



**2023**

QUARTER 2 IMPACT REPORT

# BRAZIL

Our VisionTrust Brazil Country Director, Humberto, describes the environment in which our children live, sharing why our work in the community of Goiânia is so vital:

*“While our [city is rich] because of agriculture, livestock, construction, and clothing business, the social inequality is rampant, and it is just increasing.”*

During the second quarter of 2023, at the Projeto Amar I Learning Center, forty students continued to participate in the soccer program, learning important skills such as coordination, teamwork, discipline, and responsibility. The creative entrepreneurship class has empowered thirteen students to work on marketable skills with the purpose of engaging their gifts for the Kingdom of God. Topics include building a business, utilizing technology, and developing a brand. Our students continued to work on cultivating their reading and writing skills in dynamic ways, including authoring their very own book!

At the Projeto Amar II Learning Center, a faithful volunteer, Juliana, is leading a creative education workshop on Wednesdays to help students reinforce their Portuguese skills. Our students gathered at Easter for a special church service to reflect on the meaning of Passover and the significance of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet. Families were blessed monthly with food baskets to help ease the financial strains from inflation. In June, twenty-four preteens and teens enjoyed a special minicamp focused on the topic of our identity in God. Everyone had a blast wearing costumes and discussing the importance of positive life choices.

In conclusion, we praise God for the six students – Eduardo, Kaue, Jose Augusto, Jose Antonio, Gabriel, and Arthur — who committed this quarter to follow Christ. May their faith continue to strengthen and grow in the years to come.



# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

During the second quarter of 2023, there were many beautiful moments of affirmation of God's love and provision. VisionTrust Dominicana Program Director, Yvelise Peña, captured this sentiment, sharing:

*“The Lord is good and each trial that comes to us has a divine purpose... We ask the Lord to help us be victorious regardless of the trials we are facing and always ask to come out more spiritually strengthened.”*

Throughout April, May, and June, our leaders helped facilitate a variety of spiritual discipleship and outreach events. In Comendador, 230 students completed a three-month program focused on knowing Jesus and growing closer to Him. At our VisionTrust Deaf School, eight students made a first-time commitment at camp to follow Jesus. In total, thirteen students from our ministry programs committed their lives to Jesus this quarter.

Our leaders continue to provide memorable learning opportunities for our students. We are thankful that most of our programs now have reading corners and special programming to promote literacy. Our students have enjoyed various holidays through creative and educational activities. For Earth Day, students planted flowers and made artwork out of recycled materials. For Dominican Labor Day, students dressed up to represent a career of their choice. On Mother's Day, children penned letters to communicate their love and appreciation for their moms.

Our short-term mission team participants were a great support to our local staff in June. Journey Church enjoyed taking the children from Ketty's House Orphanage to a local park to enjoy fun in the sun. Faith Bible Church blessed our children at the Camino de Libertad Learning Center with brand new bathroom facilities. Most important of all, the team member visits brought laughter, smiles, hugs, and memories that will last for years to come.



# GUATEMALA

Our VisionTrust Guatemala Country Director, Rut, shared this reflection on the months of April, May, and June of 2023:

*“It fills my heart to see both programs — although through challenges — face every day and manage each day as it comes. It’s rewarding to see leaders rise, volunteers gather to help us finish the school year, and operations of programs running smoothly.”*

Students have worked hard this academic year on their studies. In our Cruz Blanca Learning Center, our students have been participating in weekly challenges to improve reading comprehension. Worksheets and interactive plays help the children develop the ability to express and understand what they have read. They also enjoyed learning about Earth Day by creating garbage containers out of recycled materials to keep the Learning Center property tidy. Our 8th grade students learned about entrepreneurship through a food-based micro-enterprise project which helped hone skills in leadership, organization, creativity, and teamwork.

During April, in our Los Verdes Learning Center, our 4th - 6th grade students completed a math operations tournament to sharpen their skills and speed in mathematics. That same month, our kindergarten students participated in an oral hygiene workshop. In May and June, our 7th and 8th graders participated in a special reading workshop to help improve their literacy skills. To help our students combat waterborne illnesses, our leaders were able to deliver water filtration units to families in the ministry, coaching them on how to maintain and effectively use the filters to improve the health of their children.

