OUR MISSION

We invest in the development of vulnerable children, equipping them to grow into mature Christians. We do this by empowering local Christian leaders to meet the health, education, and spiritual development needs of these children so they can thrive in and positively impact their communities.
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Friends,

As I reflect on the last year, I am reminded of 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” While it has often been difficult to rejoice during the hardships of the pandemic, we have certainly prayed without ceasing, and we are increasingly thankful for you, our donors and sponsors. It is because of your loyal faithfulness that we have been able to weather this storm together and emerge even stronger. Your gifts and prayers have enabled us to serve our children and their families in meaningful ways. While we know of ministries whose work has been inhibited during the pandemic, I am very happy to report that VisionTrust has faithfully continued to support every child in every program despite worldwide shutdowns.

Our international staff, our frontline workers, are the true heroes of VisionTrust. They have been on the ground throughout the entire pandemic. They have evaluated the situation in their own country; and they have used their knowledge, creativity, and relationships to ensure that our children continue to receive support in the areas of health, education, and spiritual development.

Since our last annual report, we have prayerfully made changes and updates that will allow us to plan more effectively and provide greater support to our programs in the field. They are:

1. New Fiscal Year
2. Updated Country Agreements
3. New Artist Partners

The first, and most important, is that we have changed our Fiscal Year. This new Fiscal Year begins July 1 and ends on June 30. This may seem like a technical change, and you may not notice the difference, but this allows us to do a mid-year review after the largest income months of the year. This provides us with time to adjust our budgets and strategic plans before our Fiscal Year ends, enabling us to become more effective in our planning and more efficient in our execution. As we look to Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022), we plan to increase the amount of money flowing to the field.

We leveraged the pauses caused by the pandemic as an opportunity to update our “Country Agreements.” We were able to present a document to each of our partner countries. This document outlines what they can expect from us and what we expect from them. This will allow stronger relationships with our countries as we move forward.

During the past Fiscal Year, we were able grow our artist partnership program. These artists include musicians, speakers, and fine artists who have a heart for vulnerable children around the world. They have partnered with us to speak up for our children during their various events across the United States. As these artists bring on new VisionTrust sponsors, it’s our hope and prayer that more and more of our children will know that someone they don’t even know believes they are worth more. These new sponsors become tangible ways for our children to see the love of Christ not only at their program, but from across the world as their sponsor prays for them.

We rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for all He has done in Fiscal Year 2021. As we look to the future, and our children begin to emerge from pandemic shutdowns, we are unsure of what we face. There has been an enormous amount of change in the lives of our children. Many of our children are transient, moving from home to home, or from caregiver to caregiver, as a direct result of the challenges their families have endured during the pandemic. As our programs begin to reopen at their own pace, we are keeping a careful eye on our children. We are monitoring their health and staying informed on any hardships their families may be going through.

Because of prayers and support from people like you, we have served our children in ways we had never imagined. We have learned and expanded our ability to provide our children with programs that help them understand their worth in God’s Kingdom. While we would have never dreamed of the challenges of the last year and a half, we have grown and will be more effective as we move forward, adapting our methods while retaining our core values, and most importantly, continuing to seek God’s wisdom and guidance for the future.

By Fantastic Mercy,

Devlin Donaldson
President/CEO
CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA
Countries served: Brazil, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Peru
Orphanages: 2
Learning Centers: 9
Schools: 11

AFRICA
Countries served: Central African Republic, Liberia, Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe
Learning Centers: 14
Schools: 6

ASIA
Countries served: India, Myanmar
Orphanages: 5
Learning Centers: 20

FY2021 CRITICAL MEASUREMENTS
- 4,261 children registered
- 2,989 donors
- 510 in-country staff members
- 3,127 children sponsored
- 66 total programs
- 11 countries served
FY2021
FINANCIAL INFO

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30 2021 2020

ASSETS
Current Assets
Cash and cash equivalents $714,454 532,470
Other receivables 22,873 25,212
Investments 88,467 69,502
Prepaid expenses and other current assets 17,486 4,788
Total current assets 843,280 631,972
Property and Equipment, net 943,186 1,053,669
Total assets $1,786,466 $1,685,641

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Current Liabilities
Accounts payable and deposits $35,070 2,214
Accrued compensation and benefits 48,452 15,729
Deferred revenue - 1,084
Capital lease obligations, current portion - 2,147
Notes payable, current portion 60,658 123,312
Total current liabilities 144,180 144,486

