

IMPACT *hope*  
SHAPING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

# GIFTS OF HOPE

*With Stories of Transformation & Empowerment!*

**GIVE PADS FOR PROGRESS**

How \$1.50 can change a girl's future in Kenya. Pg 7

**Meaningful Gifts for a  
Better Tomorrow**

**Choose from clean water to  
education!**



# Giving Made Easy

## 1. Select Your Gift:

Choose from our causes: education, health-care, food, water, small-scale agricultural efforts, and helping the vulnerable. If you can't decide which gifts, simply mention/give to 'where most needed'!

## 2. Give Your Gift:

There are several ways in which you can give:

- **Online:** Visit [www.impacthope.ca/gifts](http://www.impacthope.ca/gifts) or scan the QR code.



- **e-transfer:** [bookkeeper@impacthope.ca](mailto:bookkeeper@impacthope.ca) (Remember to state your full name, e-mail, address and gift(s))
- **Donation Slip:** Fill the slip included and mail it back to our office
- **Mail a cheque OR Call Our Office** at (519) 824-9380

## Staff

Brad Wilson (Executive Director), Hannah Campbell (Director of Development), Shiffy Varkey (Director of Communications), Melanie Magel (Trips Co-ordinator)

## Digital Copy

Download from <https://impacthope.ca/gifts>

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All donations are eligible for an income tax receipt which will be sent out at the end of the year. We're committed to honouring your generosity and ensuring the selected gift gets to a community in need. Spending of funds is confined to approved programs and projects. If any given need has been met or cannot be completed, the understanding is that the gift will then be used where it is most needed or where another opportunity of similar nature exists.

(ImpactHope is operating under Missionary Ventures Canada)

Thank you for  
helping me stay in  
school..



## Empowerment

# Wrapped in Kindness

Welcome to this year's ImpactHope Magazine+Gift Catalogue!

Within these pages lie **not just gifts but stories of impact** from projects worldwide. With each gift you choose, you become a catalyst for positive change, touching the lives of the less fortunate and planting seeds of hope.

Last year's compassion and generosity yielded a plentiful harvest of impact. Through your support, we provided education to underprivileged children, improved healthcare access for vulnerable communities, ensured nourishing food for families facing hunger, and brought clean water to regions thirsting for relief. These are just a few of the powerful stories that unfolded, and they stand as a testament to your unwavering commitment to creating lasting change.

As you explore this year's catalogue, know that every gift has the potential to transform lives and uplift communities in need. Your contribution can empower a child to dream beyond limitations, offer a lifeline to someone in need of medical care, or provide the sustenance that fuels hope and progress.

Together, let's continue this journey of compassion and generosity. Join us in creating a brighter future for all, one story of impact at a time.

Thank you for being the gift of hope!

*With Gratitude*

**ImpactHope Staff**

**ON THE COVER**  
Zara\*, 12, has a spark of determination, after benefiting from the Pads Program.  
**KEDHAP | KENYA**

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*ImpactHope is a registered charity that focuses on helping & empowering communities to break the cycle of poverty. ImpactHope has partners in 12 countries including India & Niger. Our **causes** include Education, Healthcare, Food Security, Clean Water, Women Empowerment, Vulnerable Child and Groups, and Leadership Training.*



# ImpactHope: A Heartfelt Journey of T

*While ImpactHope has always been a movement of people – ‘why’ we move has changed –*

## 1983

Mission Teams



In 1983, Missionary Ventures International (MVI) was formed following some devastating earthquakes in Guatemala. A single team was sent to assist from the United States. Year after year, more teams travelled to assist in the efforts.

## 1992

Missionary Ventures  
Canada (MVC) was born



Building on the success of the Guatemalan outreach and the increasing need, a Canadian office was opened by Ben Kubasek with the goal of providing funding and resources for those in need.

## 1990's

MVC gradually grew in  
its mission..



..to help local Christian leaders reach out to their communities through personal involvement, financial sponsorship, and ministry development. Many teams were sent to assist nationals, with over 500 individuals participating at the peak. John Verdone was an exceptional leader during his 18-year tenure as director, growing MVC until his retirement in 2012. MVC became a leader in providing Canadians with the opportunity to participate in short-term missions around the world.

## 2013

Change in leadership



Management goes through substantial change. Brad Wilson is invited to replace John, Executive Director, following his retirement. A slight shift and development of philosophy is eventually implemented over time, and new learning is implemented. Projects are developed, many in partnership with indigenous leaders around the world, with a clearer focus on long-term poverty alleviation. (In 2017, MVC became fully independent as required by the Canadian government. As of now, MVC has no affiliation with MVI.)

## 2021

MVC becomes  
ImpactHope



In the midst of COVID, MVC embraces a new identity – ImpactHope - an emblem of hope and renewal that would span beyond borders and continue to touch the lives of countless individuals through new initiatives, embodying our new philosophy of fostering sustainable change.

## 2023

Focus on Sustainability



Projects of various sizes with partners in **twelve** countries – Canada, Cuba, Haiti, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Belize, Mexico, Peru, India, Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia - to support locally identified needs. Our international community development philosophy has been influenced and guided by 'The Chalmers Center'.



# Transformation and Renewal

*From the Director's Desk.*

I still vividly remember the day when I first set foot on this transformative path with ImpactHope, formerly known as Missionaries Ventures Canada. Back in 1992, we were driven by a simple yet powerful purpose - to connect Canadians with communities in need and witness the profound impact of their generosity and compassion.

As the Director of ImpactHope since 2013, I've had the privilege of witnessing countless lives change before my eyes. But it wasn't until I stumbled upon the book 'When Helping Hurts' that the true essence of our mission began to take shape. The pages of that book opened my eyes to a more profound truth—that our 'why' needed to evolve, and our approach required a profound shift.

The winds of change blew through our hearts, and we embraced a new identity—ImpactHope—an emblem of hope and renewal that would span beyond borders and touch the lives of countless souls. As a result, we rebranded as ImpactHope in 2021, embodying our new philosophy of fostering sustainable change. (Yes, ImpactHope is one word! It was our simple desire to be unique, knowing that impact and hope always go together!)

Our transformation meant more than just a mere rebranding; it represented a promise to empower, uplift, and ignite a spark of hope that would blaze a path toward a brighter future. We acknowledged that we weren't here to lead but rather to support, strengthen, and amplify the initiatives of our host ministries. Their goals became our goals, their dreams became our dreams, and their well-being became our top priority.

ImpactHope became a symphony of compassion, each note playing a vital role in creating lasting change. We redirected our focus towards sustainable projects that embraced the unique needs and assets of our partners. From food security and healthcare to empowering women, providing clean water, and promoting education—we poured our hearts into every endeavour.

Credibility and trust were paramount in our journey. As a small charity, we understood the value of transparent communication and the need to build strong relationships with

you, our donors. Embracing technology, we bridged distances and welcomed you into our world, sharing stories of transformation and hope that reaffirmed our collective purpose.

But you are more than just benefactors; you are participants in this incredible movement. Together, we advocate for a compassionate and comprehensive approach to poverty alleviation. Your contributions, big and small, merge to form a tapestry of change that echoes across the globe.

Walking this path with you has been nothing short of inspiring. As we redefined what it means to serve others, I found myself humbled by the resilience and determination of the communities we serve. Their unwavering spirit, coupled with your boundless support, has illuminated lives with lasting hope.

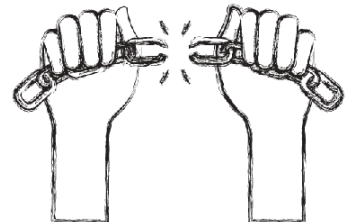
The journey with ImpactHope has been one of personal growth and transformation. I've learned that every act of kindness, every shared story, is a vital thread in the fabric of change we're weaving together.

As we continue forging ahead, I invite you to walk hand in hand with us, casting ripples of hope and transforming lives with every step. Together, let's keep illuminating the world with hope, one life at a time. We are ImpactHope—a family of hearts united by

love and compassion, driven by a shared vision of creating lasting impact. This is our journey—a journey that has redefined my purpose and fueled my passion. And I am eternally grateful to be walking this path with you.

