



Annual Report

*transforming lives and communities
through partnership*

2021



Our Mission

Children's HopeChest exists to glorify God by releasing the potential of orphaned and impoverished children and their communities. We do this through partnerships that cultivate two-way transformation.

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

A World in Recovery

Dear Friends,

On behalf of tens of thousands of children, guardians, and community members, we are grateful for the faithful and sustained generosity of individuals, families, churches, and businesses who invest in bringing hope to those who need it most. Despite the lingering effects and challenges of Covid during 2021, HopeChest continued to adapt and find ways to provide services to all who were enrolled in our programming.

Our commitment to equip individuals and communities with the capacity to overcome crushing poverty and instill a Christ-centered, hope-filled future has been unwavering. As you might imagine, the economic impact of Covid has hit the poor the hardest, creating unimaginable hardship. Despite these challenges, we are encouraged because the programming our faithful supporters enable has allowed us to witness a transformative level of resiliency in the communities where we have CarePoints.

This Annual Report is full of stories of powerful impact that have been fueled by an incredible group of supporters who know that a future without hope is even more crushing than poverty.

In His grip,



Ken Sparks
President & CEO
Children's HopeChest and Greater Calling



Ken connecting in a fun way with a young Ethiopian boy from our Chapa CarePoint who was participating in our reforestation effort with the Ethiopian government



88 CarePoints
in 5 different countries



18 New Partnerships
5 Virtual Vision Trips and 1
in-country Vision Trip



8,098
children sponsored

Establishing New Alliances

Launching the Alliance of Hope Program

This year, HopeChest launched the Alliance of Hope program! Alliance of Hope cultivates a community of inspired and driven donors who are motivated to give monthly to HopeChest's mission. These allies are able to get an even deeper insight into the work that HopeChest is able to accomplish through their support, with reports and stakeholder virtual calls. This is a community of like-minded people who want to support impoverished people in their fight to escape the cycle of poverty. Alliance of Hope donations fund a variety of initiatives including providing school supplies, medical care, nutritional support, and more to children and families who might otherwise not get it, as well as providing funding for the capacity building impact of HopeChest. Alliance of Hope allies are a catalyst for change in impoverished areas all over the world!



Strengthening Our Model

Sustainable Approaches Post-Covid

In 2021, Children's HopeChest saw a slow and spotty return toward normalcy as Covid-based restrictions began to ease. Our local and national staff in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kenya, Russia and Uganda continued a multi-year effort of strengthening our commitment to avoid creating any semblance of Donor dependency amidst the beneficiaries of our in-country programming. That effort resulted in the initial drafts of comprehensive Community Development Plans (CDP's) being presented to U.S. based partners. The CDP's emerged from detailed analysis of each individual CarePoint's progress toward the goal of releasing the CarePoint into the community's ownership.



Sustainable transformation is HopeChest's ultimate goal. While recognizing that every community looks different, the HopeChest model was strengthened through an outline of guidelines for transformation. Phase One entails laying a strong foundation for the long-term effort with the end goal in mind. This involves collaborating with local leaders and their vision to plan how a CarePoint can best serve the community and beginning to get children enrolled. Phase Two continues to build upon the first phase while implementing and strengthening the long-term impact goals. In this phase, older children and guardians in the community begin receiving vocational training, life skills training, and grief and trauma counseling. Leadership programs and savings groups are also expanded. Phase Three consolidates previous efforts to empower communities and intentionally develops and trains the local community team that will take over leadership and the operational aspects of the CarePoint. Ultimately, after an established period of time, transformation through the Community-to-Community model occurs and will be celebrated as a great accomplishment of the partnership.

Impact by Country

ETHIOPIA

- **4,594** children served
- **2,256** guardians of CarePoint children participated in income-generating activities
- **1,793** children participated in clubs

