25PROJECT THE GREATER STORY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



## **THE GREATER STORY**

We are thrilled to present our Annual Report for 2023! As you flip through these pages, you will have the privilege of meeting just a few of our amazing kids. Each of them has a unique story, many of which unfortunately, include a lot of pain, heartache, loneliness, and discouragement. But praise be to our Lord, that isn't where their story ends. God has been pursuing each of them, and we see His providence again and again as He unfolds His specific plan and design in each of their lives.

The stories you will read in the pages that follow are compelling, powerful, and truly inspiring. Where there is pain, God is healing and mending hearts. Where there is heartache, He is opening eyes to show His purpose and presence behind every wound and scar. And, where hope is in short supply, there is an undeniable invitation from Jesus to realize and experience what it is to live life to the fullest. We are witnesses to how He is continually gathering the pain, the joy, and all the in between to write beautiful stories of grace, redemption, and freedom.

He is changing the script. He is altering the trajectory. He is coming to reside.

Your story, my story, and the story of every precious child we serve together with you—we are a part of His greater story. And that greater story is Jesus. It's the Gospel, and it's a story that has no equal. What a privilege it is for us to partner together with you to share this greater story with every child He graciously brings our way. You are a gift, and we will be forever grateful to be on this journey with you.

Compelled by the Greater Story,



Kent Jones Davis **Executive Director** 

### **CONTENTS**

02 | WHERE WE WORK 04 | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 06 | SIERRA LEONE

14 | SOUTH AFRICA 16 | SOUTH ASIA 18 | 2023 NUMBERS



Beyond helping children around the world, the the 25 Project also serves children in need locally in partnership with the Melissa Community Outreach (MCO). By providing structure and support, we seek to strengthen and expand the organization's discipleship opportunities to reach lower-income children and families.



THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In the Dominican Republic, the hope of Jesus is alive even amidst extreme poverty. Our two ministry locations, Villa Laura and Batey Lechería, serve as places where orphaned and vulnerable children hear of this hope and begin to see it transform their lives. Through sponsorships, they not only receive meals, snacks, and medical care, but they get the chance to "be kids" and participate in Biblical and educational lessons throughout the week. SIERRA LEONE

#### **SIERRA LEONE**

Sierra Leone has endured chaos—an epidemic, civil war, and multiple natural disasters just within the last two decades. The people long for peace, and through sponsorships, children and families are introduced to Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Through the 25 Project, we send children to school and provide a safe space for Bible study, mentorship, tutoring, community, and fun.

SOUTH AFRICA

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa's struggles are deeply rooted and comp is still very much at-work within them. The 25 Projec with Intlantsi Christian School to provide Biblical edu nutrition, quality health care, and ongoing discipleshi and vulnerable children in the area. Through our spor discover who they are in Christ and how this newfou change everything—even the world around them.

#### **SOUTH ASIA**

In South Asia, where a person's status is determined even before birth, Christ's power is being made known. The 25 Project works through Mercy Homes, a ministry including residential homes for orphaned and vulnerable children, to show kids their infinite value as sons and daughters of the Most High. Sponsored children attend school, are housed or dormed (if college students), as well as fed, clothed, and led spiritually so they can become leaders in their communities.



ex, but Christ t partners tation, regular o to orphaned sors, kids nd identity can

\*Location is generalized for security purposes.



## **KESMI**

Kesmi Apolon was born in The Dominican Republic and grew up in the small village of Batey Lechería. Her family found the 25 Project ministry when Kesmi was nine years old, and she has now spent almost half of her life reaping the benefits of seeds sown by sponsors long ago. Kesmi's growth during her time in the Sponsorship Ministry the past seven years is profound.

Kesmi has grown up in a Christian home. Her father pastors a local church while trying to provide for his family by selling plastics in local markets. "My parents and my family have struggled," Kesmi said. When she first came to our ministry, she was a timid nine-year-old, longing for love. Seven years later, her life has been transformed by the Gospel, and the loving care she has received from friends who have become like family to her. "When I came to the 25 Project ministry, I had never felt such loving care and affection like I did from my sponsors and team members who came to visit. When my parents and relatives were busy trying to help us survive, I am so grateful to the Sponsorship Ministry for stepping in and providing when my family could not."

