2020 ANNUAL MINISTRY UPDATE

“Write down the vision
And inscribe it clearly on tablets,
So that one who reads it may run.”

Hab. 2:2 (NASB)
Greetings! 2020 was a year when God allowed us to sharpen our focus and concentrate on four **Shared Global Goals** across our entire ministry. We want every child in our care:

- To enjoy a vibrant, life-changing relationship with God
- To experience emotional and physical well-being
- To be equipped for a life of independence and service
- To live life in family and community, free of fear and violence

Read on, and you’ll find the particulars of how your gifts helped Kids Alive:

- Serve nearly 5,000 people
- Work on five continents
- Minister to 2,516 children through sponsorship
- Pursue justice on behalf of hundreds of abused and exploited children
- Benefit thousands more through education and family strengthening

Because of your partnership, our kids were cared for by:

- 73 long- and short-term missionaries
- Nearly 800 global staff
- 33 staff in our International Office

Together in 2020, we raised a total of $14,181,363 to meet unexpected challenges and to minister to vulnerable children and families through a devastating crisis. Without your gifts and your nimble responses to emergencies, thousands might have starved during the darkest days of the pandemic. Without you, we wouldn’t have had the means to equip kids with the means for distance learning. And without you, we couldn’t have continued sensitive care for precious kids in trauma.
Thank you for being instruments in the hands of a loving God in 2020 and beyond!

In His service,

Corbey Dukes, President
Goal 1: For every child in our care...

*Enjoy a vibrant, life-changing relationship with God*

Kids Alive places this goal first, because even though there are other things we might have to address in a hurting child’s life when he first enters our care, **it is our ultimate goal for him or her to know Jesus.** It’s the one goal that runs through all the others, giving eternal importance to every earthly endeavor.

2020 had a way of changing the character of many of our activities and modes of ministry, but it also had a way of turning our eyes to the One who loves us and calls us to Himself.

Most of the ministries and activities of Kids Alive – education, healthcare, trauma care, home visits, court dates – were affected by lockdowns and curfews and travel restrictions. But this often increased the focused time available for spiritual pursuits such as Bible studies, prayer times, mentorships, and the modeling of selfless living as we worked through the challenges together.

Some of the greatest blessings in what we’ll always remember as “the year of COVID-19” were the opportunities we had to make new spiritual connections with families as well as kids. Our staff worldwide spent countless hours writing and sharing devotional materials with the families of our kids, transmitting them through WhatsApp, phone videos, home visits, and during one-on-one tutoring sessions.

In some areas where religious barriers and cultural differences often make it difficult to bridge divides, we were privileged to pray with and for hurting families and scared children. **The life-giving food we were able to distribute because of your gifts gave us a platform to share the life-giving Bread of Life.**

*“The thief’s purpose is to steal, kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.”* John 10:10 (TLB)
Enjoying a vibrant, life-changing relationship with God
Goal 2: For every child in our care...

*Experience emotional and physical well-being*

Poverty and trauma have undeniable effects on a child’s physical, mental, and emotional health. And 2020 brought even more intensity, especially among the most under-served children in the most under-resourced areas.

- Sudden unemployment as a result of economic shutdowns brought children and their families even closer to the edge of starvation.
- Even where jobs were preserved, inflation put many basics out of reach.
- Normally treatable or preventable illnesses went untreated because of overwhelmed healthcare systems in the wake of the pandemic.
- Loss of regular connection with friends, neighbors, teachers, and co-workers destroyed emotional strength and made it easier to despair.
- Children out of school and confined to tiny, crowded houses were at increased risk for all kinds of traumatizing abuse.

Much of Kids Alive’s effort in 2020 centered on addressing the isolation and the fear brought by the pandemic. Kids already suffering from the trauma of abuse, abandonment, war, severe poverty, and disabilities were at much greater risk of further emotional damage, and we went into “emergency mode” immediately to address every facet of care.

In each of our countries, we distributed food, paper products, hygiene supplies, health advice, and in some cases cooked meals to families in desperate need. These distributions looked different in Lebanon than they did in Haiti or in Zambia, but our donors’ compassionate responses meant the needs were met and provisions were received by grateful, often tearful, families.

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4:19 (ESV)
Our dedicated staff poured themselves out to transcend masks, distances, technology issues, and extreme fatigue at times to make sure our kids never lacked for meaningful emotional connections. This was challenging, yes, but we are reaping the benefits of all those sacrifices, as our children and young people are recognizing the marvelous story that Jesus has been writing in their lives.
Goal 3: For every child in our care...

**Be equipped for a life of independence and service**

Kids Alive believes strongly in partnering with God to educate and equip His children to do the work He has called them to do. For many of our children, this means being part of a Kids Alive school; for others it means having their education supported at care centers, through mentoring, and by house parents who also serve as tutors.

Of all the logistical issues that challenged us during 2020, none were more demanding and time-consuming than the shifts in education. Almost overnight most of our schools were closed, and many are just now beginning to reopen under strict protocols. How did we bridge the gaps? Varying by location, your gifts made it possible for us to accommodate the realities while still helping our kids move forward.

- Country Directors, national staff, and teachers strategized and fellowshipped via WhatsApp, Zoom, and phone to begin immediate adjustments in our academic and social structures.
- Teachers stretched their skills as never before, creating, delivering, collecting, grading, and providing feedback on lesson packets.
- Many of the parents of our kids have low literacy skills or other challenges, so we designed ways to support them as they supported their children.
- In cases where it was possible to use online learning, we provided electronic devices (often supported by data plans) to our kids’ homes, with instructions on how to manage the shift to distance learning.
- We continued to support our university students (via the KAI Independence Fund) with distance-learning modifications, part-time work, and stipends to assist with food and housing.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephes. 2:10 (NIV)
- We collaborated with local governments to make sure kids in their “exam years” had what they needed to move forward.
- Our skills training and occupational workshops moved forward by leaps and bounds as we prepared kids and families to be self-sustaining in the midst of uncertainty.

The vulnerable children we serve are God's handiwork, and He has prepared good works for them – your gifts in 2020 helped us prepare them to do those good works and to live lives of service and successful independence.
Goal 4: For every child in our care...

*Live life in family and community, free of fear and violence*

It’s important to take care of a child’s urgent and immediate needs, whether physical and nutritional care, emotional healing, or the skills it will take to become a successful adult.

But we believe that one of a child’s deepest needs, second only to his need for a secure eternal hope, is his need for a family. Children in our care are often orphans (sometimes “double orphans” who have lost both parents) or have been abandoned. Others have been abused, exploited, or otherwise betrayed by their parents, making a normal, healthy family impossible. In any of these cases, growing up inside a family can seem like a distant and unlikely dream.

Although only eight percent of our children are in residential homes, we consider this care transitional. On each of our fields we have professional teams working to make sure every child possible is either reintegrated with nuclear or extended biological family, or is prepared and placed inside a loving Christian home and supported by a local church.

Children who have been physically and sexually abused have two other deep needs: someone who hears their voice and is willing to walk with them toward justice and healing; and communities and countries who value them and who are willing to do the hard work of changing the way children are viewed and protected.

Kids Alive has many co-laborers in achieving Goal 4:

- Psychologists and counselors who walk with wounded kids toward healing
- Social workers who do both footwork and paperwork to help locate, evaluate, prepare, and follow up with biological and alternative families
- **Lawyers and paralegals** who help place kids in families and who navigate the justice system for those who have been harmed
- **Judges and legislators** who work with us to improve child safeguarding
- **Partner NGOs** who walk the road with us bringing resources, expertise, and learning

Though some of this important work looked different or moved more slowly in 2020 than in a “normal” year, no virus can stay God’s hand or thwart His purposes. **He has called us to be a “repairer of the breach”, and with your help we move ahead in restoring homes and communities for His glory.**
No goal is reached without a plan!

Goals without a plan are just lists. So in order to reach our Shared Global Goals, we invite you to join us in one or more of these plans – opportunities to invest in our kids as they aim for the stars!

Child Sponsorship
The two-way blessing of Child Sponsorship is still the best we know to say “I believe in you!” to a child who longs to hear those words. Your gift of $39 a month helps provide them with good nutrition, quality education, healthcare, and, for orphans or homeless children, a safe and loving place to live while we work to place them in a family. Best of all, you provide an introduction to the Gospel and daily training in Christ-centered living. And in the process, you can form a relationship with that child and allow them to become a blessing in your life as well.

Site Partnership
For some of Kids Alive’s work, the most efficient plan for sustainable change is through partnership with one of our ministry sites. Your gift of $50 or $100 a month for a particular site helps us manage growth efficiently and ensure the health of that site’s work. Site Partnership also allows for services that reach beyond the basics, supplying resources for trauma training and therapy, social workers, educational counselors, discipleship, and more.

Gift Catalog
Twice a year, in spring and at Christmas, your selections from our Gift Catalogs allow us to provide selected items for our kids and their families – either basic necessities such as farm animals, water filters, mosquito netting, school uniforms – or things that make life brighter, like soccer balls, games, and backpacks. Each gift you select has been included with the consultation of our country staff and is given to specially identified children whose lives will be brightened by that gift.

Service Teams
In 2019, 99 Service Teams (989 individuals) traveled to our ministry sites on four continents. Our staff (and kids!) missed

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to…give you hope and a future.’”
Jer. 29:11 (NIV)
these teams in 2020 as travel and health concerns pressed “Pause” on all trips, but after an 18-month hold, we are praying toward sending Service Teams again this fall.

These teams, organized through missions-minded churches and schools, construct buildings, share medical and dental skills, teach sports camps and life skills, and serve as encouragers to our missionaries and staff. Best of all, they share real-time connection and a visible Gospel with the children at our sites. Be part of a Service Team and come home changed!

**Legacy Gifts**

It’s always a good time to give careful thought to the legacy you’re leaving to the causes you care about. By creating a legacy/DAF (Donor Advised Funds) gift, you can make a significant contribution to the sustainability of the work Kids Alive is doing around the world. If you have questions about planned giving, we’d love to talk with you. We’ll help you make sure that what you leave behind becomes part of God’s “good and perfect gift” to vulnerable children.
Because of you, the resources to reach our goals are increasing every year!

**2020 Revenues and Expenses**

**Revenues**
- Private contributions $13,411,003
- Gifts-in-kind (non-cash contributions) $11,652
- Other revenue $758,708
- **Total Revenues** $14,181,363

**Operating Expenses**
- Ministry Program Services $9,525,156
- Management and General $1,566,323
- Fundraising $1,546,944
- **Total Expenses** $12,638,423

**Ending Net Assets (12/31/20)** $13,384,241

**Stewardship**
- Program Services for Children – 75.4%
- Management and General – 12.4%
- Fundraising – 12.2%

Note: Revenue includes all income sources including gifts-in-kind.
A chart is a chart...except when it represents precious lives restored! Your gifts in 2020:

- Saved the lives of hungry children and families
- Preserved the rights of abused children
- Walked with wounded children to emotional wholeness
- Kept students on track despite the challenges
- Placed children in Christian homes
- Offered the transforming power of the Gospel to every child we serve

Kids Alive Board of Directors

- Sheri McCurley, Board Chair
- John Roman, Board Vice Chair
- David Rodgers, Board Secretary-Treasurer
- John Breul
- Keith Dickerson
- Jeri Gort
- Annette Mandrell
- Cliff Peterson
- Tom Rawlings
- Shane Scott
God is our refuge and strength, 
a very present help in trouble. 
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, 
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, 
though its waters roar and foam, 
though the mountains tremble…

Psalm. 46:1-3 (ESV)