Changing the Course of a Young Life

The fruits of the labor to subvert the practice of child marriage

Child marriage is a harmful tradition that continues to affect millions of children around the world. In Ethiopia, government policies and social awareness have helped decrease the number of child marriages, but there are still many who believe it is a good option for their daughters. The parents of 17-year-old Liya* were some of those people. Liya is in grade 7, attends the Chapa CarePoint, and her family lives in a small village in the Aruma Local Kebele Chapa District. Liya's parents received a marriage proposal for Liya from an older man, accepted, and began preparing for the wedding without Liya's knowledge or consent. When she found out, she cried for days. However, Liya remembered the training that she received at the Chapa CarePoint that taught the children how to report early marriage cases. Even though she was scared, Liya found the courage to go and ask for help. The Chapa CarePoint's social worker immediately took action, taking the local police officer to visit Liya's house. They took a diplomatic approach, by first explaining the physical, mental, and emotional consequences that early marriage has on a girl's health. However, they also politely informed them that child marriage is a crime, and that they needed to cancel or face legal charges. Liya's parents changed their minds when they heard the consequences it could have for their daughter. They even educate their friends on what they learned, and advise them not to marry their children off early, either. Liya was overjoyed to find out that she was not getting married and could continue her education. She is grateful to Children's HopeChest for providing her with the tools to save herself from her situation, and for the social worker's quick action to help her.



"When I grow up, I want to be a teacher!"

-Liya

UGANDA

- **2,468** children served
- **129** children completed grief and trauma counseling courses
- **2,569** guardians participated in VSLA's
- **31** graduates received startup tools to start their own businesses

Saving for a Future

Building from the ground up

Stella is a mother of five children and a widow. Two years ago, she joined Atamakisi Bere Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) with a goal of saving to construct a permanent house. With access to loans from her group, she embarked on a journey to construct a permanent house for her children, and managed to accomplish her goal in two years' time. What made Stella's journey of house construction easier was the fact that she also utilized locally available resources in her garden, such as trees and locally made clay burnt bricks. Today, Stella and her children have moved in and live in the house, and Stella continues to save more money to help furnish her house.

"I will always be grateful to Children's HopeChest for introducing and educating us about the importance and benefits of VSLAs in our community. If it were not for savings and access to loans, I wouldn't have been able to put a roof over my head," says Stella.



Stella in front of her new home

RUSSIA

- **494** children served (240 at CarePoints, 187 at orphanages, and 67 at tech schools)
- **165** youth received dental services
- **90** participants in the Mentorship Program
- **35** participants in the Young Mothers' Program

Growth Amidst Crisis

Using God's love to bring a family closer together

Anya is a graduate of the orphanage at the Knyaginina Convent in Vladimir. She is married, has 4 children, and lives in a small house in the countryside. Their fourth child was born in the middle of the pandemic. Anya's husband did not have a permanent job at that time and worked part-time doing construction. The family began to experience financial difficulties. Anya experienced severe stress due to fear of getting sick with Covid-19 and of a possible new lockdown.



Anya, her husband, and children posing with Santa Claus

Anya decided to go to the Vladimir CarePoint and ask for help. The CarePoint psychologist and caseworker were able to have regular sessions with the whole family, which enabled their stress levels to come back down. They got the opportunity to take a budgeting class at the CarePoint, which inspired them to start their own business. With all the support and advice from the staff, they were able to open their business. Thanks to the Vladimir CarePoint Young Families Program, the Shtefko family was able to cope with their crisis situation and discovered new prospects for growth and development.

GUATEMALA

- **3,316** children served
- **60** individuals participating in income-generating activities
- **30** families graduated from chicken coop projects

Chickens for Change

Using animal agriculture to transform families

Agriculture and animal husbandry projects support impoverished individuals in a community to take ownership of raising crops or animals and break from the dependency on others to give them food. HopeChest Guatemala launched a new economic development initiative in the Cuyotenango and Ceiba Blanca communities. The objective was to train mothers how to raise chickens and then start a business to improve family incomes and provide for improved nutrition in their households. HopeChest partnered with an agricultural engineer, Gezer, to help train the mothers. Cuyotenango started this project with 16 families, and Ceiba Blanca with 15 families. Each family built their own chicken coop, under Gezer's supervision to ensure the chickens would be properly protected. Each family cleaned their coop, cared for their chickens, and followed Gezer's instructions. He taught each family how to make the chicken feed from corn, soy, salt, and sugar, which help the eggs grow rich in calcium. They also learned how to prevent the most common poultry diseases using preventive medicine and vaccines. They now are selling eggs, eating eggs, and beginning to sell some chickens. They know how to run a business to sustain themselves and give better opportunities for their families.



