



# Our Greatest Gift Is One Another



HELPO<sup>ON</sup>ENOW

2024 ANNUAL REPORT





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# Some words from our CEO

One of our core values at Help One Now is transparency. In that spirit, I'm going to share from a raw perspective with you all as our supporters. I know you are proud to be a part of Help One Now, and we are proud to have you. I don't want this letter to feel sanitized, but I do want to provide context to what you will see in this year's report.

As you know, the last several years have been tumultuous for our organization, and while it is widely acknowledged that the pandemic hit us hard, I am not sure the continued ramifications are as widely understood.

For example, we normally take close to 100 people on trips each year, but from March 2020 through December 2022, we only took a total of 12 people to visit our communities. Not being able to travel to our communities, meet the local leaders, and see the work firsthand had a significant impact on our fundraising efforts. It has been a challenge, to say the least, to continue to grow our new donor base without the ability to offer the experience of a Help One Now trip.

In 2024, I am pleased to say that we were able to return to planning and leveraging trips as a critical part of our donor recruitment and retention efforts, with over 70 individuals participating in trips throughout the year!

The nonprofit sector as a whole saw many shifts and downturns this year. As inflation grew and consumer confidence began to wane, each dollar was being stretched as far as possible. Thankfully for us, existing donors and supporters remained steady, but

new growth opportunities were harder to come by. Thankfully, at the end of 2023, we began to see some new and powerful momentum that spilled over to start 2024.

2024 was a powerful year for Help One Now. With 20 trips and new events, including our largest ever single fundraising event, we began to see our new donor base rebound and the future of Help One Now stabilize.

2025 is critical; there is no other way to say it. This is the year I am confident we can see some significant breakthroughs that will catapult us into the future, setting the stage for the biggest year of impact in the history of Help One Now.

I want to thank our board, leaders, team, and supporters - we have endured much together. Now, we get to dream big again and ensure we build an organization that thrives for decades to come.

## My ask to each of you is this:

- 1) Pray for us.
- 2) Continue to support.
- 3) Be an advocate, and ask your family and friends to join our shared mission.
- 4) If you haven't yet, go on a trip! Invest in yourself, see the work, and connect with one another, our leaders, and the families we serve. This will be life-giving for you and our communities.

As you know, our leaders are incredible humans who do so much to make the world a better place. When we ask them for ways we could improve how we consistently support their work, the response is one thing: our presence. Over and over, they say, **"Chris, please let the HON supporters know how much we miss them. Please come see us."**

We want to continue to make an impact, and your generosity is the fuel that makes it possible, but part of that impact is also the intangibles, like friendship and connection. Each trip, we leave with encouraged hearts, and our partners' hearts are also encouraged because they know they are not alone in their work. They have a group of friends who are committed to seeing families empowered and communities transformed.

The future is bright. I'm thankful for each of you, and I hope to see you on a trip in 2025 and beyond!

Together We Build,



Chris Marlow  
Founder and CEO

Chris with our partners in  
the Dominican Republic,  
December 2024





# 15 STRONG

Can you believe it? Help One Now is 15 years old!

In 2024, we celebrated 15 years of friendship, community, and sustainable impact. We are proud, grateful, and humbled all at once. But this isn't just a story about us; it's a story about YOU and our incredible Global Partners. It's a story about partnership. It's a story about working together to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. It's a story about how impoverished communities are transforming and how our impoverished hearts are transforming in the process.

As you know, the mission of Help One Now is to empower families to break the cycle of generational poverty through partnerships with high-capacity local leaders who faithfully serve their own people. We work hard every day on behalf of our Global Partners so that they can focus on implementing transformative work in their communities. Over the years, we have brought thousands of supporters to the table for our partners, and we are building an organization and a network of support that will outlast all of us. Our goal is consistency and progress, which is hard to come by in the developing world, and it's been an honor to see all of our Global Partners thrive and grow together.

So many of you have played an integral role in who Help One Now is and what Help One Now has done. In these 15 years together, we have mobilized over \$33,000,000 for IMPACT! That means schools have been built, opened, and filled with students; businesses have launched and continue to thrive; access to clean water and

medical care; disaster relief; high-quality care for vulnerable and orphaned children; trafficking rescue and prevention; family preservation; local adoption; spiritual development; churches planted; leaders trained; and lives and communities TRANSFORMED. Day after day, step by step, the positive ripple effect has been and will be immeasurable!

When we work together in a collaborative Circle of Empowerment — our generous giving partners (all of YOU), our remarkable Global Partners (the leaders who you love), and the Help One Now Team — there's so much we can accomplish. 2024 was a year to celebrate the past, empower the present, and dream about the future.

We believe that our greatest gift is one another. YOU are a gift to us and part of what makes us 15 STRONG.



Lamar Stockton  
Executive Vice President of  
International Operations

The gas station in Harare where Chris visited in 2007 and the Help One Now story began.



