



**2024**

QUARTER 3 IMPACT REPORT



**VisionTrust**

*They are worth more. A lot more.*

# BRAZIL

Our staff and VisionTrust children faced some of the most challenging, but ultimately rewarding times during the third quarter of 2024.

As Brazil faced one of the worst environmental disasters in its history with rampant wildfires that blanketed Goiânia in smoke for two weeks, our staff quickly pivoted our programming to move entirely indoors. This move included new workshops like ballet, computer programming, and even an introduction into photography! Not only did the kids love the new classes, it was also a time of building up their confidence with valuable skills they can use in the future. It was truly a testament to God working all things together for good (Romans 8:28).

From August 1–4, Projeto Amar hosted its annual camp with the theme “Jesus, the Champion!” Ninety-four children and teenagers, ages 8 to 15, along with staff and teachers, enjoyed three days filled with fun activities, prayer, worship, biblical lessons, and friendship. It was particularly special to have program alumni return to serve as volunteers and counselors. What a beautiful time to reflect on God’s love and grow in faith together!

Representing the programs, Gabriel, Nicole, and Anny had the exciting opportunity to compete in the Brazilian Judo Championship. Competing among 1,200 athletes, they gained valuable experience and perhaps most significantly, they learned to trust God and dream big in a new way. Although they did not advance, the experience of representing their communities at such a high level was transformational to each child—and was a source of pride and encouragement for everyone in the programs.

Another significant impact of quarter three was the all-program emphasis on mental health awareness. September’s suicide prevention campaign included the critical provisions of safe spaces for conversations with trusted adults and mentors, workshops on awareness and prevention, and activities to help children build resilience and confidence for the challenges they face in their lives.

The unwavering support of our VisionTrust community made every moment of joy and growth possible. We praise God for the dedicated love and care of every staff member and mentor who are helping our children gain the tools and faith they need to thrive!



# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Growth, opportunities, and celebrations were the themes of the third quarter in the Dominican Republic. We were blessed to host three short-term missions teams in July. Each team was a great encouragement to our staff through their work and through the precious relationships they formed. Together, we held evangelism and discipleship events of tremendous impact. They also helped us make facility improvements and provided much-needed support to our centers.

August was back to school! We welcomed over 1,000 children back to our Schools and Learning Centers for the year. A particularly special time for students and their parents happened during orientation from August 26 to September 9. As students enjoyed participating in orientation activities, parents gathered to learn about center rules, meal programs, and a new initiative called "Home: My First School," which focuses on equipping families to be active partners in their children's education. We also had the privilege of celebrating Bible Day, where the children enjoyed worship, Bible readings, and reflections on the importance of God's Word.

This quarter also brought exciting new opportunities for students to learn and grow. At Cotui, computer classes, beauty salon workshops, pastry-making courses, and guitar lessons provided fun creative outlets and valuable skills. Lidianny, a guitar student, has already begun playing in her church! Literacy Day in September highlighted the importance of reading, while a celebration of Peace and Kindness emphasized God's call to love others through dramas, songs, and preaching. We also held a workshop on teenage pregnancy prevention to equip students with practical knowledge about healthy relationships and self-care.

As we reflect on these achievements, we are reminded of the incredible potential of every child we serve. Your support enables us to provide education, discipleship, and opportunities that inspire children to dream big and trust in God's plan for their lives. Thank you for continuing to partner with us in this mission to transform young lives in the Dominican Republic.



# GUATEMALA

In Quarter 3, we saw tremendous spiritual growth, resilience, and reasons to celebrate in Guatemala. This quarter featured celebratory activities with our staff and the children and their families as we honored Guatemala's independence. We started the celebration on September 15 and continued for two weeks of parades, school bands, and family gatherings. The bonding that happened was priceless! The "cherry on top" was GU001 students winning a local dance competition, earning invitations to perform at other schools. Parents accompanied the group, helping connect VisionTrust to other communities and creating new opportunities to share God's love.

Remarkable spiritual growth took place amid these celebrations. Los Verdes student Elian was so impacted by a spiritual retreat he attended that he went on to lead a devotional for his classmates. The children engaged in genuine conversation about faith as Elian shared his testimony and challenged them to build a real and personal relationship with Christ. At this same time, the communities surrounding our centers experienced rampant mosquito-borne illnesses as a result of heavy rains. It was a major challenge for our staff to navigate, but they worked hard to provide timely care and nutrition to every sick child while also working to educate families in the community on health disease prevention measures. We are thankful that every sick child in our programs recovered thanks to the team's resilience and dedication.

