

BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW



















BRINGING JOY & PURPOSE TO ORPHANS

Lifesong seeks to mobilize the Church to care for the orphan, where each member can provide a unique and special service: some to adopt, some to care, some to give.

With caring people like you and church partnerships, we support children through global orphan care ministries, Christian adoptive families, and foster care initiatives.

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



Global Orphan Care



2018 BY THE NUMBERS



8,362 Children Served Daily



1,315
Indigenous Staff
And Volunteers



13 Countries



STUDENTS EXCEL IN ETHIOPIA

Once again our staff saw many students receive the highest marks on the national exams. Not only that, but 46 of our fifthgrade girls achieved the highest rank of 1st, 2nd or 3rd out of all students. And all of our eighth-grade students passed their exams for the fourth year in a row. And three of our students were the top three in the state.

Each year we see our students perform exceptionally well in these exams. We are thankful for our excellent teachers who invest in each student, often going above and beyond their regular teaching duties. You are reaching these children and providing much-needed support.

Global Orphan Care

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

When Chrislaine was 14 years old, her mother passed away, leaving her father struggling to provide for his seven children. Working on a farm, he could no longer afford to send her to school. Chrislaine wouldn't be able to attend the seventh grade.

It wasn't until a teacher from Lifesong Christian School encouraged her that there was a way to continue her education. With his help, she enrolled in classes and moved into the Student Life Homes on campus.

The barriers that once hindered Chrislaine's education have all come down. Because of your support, school supplies, lodging, and meals are all provided and her schooling is tuition-free.

God is also working in her spiritual life. Through the Gospel-centered education and Christian living environment, she has accepted Jesus and been baptized.



BECAUSE OF GOD I'M
STILL LIVING AND GOING
TO SCHOOL. I THANK
GOD FOR WHAT HE HAS
DONE FOR ME.

CHRISLAINE, 9TH GRADE - BERCY, HAITI





NEW VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TO EXTEND EDUCATION IN ZAMBIA

Our new Vocational School is officially registered and approved with the Zambian government! This gives our students additional opportunities to learn meaningful skills to provide for their families. Students who cannot go to college can learn valuable skills to build an employable future!

The school will officially launch in January, but we have had several students in vocational programs since 2017.

There are 3 primary areas of focus for the 2-year certification study program. These include auto mechanics, agriculture, and food production. At a lower certification level, we are also able to offer electrical, block laying/concrete, and carpentry. Our intent is to welcome both male and female students. We plan to add additional educational tracks as we identify areas of interest and need.



SERVING FAMILIES IN CRISIS IN UKRAINE

The New Life Program is the result of Natasha's vision, She is one of our ministry team members and an orphanage graduate. Natasha saw the need facing many of her friends and other young women as they graduate or age out of the Ukraine orphanage system. Thousands of vulnerable young women, many with children, are trapped in a cycle of hopelessness, without anyone to love, protect, or care for them. Today, more than 100 young women and their children are being served and discipled in a safe, loving environment.





2018 BY THE NUMBERS













7,630,325

Meals Served To Children In Our Care This Year

2,849 Children Sponsored



Mission & Vision Trips







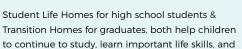












continue to be discipled.

New Vocational School



Students who cannot attend college can still learn valuable, employable skills such as auto mechanics, agriculture, and food production.

Adoption



7,500 Orphans Have Become Sons And Daughters Through Adoption.

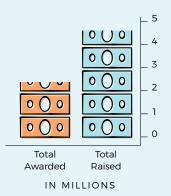
2018 BY THE NUMBERS





Total Families Awarded Matching Grants, Interest Free Loans or Fundraising Support. Of Which, 580 Families Supported By Church Funds.

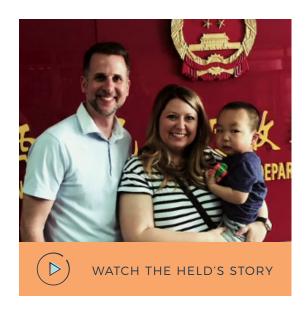
New Church Funds Added In 2018. Bringing The Total Number Of Churches Partnered With Lifesong to 462.



\$2.472.416 Awarded In Matching Grants And Interest Free Loans Since January, With An Additional **\$4,600,000** Raised By Families Through Our Crowdfunding Platform And Fundraising Tools.

\$7,072,416

The Total Given To Adoptive Families Bringing Their Children Home



HELD FAMILY ADOPTION STORY

Jason and Rebecca discussed adoption for several years before adopting a son from China. Like many families when they started the adoption process, they knew they would need additional financial support to complete their son's adoption. Their church partnered with Lifesong to start an adoption fund and award their family with a matching grant. It was through the grant that their church family could financially partner and support their adoption.

They traveled to China to bring their son Levi home this past summer.

> MONEY SHOULD NEVER **BE THE REASON A CHILD** DOESN'T HAVE A FAMILY.

DEJONG FAMILY ADOPTION STORY

In April 2012, Kate felt strongly that God was leading their family to begin the adoption process. Afraid her husband might not be on the same page, she nervously approached Mark and asked, "Have you been thinking much about adoption?" to which Mark replied, "Actually, I've been thinking about it a lot lately."

Mark and Kate trusted God to provide for their adoption. They didn't know where the funding would come from, but they believed every child deserves to grow up in a loving family. When Mark and Kate applied and received a Lifesong matching grant, it was more than just money; it was God's provision.

According to Kate, "Lifesong helped us the most in our adoption experience by enabling us to raise funds in a way that allowed donors to give tax-deductible gifts. Our friends and family were incredibly generous, and we were grateful. We made sacrifices and God laid our adoption on the hearts of many generous souls."

Mark and Kate's children—Joel and Jaelle—came home from Haiti this year.







THE CHURCH IS THE SOLUTION TO ORPHANS NEEDS.



CHURCHES SUPPORT ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

Houston's First Baptist Church has a heart for fatherless and vulnerable children, as well as families and individuals who desire to reach them with the truth that Jesus loves them. So in 2008 the church established Legacy 685 to provide connection, community, and funding to families compelled to move toward the orphan in compassion through the miracle of adoption.

- Supported families adopting from 19 countries, and 23 states
- 169 children home
- Over \$1.8M mobilized to support adoption



OUR CHURCH FUND PROVIDES

ADOPTIVE AND FOSTER FAMILIES

WITH EDUCATION, FINANCIAL

SUPPORT, AND COMMUNITY.

TONI STEERE, LEGACY 685 DIRECTOR

Sustainable Business



JOBS BUILD HOPE AND A FUTURE

As a profitable, sustainable business, Lifesong Farms in Ukraine helps cover the costs of ministry work and provides jobs for orphan graduates. Providing mentorship and discipleship, as well as promoting life skills that help young adults, like Vadim, transition well.

21-year-old Vadim works on the farm to provide for himself and his two siblings. He takes pride in his work and is grateful for the opportunity to be independent. In his words—

"What is more, when you realize that everything you do at the farm supports the ministry and brings hope to orphans in Ukraine, all my efforts bring me joy and thankfulness."

GOD GIVES CHILDREN TALENTS AND
BLESSINGS TO LEAD THE NEXT GENERATION.

2018 BY THE NUMBERS



\$206,915 Farm Profits To Support Ministry



177 Workers During Peak Season



1/3 Acres Farmed



Farms in Three Countries

An Exceptional Year



Charity Navigator awarded Lifesong for Orphans with its highest rating, 4-Stars, with a perfect score. Less than 1% of the thousands of charities rated have earned perfect scores.



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.







