



2022

2022 QUARTER 2 IMPACT REPORT

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

During this quarter, our children had wonderful opportunities to learn, study, and grow in their academics. One of our fifth graders, Ayleen, represented her VisionTrust school at an academic fair in Santo Domingo – the visitors who stopped by her display about the solar system were impressed by her model of the solar system and her scientific knowledge. All the VisionTrust programs celebrated a successful end to the school year in June and the children are ready for a time of rest from their studies.

Our children and adolescents at our orphanage, Ketty's House, experienced immense joy as a mission team from Journey Church visited the program. Our VisionTrust Dominicana Country Director, Mariluz shared how special it was for the children:

“They enjoyed the games, the food, the fun, the teachings, the prayers, the new reading station, and most of all the relationships that were born during this time.”

We celebrate how God is working in the hearts of the children. One of our 8-year-olds, Frank, had a life-changing encounter with God during a gathering at his VisionTrust program. During a time of worship, Frank was singing and as he raised his hands, he began to cry. Our staff approached him to find out why he was so emotional, and he shared that as he sang he felt that God hugged him, which moved him to the point of tears.

We praise God for the ways He is present and moving in the lives of the children and adolescents our VisionTrust Dominicana team serves.



GUATEMALA

Over the past months, our staff, children, and families have persevered through challenging situations. COVID cases did cause interruptions to programming at our Learning Centers, but thankfully the pauses were short.

The public-school systems have still not completely re-established pre-pandemic schedules, so our children have only four hours of schooling each week. The limited access to education has made our centers more important than ever in the lives of the children. In our Los Verdes Learning Center, there is now a Montessori classroom for the preschool students. They love the hands-on and creative learning activities.

One of our biggest highlights this past quarter was seeing our seniors work on their internships. They are gaining valuable experience by working in local stores, mechanic shops, law firms, and art galleries. Not only are they gaining knowledge and developing useful skills, but they are also serving as inspiring role models for the younger students in the program. We look forward to celebrating their high school graduation in October.



BRAZIL

From April to June, there have been incredible areas of growth in our ministry in Brazil. Our staff members have been reflecting on what it means to see children through the eyes of Jesus, and Humberto, one of our leaders put it this way:

“Seeing the child as a whole person, created in God’s image, with dignity and worth. As Jesus did, we must give them love, respect, care, and protection.”

Our children build confidence and positive peer relationships through a variety of sports and activities at the program. Our Projeto Amar I program just started a new soccer team, and in May over eighty students participated in a Judo tournament. Another exciting opportunity is a professional training program offered in partnership with SEEDCORP — students take classes where they learn about topics such as the labor market and technology.

Lastly, our staff has been praying to relocate their offices to a more strategic location of the city. In June, thanks to the generous support of one of our stateside church partners, United Presbyterian, the Projeto Amar staff moved into a freshly renovated office space. Their prayer is that the venue will open doors for new relationships with local churches and businesses that have a heart to spark new possibilities in the lives of the children we serve.



PERU

This quarter, our programs were able to re-establish a consistent routine of gatherings three times per week with the children and adolescents. Of all our eleven countries, Peru was the slowest to return to in-person programming due to the severity of the pandemic and the prolonged restrictions set forth by local authorities. The children are so happy to be together again multiple times a week. They are eager to learn, grow, socialize, and play.

Our VisionTrust Peru team put great intentionality into training and equipping our staff, volunteers, children, and families during the month of June. Staff and volunteers gathered for teacher training sessions — the new tools, ideas, and coaching presented were well received. The cooks also participated in a training as well — with rising food costs, they are learning how they can continue to prepare nutritious meals with the resources available. Lastly, through a partnership with a local organization called Proyecto Protégeme, our VisionTrust ministry facilitated a three-day training to prevent abuse — there were specialized sessions for staff, parents, children, and adolescents.