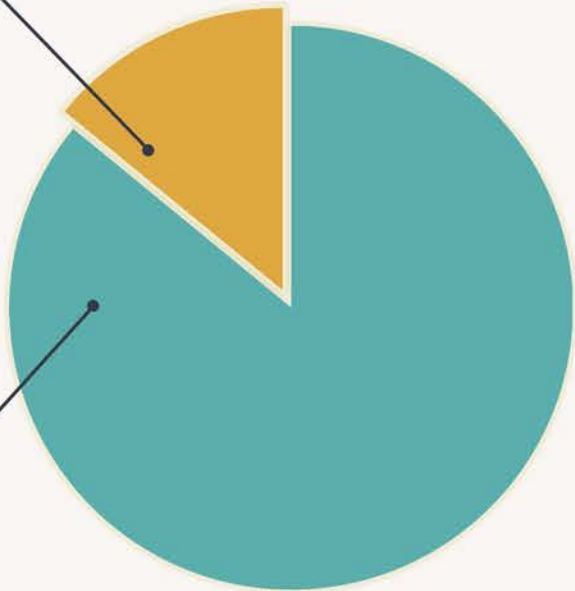
# Financial Impact Highlights



**Total Revenue**  
**\$2,732,321**

International Grants  
\$380,000

Direct Donations  
\$2,352,321

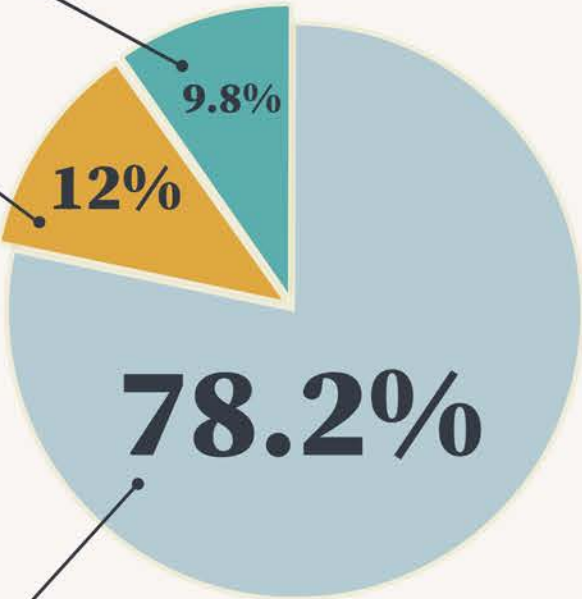


**Total Expenses**  
**\$2,671,668**

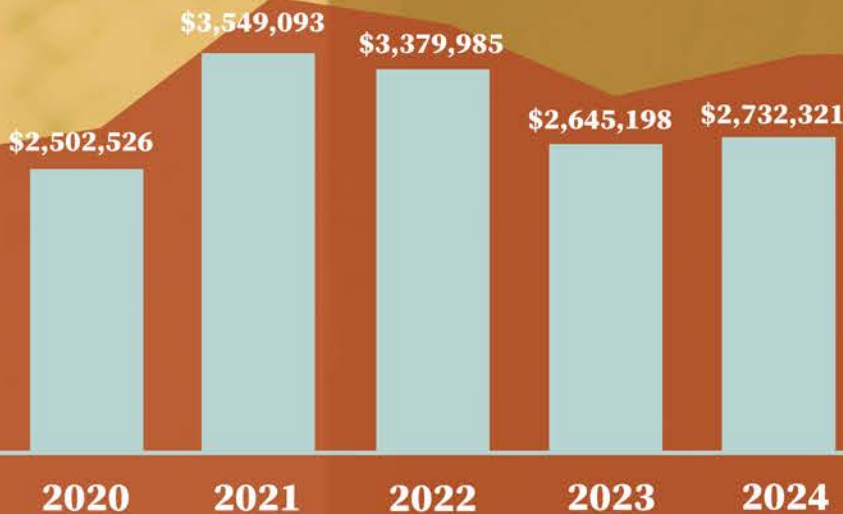
Management / Operations

Growth / Fundraising

Programs / Direct Impact



## Revenue Growth Chart





# 2024

## Impact Data Highlights



# 103

**Families** empowered through the Family Business Program (1,658 to date).



# 4,659

**Students** enrolled in quality education programs, Pre-K through Post-Secondary.



# 390

**Full-time jobs** sustained through 2024, with an additional 185 part-time and temporary jobs created.



# 331

**Children** given 24/7 care and support, with another 69 children adopted locally or reunified with family members.

# 22

## thousand

Individuals with ongoing access to **clean water** through 2024.



