
# 7,500 orphans

have become SONS & DAUGHTERS through adoption.



## 475 adoption fund

partners in 44 states help support adoptive families across the U.S.



## 93% of families

who apply to Lifesong could not adopt without financial assistance.



Over the past year,
714 adoptive families
were awarded over
\$2.4 million
Families raised an additional
\$4.5 million



For an average of \$9,663 per family

## CHILD SPONSORSHIP

One way Lifesong mobilizes the Church to care for orphans is through child sponsorship. This program has grown dramatically in recent years. Today, 3,129 children in 12 countries are sponsored through Lifesong. With God's blessing and your support, we will seek to connect children in need with loving sponsors for years to come.

Shonda with Nollay, below, in Ethiopia earlier this year.

Over 370 children at Lifesong Zambia, like the young women pictured right, are loved and supported by sponsors.







# 3,129 children

in 12 countries are receiving the Gospel; meeting basic needs; providing education, discipleship, and long-term support.

"Because of generous sponsors, all these years Nollay has received two nutritious meals per day and an excellent education from teachers who love her and share the hope of the Gospel with her."

SHONDA DIETZ LIFESONG ETHIOPIA ADVOCATE

## A PERFECT SCORE



Charity Navigator awarded Lifesong for Orphans with its highest rating, 4 stars, for the fourth year in a row. Only 19% of charities evaluated by Charity Navigator receive 4 consecutive 4-star evaluations.



# 100% to care for ORPHANS

Thanks to TMG Foundation and key partners all of our fundraising and administrative costs are already covered. 100% of your received donation will directly help children in need.