Our students continue to grow in their love of the Lord and one another. We praise God that six students — Fernel, Karla, Josué, Katherine, Elmer, and Gergori — made a first-time decision to follow Jesus this past quarter. We pray that God increases their faith and trust in Him in the months and years to come.



# PERU

As our VisionTrust Peru Country Director, Ada, summarized the quarter, she stated:

*“Despite everything, God has been very good. The programs are working to do everything possible to bless the children.”*

For our children, families, and staff in Peru, May and June are the coldest and driest months of the year. Colds, flus, and viral illnesses were common during this recent quarter, but praise God, everyone who fell ill recovered well.

Leading our children forward in their faith journeys continues to be paramount to the mission of our VisionTrust Peru ministry. On May 6th, our VisionTrust Peru staff enjoyed a virtual training on spiritual development via Zoom with two of our stateside VisionTrust staff members. Despite the separation of miles, everyone was united in heart and equipped with innovative ideas, techniques, and resources to lead the children in growing to love Christ. We praise God that eight students — Eva, Levy, Axel, Sofia, Huriel, Jeremy, Yaril, and Yazuri — all made a first-time decision to follow Jesus this quarter.

An exciting highlight of this quarter was the new reading corner at the Casa Luz Orphanage made possible by the generosity of our faithful partner, Cypress Church. The children are thrilled with the new books and cozy area to read both independently and together with their caregivers. At the Getsemani Learning Center, the students enjoyed practicing their reading skills by learning about the life of David and the apostle John. At the Maranatha Learning Center, the students enjoyed making special crafts for both Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. Our students at the Primitiva Learning Center are enjoying the support from a special teacher with experience in pre-university preparation. The introduction of new toy library at the Ríos de Agua Viva Learning Center was a highlight for this past quarter, as well as an outing to share Bible verses with neighbors in the local community.

We praise God for all the ways — big and small — that our children experience love and care through the VisionTrust Peru ministry.



# SOUTHEAST ASIA

Despite extremely challenging circumstances in their region, our leaders in Southeast Asia are remaining faithful to God's calling to serve the children in their learning centers and orphanages. Our VisionTrust Southeast Asia Director described this situation like this:

*"People's villages and bridges [have been] destroyed. Economic, education, and health aspects are getting tighter and lower. The value of [our currency] has decreased... People who do charity are banned. The way to help those in need is canceled."*

By God's abounding grace, our ministry programs continue to operate effectively, bringing much needed love, care, and support to the children and families where we serve. In June, our students started the new academic year. Our students particularly enjoy English classes, and they continue to build their skills in mathematics through quizzes and competitions. Our staff also continue to reinforce healthy habits, such as proper handwashing, good oral hygiene practices, and drinking filtered water.

In April, our staff participated in a one-day spiritual refreshment program. They enjoyed studying the Bible together and learning about how to understand different emotions through the lens of Christian faith. This past quarter, 18 students made a first-time decision to follow Jesus. Our students enjoyed learning about various Bible stories, such as Samuel and Eli, Moses, and the apostle Andrew.

During the month of May, there was a strong storm that led people to evacuate the coastal areas. Two of our orphanages opened their doors to those fleeing for safety. It was a beautiful opportunity to share the love of Christ to those facing a crisis, and a wonderful teaching moment for our children, who were able to welcome in neighbors in need of food, shelter, and other necessities.



# SOUTH ASIA

God's mercy and presence continues to be with our children, families, and staff in South Asia amid incredibly challenging circumstances.

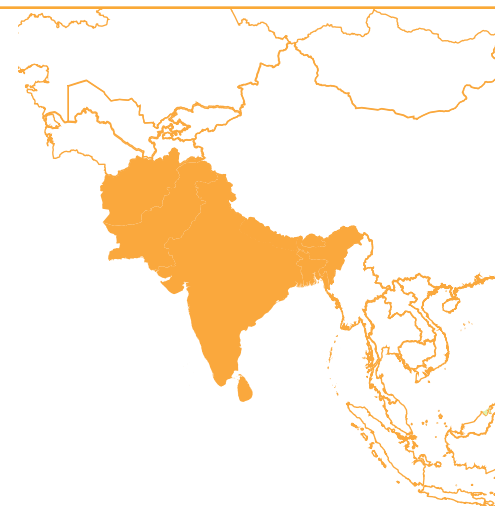
This past quarter, the excessive heat caused a delay to the start of the academic year, and attendance has been irregular due to many children falling sick with seasonal colds and flu. Our leaders distributed sanitary napkins & kits to our female adolescent students to ensure their monthly cycle does not disrupt their attendance at school or participation in their VisionTrust Learning Center program.