# 1.14

## million

**Nutritious meals** served in 2024.





# Partner Communities

## Belize



Local Leaders:  
**Julie & Nigel Miguel**  
Communities:  
Belize City

## Dominican Republic



Local Leader  
**Rod Davis**

**D.R. Staff:** Ydekel Capellán, Yeudy Dandrades  
**Communities:** La Vega, Neyba

### Community Care Highlight:

In the Dominican Republic, our partners provide crucial resources for the community, including:  
Ongoing access to clean water for over 10,000 individuals  
71 full-time, quality-paying jobs  
Afterschool sports programs for 160 students  
21,580 meals were served each month through the preschool, primary school, and secondary school.

## Ethiopia



Local Leader:  
**Wondimu Begashaw**

### Ethiopia Staff

#### Wondimu Begashaw

Kidmia Executive Director - Has worked with Kidmia for 15 years. "I am passionate about working with children and empowering disadvantaged families. This work ensures a productive future generation and prevents the orphan crisis by keeping children stable within their families. Addressing poverty in various areas of life creates lasting change, and I have been dedicated to it for the past 15 years."

#### Nathanael Bekele

Project Manager - Has worked with Kidmia for 5 years. "Being able to positively impact the lives of empowered families, adoptive families, and, most importantly, orphans and vulnerable kids is an immense privilege from God. I get to see my work bring real-life change, which is encouraging. Whether I get to do it paid or while volunteering outside of work, helping people change their lives is my all-time passion."

#### Deneke Daricho

Sodo Project Director - Has worked with Kidmia for 8 years. "My work is a calling; I don't see it merely as employment. As human beings, we show compassion through our work by reaching out to those in need. As a Kidmia worker, having the opportunity to impact people's lives, especially prioritizing orphans and vulnerable children, is a huge privilege."

## Debebe Regassa

Bishoftu Project Director - Has worked with Kidmia for 5 years. "It is a blessing to help people change their lives and witness their transformation. I also feel that it's my passion to encourage people, whether spiritually or in their work. I believe that I have found my happy place in empowering families."

## Zimbelachew Kifetew

Gunchire Project Director - Has worked with Kidmia for 7 years. "I do this work because it is lifesaving, whether through adoption or family empowerment. I see it as serving God, as He says caring for the vulnerable is a pure and blameless religion. God's plan is for children to grow in loving families; through Kidmia, we help them reach their full potential. Our empowerment program transforms communities, and what makes us unique is that we do this work with joy, knowing it is a service to God."

**Communities:** Debre Zeit, Gunchire, Wolaita Sodo.

## Haiti



Local Leaders:  
**Jean Alix Paul, Jean St. Cyr**

**Haiti Staff:** Brunache Wilberge, Jhon Mondesir, Rosena Joseph.

**Communities:** Drouin, Ferrier, Guibert, Marothierre, Port-Au-Prince.

## Malawi



Local Leader:  
**Ray Misomali**

**Malawi Staff:** Zale Nyirenda  
**Communities:** Lilongwe, Maligunde

### Family Business Program Highlight:

Felix Guba lives in Ntcheu District, the central district of Lilongwe, Malawi. Felix owns a painting business and a hardware shop and since launching his business, has created financial stability for himself for the first time and even begun supporting other family members.

## Peru



Local Leaders:  
**Mercedes & Willie Malpartida**

**Peru Staff:** Viviana Ampuero  
**Communities:** Iquitos, Nauta.



Uganda



Local Leader:  
**Edward Magumba**

**Uganda Staff:** Doreen Lubwama, Flavia Kagoya  
**Communities:** Jinja, Mayuge

**Education Highlight:**  
Ivan joined Uganda's Education sponsorship program in 2009 at an early age. With the support of the Help One Now partner in Uganda, he earned his software engineering diploma with good grades. The sponsorship program taught Ivan the value of education, humility, and generosity. He is now a professional adult with a bright future and is grateful for the support and opportunity he has received.

Zimbabwe



Local Leaders:  
**John & Orpah Chinyowa**

Pastor John is the Pastor of Family Praise Fellowship Church in Marondera, Zimbabwe, and the leader who inspired Chris Marlow to start Help One Now years ago. Pastor John, his wife Orpah, and his church oversee Musha We Vana Children's Home, caring for over 45 vulnerable children. John is an incredible team-builder, and he has the best laugh you have

ever heard. We are currently partnering with Pastor John in Marondera to provide quality care and education for the children of Musha We Vana, transition care and secondary education through the Tariro Vocational Center, restorative community care, and the Family Business Program.

**Zimbabwe Staff:** Tatenda Chinyowa, Satomi Munetsi

**Communities:** Marondera





# Leader Interview

Help One Now empowers local leaders through friendship and partnership. We work with leaders who are already working effectively in their respective communities. These leaders are our friends and partners on the journey to end extreme poverty. They are our greatest resource, and sustainable change is impossible without them.

Rod (Rodrigo) Davis and his wife, Twila, lead an incredible team and ministry in La Vega, Dominican Republic. They have served the community for over 28 years now and have seen the lives of families completely transformed.