"The Sponsorship Ministry has given me the opportunity to dream big and has given me the means and the confidence to pursue and accomplish my dreams," Kesmi told our director. "My goals in life are to learn English, to become a flight attendant, to have a family one day, and to share Jesus with

everyone I meet along the way." Kesmi explained that during her time in the Sponsorship Ministry, she has learned most from our incountry director, Elizabeth Herrera. "Elizabeth is my inspiration. I admire the way she encourages us, disciplines us when needed, the way she perseveres through difficult times and criticism, and how quickly she forgives those who hurt her. She has shown me what it means to trust God to open doors in His perfect timing, and also how to believe that He will equip me for the work He calls me to do."

Because Kesmi's basic needs have been met through sponsorship, she has also grown spiritually. Kesmi has grown and flourished the last seven years because she has been consistently discipled, loved, and cared for through the pivotal times in her life. As Kesmi finishes high school, and begins training to become a flight attendant, God's hand upon her life is exceedingly evident. Those around her are impacted by the ways she is discipling the next generation, challenging and encouraging her peers, and teaching and leading those around her by her example. We are proud as we watch her pursue her dreams and have no doubt that God will continue to use Kesmi in powerful ways. Kesmi's story is a beautiful piece of God's Greater Story and the incredible mosaic of lives being impacted by 25 Project around the globe.



## DANIEL

AHA

One of the sweetest sounds on a Sunday morning at our Dominican Republic ministry center, is the sound of children's voices praising God in worship. Sitting quietly behind the keys of the piano, Daniel Pierre plays every single week. Daniel believes that his love of music is a gift from God and says that he feels most fulfilled when he is playing.

The Dominican Republic is not an easy place to grow up. Poverty, political tensions, sickness, and natural disasters are a consistent part of life there. Daniel and his seven siblings have been no exception to these struggles and the heartaches they cause. Despite these challenges, Daniel's family has been incredibly loving and supportive of each other, teaching Christcentered values and gratitude in all things.

Just five years ago, Daniel watched as a leader at his church played the piano, sang, and led the congregation in worship. Later that day, he found an old keyboard and began teaching himself to play.

"... PEOPLE HERE HAVE LOVED ME AND SHARED WITH ME AND SHOWED ME WHAT IT MEANS TO HONOR CHRIST IN ALL THAT I SAY AND DO."



Over the next few years by watching others, he learned to play by ear, and has become an excellent piano player and worship leader. The 25 Project has given him a safe place and the opportunity to learn and grow as a musician and as a Christ-follower. "I have learned throughout my time here to be more generous with people, and to be kind and gracious to those around me. I used to be selfish and stingy with what belonged to me. I did not want to share what I had. But people here have loved me and shared with me and showed me what it means to honor Christ in all that I say and do." Daniel told us that his father is his greatest inspiration in his life. "My dad has shown me what it looks like to pursue my dreams, to be bold and courageous, and most of all to trust God, even while living in poverty."

We are deeply encouraged as we sit back and watch God do the great work only He can do in the lives of the children in our ministry. We look forward to seeing how God will use Daniel's life and his many gifts to share God's love with the broken and hurting around him. As God continues to work in Daniel's life, it is evident that He is intricately weaving each piece together.

1934 F. 334



#### "IT WAS SO IMPACTFUL TO SEE GOD WORK THROUGH PIECES OF MY STORY I THOUGHT WERE POINTLESS. HE HAS USED MY SORROW AND PAIN FOR HIS GLORY."

In God's perfect timing, it was here that Abdulai first heard the message of the Gospel and began to wrestle with his Muslim faith. Abdulai had never heard that there was a plan and purpose for his life, that God could use him and his story for good, and that there was hope for his future. Raised in a Muslim home, Abdulai received opposition as he began to explore the Christian faith. After much wrestling, and asking God for forgiveness for disobeying his parents' orders, Abdulai realized that Christ is the only way. At twenty one years old, Abdulai made the decision to follow Jesus, and a few months later, was baptized, surrounded by his new brothers and sisters in Christ.