- Brad

*Our transformation means more than just a mere rebranding; it represents a promise to empower, uplift, and ignite a spark of hope that would blaze a path toward a brighter future.*



## Kenya Economic Development and Human Advancement Project (KEDHAP)

LACK OF SANITARY TOWELS: A MENACE SLOWLY EATING INTO THE FUTURE OF YOUNG GIRLS IN KENYA.

A survey by Procter and Gamble (P&G) and Heart Education found that 42% of Kenyan school girls have never used sanitary pads and instead use alternatives such as rags, blankets, pieces of mattress, tissue paper and cotton wool. Another survey by Buckner International indicates that 65% of Kenyan girls cannot afford feminine products. Access to feminine products is such a big challenge in this part of the Country. Some of the reasons could be low income, gender inequality where feminine needs are not prioritized and lack of education on matters of menstruation.

I come from a village in Muhoroni, Kisumu County, Kenya. After finishing my studies on campus and waiting for graduation, I went back home to assist in running our household. I noticed many girls my age, some even younger than me, pregnant with their first or second child. The village has many sugarcane plantations and manual labourers, and there are many men with some money wandering the streets.

One day, on my way home, I observed a young girl coming out of one of the sugarcane

plantations with a face of disdain and utter humiliation. My heart went out to her. I wondered what happened in that bush. I approached her and persuaded her to converse with me. She revealed she was 'sourcing' money to purchase sanitary towels and other necessities.

As our conversation progressed, she disclosed that she is an orphan who lives with her elderly grandparents, who live hand to mouth. If affording the daily meal is challenging, how can they buy sanitary towels for this girl? This is just one of the many heartbreaking scenarios girls face during their menstrual cycle.

The challenges girls face due to insufficient sanitary towels are numerous, and they can quickly turn fatal. It is a natural process; no girl should have any negative feelings or be made to feel so because of their menstrual cycle.

Early pregnancies and school dropouts are the significant challenges girls around my locality face due to the lack of sanitary towels. Since most families around my locality are majorly low-income, you find that when a girl begins her menstrual cycle, funds are not sufficient to help cater to her needs at that particular moment. This leaves her highly

vulnerable and helpless, and they end up trading their bodies for sanitary towels. This can adversely affect the girl ranging from sexually transmitted infections to pregnancies. It is an unfortunate state of affairs since this directly affects the future and dignity of the girl child.

Social exclusion is also a common challenge among girls in my neighbourhood. The embarrassment faced, sometimes in the form of bullying by fellow pupils, particularly boys, becomes the order of the day. Some school girls miss their studies every time they are in their menstruation period.

Self-esteem and academic performance are also crucial areas affected by the lack of sanitary towels. When a girl begins her cycle and has no access to sanitary towels, she may soil her clothes. This dramatically interferes with this

Evelyne Ochieng, ImpactHope's Brilliant Minded Women Student of the Year Awardee 2022





girl's self-esteem, who is now walking around fearfully with a sweater tied around her bottom area. This girl may alternatively opt never to go to school due to the bullying and harassment they get from fellow learners, especially the male gender. If this girl misses school for four days every month, you can guarantee that her academic performance will spiral downward, and this may thwart her dreams, and she may opt to give in to societal pressure and get married.

Period poverty is a complex issue that goes beyond just the lack of hygienic female health supplies. Women who experience period poverty often face inequality, limited opportunities, and educational barriers due to their menstrual cycle. There is more to the story, such as overcoming cultural stigmas and widespread gender discrimination in societies, which can make it even harder for women to break the cycle of poverty.

REFERENCES  
<https://www.buckner.org/kenya/blog/what-is-period-poverty-and-why-should-people-care/>

*“In my community, girls often go through early pregnancies and drop out of school because of the unavailability of sanitary towels.”*



Our partnership with KEDHAP has already supplied a year's supply of pads and underwear to 5,000 girls among their 53 partner schools in Kenya.

Gifts

1. Give Pads for Progress!  
For \$25 a month, you can impact 15 girls!

Your donation to this campaign empowers us to purchase and distribute sanitary pads, provide new underwear, conduct educational workshops on menstrual health, and keep girls in school. Together, let's break barriers, tackle period poverty, and create a brighter future for girls in need!



<https://impacthope.ca/pads>

2. Water tank for the school: \$588

Provide a 5,000-litre water tank to a community school with KEDHAP.



Nearly one in ten girls in Sub-Saharan Africa, including Kenya, miss school during their periods.



# Africa: Nairobi & Kagan

## Shelter of Hope (SOH)

<https://impacthope.ca/shelterofhope>

**H**arriet is a cheerful, hard-working high-school student at Shelter of Hope Academy. She comes from humble beginnings – a family of eight children. Her father is a teacher, and her mother is a farmer. Over the last five years, Shelter of Hope (SOH) has provided a faithful shoulder for her to lean on.

She had always been a healthy and happy child, but she was diagnosed with sickle cell anemia when she was around seven. It was a devastating diagnosis for her family, as they were already struggling to make ends meet.

Harriet was diagnosed with Sickle Cell Anemia as a little girl. Shelter of Hope has faithfully stood by her in her journey.

Harriet was enrolled at Shelter of Hope Academy in grade 4. A year later, she was to be transferred to a public school as her family could no longer afford the fees. Harriet's life changed dramatically as she had to start taking daily medication and regularly visit the hospital for check-ups. She was in much pain and was often too weak to attend school. The condition drained Harriet's family financially and emotionally.

In grade 5, Shelter of Hope stepped in as a ray of light in her life and began sponsoring her education. Harriet had to be hospitalized for two months, and SOH faithfully stood by her, upholding her in prayers and footing her medical bills. Harriet was able to complete primary school thanks to the compassion shown by SOH.

Harriet gave her grade 8 exams in 2020. Shelter of Hope continued the journey with her into high school. SOH continues supporting her high school education by paying for her fees and other needs. The annual youths and teens camps at SOH have blessed her spiritually!

Harriet is now 16 years and looks forward to a more hopeful future. She has been mentored to be a responsible leader and let Christ be the centre of her life. Harriet dreams of becoming a nurse and helping others in her community. In her words, "It's been a privilege to testify that Shelter of Hope has transformed my life."

Harriet's transformation is a testament to the life-changing impact that Shelter of Hope has on hundreds of children. Your continued support can help create more success stories and transform the lives of countless others.

Would you like to serve on a short-term team at Shelter of Hope, Kenya? Learn more on page 22.



## Gifts

### Fighting Despair with Education!

Join us in transforming the lives of students! Shelter of Hope, Kenya, urgently needs your support to complete the 2nd floor of the school, provide a school bus, and cover school fees for students.

With your generous contribution, we can create a safe and conducive learning environment, ensure reliable transportation, and break financial barriers hindering education.



3. Gift of safe and secure transport: \$75
4. Support a child in SOH with essential supplies like books, bags, etc. - \$54
5. Sponsor a student for a year - \$456 (See Pg 19 for details)





# Desert to Eden – Springs of Hope for the Maasai

<https://impacthope.ca/water>

Sustainability is crucial for clean water projects as it ensures that the project's benefits are long-lasting and can be maintained over time. In 2019, ImpactHope committed to drilling a well in the Olkesumet Prayer Response Center. In the fall of 2021, the first borehole was drilled at the Olkesumet Prayer Response Center. This water well will play a crucial role in providing the Maasai community with access to clean and safe drinking water and as a reliable source of water for irrigation, which is essential for agriculture. We are working with Vision Ministries Kenya (VMK), which oversees efforts in 40 churches in communities throughout Kenya. We are excited about Phase 3 of the project, which focuses on long-term agricultural solutions.

### Powering progress with the sun!

Using solar energy to power the water pump provides a cost-effective, reliable, and sustainable solution for increasing access to clean water. Solar energy is free and abundant, which means that once the initial investment in the solar water pumping system is made, there are no ongoing fuel costs. This makes it a cost-effective solution for rural communities with limited access to electricity. The well in Kajiado is solar-powered! Solar energy powers

the pump. When it's sunny, it does a good job of filling the tanks with up to 20,000 litres within 6 to 8 hours. Women typically come for water in the morning. The benefit to the community is evident when even in the middle of the day, all the animals, primarily goats and sheep, that line up can drink all to their heart's content.