## Can you briefly introduce yourself and tell us where you work in the Dominican Republic?

**Rod:** My name is Roderick Davis. I am the founder of T.E.A.R.S. (True Evangelism Always Requires Sacrifice) Ministries. In 1995, T.E.A.R.S. was established in La Vega, Dominican Republic. The T.E.A.R.S. team works and lives in some of the poorest slums in this developing country to transform communities by sharing a holistic gospel and promoting community development. The goal is to help the villages become healthier, educated, spiritually vibrant, and economically stable - all rooted in the gospel.

## What led you to start your ministry in La Vega, and how has your holistic approach to meeting the greater needs of the community made a difference (as opposed to just focusing on education, or church planting, or water, etc.)?

Students are in school, families are running their own businesses, there is access to clean water and nutritious meals, and the community as a whole has moved from extreme poverty to a place of thriving and growth.

If you have been lucky enough to go on a trip to visit Rod and see the impact of his ministry, you know how special it is to sit in the rotunda together and hear some of their incredible stories. This interview only scratches the surface of all that has been done in the Dominican Republic, and we can't wait to see what more we are able to do together in the years to come!

**Rod:** As my wife and I started to consider global missions, we felt a real calling to the poorest of the poor. We decided on the Dominican Republic because of its extreme poverty. We didn't focus only on education, water, or one specific area. We lived with the community and experienced first-hand the people struggling with sickness, hunger, lack of educational opportunities, and multiple other needs. We realized that we needed to remove barriers to support actual, sustainable growth by working hand in hand with our neighbors. By addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs, we show the love of Christ in action, not just words.

## How do you believe we are called to break the cycle of spiritual poverty to restore families and communities?

**Rod:** We must start at the root of the problem: hopelessness and poverty break up families.

It is hard for people who are hungry, sick, and without hope to hear the gospel. A good holistic approach focuses on immediate needs, such as food. Then comes empowerment - teaching skills, supporting education, developing local leadership, and encouraging entrepreneurship (FBP). Then, people begin to see their God-given potential.

Spiritually, we understand that Christ is the only one who can set people free. We proclaim Christ as Savior and the freeing power of the gospels. Secondly, to break the chains of physical poverty, education and empowerment are needed. Our belief is that those should happen at the beginning stages of childhood development. That is why the two main elements of T.E.A.R.S. Ministries are Church Planting (to address the spiritual need) and Education (to address the physical cycle of poverty). These help to establish a solid functioning community.

## What does partnership with HON mean to you? And what does it mean to have teams coming to visit and join in the mission with you?

**Rod:** Apart from the deep fellowship, this partnership enhances our ability to serve more effectively, gain access to resources and global support, and connect with a broader network of advocates who care about sustainable change. When teams visit and join in our mission, they have the unique opportunity to experience the local culture and daily life of the community first-hand. These visits are a chance to build meaningful relationships with the people we serve, forming bonds that go beyond a short-term trip. Team members actively participate in the ongoing work of education, empowerment, and transformation, becoming part of the long-term vision for sustainable change. As they return home, they don't leave the mission behind. Instead, they become advocates and ambassadors, helping to share the story, raise awareness, and gather support. These visits are not just about helping; they're about learning, partnering, and sharing the gospel through love and service.

## What is one of your favorite things about the Dominican Republic? What are you most excited to show off when you have teams visiting?

**Rod:** As I walk through the slums of Maria Auxiliadora (our barrio), remembering horrible destitution (no water, no power, no schools, and no hope), I come to tears when I see the children playing in the streets, proudly wearing their school uniforms, healthy with dreams. The transformation of this community started over 30 years ago, hand in hand with the neighbors working to see change. One of my favorite things about the D.R. is its people. When teams visit, I want them to see our leadership, most of whom have been with us for over 20 years!

## You have built a pretty incredible team around you at T.E.A.R.S. - can you tell us how that shared leadership and responsibility for the mission has made a difference?

**Rod:** At T.E.A.R.S., we've been blessed to build an incredible team of passionate, mission-driven leaders who share a deep commitment to Christ and our community. This shared leadership model has been transformational. By empowering others to lead and take ownership, we've been able to multiply our impact, stay focused on our core values, and remain adaptable to the needs around us. Everyone brings unique gifts to the table, and together, we move with unity and purpose far beyond what any one person could accomplish alone.





# Trips

## Highlights

Our trips are one of our favorite parts of the work we do together because we believe that friendship and connection are the core of who we are. These trips allow us to build deeper relationships with our local leaders and their teams, get to know the families that your generosity is supporting, and celebrate all that we are accomplishing together - in person, in the communities we are supporting! If you have been on a trip with us, you know the beauty of the life-changing memories and life-long friendships we get to share.