## ABDULAI

"I was hopeless and did not know the truth." Those were the words Abudulai Kargbo used to describe his life before beginning a relationship with Christ and joining the ministry of the 25 Project.

Raised in a Muslim family during the civil war in Sierra Leone, Abdulai's life was simply survival. At the conclusion of the war, Abdulai looked around the streets where he was standing one day and saw vulnerable people in every direction. Orphans, amputees, families without a home, mothers who had lost their husbands and children, extreme poverty and sickness. He points back to this moment in his life when he was just ten years old as a clear marker of God's calling on his life: he wanted to help people.

The next few years were difficult as Abdulai, along with the rest of the country, struggled to recover from the war. At some points in these years, he was sleeping on the streets, carrying heavy loads for people, making barely enough money to feed himself. "I was at a very low point in my life," he said. "I often wondered if there was a point to any of this, and how I could keep going."

At sixteen years old, Abdulai found a loving community within the 25 Project and was among the second group of boys to join the Sponsorship Ministry. "When you live on the streets, you are always wondering if you will survive and how you will be provided for. Simple provision changed my life. Just being provided for, my life and my mindset changed thanks to security in food, shelter, and education."



In the following years, Abdulai went on to accomplish more than he ever imagined was possible. He attended University to obtain his degree in Social Work, as God continued to fuel his passion to help the needy and vulnerable around him.

"Being a part of the 25 Project made me want to help people all the more. I was given the tools I needed to grow and thrive, and I want to help and give tools to other kids who are growing up like I did," Abdulai said. "I had the amazing opportunity to complete an internship in college, where I helped kids on the streets find homes or places of care. Through this internship, I developed the skills to help reconnect abandoned children with their families and learned to do family tracing. It was so impactful to see God work through pieces of my story I thought were pointless. He has used my sorrow and pain for His glory."

Abdulai now serves on our Sierra Leone staff as a Social Worker. He helps identify vulnerable children to be added to the Sponsorship Ministry, assists in school and home visits, and provides advocacy for families in the community.

When asked why he is so passionate about his work with the 25 Project, Abdulai told us, "I want to see other kids' lives changed like mine was. I want to show them an example of someone who God saved from the streets and had a plan for their life." One piece of advice Abdulai would give to anyone reading this: "Share the gospel, step in and help where you can. My life is proof that God can perform a miracle for those who simply say 'yes'."



## **SHARA'S LEGACY OF LOVE: A BEACON OF LIGHT IN SIERRA LEONE**

Our 25 Project team, staff, and children were all incredibly blessed by God to be given the gift of knowing and serving alongside Shara Johnson Kargbo. Shara was much more than a co-worker, she was a dear friend, and she was a faithful partner in ministry with the entire 25 Project team. Her example of faithfulness, obedience, and perseverance was inspiring.

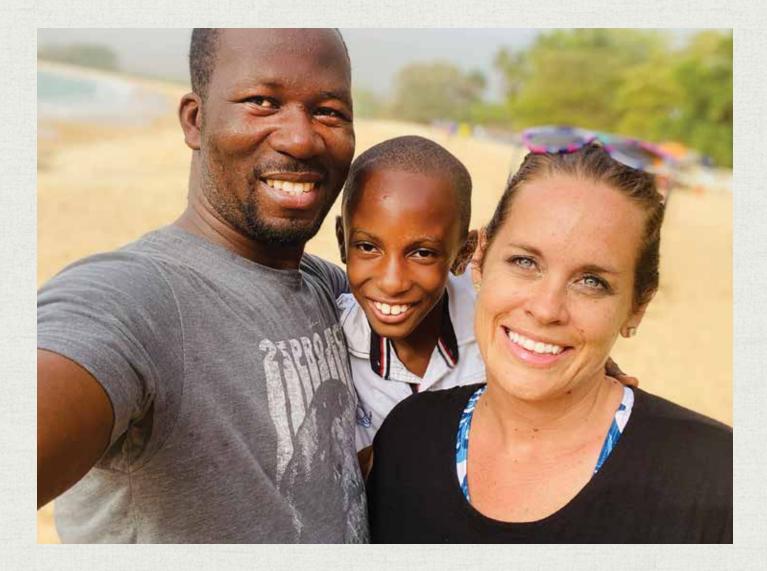
Shara's story and impact with the 25 Project began shortly after serving on mission in Africa. She had been moved by children who had experienced unimaginable hardships due to poverty and disease. The overwhelming sense of widespread hopelessness was something she could not shake. Life was not intended to be lived in this way, and walking away after witnessing this type of hopelessness was not an option for Shara. Completely broken by what she had seen and experienced, she followed God's undeniable calling on her life and joined the staff of the 25 Project.