Despite the difficulties combating so much sickness in the communities, the VT Guatemala team continues to focus on fostering creativity in practical and fun ways in both learning centers. Cruz Blanca launched a school garden project, where students learned sustainable practices and teamwork. They even grew cilantro to take home for their families! We also had reading initiatives that encouraged comprehension and expression through storytelling, library visits, and poster creation. At Los Verdes, students had the opportunity to honor their grandparents through making crafts from the heart and by praying for them. By tapping into their God-given creativity, the students learned the fundamental qualities of empathy, loyalty, and fellowship.

Through your partnership, we continue to empower these children to dream big, grow in faith, and create a brighter future. Thank you for standing with us as we work to transform lives in Guatemala.



# PERU

With the passing of VisionTrust Peru Director, Ada Huertas in August, the 3rd quarter in Peru was one of remembering, healing, and transition. Ada's husband, Koko, was confirmed by the VT Peru board as the new country director in September. He has faithfully continued the work despite many challenges in Ayacucho. Instability and corruption in regional governments has stalled essential infrastructure projects from roads to hospitals, leaving communities without essential resources. On top of that, forest fires devastated crop areas and wildlife, followed by unusually cold temperatures which led to respiratory illnesses, particularly among children.

As the difficulties compounded, VisionTrust programs continued to serve as a beacon of hope to our children and their families. The food program provided consistent nutrition to help sustain them and the weekly care of program staff helped children combat illness and stay healthy. Our Learning Centers remained places of healing and growth, as reflected in the story of Leo, a ten-year-old boy whose life was transformed after joining VisionTrust. When his family faced the emotional toll of divorce, our Learning Center became a safe haven where he and his siblings found community, healing, and faith. Today, Leo is thriving through attending Sunday School regularly and sharing his joy with his peers.

Educational and spiritual development were also essential this quarter. Children studied the Beatitudes, read books in their new reading corners, and created their own artistic projects. Celebrations like Children's Day and Bible Day brought moments of joy and connection, with parades and special gatherings that emphasized God's love. At the Primitiva Learning Center, we marked the ninth anniversary of the program, celebrating God's provision and the impact of faithful sponsors.

Thank you for your continued support, which makes it possible to provide stability and hope in the midst of uncertainty. Together, we are making a lasting difference in Peru.



# SOUTHEAST ASIA

As Southeast Asia continued to be shaped by the challenges of political instability, civil unrest, and flooding, God's grace was tangibly evident through the successes we saw in our VisionTrust programs. Teachers provided extra supervision to Grade 12 students to ensure they stayed on track, and they gave extra time to struggling students in preparation for their exams.

Health and hygiene also remained key priorities this quarter. Handwashing stations were installed at two centers, and Sawyer water filters were set up to ensure clean drinking water for children. Health programs, including deworming medicine and hygiene education, helped to keep children healthy and strong in the midst of the difficult conditions. New toilet installation and center repairs reflected our ongoing commitment to provide safe and nurturing facilities. Mental health was also an important focus, as trauma and self-care training provided volunteer teachers with tools to manage daily stress and find encouragement through their faith.

The children continue to find strength and hope through their spiritual development, which helps them get through the toughest of times. Through Bible studies and discipleship lessons, Sunday School, prayer chains, and fasting, these children are not only growing in their faith but are also learning to pray for those around them affected by war and disasters. Many of our students shared powerful testimonies of experiencing God's presence during these difficult times.

We thank God for his work in our resilient children and staff amid the difficulties. Thank you for your unwavering support, which allows us to bring light and hope to children.



# SOUTH ASIA

We saw challenges and victories this quarter in South Asia. Although extreme heat and water scarcity continued to impact families, VisionTrust was a difference-maker by being able to provide our students with clean water and food. Educationally, our children continued to receive targeted aid for mathematics, reading and writing. Of the 26 students who took their 12th grade exams, 25 passed and secured college placements with the help of a local foundation! This remarkable achievement highlights the resilience and determination of our students and the faithful dedication and care of our program leaders and staff.

The daily aim of our staff and volunteers is to foster faith in each child by making sure each has the opportunity to grow and thrive in their God-given identity. Core to this mission is helping the children read the Bible and memorize Scripture, so that it becomes a part of them. Students worked on verse memorizations in preparation for their annual Bible quizzing activities and celebrations at the end of the year. This fun program paves the way for their lives to be solidly rooted in the truth of the Bible.

One of the most significant moments this quarter was the baptism of seven of our students! Because political tensions and persecution make it difficult to publicly profess your faith, these children demonstrated a true step of faith and trust in the Lord to get baptized. Their public declaration of their faith in Jesus Christ is a testament of God's powerful work in their lives and through our staff.

These children's lives continue to be transformed because of your partnership with us. Your prayers and support are creating a lasting impact!