### Agricultural Initiatives

The Olkusmet community has done a commendable job preparing for agriculture on 2 acres of land - now about 5 acres! One part of the land is set apart for 'Farming God's Way' (a biblically based approach to conservation agriculture), and the other involves the traditional farming of vegetables, including kale or sukuma wiki, spinach, onions, and maize as a trial. They also have community volunteers to dig an underground pipe more than 700 meters long from the tank to the farm. The pipes were donated locally by a community friend.

The community is very responsible when it comes to the maintenance of the well, and the members contribute a small amount of money when they come for water. An instructor has temporarily volunteered to demonstrate and teach the community. If this trial is successful, the community hopes to employ two full-time

workers to oversee the agricultural activities.

### The Way Forward

Phase 3 of this incredible project focuses on long-term agricultural solutions, turning barren land into a thriving farm. The needs include fencing, cultivation, seeds, fertilizer, and tools, and the community is now anticipating bountiful fruit and a brighter future. A well casing, which will provide a sealed pathway allowing water to flow to the top without any risks of contamination or sediment formation, is still needed at a cost of \$10,000. In addition, phase 3 requires another \$18,000 for the project to reach full completion.

*The farm is starting to thrive despite huge challenges. What a feast for my eyes! I praise God for this day – a place that was once dry and had no hope, is now fruitful. Hope has come!" - Ishmael*

## Gifts

### Sow Seeds of Hope in the Desert!

Phase 3 of this incredible project focuses on long-term agricultural solutions, turning barren land into a thriving farm. The needs include fencing, cultivation, seeds, fertilizer, and tools, and the community is now anticipating bountiful fruit and a brighter future. We will still need about CAD 10000 for the well's casing, which will provide a sealed pathway allowing water to flow to the top without any risks of contamination or sediment formation. Phase 3 still additionally needs around CAD 18000 for the project to reach its full potential.

#### 6. Gift of seeds and fertilizer: \$50



# Africa

## Malawi <https://impacthope.ca/malawi>

Pastor Moses and his wife Grace in Malawi are working to bring hope to poor widows, aged women and Women with HIV/AIDS through the message of Christ, mindset change and advocacy for freedom.

They aim to promote household, food and economic security, for these women to get started, become established and become self-sustained through crop and animal production and small-scale businesses.

Among many initiatives, Education for Girls and Poor Orphans Project (EGPOP) is a social-cultural response toward creating educational opportunities for the poorest girls and orphans in secondary schools. In Malawi, less than 15% of women have any secondary school education, with 42% of girls getting married before age 18—the twelfth highest rate of child marriage in the world. Orphanhood has also added to the plight of girls and other orphaned boys, as it has been observed that 11% of children under 18 are orphans.

### Rescuing Child Brides: Empowering Girls to Soar Beyond Adversity

In the heart of Malawi, where 42 percent of girls face early marriages before their 18th birthday, one girl's story of resilience and hope shines as a beacon of inspiration. Meet Evidence, a young girl who endured unimaginable challenges but found her way to a brighter future, all thanks to ImpactHope's unwavering commitment to transforming lives.

Evidence's world was shattered when she lost her parents, leaving her with only one relative – her aunt. Struggling to make ends meet, her aunt pressured her into marrying an older man, forcing her into a future that seemed devoid of dreams. As she held her 14-year-old friend's baby, the weight of her own uncertain destiny bore down on her shoulders, filling her with dread.

But just when all hope seemed lost, ImpactHope's local partner intervened, working diligently with the community to raise awareness about the risks of early marriage and challenge the harmful social norms that perpetuated this practice. Their presence was a glimmer of hope in Evidence's darkness.

In the midst of her journey, Evidence found the courage to escape the forced marriage, embracing the chance to return to school. With the support of ImpactHope, she was not only given a second chance at education but also provided with essential resources such as school bursaries and uniforms. Witnessing her transformation was nothing short of exhilarating.

As Evidence returned to her studies, something incredible happened – her aunt, who once insisted on her early marriage, now offered unwavering support as Evidence attended and

returned from school. ImpactHope's intervention was not just changing one life; it was transforming an entire family and breaking the cycle of early marriage.

Evidence's brilliance began to shine through in her academic endeavors. Her zest for learning and determination to overcome adversity warmed the hearts of those around her. ImpactHope was overjoyed to witness her remarkable progress, a testament to the power of education and compassion.

Malawi's fight against early and forced marriages was far from over, but with the generous donations of individuals like you, ImpactHope continued to rescue girls from similar fates. In 2022 alone, your contributions empowered three young girls to escape the clutches of early marriage and return to school, illuminating the path to hope for their futures.

But ImpactHope's impact didn't stop there; six orphaned youths also received sponsored school fees, rescuing them from a life of poverty, hunger, abuse, and neglect. Your support played a pivotal role in granting these young minds a chance to thrive and grow into economically productive adults.

Evidence's transformation and the success stories of countless other children in Malawi are a testament to the power of collective action and the ripple effect of compassion. With every donation and act of kindness, you are changing lives, making a profound difference in the world.



#### Gifts

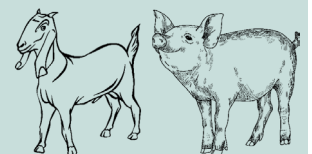
#### Overcoming a Life of Fear!

Help girls like Evidence rise above adversity and embrace a future filled with endless possibilities. We are also pioneering an Empowerment Project which supports 110 widows and women in poverty.

**7. Education for Girls/Orphans: \$50**

**8. Gift a Pig: \$75**

**9. Gift a Goat: \$45**







## Zambia <https://impachope.ca/theGraceProjectInternational>

At The Grace Project International (TGPI) and its school, The Grace Institute Zambia (TGIZ), we know firsthand the immense importance of supporting pastor training. These spiritual shepherds, or 'Grace Ambassadors,' are vital in guiding and nurturing their congregations with love and wisdom. TGPI's vision is to be the world's most accessible and transformational indigenous Bible colleges and ministry training centers that testify to the gospel of God's grace. Founders, Brian and Muriel Windsor have always been enthusiastic supporters of Christian workers.

### A Miraculous Journey of Healing: Yvonne's Unwavering Trust in God's Grace

"My name is Yvonne Chibale Chimambo, and I am a proud graduate of The Grace Institute Zambia. Those two years at the school completely transformed my life, enriching me with deep scriptural knowledge and teaching me how to apply it to my own life and ministry. Looking back, I shudder at the way I used to interpret scripture before my training; I had been misled, and in turn, I had misled others. But with newfound understanding, I embraced a more profound relationship with God, changing not only my personal life but also my ministry for the better.

During my time at TGI, I faced many challenges, but it was one particular season that truly tested my faith. My precious daughter fell critically ill and remained in a coma for nearly six months. It was heart-wrenching to see her in such a condition, and the emotional strain was almost unbearable. But even in those dark days, I never missed a single day of class. I spent my nights at the hospital, by her bedside, and somehow found the strength to attend my classes the next day, trusting God to take care of her.

Amid my daughter's illness, a miraculous event unfolded. One day, while I was at school, a nurse, without consulting me, took my daughter in an ambulance to a nearby miracle crusade at a stadium. She was brought to the front on a stretcher to be prayed for, as she couldn't even walk at that time. And in an awe-inspiring moment, right before my eyes, my daughter walked and talked again! She even led us in powerful praise and worship in church the following Sunday. It was an overwhelming display of God's grace and healing power, and I remain in awe to this day.

Throughout my journey at TGI, I faced financial hardships, but every time, God provided for me in remarkable ways. Whether it was through the support of my classmates or the caring staff at TGI, my needs were met, and my education remained uninterrupted. As my graduation approached, I received yet another astonishing blessing – my grad fees and gown were covered by anonymous donors all the way from Canada! I am forever grateful for how God saw me through those two years, surrounded by so much love and support.