Sometimes, you don't realize the breakthrough you need is to give more of yourself. Say yes to a new world of beauty and impact, a world where you see lives transformed, and your life will also be transformed. In this world, we are reminded that good does exist and that hope is everywhere. Even in the midst of the hard, you find joy, progress, and community. Going on a trip will no doubt transform your life. You will invest in yourself, you will invest in others, and the memories and community you leave with may be one of the best returns on investment you've ever had!

We are planning to take more trips this year than we have in a long time, and we want you to be there!

Let's go visit our partners and friends together this year!

## Testimonials



Danielle Parker  
Ethiopia/Malawi Trip

"After traveling with Help One Now, I am in awe of getting to see firsthand the deep relationships that HON has built with the leaders and people in the community. The way they support and walk alongside the community and stay true to the culture is unlike anything I've experienced.

I would recommend traveling with Help One Now to people who are looking for a way to take their eyes off themselves and have their eyes opened to the needs of others and experience a new worldview and culture. You will truly come back motivated and with the drive to change the way you do life.

One of the best parts of my trip with Help One Now was getting to visit the small businesses. Getting to experience their genuine excitement to show what they have done was very impactful. Their drive, motivation, and flexibility to adjust, change and grow to be successful were eye-opening."



Jonathan &  
Maria Fleisher  
Peru Trip

**Maria:** "We traveled to Peru and had an incredible trip. I feel like we were able to see the work there and just gain so much perspective and see the commitment that these leaders have to the people they're caring for. It's so inspiring and the trip was incredible! Seeing beauty of the country with the local leader, someone who lives there, was a once in a lifetime experience and we loved every minute!"

**Jonathan:** "Help One Now and what they do is so impactful. These types of trips are really good because they help you to gain perspective. They show you the beauty of the country and the beauty of the work going on here, the beauty of the people that are here, but also some of the brokenness and the hard.

We had a lot of questions each night and talked through things about the beauty and the brokenness in our own lives. The ways in which these local leaders are pouring out that we're not, but then also where God has put us and how we can use that. These trips really help you gain perspective. They're a lot of fun, but they're also very impactful. And so, it was a really good experience for us. We'll be doing another trip, hopefully with our kids at some point!"

Scan the QR code  
for more info on our  
upcoming trips!





# Church Partnership Highlights

One of the primary aspects of our mission to empower families to break the cycle of generational poverty is our calling as Christ-followers to share God’s love, seek justice, correct oppression, and play our part in the renewal of all things. We are committed to the end goal of God’s story: all things restored, all things renewed, and all things redeemed through the transforming love of Jesus. We believe we are ALL called to use our time, talent, and resources to empower one another to flourish and thrive.

Help One Now partners with high-capacity leaders and pastors worldwide to further the Kingdom by empowering local churches in their communities. These churches offer hope to the people around them by removing physical barriers to meet spiritual needs. As we partner with local churches in the developing world, we also work together with pastors and churches in the U.S. to foster partnerships and activate much-needed resources to bring mutual blessing and opportunity. Our hope is to equip your church to live out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment of Jesus while serving our global neighbors and empowering the global church together.

## Church Partner Spotlight

**Jared Clary, Norris Ferry Community Church  
Shreveport, Louisiana**

“Partnership is a theme observed throughout the Bible. God designed mankind to need each other to accomplish His plans and display His Glory. Help One Now is helping Norris Ferry Community Church take the love of Jesus to the nations and disciple our people to see how God wants to use them in His mission, both locally and globally. As we made the decision to partner with Help One Now, four areas stood out: financial stewardship, excellence in small things, local church involvement, and biblically faithful doctrine. These characteristics are such an encouragement and have made partnership a joy.”

**Tim Bounds, The Crossing Church  
St. Louis, Missouri**

“At The Crossing, we are convinced that God is not done with us or this world. And he has called us to be ambassadors of his good news, “to the ends of the earth,” as Jesus says in Acts 1. Our global partners are absolutely essential in fulfilling this calling because the mission is simply too big for organizations to act in isolation. Being the body of Christ means we need each other, and what we love about partnering with Help One Now is that they share in this kingdom understanding as they empower the experts, the local leaders, people on the ground, and those who God calls to their communities to be the hands and feet of Jesus.”







# THE CIRCLE

We invite you to wrap your arms around the communities Help One Now loves and serves by joining The Circle. The Circle is a growing network of people committed to ending extreme poverty through family empowerment. Through a monthly donation, you will sustainably change lives & transform communities! Giving in this capacity is the best way to make a long-term impact and make a sustainable difference. More specifically:

**\$50**  
per month

**Empowers one student with access to high-quality education, nutritious meals, school supplies, and new opportunities for their future.**

**\$100**  
per month

**Empowers one family with the opportunity to receive entrepreneurial training and mentorship, along with in-kind resources to launch their own business and create a sustainable income.**

**\$150**  
per month

**Empowers one student and one family each year.**

One of the biggest challenges we've faced in recent years is the unpredictability of funding. While project-based contributions are incredibly valuable, consistent monthly donations are essential. They offer a stable, reliable, and predictable stream of support, which allows for more effective planning and budgeting across our development programs. This consistency also ensures that critical, life-saving services can continue without interruption. Moreover, it gives our donors the opportunity to regularly support the causes they care about and witness the long-term impact of their generosity.