Long-Term Liabilities
Notes payable, net of current portion 925,327 899,558
Total long-term liabilities 925,327 899,558
Total liabilities 1,069,507 1,044,044

Net Assets
Net assets without donor restrictions
Undesignated 332,509 323,667
Board-designated 20,710 20,710
Total net assets without donor restriction 353,219 344,377

Net assets with donor restriction 363,740 297,220
Total net assets 716,959 641,597
Total liabilities and net assets $1,786,466 $1,685,641

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended June 30, 2021

Operating Support and Revenue
Contributions and grants $ 2,268,647 $ 909,460 $ 3,178,107
Contributed goods and services 87,280 - 87,280
Net assets released from restrictions
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions 842,940 (842,940) -
Total operating support 3,198,867 66,520 3,265,387

Operating Revenue
Other income 7,668 - 7,668
Total operating support and revenue 3,206,535 66,520 3,273,055

Operating Expenses
Program services 2,557,297 - 2,557,297
Supporting services
General and administrative 87,280 - 87,280
Fundraising 94,429 - 94,429
Total operating expenses 3,629,159 - 3,629,159

Total operating support and revenue in excess (deficit) of operating expenses (322,624) 66,520 (256,104)

Other Changes
Gain on debt forgiveness 179,600 - 179,600
Rental income 123,877 - 123,877
New investment earnings 27,989 - 27,989
Total other changes 331,466 - 331,466

Change in Net Assets 8,842 66,520 75,362

Net Assets, Beginning of Year 344,377 297,220 641,597

Net Assets, End of Year $353,219 $363,740 $ 716,959

REVENUE
Contributions & Grants $3,178,107
Gifts in Kind $87,280
Other Income $7,668
Total Income $3,273,055

EXPENSES
Program Services $2,557,297
General & Administrative $877,433
Fundraising $94,429
Total Expenses $3,529,159
COVID UPDATE

During the past year, our children and families have been greatly affected by COVID-19. Many parents have lost jobs, making access to food one of the most significant and immediate needs. Thanks to our generous sponsors and donors, we have provided food support since Spring of 2020 so that our children and their families have the nutrition they need to continue to grow and fight off illness. We have utilized the current pandemic to reinforce and re-train our children on the importance of good sanitation and hygiene habits so that our children and their families have the education and practices to protect themselves against disease. Through specialized consultations on handwashing stations, we were able to add between 5-10 more handwashing stations per country so that our programs would be ready for when our students returned!
HEALTH

Our hope is that our children can become both physically and emotionally resilient to overcome many daily health threats, adapt in complex situations, and live life to the fullest. Often living in remote and difficult settings, the children we serve have suffered from malnutrition, preventable illnesses, and trauma. We are committed to meeting both the physical and emotional needs of each child in our ministry. We do this by providing access to clean water, nutritious food, sanitation and hygiene resources, timely care during illness, health education, safe gathering places for children, and staff trained in trauma care. When the health of each child is holistically sustained, our children can thrive.

ASIA

Since the start of the pandemic, India has been greatly affected by both the virus and the resulting lockdowns. One 15-year-old girl, Rajalakshmi, has a story that exemplifies how COVID-19 is bringing children in our ministry to desperate situations. Rajalakshmi’s father has a physical injury that impedes his ability to work, and her mother lost her job as a sweeper due to the pandemic. For this family of eight, resources became extremely scarce, which ultimately led them to borrow money from loan sharks. Since they were not able to repay their debt, Rajalakshmi’s older sister was taken to work at a garment factory where she is not able to contact her family and is living in unknown conditions. She will be there until their debt is paid. The loan sharks were planning on taking Rajalakshmi as well, but our staff in India were able to intervene and stopped the transaction from happening. The support that the VisionTrust India staff is providing through prayer, relationship, and provision of practical necessities, like food packages, is a great blessing to families like Rajalakshmi’s. Please continue to pray for Rajalakshmi’s family and the many others that are facing incredible challenges during this time.
MINISTRY FOCUS

EDUCATION

Our goal is to prepare our children for future success. However, access to education is especially limited in the countries where we work. That’s why we are committed to providing access to basic education and resources in a safe and nurturing place. Our staff are equipped with an understanding of developmental milestones and signs of learning delay. This enables them to facilitate student growth through tutoring support and age-appropriate programming and curriculum in the fundamental areas of reading, math, and life skills. When our children learn how to use these skills, they develop a lifetime love of learning, which will equip them to leverage their abilities as they grow into adulthood so that they can positively impact their communities.