As I look back on my time at TGI, my heart overflows with gratitude and praise. I continue to pray for all the people God used in my journey that He would bless them abundantly and meet all their needs. It is truly a

testament to the power of faith, and I am living proof that with God, all things are possible.

I am eternally grateful to ImpactHope and The Grace Project International for their partnership in changing lives like mine. Their commitment to education and empowering individuals like me has left an indelible mark on my life, and I am filled with a sense of purpose to share my story with others.

With God's grace, I have emerged from my trials stronger and more determined than ever. I know that my journey doesn't end here; instead, it is just the beginning of a life filled with hope, healing, and a deep desire to touch the lives of others positively. I am excited to embrace the future with faith as my guide, knowing that together, we can create a world where miracles happen, and dreams come true. Thank you, ImpactHope and The Grace Project International, for changing my life and empowering me to be a vessel of God's love and grace!"

ImpactHope and The Grace Project International celebrate Yvonne's journey and countless other lives touched by the power of education and God's unending grace. Together, through our partnership, we strive to uplift and empower individuals like Yvonne, guiding them toward a future filled with hope, healing, and endless possibilities.



Yvonne (left) found hope in the midst of her daughter's (right) illness.

#### Gifts



Make theological education accessible, transformational, and indigenous.



Help The Grace Institute Zambia in its mission to provide Pastors with quality Biblical Education that will help them be better leaders, preachers, and teachers in the communities & churches they serve in!

10. Purchase a Bible: \$90

11. Sponsor a student with partial funding: \$100

12. Help with the expansion to a new location: \$30

Brian (left) visiting students at a satellite school.



# South America: Peru <https://impacthope.ca/tatsplace>

## Tat's Place, Puerto Maldonado



### A Real-Life Cinderella: Marisol at Tat's Place

In the bustling city of Puerto Maldonado, Tat's Place is a sanctuary that welcomed 36 children in 2022, including five returning kids who had previously found solace within its walls. Guided by the compassionate hearts of Scott and Tracy Blackburn, Tat's Place has cared for a remarkable total of 70 children, each leaving an indelible mark on this cherished children's home.

Scott Blackburn marvels at the journey that has unfolded, recognizing the hand of God in every aspect. The children who find refuge at Tat's Place often arrive broken and hurting, having been let down and abandoned by those who were meant to protect them. Yet, Scott and Tracy have the privilege of witnessing divine restoration as they help these children heal and grow, supported by God's loving presence. From the first tender moments, when the babies come into their care, to the late-night feedings and countless hours of nurturing, the Blackburns become the first love these children experience, playing a vital role in their physical, emotional, and spiritual development.

Among the success stories emerging from Tat's Place is Marisol, a young woman who recently graduated from high school and now works full-time at the home. Marisol's journey is a real-life Cinderella tale tainted by tragedy and abuse. Orphaned at a young age, she endured mistreatment at the hands of her stepfather and stepmother, who neglected and abused her while lavishing attention on their own children. Fleeing the abuse, Marisol found herself navigating the

perils of life on the streets, working to support herself and staying in school against all odds. When fate led her to Tat's Place, her life took a miraculous turn.

As Marisol reached the age of 18, Scott Blackburn travelled with her to Bolivia to explore the possibility of selling the land her late mother had left her to fund her university education. In a twist of fate, they discovered that her stepfather was attempting to sell the land without her knowledge. With the intervention of a compassionate landowner and the assistance of a dedicated lawyer named Milena, Marisol's rightful ownership was protected.

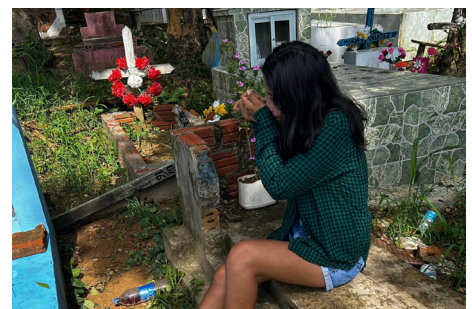
The journey was not without its challenges, but through divine providence and the kindness of strangers, Marisol was able to access critical documents that connected her to her biological father and grandparents for the first time. Overwhelmed with joy, Marisol exclaimed, "I have grandparents!" The legal battle to secure her inheritance continued, with Milena reducing her fees as a testament to her admiration for Marisol's strength and resilience.

Marisol's story is just one example of the countless lives impacted by Tat's Place. The Blackburns are grateful for the opportunity to be faithful stewards of this work, but they cannot do it alone. They are inviting people to join them on this transformative journey, offering prayers, encouragement, and financial support to sustain this beautiful ministry. Together, more children are saved from despair and given the chance at

a brighter future.



Marisol at her graduation, with Scott Blackburn.



A quiet moment at her mother's grave.





## Unleash Your Potential: ImpactHope Internships For Change!

The Engagement Internship Program offers an immersive experience for individuals who are passionate about making a positive impact on communities and desire to gain hands-on experience in a ministry setting. This program is like our Impact Trip Program; however, our Engagement Internship Program allows interns to stay for 1+ months, working closely with our hosts in their day-to-day ministry.



### OPEN INTERNSHIPS

1. **Title of Position:** Youth and Childcare Intern  
**Project:** Tat's Place  
**Location:** Puerto Maldonado, Peru
2. **Title of Position:** Property Maintenance Intern  
**Project:** Tat's Place  
**Location:** Puerto Maldonado, Peru



ENGAGEMENT  
INTERNSHIP



<https://impacthope.ca/internships>

*"The story of Tat's Place is intertwined with the memory of our beloved daughter, Tatiana. From a young age, Tatiana had an unwavering passion for serving children in need. Tatiana's dream was to complete her education and return to Peru with her husband, Matthew, to become the Directors of our home. Tragically, her life was cut short in 2018 in a devastating car accident in Madison, Wisconsin, just eight days after her engagement. In her honour, we established the Tat's Kids Peru fund, ensuring that her legacy of compassion and dedication lives on." – Scott & Tracy Blackburn*



The Blackburns with Tatiana.

## Gift: Hope On Wheels

It's time to replace the two 12-year-old vehicles at Tat's Place! Life at this Children's Home in Puerto Maldonado requires reliable vehicles. The current cars have served them well and earned a well-deserved retirement. These vehicle upgrades will provide Tat's Place with reliable transportation for many years! Your support will ensure that the precious children at Tat's Place are well cared for in all circumstances. We have a goal of \$110,000 and we have raised nearly \$42,030!

**Only \$67,970 more to reach our goal!**

13. Gift: \$50 - \$250 or more!



# South America: Peru <https://impacthope.ca/iqitos>

## Hogar Genesis, Iquitos



**H**ogar Genesis is a place filled with love and compassion in the beautiful city of Iquitos. It's a home that opens its arms wide to children who have faced unimaginable hardships in their young lives. These precious souls have been abandoned, neglected, or even trafficked, but here at Hogar Genesis, they find the love, care, and hope they deserve.

With Rodolfo and Saraid leading the way, this wonderful family at Hogar Genesis provides a safe and nurturing environment for these beautiful kids, ranging from as young as three months old to 12 years of age. Currently, there are 11 incredible children under their loving care.

Here's a heartwarming account from Rodolfo, "Let me tell you about Brigitte. She's been with us at Hogar Genesis for almost a year now. This precious little girl came to us with her five siblings, but due to their difficult circumstances, only Brigitte and her sister found a home with us. Her three brothers are being cared for in another children's home. Life had dealt some harsh blows to Bridgette. Her father passed away just last year, and her mom struggles with alcohol and lives on the streets. Can you imagine the pain and confusion a child like Brigitte goes

through in such situations? It's heartbreaking.

When Brigitte first came to our home, she was going through a tough time, and her behaviour showed it. She was a bit of a troublemaker, trying to escape and even break things. But you know what's truly incredible? We didn't give up on her. Instead, we showered her with love, care, and understanding.

Throughout the year, we saw her transform right before our eyes. We worked with her, nurturing her character and guiding her heart. And now, she's like a whole new person – a beautiful and responsible young girl at just nine years old!