**Dr. Aschalew Abebe**  
Ethiopia Local Leader



Scan the QR code below or go to <https://helponenow.org/the-circle/> to join The Circle today!



# Haiti

## Campaign

In 2024, we launched our Haiti: Not Forgotten campaign to support our programs in Ferrier and remind our partners and friends in Haiti that they are not alone. Through your generosity, we funded two classrooms at Ferrier Schools and filled some of the sponsorship gap at Ferrier Village! We want to celebrate what we have accomplished together but also pause and remind ourselves to continue to pray for the people of Haiti.



### Letter from Pastor Jean Alix Paul

Hello everyone! I send my greetings to you from Haiti, along with my family and our ministry. I have been partnering with Help One Now since 2010, and we have been doing many things together that help us break the cycle of poverty in each of the communities where we work here in Haiti.

I would like to personally thank our donors and partners in our ministry. Thank you very much. We really appreciate your help and support, and we cannot do it without you. May God bless you.

In the last three years, our ministry has been affected by the gang violence in Haiti. More than 500 schools have been closed, the gangs have displaced more than 600,000 people, and over 5,000,000 people are starving; people can not travel and go about their normal lives.



Our school in Ferrier has been a source of hope in the community because we provide the best education in the northeast of Haiti. We make sure we have the best teachers. We give all our students books and notebooks. We give them a hot meal every day. In Haiti, the government provides free education for less than 20% of the children, and that's the reason why we are doing what we are doing.

“We provide the best education in the northeast of Haiti”.

Ferrier Village and the schools are such crucial resources to the community and the future of Haiti. When we rescue kids from trafficking and put them in school, we help them to develop their potential and become men and women who can reach the communities and change the country.

But our ministry has also been affected by the financial challenges that have hindered the ministry and work in Ferrier. We have 200 people working full time for us, and inflation has hit us really hard. Prices of goods have been sky high, and things are difficult to get.

Right now, we have had a decrease in funding and have had to make hard decisions about what work we can keep doing. I am asking you, brothers and sisters, to help us in this difficult situation. I am asking you not to forget Haiti and to believe in the change we can still make together. We really need your help to keep doing our ministry, and I strongly believe we can continue to break the cycle of poverty for families in Haiti.

Please keep us in your prayers and join us in supporting our children.

Pastor Jean Alix Paul  
Together for Haiti



Download Help One Now's Haiti Prayer Guide for prompts and ways to join us in prayer for Haiti:





# Stateside Events Highlight

## A Night to Remember: An Evening with Help One Now Featuring Bear Rinehart November 14, 2024

This year, we had the privilege of hosting one of our most successful live event fundraisers to date, An Evening with Help One Now Featuring Bear Rinehart. It was an unforgettable night dedicated to community, generosity, and global impact. Our ambitious goal was to raise \$100,000 to empower families around the world and thanks to the overwhelming support we received, we not only met that goal but surpassed it.

The spirit of generosity poured into every aspect of the event. Friends of Help One Now in Birmingham, Alabama, went above and beyond, donating their spaces, services, and time to create a truly memorable evening. The dedication and kindness of our local supporters were nothing short of inspiring. We are also deeply grateful to our incredible sponsors, whose generosity helped make this event possible. And, of course, to everyone who attended your enthusiasm and readiness to give turned this night into something extraordinary. Together, you made an impact that was felt by families across the globe.

Beyond the fundraising success, the event was simply a joy. Guests gathered to enjoy live music from Bear Rinehart, share great food and drinks, and experience the power of community in action. It was a beautiful reminder that making a difference can be meaningful and fun!

We're excited to announce that we're planning to recreate this incredible event this year! If you missed out this time, don't worry you'll have another chance to be part! Mark your calendars for **November 13th** — you won't want to miss out on the joy, connection, and impact that this special evening brings. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for making this night so special.

Your generosity is helping us continue our mission to empower families and create lasting change around the world.

## Other Events

### Furnace Fest - Birmingham

At this year's Furnace Fest, we partnered with Tooth and Nail Records and Unoriginal Vinyl to host a booth at the festival, offering exclusive collectible vinyls. Every purchase directly supported education in Ferrier, Haiti, turning music lovers into changemakers.

### Berry Fest - Bentonville, AR

Hosted by Dave and Jenny Marrs, Berry Fest is an annual blueberry-picking festival where families come together to enjoy fresh fruit, community, and purpose. Profits from the event each year support our programs in Zimbabwe, making every berry picked part of a bigger mission.