We praise God for how the children and adolescents in our programs are growing in their faith. Ruth, Janeli, Angela, and Mariazele all made a first-time commitment to Jesus, and Angela and Milca took the step of baptism. We ask for prayer for our VisionTrust Peru Director, Ada, whose father Honorato passed away from cancer on April 23rd. Honorato was a wonderful supporter of the VisionTrust Peru ministry, and his friendship and loving kindness to the children will be missed.



INDIA

Our staff, children, and adolescents were absolutely thrilled to participate in a Vacation Bible School program together this quarter. This is the first one since the pandemic started, so the excitement and joy were overflowing. The children enjoyed delicious food, skits, music and dancing, and special prizes. Of course, engaging Bible lessons were a key element, and the children loved learning about David and Goliath, Joseph, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, Moses, Samuel, and more. The eight VisionTrust leaders who facilitated the event shared how attentive, energetic, and engaged the children were throughout the gathering.

Another heart-warming milestone is that all the 12th grade students in our VisionTrust ministry passed their final exam and are preparing to go to college in a couple of months. This is an incredible accomplishment, especially considering the disadvantages and setbacks they faced due to prolonged pauses on in-person instruction during the pandemic. Our team could not be prouder of the work ethic and dedication of these students.

Our VisionTrust India leaders ask for prayers for peace in the homes of the children in the ministry. Many parents struggle with substance abuse and alcohol addiction. COVID also continues to be a challenge, so we keep trusting in God's protection over the health and safety of the staff, children, and families in our ministry.



MALAWI

From April to June, our VisionTrust Malawi ministry experienced great blessings. Both the children and the teachers were in good health, which enabled teaching and learning to be successful. Our staff traveled to the town of Ntcheu to have internet access for a virtual training on spiritual development facilitated by our VisionTrust International team. One of our VisionTrust Malawi leaders, Evance, shared:

“It was so amazing, and everything went well. We learned a lot and we gained some skills from the training.”

The staff continue to support the children in their academics, and they are enjoying math activities and reading age-level books to help improve their literacy skills. Our 8th grade students are busy preparing for their final exams in July that they must pass to move up to secondary school.

We celebrate the growth of faith and character we are observing in the children in the ministry. Synet, one of the students, had been running away from school and skipping her Bible lessons. Now, she is doing well and engaged in her academic and spiritual development activities. Another child, Kondwani, has shown a transformation in his behavior. Before, he struggled to obey, and now he treats others with kindness and respect.



MYANMAR

As the civil war continues, our staff, children, and adolescents are praising God for their safety and protection amid ongoing violence. Our orphanages are caring for more children due to the challenges the country is facing. Prayers for peace and democracy continue, and our leaders faithfully serve, nurture, and care for our children despite the uncertainty that each day brings.

While public schools are open, our leaders are concerned with challenges that the students face in their academics. The support that our children and adolescents receive from their tutors at the VisionTrust programs is vital for their continued learning in their core subjects such as math and language arts. The teachers are also working diligently to provide health education, guiding the children in how to prevent illnesses such as COVID, dengue fever, and influenza. We praise God for a new handwashing station at one of our program sites, as well as the new latrines installed in two other programs.

This quarter, twenty-six children made a first-time commitment to serve Jesus. Another highlight this quarter was that fifty of our students and nine of our staff were able to participate in a Zoom Bible training that helped them study scripture and grow in their faith together. Our children continue to enjoy cultivating their relationship with God through regular times of prayer, fasting, and worship together.



LIBERIA

Over the past months, there has been great excitement in our VisionTrust Liberia ministry. Fourteen of our staff participated in a virtual spiritual development training facilitated by several of our VisionTrust USA team members. Everyone enjoyed the time of equipping, sharing, and fellowship. They are implementing their new insights during Friday Bible assemblies and small group gatherings at the programs.

Our programs made great strides in health this quarter. Two of our program sites have new bathrooms, and our staff are taking steps to improve consistent access to clean water. The meals that the children receive at the programs provide important nutritional support as families struggle to have enough food at home.