Soon after joining the 25 Project team, it became apparent to Shara that God was not only calling her to serve with the 25 Project, but to make a radical life change. Shara left behind her life in the United States and moved to serve God on the mission field in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Her move to Sierra Leone was made with the full knowledge that she would live and serve among the most vulnerable and poor. The children she would serve on a daily basis faced unimaginable hardships, and unfortunately, lived in a place with an ongoing legacy of a devastating civil war. Her family and friends were initially taken aback by her decision, but the calling on Shara's life was clear and compelling.

While Shara's initial plans were to begin ministry to young girls, God had even bigger plans. Not only did Shara oversee the beginnings of a girl's ministry, soon after arriving in Sierra Leone she stepped into the role of Country Director. God would use her to lead and oversee the entire 25 Project ministry in Sierra Leone. Her leadership brought growth, expansion, and more fruitful ministry. Her impact cannot be understated. Children in Sierra Leone know Christ and will spend eternity in heaven because of her faithful obedience.

God gifted Shara to be able to serve effectively in many roles in Sierra Leone. She guickly became one who made sure kids would be fed. She was an evangelist, sharing how and why Jesus brings real, lasting hope. She opened and taught from God's Word each week, discipling kids of all ages, many of whom were just starting to understand what it meant to follow Jesus. She was an advocate for our kids at many schools, and she often served as a tutor for those struggling academically. She was a peacemaker, mediator, defender, intercessor, and a role-model. Most obvious among all the roles Shara served, she was a mother figure to so many children. Her comforting and dependable presence, her guiding words of wisdom, and her authentic love for the children and people of Sierra Leone changed many lives.

**"ULTIMATELY, SHARA HAS BEEN HEALED** FOREVER, AND THE LEGACY SHE HAS LEFT WILL LIVE ON THROUGH THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY HER SACRIFICIAL LOVE, COMMITMENT, AND WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW JESUS NO MATTER THE COST."



Her life, however, was not complete without the gift that God would soon bring. Abraham Kargbo shared a similar passion to Shara's, and it was easy to see why God brought them together. Their connection was nearly instantaneous and a special relationship between both of them grew. Abraham's genuine kindness and strong work ethic mirrored Shara's, and together, they formed a bond that God would clearly use to reach more children. Their wedding in 2021 was a beautiful ceremony witnessed by family and friends from the U.S. and Sierra Leone, as well as many of the children both of them had grown to love. Her days were filled with laughter, meaningful conversations, and the smiles and admiration of the children she had come to love as her own.

In the late fall of 2022, while making a visit to the U.S., Shara was unfortunately diagnosed with a terminal illness. Despite the efforts of many doctors, her health rapidly deteriorated. Shara's journey on Earth came to an end at the young age of 42 in March of 2023. While the loss of Shara has been deeply painful, a loss at times that brings questions without any answers, God's Word provides a beautiful and comforting reminder, "We do not grieve as others do who have no hope." There is always hope because of Jesus.

Ultimately, Shara has been healed forever, and the legacy she has left will live on through the lives of those who have been impacted by her sacrificial love, commitment, and willingness to follow Jesus no matter the cost. Despite our grief and our pain, we press on, trusting, abiding, and living to make much of Jesus...all because He lives.

"BECAUSE HE LIVES, WE CAN FACE TOMORROW. BECAUSE HE LIVES, ALL FEAR IS GONE. BECAUSE WE KNOW HE HOLDS THE FUTURE. AND LIFE IS WORTH THE LIVING, JUST BECAUSE HE LIVES."













### TRANSFORMING LEADERSHIP IN SIERRA LEONE

After the passing of our dear friend Shara Johnson Kargbo, we faced new challenges in Sierra Leone. Shara had not only been a great leader but also a mentor, a friend, and a guiding presence for the team.

As grief hung heavy, the 25 Project's leadership knew they needed to honor Shara's legacy by continuing the mission she so passionately pursued. To do this, we implemented the Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS), a comprehensive management framework known for transforming organizations and building strong leadership teams.

The first step was to gather the current leaders of the organization, who were deeply affected by Shara's loss. In May, at our ministry center in Waterloo, training began. They knew this process was not just about improving leadership skills but also about carrying forward Shara's vision for a better Sierra Leone.

The leadership team began a series of training sessions led by our U.S. team. These sessions were designed to introduce them to the EOS model, its principles, and the tools they would use to define their organization's future.

The leaders began to articulate how to reach our shared vision. They wanted to serve many more children but, more importantly, make much of Jesus. This vision breathed new life into the team and motivated them to move forward despite their grief.

They established "Rocks," specific and measurable quarterly goals, as stepping stones towards the 25 Project's vision. Each leader took ownership of specific Rocks, fostering a sense of accountability and teamwork.

We were also able to introduce a structured meeting cadence, including Quarterly Planning which enabled the leadership team to stay aligned and focused on their goals. In these meetings, they discuss their challenges and share their progress, finding strength in their unity and determination.

Through the summer months, the team saw gradual but remarkable changes. The team's communication and decision-making skills had become more refined. This new structure not only helped them channel their grief into positive action, but also enabled them to build on Shara's legacy.

One of the most profound transformations was the emergence of new leaders within our team in Sierra Leone. Shara's passing had created a big hole, but with training, several team members stepped up to take on more significant roles. The leadership skills we have seen them exhibit since Shara's passing have been another reminder of God's sovereignty and His blessing on the 25 Project's mission to see lives transformed in Sierra Leone.

Our team in Sierra Leone has not only navigated a challenging transition, but have also strengthened their leadership and rekindled their commitment to their calling in the ministry of the 25 Project.

## MARIATU

Mariatu Coker has lived in Sierra Leone all her life. Familiar with the unique struggles that life in a third-world country inevitably brings, she has carried the heavy load of raising her children in a place marked by suffering. Her husband abandoned the family several years ago, leaving Mariatu to raise and provide for her four children alone.

For work, Mariatu visits markets to trade or sell small items and works hard to provide shelter and food for her family, often going long periods of time without food or sleep herself in order to ensure that the needs of her children are met.

The 25 Project found Mariatu and her family in 2019. Her daughter, Evelyn, was added to the Sponsorship Ministry and, through sponsorship, has been consistently provided with food and education for the past four years.

"The 25 Project has been instrumental in the lives of my children - teaching them, providing school materials and clothing for them, and providing rice for us to eat. Before they found us, we struggled to have food. But because of the 25 Project, we now have food at home, and I am not left alone to care for my children," she told us. "I want to thank them not only for what they have done for my children but also for what they have done for me.

#### "I THANK GOD FOR THE 25 PROJECT AND THE MANY WAYS THEY HAVE SERVED ME AND HELPED ME CARE FOR MY FAMILY."



They care for our kids, but they also come and visit us parents and check on the families in the community. I am so grateful for how I have seen God provide for me through the ministry of the 25 Project."

Last year, Mariatu was made aware of the dire situation of a 12-year-old girl in a nearby village. Our Sierra Leone staff wanted to help the young girl but could only do so if they found a place for her to live near our Ministry Center. When our staff approached Mariatu about the possibility of taking in another child, Mariatu immediately offered to take her in, graciously opening her already crowded, oneroom home to care for the young girl and step into her story.

"Because the 25 Project has stepped in and helped me in my time of need, I now have the strength and the ability to step in and help someone else in need. I thank God for the 25 Project and the many ways they have served me and helped me care for my family." Though Mariatu's story has been filled with many challenges, she has seen God's faithfulness and is learning to trust God's plans as His greater story unfolds.