### Refuge Retreat

A men's fly fishing retreat in the breathtaking landscapes of Montana, Refuge provided a space to disconnect, build meaningful friendships, and connect with like-minded individuals passionate about doing good in the world.

### Good Pour - Homewood, AL

Our friends in Birmingham held a bourbon and cigar night to raise money for Help One Now, and it was a huge success! We love seeing the Help One Now community innovate and create fun and meaningful opportunities to invite others into the story.

### An Evening With Help One Now at Triple Three Winery - Washington, MO

Set against the beautiful backdrop of Triple Three Vineyards, this special evening brought people together to share wine, enjoy a delicious meal, and raise funds to empower families across the globe. It was a night of generosity, community, and impact.

### Church Partner Sundays

Across multiple events, church communities united to learn about the transformative work of Help One Now. These Sundays were a powerful time of connection, inspiration, and mobilization as congregations stepped up to make a global impact.



Brennon and Bailey running the Help One Now booth at Furnace Fest in Birmingham.



# Donor Testimonials

Our donor community is the backbone of our work around the world. Your generosity and commitment to ending the cycle of poverty are the force that drives and sustains family empowerment. We want to honor and highlight that commitment each year, so we asked some of our donor community to share why they have chosen to be part of the Help One Now story and join our partners around the world in empowering families to end extreme poverty.

## Jeff and Annette Martin



"My wife and I were invited by some close friends to join a Help One Now trip to Peru, and we were deeply moved by what we experienced. Rather than simply providing aid, Help One Now empowers families and therefore communities—teaching people to fish rather than just giving them fish. Seeing lives transformed through education, entrepreneurship, and the Gospel was inspiring. This organization is making a lasting impact, and we are honored to have witnessed it firsthand. Selfishly speaking, the trip was an incredible adventure too. We are blessed to be a partner of this Kingdom Ministry."

## Johnny and Courtney Grimes



"In 2012, we adopted 2 little girls from Ethiopia and they have completed our family in ways we could never have imagined. It was, therefore, an easy choice to partner with Help One Now as they work to empower families to stay together, even through supporting local Ethiopian adoptions. I recently traveled to the country to experience first-hand the work Help One Now is doing. Words cannot adequately describe the experience of seeing a family made whole through adoption. Nor is it truly possible to relay the dignity of a woman who has, with the help of the Family Business Program, started and grown a business that helps to support her family, send her children to school, and provide medical attention. I witnessed both, and I am forever altered. Help One Now is truly doing God's work."

## Brettne and Alex Shootman



"One of the main reasons why we love Help One Now so much is because of their deep love for their communities and their empowerment programs. We love how they equip and empower families to start businesses to be able to take care of their families and their loved ones. We were just in Ethiopia, and it was amazing to see Aschalew and Jerry and the whole team there just love and serve their communities really well."

**"One of the main reasons why we love Help One Now so much is because of their deep love for their communities."**

**"This organization is making a lasting impact, and we are honored to have witnessed it firsthand."**

**"Help One Now is truly doing God's work."**







# THE UPSTREAM

The last Thursday of every month, The Upstream hits your inbox. Upstream is our version of a monthly newsletter, full of stories of hope and real-time updates on the impact your gifts have in the communities we serve, and hear directly from our local leaders as they share their hearts, gratitude, and desires for the future. You'll also stay up to date with future impact trips and stateside events.



"There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."

**Desmond Tutu**

Make sure you're  
subscribed to  
The Upstream here



## Staff Highlights

Every year, we want to take the time to highlight our incredible staff members and why they have chosen to be part of the Help One Now Story! It takes all of us together to accomplish the work we do around the world, and we hope this section gives you a little more connection and insight into the work of Help One Now behind the scenes. Meet our two newest team members, Kaitlin Pierce and David Tran!

**Can you introduce yourself and tell us a little about where you are and what your new role with HON is?**

**Kaitlin:** I'm Kaitlin Pierce, and I am the Executive Vice President of Marketing & Operations for Help One Now. I live in Birmingham, Alabama, and have three children. My husband is an entrepreneur and runs a company called Immediate, and I also do some marketing and board advisory work for them.

Before this, I worked at Philips on our Global Healthcare team. I ran marketing for about eight years for different divisions within Philips, and then I worked with various other companies, mostly in marketing.

**David:** As Executive Vice President of Strategy and Advancement for Help One Now, I support our organization's strategic vision and growth initiatives. I currently live in Pinehurst, North Carolina, with my beautiful bride, Ginny. We have the joyful adventure of raising five children. Our eldest is ten years old, and our newest blessing is ten weeks old.

Before joining the Help One Now team, I finished six formative years with Classical Conversations, the world's leading homeschool program. Beginning as Chief Marketing Officer, I later advanced to Executive Director for Strategy and Corporate Affairs, developing the strategic acumen I now bring to Help One Now's global mission of family empowerment.



Kaitlin and her daughters.