Our students started their new academic year in June. They are enjoying reading books at their learning center to develop and reinforce their literacy skills. Our 10th and 12th grade students are leveraging online classes and tutoring sessions to help them succeed in their coursework.

By far, the biggest highlight of the past quarter was the Vacation Bible School program held at each VisionTrust program site. The theme was "Your Word is my Delight," and over 275 children and adolescents participated. The story of Job was shared in the general session, and the message of God restoring Job's life in His perfect timing instilled great hope in our children and staff. During the Vacation Bible School, the students enjoyed skits, balloon games, singing, dancing, prayer, prizes, and delicious food. The chicken and rice dish and watermelon juice were a huge hit! Events like the Vacation Bible School truly help students embrace Christ's love in a personal way. Our VisionTrust South Asia Director shared,

*"We witnessed many children come closer to God and give their lives to Christ. Glory to God!"*

We trust that the seeds of Christ's love that are being sown into the hearts of the children will help them develop wisdom, character, and strength in the weeks, months, and years to come.



# LIBERIA

During April, May, and June of 2023, we saw God's hand work in incredible ways, despite the national challenges facing Liberia. Our VisionTrust Liberia Country Director, Stephen, described the situation, stating,

*“Liberia’s economy is suffering an acute shortage of foreign currency with inflation currently in double digits for food and other commodities... schools are constrained with the lack of facilities for student learning including teacher shortages, [and] also the cost of transportation continues to rise.”*

Amid these struggles, we are witnessing great moments of growth and flourishing in the lives of our students. Six students made a first-time decision to follow Christ this past quarter, and others have shown a deepening in their faith. Salah, one of our 4th graders, has embraced sharing the Gospel and discipling others. She is an avid and confident reader, and she enjoys reading Bible stories to other children at her VisionTrust program. Although she comes from a Muslim family, Salah sings in the choir at church every Sunday and loves attending Bible study to dive deeper into studying scripture.

Our students continue to succeed in their academics. Our 3rd, 6th, and 9th graders took national exams in April and performed well. Students enjoy a friendly reading competition to improve their literacy skills and a 45-minute dedicated reading time at the beginning of the school day. At the end of April, our students at the Liberty Baptist School competed in kickball against another local school and won — the students were thrilled with their victory, and it was a fun time of celebration for the entire school community.

With immense joy, our children, staff, and families celebrated the completion of the wells at our VisionTrust programs in Howein and Gbarnga this past quarter! Everyone is thrilled to have access to clean water.

God's abounding love continues to shine in our programs in Liberia — we give thanks for His sustaining presence and steadfast provision.





# MALAWI

During this past quarter, it was rice harvesting season, and our ministry worked on securing a stockpile of rice for our feeding program to avoid shortages and price spikes ongoing in the country. Our students continue to cultivate a garden, which is producing vegetables that the students enjoy, as well as surplus that can be sold to help benefit the ministry. Students are in good health — despite the colder temperatures during this season, no major illnesses have occurred amongst our students or staff. Our children under the age of five were able to receive their polio vaccine in June.

A situation that has caused some stress within the country is the re-location of refugees that have been living in Malawi. As the government relocated these individuals, this caused disruption in the job market and accessibility to goods, as many of the refugees ran businesses and served as employers in the area. Prices of goods continue to be expensive, and we are praying that the Lord provides for our ministry and for the families we serve.

Our students continue to work hard in their academics. Our VisionTrust Malawi Leader, Evance, shared this reflection about one of their students, Monica,

*“Monica is the child who has improved in her education; she has been struggling to do her best ... but she never gave up. Because of her hard work, she has now shown she can also [keep up] with her friends. We hope to see her do well in the exams coming soon.”*

In the area of spiritual development, we celebrate two students — Watipaso and Cathbert — who made a first-time decision to follow Jesus. Join us in praying that God’s love and presence will touch their lives in a transformative way as they follow Him.