LATIN AMERICA

Education has been a challenge during the past year for both students and educators. However, in Guatemala, our staff have used this time to come up with innovative solutions to keep helping our children learn. Our Distance Education staff utilized WhatsApp for virtual class presentations. The children took turns teaching each other about their projects. The Distance Education school also used Zoom to invite professionals to share their personal story and speak about their professional life. Our students were able to hear from a senator, college professor, lawyer, and a United Nations representative! This time gave our students hope that they, too, can become a professional, and gave them the knowledge of how to reach their goal. All of these avenues have kept our children engaged and learning during a difficult educational year.
Due to the lack of resources in their communities, many of our children were already educationally disadvantaged prior to the pandemic. As a result of COVID-19, it has been extremely difficult for our students to stay on pace with their academics, compared to their peers living in areas with more resources, creating an ever-widening educational gap. Just like in the United States, many of our children have not been able to consistently engage in face-to-face learning. However, despite the challenges, our staff (and the local educators) have used creativity in engaging our students in learning. For the children in some of our countries, school lessons have been delivered via radio or TV. For others, teachers have engaged in a cycle of hand-delivering and collecting worksheets from a child’s home. Yet, because of their lack of resources, our students will need extra time and help to be at an age-appropriate level in their academics once life is back to normal.
COVID-19 has created many challenges, especially when it comes to discipling our children. Therefore, we have had to reimagine ways to effectively do so. For our countries that have experienced lockdowns, our local staff have developed new techniques for fostering spiritual development among their fellow staff, children, and communities. They have been able to use various digital avenues, such as Zoom and WhatsApp, to continue mentoring students and meeting in small groups. Some staff have been able to distribute Bibles in their community, so that our children have their own Bibles to read in their homes. In other areas where the communities are not in lockdown, but our programs remain closed, small groups have been able to meet in person. In those areas, students have been learning God’s Word, as well as applying it to their current life situations. We praise God for the reports of children sharing the Gospel with their friends and community!
MINISTRY FOCUS

SPiritual Development

Our desire is for our children to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. While it is ultimately the Lord who works in their hearts, we are committed to their spiritual growth. Our staff members are well trained and discipled by mentors, allowing them to also train and disciple our children. By demonstrating God’s love to our children, presenting them with opportunities to hear the Gospel and Bible stories, organizing fellowship and discipleship time, and giving them access to Bibles, it is our prayer that they will grow up to live for God and love others. These practices and resources help our children learn more about Christ, become mature Christians, and disciple others so that they can embrace and share the transformative love of Jesus.

AFRICA

During COVID-19, our programs in Zimbabwe have been able to meet in smaller groups within the villages surrounding the program sites, which appears to be more effective than the larger groups they were accustomed to facilitating. This approach is not without challenges; accessibility and movement of local leaders is complicated, as some of the villages are a long distance from the school. However, they continue to develop strategies to improve on group sizes and age-appropriate content to make the gatherings more meaningful and impactful.
Jose playing on the playground in the Dominican Republic.

Ana Clara assisting with activities at her Learning Center in Brazil.

Brightness in class in Tanzania.

Nauanny playing guitar in Brazil.

Joseph jumping with joy in Liberia.

Takunda riding his bike in Zimbabwe.

Guilherme being baptized in Brazil.

Pedro receiving his food package & grocery card in Brazil.

Kayla receiving her food package in Brazil.
Iago ready for Judo in Brazil.

Nephah carrying water at her Learning Center in Malawi.

Jayanthi receiving a top grade in school in India.

Rainelle doing schoolwork in Brazil.

Karnou reading a book in the Central African Republic.

Shalom graduating from Seminary School in the Central African Republic.

Aracely dancing in Peru.

Ana Luiza receiving her food package & grocery card in Brazil.

Abigail doing homework in Myanmar.
VISIONTRUST’S HISTORY

VisionTrust International was founded in 1997 as a Christian child development organization with the goal to work with vulnerable children in extreme poverty situations. But, the roots of VisionTrust are not found internationally, but in the vision of two Christian businessmen.

VisionTrust began with two Colorado Springs businessmen, Jeff Behan and Gary Ganz. These business partners had a desire for their for-profit company, VisionTrust Communications, to measure success not only based on bottom-line performance, but dedicate its resources to a ministry that would change the world and increase the Kingdom of God.