Family members listening to the agricultural engineer's instructions





- **152** children served
- **\$30,328** raised for projects
- **152** attended discipleship classes
- **80%** guardians participated in income-generating activities

Small Loans, Big Impact

Savings and loan groups' amazing accomplishments

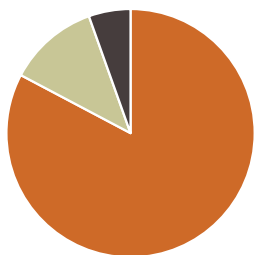
At the Mt. Elgone CarePoint in Kenya, the children's guardians have now formed 12 different savings and loan groups! The Ebenezer group in particular has been very successful- they have been able to save 300 Kenyan shillings per person, per month. This has allowed them to purchase 11 sheep for the group. The group is also able to take small loans from their savings pool, which allows them to start small businesses and support them in agricultural endeavors. The Ebenezer group's next big goal is to purchase dairy cows.



Financial Transparency

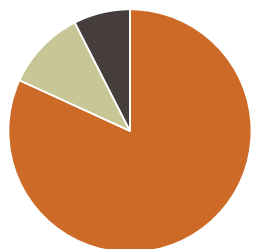


Thank you for trusting Children's HopeChest to be good stewards of your financial gifts. We are passionately committed to honoring the name of Jesus in everything we do, faithfully investing every dollar entrusted to us for the transformation of lives around the world. Currently, as members in good standing of the ECFA, a Platinum-Level GuideStar Participant, recipients of Charity Navigator's 3-Star rating, and a "Certified Transparent" rating from Excellence in Giving, you can be confident that the information shared in our 2021 Annual Report is audited, accurate and transparent.



TOTAL REVENUE 2021

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Revenue | 6,050,529 |
| ■ Sponsorship | 5,006,189 |
| ■ Designated | 714,917 |
| ■ General, grants, and other | 329,423 |



EXPENSE BREAKDOWN 2021

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Expenses | 6,100,843 |
| ■ Program Services | 4,992,913 |
| ■ General & Administrative | 650,455 |
| ■ Fundraising | 457,475 |

Get Involved



How Can I Get Involved?

DONATE

Join our mission to break the cycle of poverty and bring long-term transformation to orphaned and vulnerable children.

hopechest.org/give

EMPOWER A CHILD

Sponsoring a child is one of the most personal ways that you can make an impact on global poverty.

hopechest.org/empower

SHOP AND DONATE

What is the absolute easiest way to make an impact and support one of your favorite nonprofits? Sign up for AmazonSmile in five quick steps!

hopechest.org/amazon-smile

PLANNED GIVING

Change the lives of children around the world through HopeChest while also benefiting you and your family for years to come.

hopechest.org/planned-giving

VOLUNTEER

Are you interested in reading about children's lives from all over the world? Volunteer to read through mail to, and from, sponsors!

PARTNER WITH US

Learn more about experiencing transformational, two-way relationship with a CarePoint community.

hopechest.org/partnership

PRAY

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Proverbs 31:8-9



Children's HopeChest is deeply appreciative of your support.

"I am so excited now that my business has opened. In the past, after the father of my child abandoned us, I could not even afford clothing for me and my child. Now, I am able to make enough money to support myself and my child, and my life is already so different. I am so grateful to Children's HopeChest for not forgetting us after we graduated."

-Sarah, 21, Uganda

"It has been a long journey to get to where I am today. Throughout my life, I experienced a number of challenges that caused me to struggle to stay on a positive path. The CarePoint supported me a lot to achieve my goals. Overall, I am thankful for my sponsor and Children's HopeChest for all the things that they invested in my life." *-Wude, 22, Ethiopia*

"I want to thank you for all of your prayers. I feel very blessed that God has given me this opportunity to be part of this ministry. Know that I am praying for you daily, may God bless you."

-Maria Jose, mother of four CarePoint children, Guatemala

"I was so scared to graduate and leave my orphanage, I even cried saying goodbye to my friends at school. But the staff and volunteers at the Vladimir CarePoint met me and helped me get settled in my dorm. I don't know what I would have done without them. I felt so welcomed. I learned a lot and I made new friends. I'm not scared anymore! I know for sure that I will always go to the CarePoint and participate in their programs." *-Milana, 18, Russia*

PO Box 1190 | Palmer Lake, CO. 80133 | P. 719.487.7800 | [hopechest.org](https://www.hopechest.org)

 /childrenshopechest

 @hope_chest

 @childrens.hopechest