Monica

# TANZANIA

As our VisionTrust Tanzania Country Director, Peter, reflected on this past quarter, he shared,

*“I thank God for His grace and protection that enables us to continue living safely and healthy as we [perform] our daily responsibilities.”*

A lack of rainfall has impacted the recent harvest season, causing escalations in the prices of food and other commodities. The meals our students receive at their VisionTrust program continue to be a vital source of nutrition. Each meal provided brings a sense of relief to families who struggle to put food on the table at home. By God’s grace, our students have been in good health overall, although there has been a very contagious flu this winter season. Our leaders are currently working through challenges related to scarcity of fresh water.

In education, our students are showing improvement in their reading and writing skills. They also have been working hard on conversational English. In April, our students enjoyed a hands-on class project where they planted various species of trees. Our staff enjoyed a retreat on May 1st, which gave them the opportunity to collaborate and build stronger camaraderie. During June, our students enjoyed a break from their studies, giving them the opportunity to rest before the next academic term.

In the area of spiritual development, we praise God that ten students dedicated their lives to Christ for the first time. One of those students, Jonas, is a standard 7 student who loves attending chapel, asking questions about Bible stories, and meditating on scripture each day. Jonas enjoys distributing Bibles to fellow students at his VisionTrust school, taking delight in sharing God’s word with his friends.

We thank God for the steadfastness of our VisionTrust staff and for the many ways our ministry is sustained amid ever-present challenges.



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

This past quarter in the Central African Republic, our leaders observed God moving in the hearts and lives of our children in momentous ways. Despite ongoing political and economic struggles in their nation, our VisionTrust staff are a steady presence of love, support, and encouragement to the children in our nine programs in the city of Bangui.

In the area of health, the food crisis in the Central African Republic continues to persist. Malaria is a persistent problem, and our leaders recently conducted a workshop on malaria prevention which covered the causes, warning signs, and precautions that can reduce the risk of contracting this disease. Our health contract made possible by generous donors also continues to be a great asset for our children when they fall ill and need timely care.

Our students continue to work on their reading and writing skills. During this quarter, one of the activities that helped strengthen their aptitude was writing a letter to their sponsor. Our students also enjoy reading the Bible to strengthen their competency in literacy. They studied various passages this past quarter, such as the story of Naaman (II Kings 5:1-19) and the story of Daniel (Daniel 3 – 6). We praise God that two students — Leslie and Merveille — decided to follow Christ and were baptized.

One story that truly touched our heart this past quarter was seeing one of our adolescents who has grown up in our ministry — Christelle — reach out to bless a younger peer. Christelle was able to participate in a vocational training course in sewing, and she sewed and gifted a handmade skirt to Mervine, a fifteen-year-old girl that is also part of the VisionTrust ministry. Our VisionTrust Centrafrique Country Director, Josué, shared,

*“For Christelle, it is God who put in the hearts of donors in the USA to pay for her training and she wants, in return, to show her love to one of the [other students].”*

What a heart-warming example of how the children in our ministry are embracing the love of Christ and actively sharing it with others in thoughtful and practical ways!



Mervine & Christelle

# ZIMBABWE

As our VisionTrust Zimbabwe Country Director, Davison, reflected on the past quarter, he shared,

*“The good news is that God has been faithful [to keep] us and our vulnerable children healthy. We survived COVID-19, multiple episodes of drought, famine, diseases, and melting economies. The experience gives us hope that if God sustained us in the past, He will care for us in the future.”*

In the area of health, the most pressing concern is the cholera outbreak happening in the country of Zimbabwe. Our leaders continue to ensure our students have access to steady nutritious meals and clean drinking water to help sustain their health, as well as access to vaccines to prevent illnesses such as typhoid. Our students also participate in regular outdoor activities to help build their strength and speed, such as playing games like soccer and netball. Students continue to work hard in their studies and contribute their time and effort to support their families. In the area of infrastructure, our local leaders constructed a perimeter fence at the Mavende Learning Center, the first step in a large-scale project that will result in a dedicated facility for our VisionTrust program in that community.

Pertunia is one of our VisionTrust students, and her story exemplifies the impact of the VisionTrust Learning Centers in Zimbabwe. Pertunia is eleven years old and lives with her stepmother. Both her parents passed away, but she has learned to trust in God. Because of the support she receives with her school fees, uniform, and nutritious meals, Pertunia is thriving. Her dream is to become a nurse, and she believes and trusts that God will make it possible.

We love seeing how God is moving in the life of Pertunia and many other children and adolescents that are part of the VisionTrust Zimbabwe ministry.





**THANK YOU**  
for believing these children are worth more.



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