At the same time, Ernie Taylor, a lifelong missionary was looking to start a new organization that would come alongside children at a young age and continue to serve them through high school graduation.

In 1997, the three formed VisionTrust International, Inc., developed the mission of the organization, and established its original Board of Directors.

VisionTrust International’s work began with a pre-school program in the Dominican Republic and an orphanage in Myanmar. Today, through our local partners, we operate Orphanages, Schools, and Learning Centers in multiple regions of the world, serving thousands of children. All of these children receive care and attention in the areas of Health, Education, and Spiritual Development.

At VisionTrust, we believe that children are worth more. Worth more than the situation they were born into and worth more than many of them believe themselves. Our calling is to introduce these children to the Gospel, and to help them overcome the hurdles that keep them from fully realizing what God has intended for their lives.

Today, VisionTrust works in 11 countries helping thousands of children come to faith and grow up as productive Christian adults who can thrive in and positively impact their communities.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible and authoritative Word of God.

We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

We believe that the salvation of lost and sinful men is by the grace of God through faith in Christ and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost. They that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of eternal separation from God.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in Christ.
KEY LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Behan
Chairman of the Board & Founder
Serving since 1997
Jeff Behan is a communications specialist, entrepreneur, and film/video producer. He is one of the original founders of VisionTrust and has served on the Board of Directors in various capacities since its inception in 1997. He lives in Colorado Springs, CO, with his wife of 37 years, Lisa. They have three kids and one granddaughter. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, swimming, playing the guitar, and scuba-diving.

Steve Smith
Vice Chairman
Serving since 2005
Steve Smith is a sports attorney with the law firm of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, where he has practiced for 30 years. Steve lives in Colorado Springs, CO, with his wife, Wendy. They have three daughters, Alex, Brianna, and Katarina. In his free time, Steve enjoys running, playing pickleball, and spending time with family and friends.

Betsy Mabry
Secretary
Serving since 2009
Betsy Mabry volunteers with VisionTrust as the Spiritual Development Coordinator, traveling to VisionTrust countries and training the local VisionTrust staff on Bible teaching methods. She resides in Houston, TX, with her husband, David. They have three grown children and four grandchildren. In her spare time, she loves to read and garden.

Stan Born
Treasurer
Serving since 2018
Stan is a retired professional who is active in various volunteer roles where he pursues his passions for family, faith, and farming. During his career at Caterpillar Inc., Stan developed excellent management and leadership skills and now is an owner/operator of Vintage Farms. He has been supporting VisionTrust since 2012 and serving on the Board of Directors since 2018. Stan lives in Mahomet, IL, and enjoys traveling the world, public speaking, farming, serving in his local church, and spending time with family.

Daniel Rodriguez
Board Member
Serving since 2001
Daniel Rodriguez is an electronic engineer. He lives in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, with his wife Mercedes, and their children: Daniel Abel, Melissa, and their nephew Dario (who became their third child). He enjoys reading, spending time with his family, and nature, especially the mountains.

Chaiyun Ukosakul
Board Member
Serving since 2007
Chaiyun is a faculty member at the Haggai Institute for Advanced Leadership Training. He and his wife, Margaret, live in Chiang Mai, Thailand. They have twin daughters and are expecting to become grandparents in December 2021.

Manuel Haro
Board Member
Serving since 2010
Manuel M. Haro has been designing and building custom electrical motor controls and power distribution equipment for industrial concerns since 1984. He is originally from Mexico City, Mexico, but has lived in Houston, TX, since 1977 with his wife, Laure, and daughter, Kimberly, who is now married. God has given him a heart for missions, and after going on a mission trip to Peru in 1995, he is hooked. He enjoys being involved in music ministry and is helping develop a Hispanic ministry at his church.

Rev. Matt Burnett
Board Member
Serving since 2020
Matt is a pastor at Holy Trinity Anglican Church. He lives in Colorado Springs, CO, with his wife, Lauren. Their three grown sons are all in town, Chris, Jeremy, and Alex. In his free time, he enjoys reading, writing, hiking, and fishing.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP STAFF

Devlin Donaldson
President/CEO

Mark Spengler
Vice President of Finance

Jill Cawiezell
Vice President of International Child Development/ Director of Expert Services

Renée VanDyke
Global Leadership & Staff Development Director
“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18
VisionTrust

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VisionTrust International, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.