Guess what? At school this year, Brigitte was chosen to be the 'police' in her classroom. Yes, you heard that right! In a class of 30 students, she's now responsible for keeping the peace and ensuring everyone behaves and respects the teacher. Can you believe the change in her? It's a testament to the power of love, compassion, and faith. God has been working wonders in Bridgette's life, and she's so grateful for the transformation she's experienced.

None of this would have been possible without

you, our ImpactHope family. Your support, prayers, and hard work have made this happen. You are the reason Brigitte and her siblings have a loving home today."



*Brigitte has blossomed through love & care.*





# From Trash to Treasure: A Miraculous Rescue

Several weeks ago, in the quiet night hours, a tiny bundle was left at the plaza in Belén, a place where so many hearts go unnoticed. A woman who discovered the baby arrived at the emergency of a regional hospital, carrying in her arms, a new-born male. Meanwhile, across the city, another innocent life was discarded callously amidst the refuse of a trash bin. However, fate intervened, and the diligent hands of the PTL waste collectors discovered this precious soul before it was too late.

A few days ago, the baby girl, just shy of one month old, was released from the hospital, ready to embark on her journey toward healing and growth. Through divine providence, she is now being welcomed into the nurturing embrace of Hogar Genesis, a children's home nestled in the heart of Iquitos, Peru. It is a testament to the power of love and the unyielding belief that every child deserves a chance at happiness.

As we celebrate this joyous occasion, we are reminded that our work is far from over. The baby boy, who has been under the watchful eyes of medical professionals, is soon to be released. His destiny awaits him at the boys' children's home, thanks to Rodolfo's tireless efforts as a private lawyer, which have paved the way for a brighter future for many children like him.



Smiles to brighten up your day!



Celebrating special occasions.



Creating Precious Family Moments.

## Gifts A Home of Love, Care and Compassion!

You can sponsor a child at Hogar Genesis who will benefit from long-term resources to cover basic expenses, medical needs, and tuition costs. All student profiles are uploaded on a partnering portal. Sponsors are free to peruse the profiles and choose to sponsor a child that appeals to their hearts!

- 14. Support a child in the home - \$100 (for one week)
- 15. Sponsor a student for a year - \$588 (See Pg 19 for details)

Note: Student Sponsorship is available for 8 students (16 co-sponsorship slots)



## Vision of Grace Elementary School and Community Project



### Gifts

Most children, like Kervenson, grow up living day-to-day while risking being forced into the labour force or drafted into a Haitian gang. Kervenson is in grade 3 at Vision of Grace Elementary school in Haiti. He likes to help in the garden. He has 1 sister. His favorite subject is writing.



**Scan to sponsor Kervenson and his classmates, or go to <https://impacthope.outgiven.org/>**

Hello! My name is Kervenson. I am a grade 3 student at Vision of Grace Elementary School in Fort-Jacques. This is a small village in the mountains close to Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Today, I'd like to share with you my story.

Just a few months ago, in March 2023, our peaceful town was suddenly taken over by gang violence. My daily routine got turned upside down overnight. We had heard of the violence far away. We didn't know our community was next. Our beloved school, Vision of Grace, where we laughed, learned, and played together, had to close its doors due to the unrest. The joy and safety we used to feel were replaced by fear and uncertainty.

Every day was more of a struggle. The constant fear and the sound of gunshots kept us hiding under our beds, with our doors and windows always shut. We could not talk aloud for fear of being heard. Sometimes we were so stressed that we didn't have the desire to eat.

Food became a luxury as prices skyrocketed anyways. Hunger wasn't just a sound in our stomachs anymore; it was a constant worry of survival in our minds. All schools, churches and groceries were closed, as gang went to where people gathered. I remember the long days and longer nights as we prayed for peace to return to our community.

Because of these threats, I had to leave my home in Fort-Jacques. My dad came one day and took me to his home in Carrefour, hoping to protect me from the growing violence. But the gangs didn't spare Carrefour either, and I found myself in the midst of the same chaos and fear. There were moments when we thought

we wouldn't make it, but we kept praying and hoped for a miracle.

I am so thankful that even in these darkest hours, Vision of Grace didn't abandon us. Thanks to the support from donors from ImpactHope, the school could continue paying my teachers and even provide food support to my family. These gifts gave us hope in a time when hope seemed like a dream.

By the grace of God and the relentless efforts of our school staff, Vision of Grace was able to reopen in late May. I was so excited to return to my classes and friends. As I walk to school now, I notice many children have not yet returned from where they had run to. Though we have missed a lot of lessons and have to work extra hard to catch up, the joy of being back in school and learning is worth all the efforts.

Today, as I tell my story, things are far from perfect. There is still fear of violence. But God continues to be faithful in providing and protecting us. I know He has gathered a family of prayer warriors, as my teacher tells us, in Canada.

I don't know what will happen in the coming months. Like many of my classmates, my parents cannot go to work due to my country's problems. With all the uncertainty, I am thankful that Vision of Grace has taught me about God. Above all, I know I can trust Vision of Grace to help me reach grade 4 in September. I know God is in control and that He will make a way for my Haiti.





# Building Walls of Hope

**Mission Statement:** *We exist to bring salvation through Jesus to all the community residents and provide spiritual, educational, and economic development.*

The co-founders of Vision of Grace Elementary School and Community Project, Ann Farquharson and Marie Estelle desire to see the rural community of Fort Jacques develop. Their goal is to give children the opportunity to gain a grade 6 Christian education. Besides education, Marie Estelle and her husband, Pastor Clermont, run a weekly church service and conduct outreach programs within the community that include income-generating activities with meat goats and agriculture. The need for community development has become ever more acute due to the rising cost of living stemming from Haiti's government's inability to develop their country economically. The students also get a full protein meal every school day. For many children, this is their only meal of the day!



The school provides lessons based on the Haitian curriculum with a Christian emphasis through daily devotions and Biblical teachings.


## Haiti – Medical Missions

ImpactHope has partnered with a medical team led by Haitian Fabienne Goutier as they reach remote Haitian villages to provide regular dental & ophthalmological, OB/GYN, pediatric, and dermatological services to marginalized peoples forgotten by the government and society.


<https://impacthope.ca/haitimedical>



*"I am Loukensly! I had never had a birthday party before attending this little school. A nice lady made some cupcakes and iced them for the whole school. I have never eaten a cupcake, and the icing was so very yummy! The students and teachers sang Bon Fet! Loukensly! It was sure a happy day for me. I am so thankful to my sponsors who pay so I can go to school."*



### *My Very First Cupcake*




### Special Story: How Spiritual Warfare Transformed A Village In Haiti

<https://impacthope.ca/haititransformation/>



### Gifts



Protect the innocence of childhood.

- 16. Sponsor a Student for a year - \$456 (Pg 19 for more details)
- 17. Supplies for a Student – Purchase a year's school supplies like books for approx \$200.
- 18. Sponsor a Teacher – Support a teacher at \$150/month.
- 19. Support Medical Missions - \$150



# Student Sponsorship



## Transforming Lives, One Child at a Time.

Education is essential to breaking the cycle of poverty in the lives of children. When you sponsor a student, you transform his or her life by providing an academic scholarship, daily lunches, healthcare from an on-site clinic, spiritual nurture, and HOPE.

## How many Sponsorships are available?

We are thrilled to share that our sponsorship program is supporting 111 awesome students! – how amazing is that? We still have 70 wonderful students waiting for a sponsor to make their dreams come true.

## Where are the Students From?

ImpactHope is committed to making a transformative impact on the lives of underprivileged children across the globe. You can help us transform the lives of children from three of our partner projects – Shelter of Hope Academy (Kenya), Fort Jacques (Haiti) or Hogar Genesis (Peru).

## The Crucial Role of Monthly Supporters

Your contribution covers school fees, uniforms, educational materials, and additional resources essential to the child's academic growth. To ensure transparency and foster connection, sponsors receive annual progress reports, including a photograph and a way to send a message to the hands of your student. In places like Vision of Grace Elementary School in Haiti, monthly supporters are more than just donors; they are lifelines. During the recent surge of gang violence, the school had to temporarily close its doors, making education inaccessible for the students. However, monthly supporters' consistent contributions allowed the school to continue paying the teachers and provide emergency food support to students' families during the crisis.