**What led you to work for Help One Now? How did you get connected and feel called to join our work in your new role?**

**Kaitlin:** I joined HON back in November but got involved earlier than that. I helped plan our first benefit concert in Birmingham, which was an incredibly successful fundraising event for HON!

Through that event, I got to know the HON team more and saw a lot of opportunities to share the HON story



and add more creative kinds of marketing and regional events. So, I decided to join full-time and I'm } super excited to be here!

This is a new challenge for me, but I'm excited to bring some of my experience to make us more efficient while also supporting our partners' work.

I also went on a trip to Peru last summer with HON. I had just left corporate America and was pretty burned out and jaded. I went to Peru with my husband and several of our close friends, and I will never forget what it was like to see the work, but more so seeing the people. I saw a mom and daughter together in the market, laughing and holding so much joy. At first, I felt sad about the life they had to live, but then I thought of how if she came to see my life in America, she might also find that sad. She would see me working at my desk, with my daughter in daycare, and the moments I am missing with her. That mom's life was so rich and beautiful in a way that I will never know.

After the trip, I wanted to do more to be part of this work. I think Help One Now does a great job of not trying to come in and change the people and culture. Instead, we're supporting them and ensuring they have what they need to provide for their families in the way they think is best and how they want to. And that is why I wanted to join the team and do more!



**David:** What truly energizes me about joining Help One Now is the opportunity to collaborate with kindred spirits as we advance our organization's mission. I met Chris and Lamar and felt bad for them (just kidding). I connected with them at our Refuge retreat and felt like I had known them for



David and his wife, Ginny.

years, even though it had only been hours. The synergy that emerges when working alongside fellow mission-driven individuals is incomparable. We had similar desires to strengthen families worldwide and build meaningful connections with people no matter their background.

Our work is a transformative discipleship vehicle. While most people may never serve as traditional missionaries, through Help One Now, we offer an accessible pathway to missional living and cross-cultural understanding. These encounters with developing communities reveal extraordinary models of authentic communal love that challenge and inspire us to reimagine our relationships when we return home.

I felt called to this role because I see remarkable potential in this exchange for revitalizing the church amid our culture's pervasive consumerism. It presents a compelling opportunity to embody Christ's higher calling, moving beyond material accumulation toward the sacrificial, other-centered existence He exemplifies and invites us to embrace.

**What are you most excited about for your role and our work together in the year ahead?**

**David:** What truly excites me about our work ahead is witnessing the beautiful two-way transformation that unfolds through our partnerships. Our international local leaders, fueled by deep faith, solve complex problems with creativity and resilience despite limited resources. They become powerful catalysts for our domestic partners' increased desire to serve with their time, talent, and treasures.

I've seen our domestic partners profoundly transformed by these encounters. Witnessing leaders who approach challenges with prayer, community collaboration, and innovative thinking helps our partners rediscover the depth of their faith. Many return home questioning the cultural priorities of constant productivity and packed schedules, newly hungry for meaningful connection with God and others.

This mutual transformation embodies Acts 1:8 in action - connecting Jerusalem with the ends of the earth. Our domestic partners develop more profound compassion and a rekindled desire to live for something greater than cultural expectations of success. They're inspired to create a margin in their lives for what truly matters: faith, family, and meaningful service. I'm excited to facilitate more of these transformative connections that liberate our partners from the exhausting treadmill of American busyness toward a more purposeful, faith-centered life.

**Kaitlin:** Help One Now has so much potential and has made such a big impact, but there is a need for

some better processes and systems to be in a place to grow and do even more.

I think I can identify what those things are and use my experience and skills to get us there. Marrying those processes with the passion and the foundation that the team has already laid will be a really beautiful thing. So, I'm excited to see some of those things come together and the growth we can achieve to serve even more families in the years ahead.



## DOING GOOD IS SIMPLE

### Making a Difference Right Where You Are

Join Chris Marlow, founder and CEO of Help One Now, on the Doing Good is Simple podcast your weekly source of inspiration and actionable wisdom for making a positive impact. Each episode explores how intentional acts of kindness, rooted in love and faith, can create ripples of change in your life and community.







**Thank  
you**  
to all our  
**partners**  
for another  
**incredible year**  
**together!**

#### Church Partners

Austin New Church - Austin, TX  
Cornerstone Church - Prescott, AZ  
The Crossing Church - St Louis, MO  
Edenton Street UMC - Raleigh, NC  
Hays Hills Baptist Church - Buda, TX  
Home Church - Roswell, GA  
Homewood Community Church - Homewood, AL  
Hope Community Church - Raleigh, NC  
Living the Word Church - St Louis, MO  
Norris Ferry Community Church - Shreveport, LA  
The Peak Church - Apex, NC  
Rockbridge Community Church - Dalton, GA  
West Rome Baptist Church - Rome, GA

#### Brand Partners

APT Co.  
The Berry Farm, Bentonville  
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Fellowes Brands  
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