# LIBERIA

It is an honor and joy for VisionTrust International to invest in the lives of vulnerable children in Liberia. We praise God for his provision for our schools to be able to feed all of our children in the midst of rising prices for food and essential goods as a result of the national fuel crisis. The nutritious meals our children receive at our schools are often their only meal of the day, and you can imagine how much of a difference this critical food made in improving their health and boosting attendance. The families were also thankful for the new uniforms we provided this school year.

Knowing how important it is to provide safe, and therefore effective learning environments, we continued to invest this quarter in infrastructure improvements at all three of our school sites. We're proud to report that the Howein Community School's new roof and walls are nearing completion which will provide solid shelter from the frequent rains. We are also pleased to report that the walls at the Liberty Baptist School in Gbarnga are newly plastered which will allow for fresh paint and the installation of new tile flooring and windows.

The highlight of the quarter was a ten-day teacher training workshop in collaboration with Grassroots Ministry. Five teachers received training in teaching, classroom management, and student engagement. They are now more equipped than ever to deliver high quality education and to train other teachers in the schools this year. Leadership meetings among program leaders played an important role by strengthening collaboration among each other and sharing strategies to further enhance education, spiritual development, and health programs.

God's faithfulness has been evident this quarter. We are thankful for physically healthy children and staff and spiritual growth through discipleship that happened through Bible studies and community outreach. Thank you for making these life-changing programs possible and for standing with us as we bring hope to these families.





# MALAWI

Malawi experienced significant challenges this quarter, brought on by a national fuel crisis which caused the prices of everyday essentials like groceries and cooking oil to skyrocket. Through God's faithfulness, we were able to ensure every child and staff member had every basic needs met through consistent meals and support. The Lord wisely led us to purchase food proactively when the prices were cheaper, so we could continue to feed the children without interruption at a time of widespread scarcity. Nutritious meals and healthy snacks, along with health and hygiene education, helped sustain them during this uncertain time.

New uniforms were another provision for the children at the Learning Center. Since many families struggle to be able to purchase these, it was a blessing to see the children's deep appreciation and bolstered confidence when they received the uniforms.

We were encouraged to see spiritual development flourish through intentional outreach and discipleship efforts. Weekly Bible studies for teachers provided spiritual nourishment and encouraged them to continue sharing God's love in their communities. Home visits to our Learning Center children's families created divinely-timed opportunities to share the hope of the Gospel. Enipher is one particular example of a student God is using to reach her peers through her kindness, respect for others, and unwavering dedication to her studies. She is a testament to the power of faith and education working hand in hand.

God's faithfulness continues to sustain VisionTrust Malawi. Thank you for partnering with us to provide spiritual development, valuable education, and practical support to the children and families we serve. Together, we are building a brighter future.



# TANZANIA

In Tanzania, the third quarter of 2024 was filled with memorable moments and ongoing challenges, but God's faithfulness was evident throughout. We were honored to celebrate our Grade 7 and Kindergarten 5 students' graduation with a ceremony on August 31. Proud family and community members gathered to recognize this milestone of the students' successful completion of these phases of their education, made possible through our dedicated staff and support of our partners. It was an unforgettable day of celebration, delicious food, and musical performances.

The study tour on September 3 for Grade 3 and 4 students featured the historical site of Bagamoyo. This immersive experience introduced the children to the rich history of early Arab civilization, with visits to landmarks like the Old Fort and the Kaole Ruins. The trip included interactive activities such as sketching the ruins and participating in a mock archaeological dig, making history come alive for the students. They had a terrific time with this on-site learning opportunity.

Amid all of the positive experiences, VisionTrust Tanzania faced issues with leaking roofs in many of our classrooms. We are happy to report that great progress has been made on the installation of new roofs, thanks to the generous labor of several groups. We were also blessed with a visit from U.S. partners, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. Skiles. Together they made tremendous improvements to our classrooms through repairs and painting. With the learning environments noticeably better for the children, we are reminded of the power of our global partnerships!

Thank you for your prayers and support, which enable us to overcome challenges and invest in the future of Tanzania's children. Together, we are transforming lives through education, spiritual development, and community care.



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

The third quarter of 2024 in the Central African Republic saw one school year end in July and the new school year begin in September. We are thrilled to report four of our senior level orphans successfully passed their high school graduation exams in July, which is a tremendous milestone for these young scholars. Children in the younger grades completed their exams and were then happy to spend the school break with extended family while continuing to learn through activities in their local communities.