# 111

STUDENTS WILL BE IMPACTED



70 slots  
available

41 sponsored

### Iquitos, Peru



*Maricela is a bright young girl attending grade 5 and has been a part of Hogar Genesis since August 2022. She loves reading and studying literature.*

**20. Sponsor a child like Maricela at \$49/month**

### Fort Jacques, Haiti



*Wilkenson is in playschool at the Vision of Grace Elementary School. He enjoys helping his mum with chores, folding laundry and playing with his three brothers.*

**21. Sponsor a child like Wilkenson at \$38/month**

### Shelter of Hope, Kenya



*Vanessa is a 9 year old cheerful girl who loves to play outdoors and skip rope. She enjoys a meal of rice and beans. Music, Arts and crafts are some of her favourite activities in school.*

**22. Sponsor a child like Vanessa at \$38/month**

*Emma, an orphan, is a beneficiary of Shelter Of Hope's Orphan sponsorship program. Emma's passion for learning, steadfast commitment to a disciplined life, and unwavering faith in God's teachings distinguish her from her peers. She completed her education at Shelter of Hope Academy, where she spent 11 years, and is currently in her final year of high school.*





*"Thank you sponsors, for helping me stay in school. I love all the books and learning new things." - Douady, Age 6*

*"Without Shelter of Hope and the amazing sponsors who support this organization, I would not have had the opportunity to attend Ulanda Girls High School, a place of great learning and growth..." - Emma*



## Gifts



Transforming Lives, One Child at a Time.

By becoming a monthly sponsor, you can reach across continents and touch the life of a child who, despite all odds, aspires to learn, dream, and create a better future. To learn more or to become a monthly supporter, visit ImpactHope's Sponsorship Program page at <https://impacthope.ca/sponsor-a-student> or scan the code:



## Servicios Medicos Vida y Esperanza, Hospital in Nebaj

We have the privilege of exploring the inspiring efforts of ImpactHope's Guatemala Medical Missions Project Partners, Juan-Pablo & Carolina, as they work passionately towards uplifting the Nebaj Community, while building a growing self-sustainable hospital. Their mission extends beyond providing trusted health and dental care; it aims to empower the community to take ownership of their development and move away from dependence on external aid.

Hannah Campbell, ImpactHope's Director of Development, shared a conversation with JP and Carolina as they shed light on a critical issue faced by many low-income communities—the feeling of powerlessness and inferiority that perpetuates the cycle of poverty. They touched upon the power of a participatory approach in community development. Rather than giving free aid, this approach requires active engagement from all community members.

By embracing participation as an end in itself, they envision a holistic journey towards poverty alleviation, recognizing each member's intrinsic worth as an image bearer of God and empowering them to become proactive agents of change within their own lives and communities.

### Special Mention: Education



ImpactHope has partnered with Gilberto and Ruth Noriega to increase access to education for indigenous children in Huehuetenango.

### In conversation with Dr. Juan Pablo and Carolina

**H: Juan Pablo and Carolina, thank you for taking the time to talk with us today! You have both worked diligently to ensure that your project meets the community's needs while covering your costs. How do you manage to achieve this?**

In the beginning, we received some assistance to cover our costs. Still, we soon realized that it was essential for us to be self-reliant, depending on the help of the Lord and encouraging people to take responsibility for their health. Often, during our visits to patients, we noticed they didn't take the medicine when it was provided for free. They thought it might be expired or of poor quality. We realized that people prefer paying a little for a service they can trust and rely on.

**H: Research has shown that poverty is more than just a lack of material wealth. They have found that poverty is explained by low-income people as a feeling of inferiority, a lack of belief in the control and ability they have, to improve their own situation. How does your project empower individuals in the community to take ownership of their own development and see their potential?**

Firstly, we provide our employees with a reliable source of income that enables them to live a higher quality of life, pride in knowing they are providing for their families, and the ability to invest in their future through education, savings, or entrepreneurial initiatives. Secondly, we have made healthcare more accessible to our patients and their families, enabling them to take pride in paying for their health services. Nebaj has been blessed with much external help. Unfortunately, this has hindered the locals' sense of self-reliance as they grew used to relying on others. Our project emphasizes that they can achieve anything through hard work and dedication. This is noted through the opportunity to take ownership.

**H: Yes, you both have worked tirelessly to not only care for the sick but also provide opportunities for community members to receive education and skill-building! They've been mutually beneficial for your project and your community. Can you provide us specific examples of how these programs have contributed to the self-sustainability of your project?**

We need to give credit to the Lord. The ideas we devised ourselves didn't work as effectively as the ones the Lord guided us to implement. For instance, when we started a Nursing program in 2007 to help a single person, the Lord expanded it into a school that has graduated over 2000 nurses. This has enabled us to find quality staff while equipping others with better employment opportunities.

We also believe there's no purpose in healing just the body, and not the soul. As such, we have also started a Bible program that offers spiritual support to the community and staff. Lastly, we recently initiated an education program for the children of our workers, aiming to provide them with quality Christian education and better opportunities for their future. This helps us retain staff and invest in our community's next generation of leaders.

**H: What unique strategies or approaches do you employ to ensure the long-term viability and continuity of your initiatives, even after your direct involvement concludes?**

We emphasize self-empowerment and encourage ownership among the people we serve of their development and their community's development. We want them to understand that while external groups like ours may desire to help, the ultimate responsibility for change lies with them. We believe Jesus can make a profound difference in their lives, guiding them

toward positive transformations and personal responsibility. This, in turn, fosters long-term viability and continuity as the community learns to rely on their own capabilities and faith to sustain the initiatives. We desire Nebaj to become a place of pride and growth for our local population, led not by external groups but by us.



Dr. JP & Carolina with their two children.

The Hospital is currently running and accepting patients, providing healthcare and dental care while the new building is being built! Healthcare initiatives include medical consultation, clinical laboratory, care for the bedridden, ultrasound and X-ray services, food assistance for low-income families, education for workers' children, and activities in the Cristo Salva church.





*JP with a happy patient.*



*Under Carolina's direction, affordable, high-quality English-speaking education is provided for the children of hospital staff.*



*The nursing school equips individuals to give back to the community through medical service.*



*The Maverick Men's Support Group gives men from different churches a safe space to pray and commune with each other.*



*The women's ministry provides community, sewing opportunities, cooking classes, and more!*

## Gifts



### Make Healthcare Affordable and Dignified!

JP and Carolina managed to create sustainability in the effort within five years while employing over 30 staff using an older facility built initially as a feeding center during the civil war. In addition, they have also started a church, a hospital lab, and two auxiliary nursing schools (with over 1,500 graduates!)

As the new hospital is being built, the next phase entails purchasing medical equipment and other construction costs, totalling up to \$300,000 CDN. The immediate need is the purchase of an X-ray machine. You can help us reach the goal of \$180,000 for this equipment!

**23. X-ray Machine Fundraiser: \$50 - \$1000 or more**

**24. Food Program: \$75**

**25. Support patients who cannot afford healthcare: \$45**





## Partner with Communities for Long-Term Change



### Testimonial: Bob Pauw's Impactful Journey

Many amazing volunteers have stepped out of their comfort zone to make a meaningful impact over the years. One such person is Bob Pauw, whose compassionate spirit led him to embark on a life-changing journey in Guatemala. Bob's remarkable story exemplifies the transformative power of long-term commitment to short-term missions, emphasizing the importance of building lasting change in communities.

When Bob was first approached to join a team going to Guatemala, he felt hesitant and excited. However, the timing seemed opportune with grown children and a flexible work schedule. Having previously experienced the fulfillment of a short-term ministry trip during his youth, he saw this as a chance to utilize his gifts of mercy and compassion for a meaningful cause. Bob's genuine desire to make a positive impact in the lives of others became the driving force behind his involvement.