Our VisionTrust Liberia Country Director, Stephen, shared this reflection about the past months:

“It has been a blessing seeing the smiles on children’s faces as we direct the support from the sponsors to them. We are keeping Christ in focus as we have put forth our plans - be it transportation, school building improvements, or new supporters. We know He has a plan for us, and we will pray to see it through.”



TANZANIA

This quarter, our VisionTrust students at the Morogoro Baptist Primary School made the local news when they participated in a special activity for World Environment Day. During the educational festival, the children participated in tree planting activities. Not only did they plant three hundred trees on their school property, but they also helped distribute seven hundred trees to their community. These one thousand trees will provide children and families through the local area with fruit, shade, and timber.

From April to June, our children and staff have faced multiple challenges, including a shortage of rain and rising prices of food, cooking oil, and fuel, which puts economic strains on families that were already struggling to make ends meet. Our VisionTrust team helped organize a training on the importance of routine immunizations, which diminish the occurrence of preventable illnesses. We are grateful that the children were able to receive both their polio vaccine and deworming medications. When children stay healthy, they can attend school regularly and concentrate well in class.

Our children continue to learn about the love of Christ and have opportunities to grow in their faith. This quarter we had six students make a first-time commitment to follow Jesus — Abel, Salha, Neema, Sebastian, Shadya, and Joyce. We are grateful that the children's faith helps introduce the love of Christ into the homes of their relatives and neighbors, many who are Muslim. May our VisionTrust Tanzania ministry continue to be an inviting pathway for people to experience and embrace Jesus.



ZIMBABWE

Our VisionTrust Zimbabwe Country Director, Davison, was pleased to report that the prolonged restrictions due to the pandemic have finally been subsiding. He shared:

“The second quarter of 2022 has raised a lot of hope for the people of Zimbabwe.”

While there are still cases being reported, the number of hospitalizations is minimal. A particularly chilly winter has caused a few interruptions to school due to peaks in flu cases. Despite the school year starting slowly, our volunteer teachers have been working hard to provide the children with extra lessons and support as they prepare for end-of-year examinations. The students are also excited that sports activities have finally resumed — playing outdoors together brings immense joy.

While the beginning of the agricultural season was promising with abundant rains, a dry spell in February led to a poor harvest. The meals that the children receive at the VisionTrust programs nurture and sustain their health when families have little food at home. We also are grateful that the Mavende Primary School now has piped water, thanks to the successful installation of a solar powered system.

Our children and adolescents continue to study the Bible and learn how to live for God and love others. Our leaders have noted that the children who previously struggled to behave at the program have now started to lead during the discipleship gatherings. The students are also finding ways to extend compassion to their neighbors. They visit the homes of the elderly to deliver water and firewood. They are embracing the words of the apostle Paul:

“For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” Philippians 2:13



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

From April to June, we saw God work in special ways in the lives of the VisionTrust Centrafrique children and adolescents. Students ages eleven to nineteen participated in a series of talks on the topic of “how to grow spiritually.” Four students made a first-time commitment to Jesus this quarter. We celebrate the baptisms of Sergus, Davila, Christelle, and Mervine, and we pray that their love of the Lord only deepens and strengthens as they follow Him.

Our students that have chronic illnesses are receiving special support through supplemental nutrition and mentoring. They continue to benefit from a training held in February to empower them to cope with emotional and social challenges. They now know they do not need to fear stigma or the discrimination of others.

Our VisionTrust Centrafrique staff also were able to assist parents of the most vulnerable children in our ministry by securing a grant to help with income-generating activities. This helped the families with their small businesses, which in turn created better stability for the children in their care.

Continue to pray for safety and stability in the Central African Republic. Fuel shortages have triggered increased costs for public transportation, and food and necessities are more expensive as well. The activity of armed forces in the country is impacting the ability for goods to arrive consistently and safely to the capital city of Bangui where our programs are located.





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