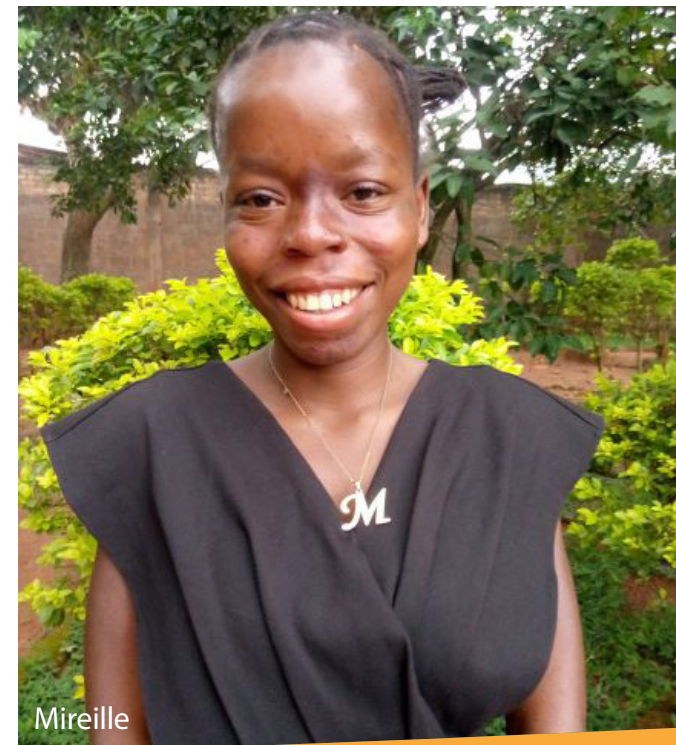
The break from school not only allowed many of the orphans to travel to other parts of the country to enjoy time with extended family, it also provided the VisionTrust staff with valuable time to plan and prepare for the new school year. For example, new devotional materials were developed for the semester to help children understand the importance of the Gospel in the building up to Christmas. The critical supplemental feeding of children with serious health conditions also continued during this quarter.

The spread of and battle with disease is a constant part of life in the CAR. Heavy rains this quarter led to localized flooding and created ideal conditions for mosquitoes to spread diseases like malaria. VisionTrust responded by providing medicine, monitoring treatments, and offering nutritious food to support recovery. During this same time, the World Health Organization declared an Mpox outbreak in the Central African Republic. Thankfully, none of our orphans were affected, and we ask you to continue to join us in prayer for the health of all families in the region.

We want to share an inspiring story from this quarter that comes from Mireille, a 17-year-old orphan, who has been part of VisionTrust since she was two years old. After losing both her parents at a young age, Mireille suffered from a painful skin disease that caused swelling, discoloration, and loss of her nails. This condition left her feeling isolated and ashamed among her peers. VisionTrust supported her through countless hospital visits, consultations with specialists, and medication regimens. After years of perseverance, Mireille experienced a breakthrough this year with a new treatment that has brought remarkable improvement to her skin and overall health. Today, she is thriving, attending school with confidence, and no longer feels ashamed among her classmates.

*“I thank the VisionTrust program with all my heart for persevering in my health care,” Mireille shared. “My sister and I never stop praying for this program that has brought so much change to our lives.”*

We have so many reasons to give thanks to God this quarter for His faithfulness and the transformative impact of VisionTrust programs here. Together, with your support, we are bringing hope and healing to some of the most vulnerable children in the Central African Republic.



Mireille

# ZIMBABWE

VisionTrust worked tirelessly this quarter to support children and families amid ongoing drought and economic instability. The El Niño-induced drought caused severe food shortages, driving up the cost of basic necessities and increasing the strain on already vulnerable communities. Despite these challenges, our feeding program was able to provide nourishing meals to all the children in our 3 programs . It's amazing what food can do to bring hope and stability to these children and their families in such a desperate time of need.

Spiritual growth remained a cornerstone of our work. From September 20–22, over 300 children attended the annual summer Discipleship Camp. Through age-tailored activities and mentorship, children deepened their understanding of God's love and built strong connections with peers. The camp also included sessions with psychology experts from a local university, where children bravely shared experiences of abuse and sought support. Plans are now underway to engage community leaders in addressing these issues that affect all of the children experiencing difficult times.

Education also saw significant progress this quarter despite the country's hardships. We were able to keep children in class by covering school fees for 225 children. Our dedicated staff monitored the children's learning progress to make adjustments and provide help as they saw the need. To help combat food insecurity, we started proactively planning this quarter for the next planting season to feature drought-resistant crops.

We continue to trust in God's provision as we look to the future. Your partnership makes it possible for us to provide spiritual care, education, and nutrition to Zimbabwe's most vulnerable children. Together, we are bringing hope and transformation to communities in need.





# THANK YOU

for believing these children are worth more.



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