#### A Transformative Experience

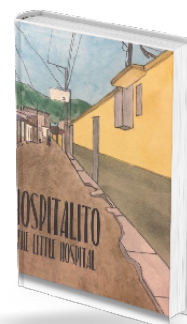
During his first home visit to Guatemala, Bob encountered a profound moment. Witnessing the impoverished villages with children lacking shoes and houses in disrepair, he was struck by the stark contrast from his familiar Canadian surroundings. However, his outlook underwent a transformation during this visit to a small family.

"Despite the humble surroundings, it was a 'home'—a place of love, shared hardships, and joys. That experience changed my outlook in a very positive way," Bob recalled. This encounter opened his eyes to the beauty amidst the challenges, fostering a deeper appreciation for the resilience and strength of the community.

#### The Power of Long-Term Commitment

Bob's journey extended beyond a single short-term mission trip. Through his involvement with ImpactHope, he continuously sought ways to support and contribute to the cause throughout the year. "My work in Nebaj and my friends there are always on my heart and my mind," he expressed, emphasizing the lasting impact the experience had on him. Beyond fundraising, Bob and his team initiated projects like Threads of Hope and the Maverick Group, nurturing enduring relationships with the community in Nebaj. The genuine, long-term commitment of ImpactHope's volunteers has resulted in solid and lasting connections built on trust, love, and collaboration.

Bob Pauw's remarkable journey with ImpactHope exemplifies the transformative power of long-term commitment to short-term missions. His story serves as a testament to the profound impact of genuine care and dedication on communities in need. Through individuals like Bob, we are reminded of the lasting change that can be achieved by building authentic relationships and nurturing sustainable projects. ImpactHope's approach fosters hope and empowerment, leaving a positive legacy for future generations.



*"The Hospitalito is a story of the hope and value of mission relationships."*



Praying for a mother in Iquitos



Teaching a class in Belen, Iquitos

Embark on a life-changing adventure with ImpactHope's immersive Impact Trips. Discover the transformative power of service while making a lasting impact.

Experience personal growth and transformation by stepping out of your comfort zone and engaging in meaningful service. Discover hidden strengths, develop new skills, and cultivate empathy and compassion. Our goal is to inspire you to become a catalyst for change abroad and in your community.





## OPEN TEAMS 2024

Where?	Project	When?	Details
Nebaj, Guatemala	Hospital in Nebaj	Feb 8 – 19, 2024	Join our 12-day journey to Nebaj, Guatemala, where you'll support local partners constructing a hospital. Prior skills are optional, just a willingness to learn and serve alongside dedicated partners addressing community medical needs.
Nairobi & Kagan, Kenya	Shelter of Hope	Feb 16 – March 4, 2024	Experience an 18-day trip to Kenya, where we will serve alongside our partners in education, construction, and ministry initiatives to better their community - no experience required.

[Register for our open teams on our website!](#)

**Not seeing a trip that interests you?** We will be adding new trips as the year goes on, so check out website and socials for updates on upcoming trips!



“Poverty isn’t just a lack of material resources but a result of broken relationships with God, self, others, and the rest of creation.”

The Chalmers Center


We believe that the Chalmers Center’s resources are an excellent tool for learning more about this approach to missions and how it can be applied in practice. Materials like ‘When Helping Hurts and Helping Without Hurting in Short-Term Missions’ provide insight into tackling poverty and moving beyond good intentions towards lasting change.

*A short-term team in Nebaj, Guatemala assisting with the construction of the hospital.*

Whether you are looking for a team to join, already have a team in mind, or are looking for an internship opportunity, we would love to hear from you! Check out our Impact Trips and be part of a global movement that empowers, uplifts, and transforms lives.

Our Impact Trip Program recognizes that sustained engagement fosters lasting relationships, builds trust within communities, and empowers them to thrive independently, leading to genuine and impactful change over time.

**“A long-term commitment to short-term missions makes a great impact!”** – Brad Wilson (Executive Director)

**Gifts**  **Take a peek inside the little hospital!**

*Hospitalito: The Little Hospital* is Bob’s new book about his transformative experience in Nebaj.

**26. Get a free copy book with every donation above \$100.**

<https://impacthope.kindful.com/book-fundraiser-2023>



# Caribbean

<https://impacthope.ca/caribbean>



*This family is grateful for the assistance in the face of inflation rates that are shooting up, leaving people unable to afford basic necessities.*



*Our partners bring hope to the hopeless, encourage those in need, deliver food to the less fortunate, help the sick & share the Gospel.*

## Cuba: Hope for a Broken Nation

*5-year-old John wonders if they would have dinner that night. His family had been eating only one meal a day for the past week, and his little sister would cry herself to sleep at night. He peered through the door and saw his father, Pastor William, down on his knees, praying for a miracle to come through. It had to be a miracle that would feed his family and sustain them through the challenging crisis.*

This is a tragic representation of the circumstances of Pastors and their families in Cuba.

Working in ministry in Cuba often means a lack of financial income, and this means that Pastor William's family may not have much to eat for weeks to come. These pastors live their lives as faithful servants of the Lord, and their monthly income, which is minimal and limited, is not enough to provide for their households.

During the pandemic, our partners in Cuba - Carlos & Rosa; Jorge & Sandra, were on the front line (and still are) working hard and intensively, bringing hope to the hopeless, encouraging those in need, and delivering food to the less fortunate, helping the sick, sharing the Gospel, and ministering in their churches. All

the pastors they reach commit their lives to share the Good News of the Gospel to their communities. The high majority in Cuba are struggling even more because of the increased costs of the necessities of life – if they are available at all!

Child labour and child trafficking are serious threats to the well-being of children in Cuba. The children's ministry imparts valuable lessons about the Bible and teaches fundamental life lessons and guidance on navigating the tougher days of life.

With family members leaving the island, our partners have had to minister to a growing number of elders in an environment of scarcity. Since 2003, ImpactHope has worked with our partners to reach and impact people in several places such as Palma Soriano, Holguin and Camaguey in Cuba.

### Gifts



**Nourishing Communities,  
One Plate at a Time**

- 27. Sponsor a Pastor & Family: \$100.**
- 28. Meals for a family for a week: \$50.**
- 29. Kids Club Sponsorship: \$30**



# Mexico

<https://impacthope.ca/casa-compasiva>

## Casa Compasiva: A Mission Worth Sustaining

### Showing God's loving compassion to pregnant women vulnerable to Mexico's c-section culture.

*A sixteen-year-old first-time mama with no husband and no boyfriend labours alone and afraid. The doctor comes in to check her dilation and says, "She's at seven centimetres, but this will take too long. Let's do a Caesarean." Six hours after the operation, she still hasn't seen her baby.*

*A seventeen-year-old mama in labour accidentally urinates on her gown and hospital bed. Despite the smell and discomfort, she is not allowed to have another gown, or her bed sheet changed. Humiliated, she continues to labour in a room full of fifteen people. Eventually, she is moved to the delivery room, where the chief doctor comes in laughing and doesn't bother to evaluate the mother but immediately performs a massive episiotomy. He then goes in with forceps and pulls the baby out, appearing to show off in front of the young interns.*

These are some of the many cases of obstetric violence witnessed by Casa Compasiva's founder Lila Quezada in 2011 while she volunteered as a doula in the public hospital system in Oaxaca, Mexico. She emphasized that these experiences motivated her to found Casa Compasiva, a place that would "provide a caring alternative to the unacceptable birth options currently existing in Oaxaca." Casa Compasiva supports child-bearing women with good care, quality attention, and the loving dignity that God bestows on women.

Over the last decade, Casa Compasiva has faithfully served Oaxacan women and their families while combating the negative attitudes towards natural birth in a state with one of the highest rates of c-sections in the world. Casa Compasiva provides factual childbirth education in a region where c-sections are in vogue, while natural births are stigmatized as risky, inconvenient, and unnecessary. While acceptance of midwifery by



*Trained and dedicated midwives ensure that the parents receive dignified and respectful care.*




*Interactive pre-natal classes provide guidance on pregnancy, labor, delivery, newborn, and breastfeeding for expecting parents.*

the public has grown somewhat since opening the doors, acceptance by the medical establishment continues to present one of Casa Compasiva's most significant hurdles.