### IF THE LORD HAD NOT BEEN ON OUR SIDE

by Teresita D. Ndibongo South Africa Director

This year, we celebrated the school's fourth birthday.

As is the norm, we had a collection of speakers representing the parents, learners, staff, and board. We did not have a theme, merely a desire to gather and offer our thanksgiving to God.

And as has become my norm, I used the "Principal's Address" to look back at what God had done and look forward in anticipation of his faithfulness to us.

Psalm 124 verses 1 and 8 reads: If the Lord had not been on our side O, let Israel say – Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth!

From 2012 to 2017 the main ministry of Indawo Yethemba Trust was to run grade 12 camps for area schools. Although we saw much good when we first started, each year brought new challenges and by the end of 2017 the IYT Board decided it was time for something new. It was time to open our own school.

The start of 2018 had me going back-and-forth from one government office to another— Department of Education, Zoning, and Health. Back and forth, planning and preparing, and finally submitting our application to open a school. The rest of 2018 was a quiet year. Where before the Fort White campus had been filled with the voices of a hundred Grade 12 learners each year – in 2018, the campus was quiet; the campus was empty. I'm not a person that likes to stand still and, in that emptiness, I argued with God in the way that Moses argued with God. I offered God reasons and excuses, but like He did to Moses and to many others who have doubted, God spoke and then God moved. We began to recruit learners from Ngcamgeni, Rabe and Madubela. We faced opposition and negativity, people doubting whether a school would really happen. People wondered whether they could trust us with the futures of their children. But God brought the learners and the staff, and in January 2019 Intlantsi Christian School opened its doors for the first time. If it had not been for the Lord, we would not have opened those doors.

On March 15, 2019, we gathered and dedicated the school to God in thanksgiving of the "impossible"—for if it had not been for the Lord on our side—there is no way that we would find ourselves a registered school only nine months after the application was submitted.

We have been growing the school by adding a grade one year at a time. As we prepare to add Grade 12 next year, we find ourselves in the process of seeking accreditation. This is a process that all independent schools must follow, and though it takes many steps, the process can be summarized in four.

We find ourselves about to begin Step 3. It is the longest and most difficult step. Each of these four steps comes with a cost. Last year we estimated and anticipated the amount that it would take to apply for accreditation. We committed ourselves to trusting God to provide. Even as we move forward, we see God's hand at work.



Imagine the gladness in my heart last week when I received the invoice for Step 3 and it was reduced to less than half of the expected cost.

If the Lord had not been on our side O, let Intlantsi say Our help is in the name of the Lord the Maker of heaven and earth.

We thank God for his goodness to us—for breath and life and being. We thank Him for bringing each person here to the Intlantsi family, and we trust that God will mold us as He builds us. We thank God for the strength to do the hard and difficult work of running a school and shaping lives. But most of all, we thank God for the sacrifice of His son Jesus. Psalm 124:7 says that we have escaped like a bird out of the fowler's snare.

Our learners' most pressing needs are not financial nor academic. Our learners need God's mercy. Oh, that He would open their eyes to their sin and bring them to a place of repentance!

Then we could raise our voices in unison

O, Intlantsi – LET US say OUR HOPE and OUR HELP comes from the Lord the maker of heaven and Earth!



#### **ALIZA**

God is actively working in the lives of the children the 25 Project serves in South Asia! The harvest we are now seeing began when the initial seeds of the Gospel were sown so many years ago. Aliza is a perfect example of the way God has been at work. His unconditional love, His relentless pursuit, and His providential plan for her life are on display.

Aliza arrived to live at the Mercy Home when she was just ten years old. She came from a Hindu family and had little to no knowledge of Jesus when she arrived. God clearly had a special plan for her life, and He was orchestrating circumstances and events to bring her exactly where He wanted her. God knew her while she was in her mother's womb, and He pursued her until one day, she surrendered her life to Christ. His love, a love without any conditions, had overwhelmed her. She came to realize that God had made her just the way He wanted, and she was no mistake! God's greater story was to be the foundation of her life.

