

Faith based interventions that transform the lives of
children and youth suffering from the grief of parental loss



Hope for Grieving Children

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Hello friends and partners,

As 2017 has drawn to a close we have reflected on yet another amazing year in ministry. God has been faithful in allowing us to fulfill our calling, based on James 1:27, to care for widows and orphans in their distress.

*"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this:
to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and
to keep oneself unstained by the world."*

Our work has grown through the following means:

- 1 Expanding our scope into 4 African countries to train caregivers to address the grief issues of orphans by expanding our scope into 4 African countries
- 2 Providing additional education and helping establish caregiver support groups to organizations that have already received training.
- 3 Implementing a year of discipleship for our *MASTERS* graduates.
- 4 Launching a new partnership called the *Primach Farm*, designed to care for vulnerable children and provide financial support for our programs.

Through it all we have been struck with a very simple fact. The numbers are exciting; 250 caregivers trained, 4 country expansions and over 1,800 orphans impacted by our efforts. Those numbers represent people with real life situations that have improved because of our work! We're excited about this growth and we trust you will be, too.

A sincere thanks to all of you who have partnered with us!

Blessings,

Jeff & Danette Johnson, *Program Directors*

Tony Stephens, *Chairman of the Board*

P.S. - Please enjoy the report and to see more inspiring material we invite you to visit our website and to "like us" on Facebook.

AFRICA

CONTENT



Our Mission & Programs



How to Love a Grieving Child

Trainings

Follow Up Visitations

Outcome Assessment



MASTERS



Primach Farm



Who We Are



Financial Performance

hopeforgrievingchildren.org





Hope for Grieving Children **AFRICA**

OUR MISSION

We equip pastors, community leaders, and caregivers in Africa and elsewhere with the knowledge and skills needed to address the grief and suffering of children traumatized by parental loss.

OUR VISION

Children and youth are restored from the trauma of grief and parental loss and have renewed hope for a bright future.

OUR BELIEFS

We believe effective caregiving provides the support that grieving children need to thrive physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

We believe vocational and entrepreneurial skills along with discipleship training allows orphaned youth to fully express their God given potential.

We believe community based ventures can contribute to local programs that help vulnerable children and youth to thrive.

OUR PROGRAMS

HOW TO LOVE A GRIEVING CHILD
Caregiver Training

MASTERS
School of Ministry & Vocation

PRIMACH FARM

OUR OUTCOMES

Transformed caregivers effectively guiding children through the trauma of parental loss.

3,500 trained, 25,000 orphans impacted
Zambia, Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe

Spirit filled young adults, living sustainably, equipped for marketplace success, and making an impact for the Kingdom of Christ.

35 Orphaned youth graduated and living sustainably

A local farm developed with irrigation, vegetable crops, animal husbandry and fish farm to assist in the economic sustainability of HGCA projects.

85 vulnerable children supported with school fees



Hope for Grieving Children | AFRICA



Children's Nest Orphanage - Choma Zambia

HOW TO LOVE A GRIEVING CHILD Caregiver Training

5 TRAININGS

Our signature program, **How to Love a Grieving Child** training, is designed to equip caregivers and others to effectively guide orphans through the issue of grief and loss in their lives.

In 2017 we trained more than 200 new caregivers and, as a result, 1,800 orphans have been impacted!

We expanded our scope to 4 countries this year - **Zambia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Malawi** - and provided training to caregivers of children's homes, pastors and compassion ministry workers who work with orphans.

TESTIMONY

Lesotho- Baylor Children's Hospital

This young boy had been "chased" out of the village.

To be "chased", means that a family or a village has decided that you cannot live there any longer. All your belongings are thrown out of the house and the door is barred. In this case, the child was sent outside of the village. The boy was rejected by the village and forced out because of his "highly aggressive" behavior.

However, after the participants went through the training, they realized that the root cause of this boy's behavior was actually grief. The participants decided to do something about it. Because of the training, they felt they were equipped with an understanding of grief and of the boy's situation so that they met with the village leaders and shared the knowledge they had gained through the training with the leaders. After this discussion, the village leaders realized they had mis-handled the situation. Here was someone grieving that they could help, not reject.

The village leaders decided to allow the boy back into the village.

I knew grief was the root cause of the children I see. I determined to use my skills in every counseling session. The results have been more than I could have expected.

Lesotho Baylor Children's Hospital
Clinical Psychologist



These orphans struggle. They don't know why. I didn't know why. Now I understand. This training has helped me so much.

Children's Home Worker



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Forgotten voices Caregiver/Pastor training – Ndola Zambia

HOW TO LOVE A GRIEVING CHILD Caregiver Training

5 FOLLOW UP VISITATION

At Hope for Grieving Children we believe in partnership, not just in providing training for training's sake. Once we work with an organization, we intentionally return for multiple visits to visit those who were trained.

In 2017 we visited five previously trained sites and established 12 ongoing support groups for trained caregivers.

More than 100 caregivers received additional training.

We now have far fewer house moms resigning. That has never happened before...such stability for our children is crucial... thank you, thank you, thank you!

Head Social Worker SOS Children's Village

Danette encouraging Caregivers- Choma Zambia

TESTIMONY SOS Children's Village Zambia

Our staff also had the chance to return to the SOS Children Village of Chipata Zambia to encourage the 30 house moms and staff and 200 orphans they cared for in that children's home.

Each of the 30 house moms trained said they saw noticeable differences in the behavior of orphans since using the skills they received from our training. Most exciting to us, the administrator from the village pulled aside Cyrus, our program leader, to tell him that since our training not one single house mom has resigned in the past year! The administrator told him that had never happened before... "such stability for our children is crucial. Thank you, thank you, thank you," he said.





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TRAINING OUTCOMES

How to Love a Grieving Child



62% Decreased acting out

76% Increased emotional stability

68% Improved social behavior

70% Improved school performance

85% Increased belief in a positive future



HOW TO LOVE A GRIEVING CHILD

Caregiver Training

100
CAREGIVERS SURVEYED
OUTCOME ASSESSMENT

When we visit the caregivers and community leaders who were trained, we are diligent to **monitor and assess the impact of our training.**

We intentionally look at how equipped caregivers are in dealing with the unique challenges of grief that the orphans exhibit.

We look at the institutional impact our training has had, and document the specific behavior improvements in the orphans themselves.



Hope for Grieving Children | AFRICA



Reunion of all our MASTERS graduates - Lusaka Zambia

Through the business classes, I have changed how I look at things, now I am confident that I can work with any organization or business firm. Because of all that I've learned at the MASTERS Program, I know that I can even take care of my own business

MASTERS Graduate

I am very happy to say that this Program has made me a new being. I have been a Christian for most of my life. However, after attending this Program I now know my real identity and stand firm in the steadfast love of Christ. I am now able to spread the gospel through evangelism not just to the righteous but also to the unsaved people in my community. I have also grown greatly in my prayer life. Spiritually, I am growing day by day. MASTERS has made me become who I am today. I used to think of myself as a nobody but now I know that I'm someone who matters.

MASTERS Graduate

Reunion of all our MASTERS graduates - Lusaka Zambia



MASTERS
School of Ministry
& Vocation

35
GRADUATES DISCIPLLED

MASTERS school is designed to train and equip young adult orphans with the skills to earn an independent living and to engage in marketplace ministry.

We spent this year discipling and equipping them to realize their potential as children of God and to take that realization into their communities to be salt and light where they live.

All 35 of our graduates are now living independently, no longer under the care of caregivers. All are either employed or working their own small businesses. Most have now taken in extended family and are caring for their cousins and younger siblings by supporting school fees, medical expenses and by providing safe and secure places for these younger Children to live.



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PRIMACH FARM

A PARTNERSHIP

We at Hope for Grieving Children are incredibly excited and proud of this **fully indigenous work** implemented by our staff!

Esperanza Family Gardens is the **income-generating arm of PRIMACH Hope Rehabilitation** and has seen steady growth in the past 5 years.

The resources generated from the farm activities are used to finance other non-income generating ventures aimed at alleviating the suffering of orphans and other vulnerable groups in society. A portion of the proceeds also are designated to provide in-country support for several of our HGCA initiatives.



Esperanza Family Gardens has been independently developed, supported and fully implemented by our international program staff - Cyrus and Prisca Mfula. The farm is fully irrigated, and includes maize and vegetable farming, and the farm also raises chickens, goats and pigs.



Revenues from the farm have supported more than 150 vulnerable children since the program started, providing them with school fees, basic medical care and family support.

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Hope for Grieving Children

AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL STAFF

Director of International Programs

Danette Johnson

International Staff

Cyrus Mfula, Field Director

Prisca Mfula, Trainings Coordinator

Sibanji Cholwe, Field Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CEO

Jeff Johnson

Board Chair

Anthony T. Stephens

Founder

(Deceased April 2013)

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Daniel Ehrman

Melvin Faulkner

Dr. David Jezl, Psy.D.

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WHO WE ARE



hopeforgrievingchildren.org



Hope for Grieving Children

AFRICA

2017 FUNDING	
2017 Income & Contributions	\$93,635.41
2016 Cash Carry Over	\$16,603.12
Total Funding	\$110,238.53
2017 EXPENSE	
	\$92,956.94
GIFT IN KIND CONTRIBUTION	
	\$6,075.00

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

We take financial stewardship very seriously and present a brief description of how our 2016 financial resources were put to use.

STEWARDING OUR TRUSTED RESOURCES