Over the past several months, Casa has been going through a reevaluation process. There has been a 'pause' in the ministry to consider the past impact and determine the future direction of the ministry. While the original mission of Casa Compasiva will remain a key focus: To use compassionate maternity care and practical biblical teachings to impact and strengthen families with the love of Christ, it will slowly encompass much more.

We are excited about the future of Casa and for when the doors re-open. ImpactHope continues to support Casa Compasiva as they navigate leadership changes and the need to re-imagine Casa for greater future effectiveness and sustainability. We are confident that the Lord will honour and direct the local staff as they work tirelessly to navigate these changes and further the mission.

*Before the end of 2023, we plan to provide updates on the new direction of Casa Compasiva. We thank you for your continued support in prayer and finances – together, we will continue the mission.*

**Gifts**  **Empower vulnerable Mamas & Bebés**

**30. Sponsor a birth and medical care: \$75**

**31. Support the re-opening of Casa: \$50**

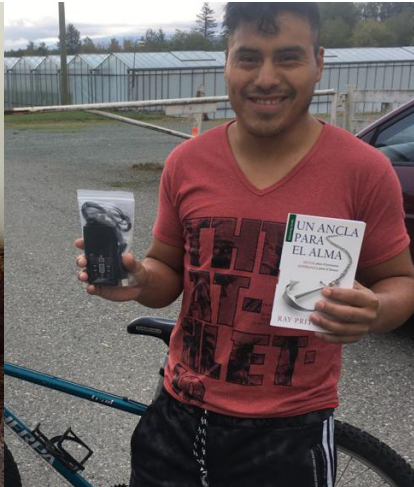
## Serving the most vulnerable in British Columbia and Ontario

While ImpactHope's mission extends globally, we are also deeply committed to making a difference locally in Canada. The organization believes in the power of collective action, forging alliances with individuals, businesses, and other organizations to create a stronger, more inclusive society. Through partnerships with Canadian communities, they address issues such as poverty, access to education, and social inequality. ImpactHope is actively involved in transformative projects across two key locations in the country.

### Migrant Worker Ministry, BC



Lila with Apolonia, Casa Compasiva's Staff Devotional Leader.



Every bicycle recipient also gets an audio Bible in Spanish w/ 36 Spanish sermons.

*"As time and strength permits, we open our home in hospitality to others, share the gospel and pray for those who need it, mentor and counsel those who ask, and provide for the physical needs of others in practical ways as we are able." – Lila*



Bicycles for migrant workers in the Fraser Valley Greenhouse farms.

Ellie, Lila Quezada, and their eight children have faithfully served in ministry for over 25 years. With local and national help, Lila established and directed Casa Compasiva, a birthing center in Oaxaca City, eight years ago. Ellie continues his involvement with the migrant workers in the Delta area of BC. This year it has mostly taken the form of picking up, fixing, and delivering bikes to workers who need them and sharing gospel materials, an audio Bible, and prayer with each worker. Lila and Ellie travelled to Oaxaca in the summer of last year to spend some time at Casa Compasiva. During their five weeks in Oaxaca, they met with, prayed with, counselled, helped, and encouraged many people. **Learn more at <https://impacthope.ca/migrantworkers-bc>.**

### Migrant Worker Ministry, Ontario



Migrant workers are a critical group of people within the Ontario food sector. Their stay in Canada can be anywhere from 3 to 9 months, depending on the contract they sign. With limited language and knowledge of the culture and laws in Canada, they can become prime targets for abuse and exploitation. Julio Farfan is a native Guatemalan who now lives in Ontario, Canada. He oversees a ministry serving the migrant workers living and working in the Stratford area. Support is provided tangibly through transportation for various medical appointments, banking needs, legal assistance when needed, conflict resolution, social and mental health assistance, and large group gatherings with other workers (sporting events, etc.).

*L: Julio organized a lovely Christmas dinner for the Guatemalan workers in the church in Stratford.*

*R: Soccer game organized for Migrant Workers.*

**Learn more at <https://impacthope.ca/migrantworkers-ontario>.**





## Changing Lives, One Mission at a Time - Canadian Volunteer Gary's Testimonial



Gary (3rd from the left) with a mission team in Nebaj.

***"You see, building a hospital from the ground up is at one level; it's a matter of bricks and mortar. But more importantly for me, it became a matter of building relationships, gaining new friends, and coming to an understanding of different perspectives of life and faith."***

My name is Gary, and I would like to take a few moments to share something that I'm very passionate about - my work with ImpactHope. Over the past ten years, I've been fortunate enough to participate in several life-changing "Impact Trips" with ImpactHope, as well as volunteer in their office. My journey with this incredible organization has shown me the power of compassion and the profound impact we can have on the lives of those who need it most.

My significant connection with ImpactHope began when I joined a mission team headed to Nebaj, a small town in Guatemala. Our mission was ambitious: to build a hospital for a community desperately in need of medical facilities. While it might sound like a simple construction project, it became so much more than that. It became a journey of building relationships, forming deep friendships, and gaining a new understanding of life and faith.

The experience of building a hospital from the ground up was transformative. But more importantly, it became a matter of connecting with the local people, understanding their needs, and working alongside them to create something that would serve their community for generations to come.

Through this journey, I came to love the people of Nebaj and deeply admire the leaders of that community. Working alongside them and countless others over the years has changed my life in profound ways. It has broadened my perspective on the different ways in which Christian leaders serve as instruments of God's love in their communities.

What sets ImpactHope apart is its approach to ministry. The organization collaborates with local Christian leaders worldwide, supporting projects that are defined by the communities themselves. These projects encompass vital areas like healthcare, education, food security, and leadership development. ImpactHope ensures that the initiatives address the specific needs of each community, making a tangible difference where it matters most.

I wholeheartedly encourage you to learn more about ImpactHope and the remarkable projects they support worldwide. Get involved in any way you can, as it has the potential to change your life, just as it has changed mine. In the words of my own experience, **"It will change you, as it has changed me."**



With a Youth Group: Exploring new cultures, serving others, and being a part of something truly wonderful!



### ***An Ode to the Unsung Heroes***

It's funny how sometimes we focus so much on the results and forget about the people who make it all possible. That's where the unsung heroes come in—the amazing staff at ImpactHope. These are the incredible souls who work tirelessly behind the scenes, putting their heart and soul into making a difference. It's also essential to shine a light on the unsung heroes who volunteer their time and efforts without seeking any credit. These incredible souls are the heart and soul of the organization, selflessly dedicating themselves to making a difference in the lives of others.

But there's more. In our projects worldwide, there are individuals who serve as the voice of the most vulnerable without ever seeking credit or recognition. They work tirelessly to advocate for those who cannot speak up for themselves, striving to bring about positive change in their lives.

These unsung heroes, both the volunteers and the silent advocates, are the unsung stars who light up the darkness, the silent warriors who fight battles behind the scenes, and the humble hearts that make a significant impact.

**34. Donate to 'Where Most Needed' to support us.**

### **Gifts**

**Bring Hope to the Migrant Community:  
Empower Lives, Restore Dignity.**

**32. Support Ellie & Lila: \$60**

**33. Support Julio's Ministry: \$45 or more**

### **Ways To Give**

Here are some other ways in which you can make your donation. Scan the code or go to [impacthope.ca/donate](https://impacthope.ca/donate).





# IMPACT Now

HOPE IN ACTION

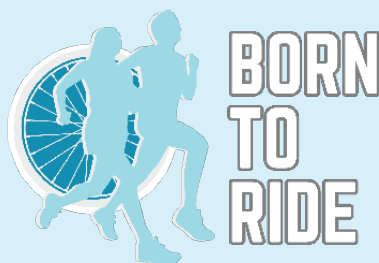


**Walk, run, or bike in solidarity to call attention to those whose lives have been affected by poverty, exploitation, oppression and injustice.**



**Want to lead an ImpactNOW event in your community?**

**Go to <https://impacthope.ca/impactnow>.**



**Next Event: Run for Casa Compasiva  
October 2023**

**Suggested Donation: \$20**