Aliza is one of the girls we have known since the beginning of 25 Project's ministry in South Asia. We have witnessed her growth, her maturity, and her walk with Jesus growing deeper and more intimate with Him through the years. Not surprisingly, she became a role model for our younger girls, and has grown to become a beautiful young lady that God continues to use in powerful ways for His glory.

Over the last few years, we have been overjoyed to see God provide the funding for Aliza to follow her dream and become a nurse. With her recent graduation and acceptance of a position at a local hospital, we are bursting with pride for all that God has done through her life. Not only is she a licensed nurse, Aliza is a light, shining bright for Jesus among so many who have little to no knowledge of Him.

Her story is a display of God's extravagant love and grace, as He uses her circumstances for her good and His glory.

## THE GREATER STORY: SOUTH ASIA

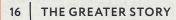
"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

The truth of this scripture resonates within us as we reflect on the incredible gifts God has given us over the last 12 years. No greater gift has He given to the 25 Project than when He gave us more than 60 children living in "Mercy Homes" in South Asia. While they were strangers to us, and we were to them, through God's kindness and providence, He brought our lives together. His plans were right, and His plans were good. Now, after nine years of ministry and impact, those once unfamiliar kids living halfway around the globe have become cherished members of our family. It is difficult, nearly impossible at this point, to envision the 25 Project without our kids in South Asia.

Over the years, we have seen the greater story of Jesus change the trajectory of so many of their lives, and we are trusting Him to continue to do this in the years ahead as new children come into the Mercy Home ministry. We long to see more children hear the story of Jesus, and as a result, we sense a calling to expand the work that God is doing through the 25 Project in South Asia.

Since the very beginning, the size and capacity of the Mercy Home has been a limiting factor to expand the reach and impact of this ministry. Our current space is insufficient and will not allow for an increase in the number of children we serve, yet we are not in a position or mindset to relent and accept that we are simply out of space. We must do more, we must press on, and we must find a way to share the Greater Story of Jesus with more children. This is why we exist and who we are at our core as an organization. We believe the Lord has provided tremendous opportunities to advance the Gospel among an unreached people group, and we have determined to move forward in faith, "expecting great things from God as we attempt great things for God".

"NO GREATER GIFT HAS HE GIVEN TO THE 25 PROJECT THAN WHEN HE GAVE US MORE THAN 60 CHILDREN LIVING IN "MERCY HOMES" IN SOUTH ASIA"

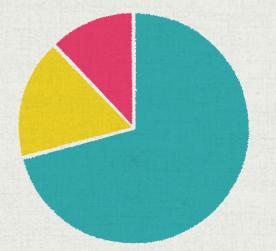




## **2023 NUMBERS**

The 25 Project is supported by the gifts of partners like you, who share our passion for meeting the physical and spiritual needs of orphaned and vulnerable children worldwide. We truly see this ministry as a conduit of your love and generosity to help children and communities grow and flourish with the Gospel of Christ.

## GIVING IN 2023: \$1,403,258



#### WHERE IT WAS USED

MINISTRY PROGRAMS (71%)

**GENERAL MINISTRY** (17%)

**FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT** (12%)

#### MINISTRY PROGRAMS

**CHILD SPONSORSHIPS** (66%)

TRIPS (33%)

> MELISSA COMMUNITY OUTREACH (1%)

**IN 2023, TOTAL** MATCHED GIVING WAS OVER:

\$45,000

Did you know your gifts to the ministry of the 25 Project could be doubled or even tripled with the help of your employer? Many companies offer matching programs for their employees who donate to nonprofits. Check with your HR department to see if you might be able to make your gifts go further in impacting the lives of vulnerable children!

# 88,000 MEALS PROVIDED TO PEOPLE IN NEED

# 5 CARE PACKAGES

#### **NEW STUDENTS** ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME

#### STUDENTS **ENROLLED IN COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL**

#### GRADUATES 11 FROM HIGH SCHOOL + 10 FROM COLLEGE

## THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF GOD'S GREATER STORY TO THE WORLD'S MOST VULNERABLE.





#### 

## 25PROJECT.ORG



Accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability