



**HELPO<sup>N</sup>ENOW**

**GLOBAL TEAM REPORTS**





## Global Team Report - December 2023

---

### Impact Highlights

#### 1. Belize:

- Despite schools being out for two weeks, we kept our center open the entire month, attracting many children from vulnerable communities. The overwhelming response required police department security due to the sheer volume of participants.
- One notable achievement was the collaboration of Water Walkers to form a marching band for the Christmas Parade, with 20 drummers and 25 marching girls. The practice sessions drew the attention of youths in surrounding areas, resulting in a daily attendance of up to 65 children. Security measures were implemented due to the high turnout, showcasing the enthusiasm and commitment of the participants. The children practiced hard and were very committed to learning their routines. I was very proud of their dedication to making a beautiful performance in the streets of Belize with The Water Walkers banner leading the parade. Our theme again was "Every Child is a Gift."
- Additionally, we hosted our annual Christmas block party, welcoming 500 children and 100 adults. Each child received a Christmas gift, enjoyed various activities, such as bouncy houses, trampoline, face painting, cotton candy, and food, and heard the Christmas story, resulting in several individuals giving their hearts to Jesus. Many of the women from the small business program assisted in the cooking and the extensive preparation for the event to be successful. We took the names and phone numbers of the families, which we will continue to use as a tool for evangelism.

#### 2. Dominican Republic:

- This month, we gathered for a special day of celebration for all 39 students in our college scholarship program. Our Scholarship Program holds immense importance for underprivileged youth in our community. This program is a beacon of hope, offering them a lifeline to higher education and a brighter future. It provides financial support to access and graduate from university and nurtures their spiritual growth and moral values. By empowering these young individuals to pursue their dreams of higher education, the scholarship program equips them

with the knowledge and skills needed to break the cycle of poverty, fostering hope, self-worth, and a sense of purpose. Through the College Scholarship Program, we are investing in their academic success and the development of responsible, compassionate individuals who will make positive contributions to their communities and help build a more equitable and spiritually enriched society.

- After four years of hard work, we are so proud to see 23 fresh graduates from our four-year Bible Institute. These men and women of faith have chosen to embark on the rigorous journey of pastoral leadership in their communities, and we trust and look forward to the great work we know God will do in their lives and the lives of the people they touch.

### **3. Ethiopia:**

- In December, the transition center holistically served six orphaned and vulnerable children. The team also facilitated the Adoption of 2 eligible children by Ethiopian forever families. One child was reunified with his relative, and seven previously empowered families were visited to see their progress. The concerned government bodies evaluated the midterm work and garden development activities like dairy, poultry, and cultivation of cereals in the transition center.

### **4. Haiti:**

- We had a beautiful Christmas show for the children, where they all were so excited to take part. We danced and ate together. Some of the children had great performances. We all had fun together!
- This December, we held a Christmas party at the schools, girls' and boys' homes, the village, and the churches. Ferrier, Guibert, and Agape had a concert on Christmas. On December 31st, Guibert had fellowship; they shared soup joumou as the Haitian cultural tradition. At Agape, we had a big worship celebration with 2,050 people in our service.

### **5. Malawi:**

- Facilitated payment of school tuition and other school expenses for the students.
- Provided business mentorship and coaching to 8 individuals.
- Provided counseling and spiritual support to 15 individuals.

### **6. Peru**

- In December, our 5th-grade secondary students, who represent the last grade of high school, graduated. Kairos School is celebrating with them this end of the season, and we are praying for good opportunities for them in this new season. Thirteen students worked hard to graduate despite the challenges they faced every day due to the little resources they had at home.

### **7. Zimbabwe**

- The Agriculture students completed their training and had their graduation ceremony on the 7th of December, 2023. We are so proud of their achievements and wish them well in their future endeavors.

## Family Business Program Cumulative Data

	Families Empowered to Date	Total Empowerment Goal for 2023	Families Empowered in 2023 (Behind schedule to due budget constraints)	Families Currently Enrolled
<b>Belize</b>	121	15	3	12
<b>D.R.</b>	34	12	5	30
<b>Ethiopia</b>	872	174	30	118
<b>Haiti</b>	190	50	0	200
<b>Malawi</b>	6	10	9	10
<b>Peru</b>	119	60	19	12
<b>Uganda</b>	89	10	0	34
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	77	40	11	10
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>426</b>

## Monthly Education Data

	Students Enrolled	Students in Post Secondary	Teachers Employed	Number of Classrooms	Number of Meals Served
<b>Belize</b>	15	0	2	2	3,365
<b>D.R.</b>	654	64	37	33	13,000
<b>Ethiopia</b>	500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Haiti</b>	1,881	240	84	56	46,570
<b>Malawi</b>	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Peru</b>	290	n/a	40	32	2,420
<b>Uganda</b>	346	0	18	10	24,566
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	5	0	4	1	450
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,691</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>90,551</b>

## Monthly Community Care Data

	Individuals accessing Clean Water on an ongoing basis	Number of Meals Served This Month (Non education programs)	Individuals provided spiritual care/counseling (via all programs, church attendance)
<b>Belize</b>	3,150	100	1,480
<b>D.R.</b>	9,500	0	750
<b>Ethiopia</b>	21	4	21
<b>Haiti</b>	50,000	204	12,270
<b>Malawi</b>	n/a	n/a	15
<b>Peru</b>	520	n/a	1,100
<b>Uganda</b>	2,328	306	504
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	45	4,185	72
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>65,564</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>16,212</b>

## Child Support Data

	Children in 24/7 Care	Children Entered HON Care This Month	Children Who Left HON Care This Month	Children Adopted This Month	Children Reunified with Family This Month
<b>Belize</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>D.R.</b>	3	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethiopia</b>	20	3	6	5	1
<b>Haiti</b>	136	0	3	0	3
<b>Malawi</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Peru</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Uganda</b>	85	0	0	0	0
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	45	2	3	2	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>

## Staff Employed Through All Programs

	Local Leaders Team (Direct team members. Program managers, etc.)	Full-Time Jobs (Schools, 24/7 care, house moms, community centers, etc.)	Part-Time Jobs (Schools, 24/7 care, community centers, etc.)	Temporary Jobs (Construction Projects, Trainings, other jobs that are not ongoing)
<b>Belize</b>	4	0	1	0
<b>D.R.</b>	9	69	4	20
<b>Ethiopia</b>	14	45	0	0
<b>Haiti</b>	24	167	51	10
<b>Malawi</b>	1	0	1	0
<b>Peru</b>	10	42	11	0
<b>Uganda</b>	4	32	3	1
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	4	10	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>31</b>

## Challenges and Things to Pray For

### 1. Belize:

- Please pray for all the children that we have served throughout 2023. It seems countless. Please pray that God will protect their minds, bodies, and hearts.
- Continued opportunities to connect with children and youth to encourage them to go deeper in their relationship with Christ.
- Families to continue to come to church.
- Small business owners to continue to prosper.

### 2. Dominican Republic:

- We needed eight classrooms; one has been donated—seven classrooms to go. Adequate classroom space is crucial for TEARS High School as it directly impacts the quality of education provided to our students. The current situation poses significant challenges, as some of our classrooms meet outside, in the cafeteria, or the library due to space constraints. A proper learning environment is essential for student engagement, focus, and well-being. Inadequate classroom

space can hinder effective teaching and learning, making it difficult for students and teachers to perform at their best. To ensure our students' academic success and holistic development, we must address this issue by providing sufficient, dedicated classroom space for all our classes.

### **3. Ethiopia:**

- The major challenges during the month were the lack of budget for December month activities, high market price inflation, and lack of source documents for abandoned children to facilitate clearance, the absence of a digital documentation system for OVCs, the bureaucratic nature of government offices, and absence of reserve funds /petty cash for children emergency medical service, lack of clothes for children in transition center, lack of washing machine for transition center.

### **4. Haiti**

- We continue to have security challenges in this country that affect our operations. Our staff in Port-au-Prince are still scared for their lives. Pray for the safety of the people.
- The major challenge we face and need prayer for is peace, which we all hope for in Haiti. We want a country where everyone can have a better life. That's why we pray to God for this new year, 2024, to change the hearts and behavior of the troublemakers in Haiti.

### **5. Malawi:**

- Praying for safety and protection for Malawi and other countries during the rainy season. Malawi is warned of possible dry spells and floods.
- Devaluation adversely affects beneficiary businesses as production and transportation costs keep rising.

### **6. Peru:**

- Please keep us in your prayers for resources for the families who are part of the empowerment program on the waiting list. There is much expectation!
- Also, keep Kairos School in Nauta in your prayers. We are bringing high-quality education to places in our region where only the government was barely present and provided deficient education services. Still, though the challenges are big, we have the satisfactory work and opportunity to see a generation break the cycle of poverty in Loreto.
- Our School in Nauta is causing a change, but our location has a weak point: the access to the facilities we use. We want to fix the access to the property so when it rains, which is very often here in the rainforest, our children, their parents, and our teachers and staff don't break their shoes or slip and fall. When it rains all day, accessing the School without risking physical integrity becomes impossible. These facilities are great, but the access needs some work done.

### **7. Zimbabwe:**

- Praying for a good harvest in our communities and country so that there will be no drought or shortage of food.

- Praying for economic stability in this coming year.
- Beneficiaries' businesses were not doing quite well this last quarter of the year, so we pray that this new year brings positive changes in our nation's economy and businesses.
- Praying for good jobs for the agriculture students and that they may become productive and influential and be the light wherever they may be.

## Impact Stories

### 1. Belize

It was like a mini community fair!! This event brought out a community that spent 7 hours together. Mothers, fathers, and teachers came out to participate. It was a heartwarming moment to see so many children enjoying a peaceful and child-friendly space. All in the name of Jesus. The salvation prayer was offered, and I could hear the many voices surrendering their hearts to Jesus. God is preparing the way for an amazing move in 2024!!



### 2. Dominican Republic

Rod and Twila Davis have served in the Dominican Republic and Haiti for 28 years. They moved from Oregon to serve in the slums in 1995. Leaving everything behind, Davis answered the call to share Jesus' love. After living in a small dwelling for years, their team wants to honor Rod and Twila by constructing a home.

Despite challenges, Rod and his family followed God. They entered the mission field with little money, no Spanish, and just enough funds to purchase a tiny wood cabin in Maria Auxiliadora's slums, where they lived. They built deep and beautiful connections, seeing firsthand the transformation of the barrios and neighboring neighborhoods by the grace of God.



Please pray with the Davis family that God will provide the needed resources to finish this project and make this dream come true!



Davis' family's first home in the barrio "Maria Auxiliadora."

### 3. Ethiopia

Children in our community-based support and their friends have access to Kidmia's library services to succeed in their educations. Kidmia has provided the service for 21 days of the month for 8 hours every day, and a total of 256 students were able to attend the library this month.



### 4. Malawi

Roreen Biliati is a single mother leading a household of 9 people in Lilongwe, Malawi. She represents a symbol of focus, consistency, and determination. Looking back at her story, Roreen lived in poverty and struggled to provide for her family. Being chosen to participate in the 2021 Family Business Program and participating in three months of business and counseling sessions was her breakthrough.

Even though her business plan was to build a duplex for rental, Roreen gladly launched her business with four bags of 50kg powdered detergent soap and three goats she received after graduating from the business training. With her diligent mindset,

determination, plus continuous business mentorship she received, she managed to sustain her business, and within a year, she commenced building her dream duplex. She was fortunate to have received extra financial support to complete her house at the finishing level. From December 2023 to date, Roreen has made about Mk1 300,000/\$800 as rental income alone.

Even though she had built a nice duplex, Roreen still lived in a run-down house; however, her 2023 New Year resolution was to demolish her old house and build a new one. She said she could now afford proper daily meals, send her children to school, have nice clothes, and live in a good house.

Upon visiting her, we were pleased to find her old house demolished, and she moved with the family into a temporary house nearby. She already has amassed building materials such as burnt bricks and sand. She plans to start building the new house after the rainy season. According to her, this has been possible with her savings from the duplex rental income. Roreen's decision to invest in property has placed her at an advantage in terms of value in the long run in light of the current devaluation and economic instability in the country, which has greatly affected a lot of businesses, not sparing family empowerment beneficiaries.

Following up on Roreen's story reveals how the Family Empowerment Program and the determination of a beneficiary have the potential to transform a household's living standards, as we see Roreen transform from a micro-scale business to becoming a small-scale business owner through savings, good business decisions in regards to investments and the ongoing business mentorship she received. Her success is also credited to the extra capital investment she received to boost her business.



## 5. Peru

My name is Wendy Aricari. I am 39 years old. I am married and a mother of one. Every week, I make cakes to sell. I had a small oven and couldn't provide a cake for all my clients. Now, after buying a new and bigger oven, I can make more cakes and sell more

to provide more for my sick husband, whose foot hasn't been able to recover due to diabetes, and also provide for my child. Thank you, Help One Now, for empowering my business and allowing me to provide for my family.



## 6. Uganda

His Mercy Christian School has again emerged as the best in the Mayuge district in the Primary Leaving Examinations, released today by Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports. We are proud of you, Help One One, for being part of this great story of transformation and changing lives forever.

These national exams were very hard, but our students still excelled against all odds. When we received news of our inspiring performance, we all burst into celebration at school.



## 7. Zimbabwe

We congratulate the agriculture students for their resilience and dedication as we wrap up the year. It was not an easy journey for them; some days were good, and others were

tough, but they sailed through and completed their training successfully. All of them had very good end-of-year exam results. They all passed their exams very well.

Amongst the five students in the program, we would like to commend Revai, who excelled so much on his practical exam. His results were the highest, 75%. Throughout the year, we noticed he always worked in his garden, showing true dedication above others. We are very proud of his work, and he was a very good example to the other students because they started putting more effort into their gardens. He also managed to get more sales from his produce.

During his time at the training center, Revai has learned a lot. He grew spiritually and even improved in relating to others compared to when he first joined the training center. We watched him grow to be a well-mannered and well-behaved young man.

As he leaves the training center to go out into the world to find a job, we hope he continues to have that same spirit he had throughout the year. He enjoyed his time at the training center, and he wants to put to better use the skills he acquired. He hopes that one day, he will have his piece of land to farm and become an employer once he starts farming on a bigger scale.

Below are some of the photos from Revai's garden and graduation ceremony:

