



**CHILDIMPACT**  
INTERNATIONAL



**We empower vulnerable children  
through education and fight to  
eradicate exploitation**





Tom with Jayashanth in India

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Greetings Friends and Supporters of Child Impact International,

I have had the privilege of personally meeting the three children that our family sponsors through Child Impact International. They live in Tanzania, India, and Bangladesh. They are amazing young men with dreams for their lives...because of sponsorship. It is so rewarding to be part of their journey.

Perhaps one of the most disturbing realities I observed when traveling in developing countries is abject poverty. **When the poverty scale tips below a certain point, it triggers numerous risk factors.** These include a lack of property, nutrition and hunger, the inability to rebound from curable diseases, the absence of educational opportunities, and a heightened potential for human trafficking and abuse. Sadly, once a person is trapped by poverty, it is practically impossible to escape. The debilitating cycle is passed on to the next generation. "Generational poverty is defined as the condition of an individual that, during childhood, was supported by a family at or below the national poverty level and continues to live at or below the national poverty level as an adult." Urban Ventures, 2020

Thankfully, there is hope, and YOU can be part of the solution! The key to breaking the chains of generational poverty is education. Nelson Mandela once shared with conviction:

- "No country can really develop unless its citizens are educated."
- "It is not beyond our power to create a world in which all children have access to a good education. Those who do not believe this have small imaginations."

Child Impact International is committed to deliver hope, one child at a time, through our sponsorship program. As a sponsor, you can create a bridge to a world of opportunities. I would like to invite you to consider sponsoring one or more children monthly. The sponsorship rate for a day student is \$1.06 per day (\$32 per month), and the cost to sponsor a boarding student is \$45 a month. This small investment changes the world of a child. God's word powerfully records: "Every time you give to the poor you make a loan to the Lord. Don't worry—you'll be repaid in full for all the good you've done." Proverbs 19:17

In this edition of our magazine, we highlight the transformation that is made possible through sponsorship. Thank you for your generosity. It brings hope to thousands...one child at a time.

Blessings!

Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO, Child Impact International

# CHANGING LIVES, ONE DREAM AT A TIME



Karin Bawm

Amidst the charm of Bogalake, Bangladesh, Karin Bawm’s story illuminates the transformative force of educational sponsorship. In a world where aspirations often collide with financial barriers, Karin’s odyssey embodies hope, resilience, and the profound influence of organizations like Child Impact on young lives.

Karin grew up very close to her family. Her parents, Lalthonsiam and Remeng Bawm, were loving and supportive. She was particularly close to her grandmother, who offered a wealth of wisdom and advice. Thus, when her grandmother passed away, Karin was devastated.

The year 2021 marked a turning point for Karin when she and her sister entered the Monosapara Adventist Seminary. Within the seminary, Karin discovered a refuge—a place to rekindle friendships and to conquer the grief of loss. While English posed a challenge, it remained her favorite subject. Her passion for drawing thrived.

Karin’s father struggled to finance their education, due to his modest income and large family to support. Karin felt determined to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse, but wondered how she could stay in school with their financial struggles. Then, Child Impact—dedicated to fostering education—emerged as a beacon of hope. Sponsorship alleviated their financial burden, reigniting the sisters’ educational aspirations.

For Karin and her sister, their lives would never be the same. The entire family expressed their appreciation for the gift that provided Karin and her sister with a future. While challenges lay ahead, Karin and her family faced the future fortified by unwavering determination and Child Impact’s steadfast support.

Karin’s journey attests to the boundless potential of education sponsorship. When communities unite to uplift children’s dreams, the ripple effects are immeasurable. Sponsorship isn’t just change—it’s empowerment, scripting tales of triumph against all odds.

*By Ripa Shikder, Bangladesh Children’s Sponsorship Sponsorship Supervisor and Communication Officer, with Gabriela Garcia, Marketing Manager*

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**When communities unite to uplift children’s dreams, the ripple effects are immeasurable.**

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# SPONSORSHIP IN



Flora Ekka with students reading

## JUNE'S DETERMINATION TO LEARN

*By Melissa Moore, Sponsorship Manager*

June is a young girl in Bangladesh attending Bangladesh Adventist Seminary School and College (BASC). At the age of seven, she knows not to take her education for granted. June realizes that opportunities await her if she stays focused on her educational goals.

At one point, June constantly worried that her family would not have enough money for her school bill and that she would be forced to withdraw from school. Ever since June's father was tragically murdered, June's mother struggled to financially support her family. Many students share similarly devastating stories of struggling to afford an education. June and her friend, Shampurna, visited the sponsorship office at her school daily to beg for a sponsor to cover their school expenses. "Without sponsorship assistance, most of the children will fail to get an education," shares Flora Ekka, Sponsorship Coordinator, BASC.

A basic education is vital to escaping generational poverty. Children around the world are being robbed of this opportunity because of the circumstances they were born into. "There are many children, especially in the village area, who are brilliant," says Wilson Falia, Theology Chair,



June

# BANGLADESH

BASC. "If their financial needs are taken care of, they can go to school, and they can really help develop our country. **Our goal is not only to educate them academically, but also to introduce them to Christ.**"

Child Impact has seen this vision come to fruition through our sponsorship program in Bangladesh. Several of the leaders of our Bangladesh field office are graduates of the Child Impact program. In Bangladesh, 24.3 percent of the population live below the poverty line, which is \$2.15 per day. Many families in Bangladesh struggle to survive on what one person in the United States spends on a hot beverage.

Unfortunately, 129 million girls around the world are out of school. Child Impact is privileged to fight this number and to change the story for so many girls whose opportunities for education seem out of reach. Today, June and Shampurna don't have to continue the story that started for them. They are rewriting their own story and our sponsors are the co-authors!



Bangladesh students in class

**Around the world, 129 million girls are not attending school**

## RAYS OF RESILIENCE

*By Cheri Gardner, Office Manager*



Shohag and Tom visiting classrooms

**Shohag's life journey speaks to the simple truth that children can rewrite the pages of their lives and create unbelievable stories.**

It was early morning in the little village of Shonapo, Bangladesh. Birds sang. Sunshine spilled through the curtains, raced across the face of little sleeping Shohag, and begged him to wake up to a brand new day. Little did he know that soon his life would never be the same. His father worked for the Adventist mission in Shonapo. Life was good. But on that fateful day, bandits entered the village and attacked. Little Shohag's father was killed.

In a developing country, life has its challenges, even with both parents working. In some cases when one parent dies, the family unit falls apart and the children are sent to live with extended family. Unfortunately, we know family members who have exploited these children, using them as slaves or selling them into prostitution. Their lives are full of suffering and hopeless despair.

Thankfully, Shohag's story doesn't end here. He and his older brother were taken to the Kellogg-Mookerjee Memorial Seminary's orphanage by a kind mission worker, and they were blessed to attend school through Child Impact's sponsorship program. Sadly, his older brother passed away while still in school. But against all odds, Shohag finished his education, married, and has a wonderful family today! He is now the director of Child Impact's program in Bangladesh and an employee of the Adventist union there.

Shohag's childhood story is not unique. Unfortunately, most children are currently living out a similar version of his story. Did you know that about 1/4 of the 173 million people in Bangladesh are children? That means about 54 million children are struggling to survive. Just as Shohag thrived and surpassed all expectations with the help of sponsorship, these children can too. They are just waiting for someone to sponsor them and to change their lives forever. **Are you able to answer that call today?**





# RESCUING DREAMS: MARTHA'S TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITY

Hello, my name is Martha\*. I am a 15-year-old girl from Zambia. My father passed away when I was really young, and I have no memories of my mother.

My mother was unable to care for me due to certain struggles of her own. So after my father passed away, my grandmother took care of me. However, I didn't stay with my grandmother for long. My aunt decided to remove me from my grandmother's care. She initially promised to provide for me and to support my education, but it turned out to be a lie. Instead, she placed me in an orphanage and left the country, only visiting me once a year. The people at the orphanage treated me badly, and eventually my aunt moved me to another orphanage. There, I was informed that I would have to sleep with men who visited the orphanage in order to have my educational fees paid for. I strongly disagreed with this, but what could I do? My aunt had left me and wouldn't return for a long time.

In 2022, life took a positive turn when kind-hearted individuals visited the orphanage. They spoke to our house mother about their mission to help children who couldn't attend school. She shared a bit about my situation, and after passing some tests, I was informed that I would receive a sponsorship to attend Riverside Secondary School. This meant I could access education and have proper meals. Now in high school at Riverside, I'm truly thankful for everything I've been given.

My past experiences have left emotional scars, sometimes affecting my thoughts even when I'm in the classroom. At times, my actions are influenced by these memories, but I'm determined to improve and overcome these challenges.

*\*Name changed to protect the child's identity*

Because of sponsorship, Martha is no longer being trafficked at an orphanage in order to pay her school fees. Now she can learn and grow in a safe environment. There are still more Marthas out there who are in need of rescue and an opportunity to chase their dreams. Please consider changing a child's life through sponsorship today!



Scan to hear the stories of more Riverside OCR girls.



# A VISION OF HOPE IN THE AMAZON

By Jason Churchwell, Field Director

When Gabi and I visited Colombia in April of this year, a very special individual traveled 16 hours by bus to meet us. She is an expert in the study of indigenous people groups and has been working with tribes in the Amazon for over 25 years. She is an active church planter, specifically working among the unreached. She has also dedicated her life to rescuing girls who are abused and trafficked, often bringing them into her own home to provide a safe place for them. We have been in contact weekly since April, laying plans for an official jungle rescue home in the region of Guaviare, Colombia. Government officials told us that there are over 160 girls (that they know of right now) in need of desperate help! Our plan is to build a center that will house 32 individuals at a time in a familial setting. The entire



Guaviare indigenous people

community has rallied around our efforts to rescue these girls from violence and human trafficking. We can't wait to get started, but we need your help!

The entire cost of the building project is \$132,250. We have set up a new foundation in Colombia, opened a bank account, and have all the licenses and permits from the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare to be able to legally provide care for indigenous girls. Please consider partnering with us on this brand new project to rescue children in the Amazon! Your gifts truly make an eternal difference!



Future jungle rescue home



**\$132,250**

Total Project Cost

To donate give to Operation Child Rescue

## LOCATION OF PROJECT

Plans for an official jungle rescue home  
in the region of Guaviare, Colombia



# SERVING THE LEAST OF THESE

One of the last messages Jesus shared with His followers while on earth gives us a clear and compelling case for treating the most vulnerable with kindness. Those who are blessed, who will receive His inheritance, are measured by how they treated the “least of these.”

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” Matthew 25:35-36

When you sponsor a student through Child Impact, you can be assured that we are committed to following the counsel of this passage. Your sponsorship funds cover meals, clothing, and basic healthcare for all of the students. For some students, their home was a prison, where they experienced daily abuse and trauma.

Around the world, we are serving some of the most vulnerable children on the planet. Yet they have huge dreams for their lives! These students will grow up to be doctors, pastors, and presidents. They were born into communities with high illiteracy rates and insufficient systems for prosecuting child abusers. Some children live in conflict zones. Extreme hunger is rampant: some students have never had the assurance of three meals a day. Our sponsors are changing this narrative. You are providing for their basic needs and giving them the chance to know a God who loves them unconditionally.

We have 3,429 children who are supported through child sponsorship. Hundreds more are waiting for a chance to experience the life-transforming power of education. I invite you to pray, but don't delay. Visit [childimpact.org/sponsor](http://childimpact.org/sponsor) to find a student to support today.



Students in Tanzania



Students in the Philippines



Student in India



Students in Zambia



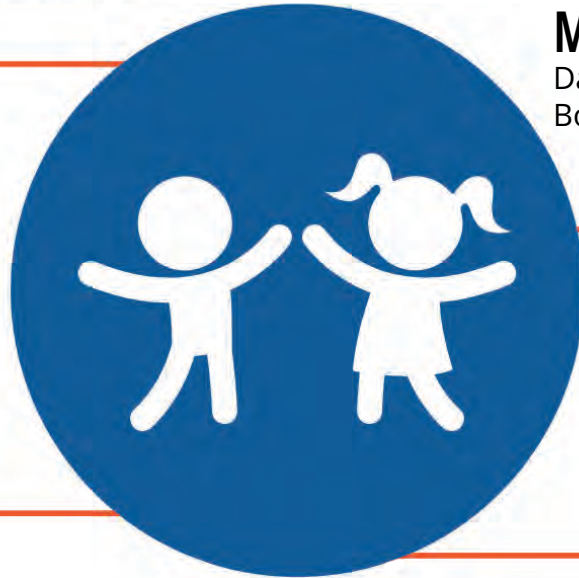
Student in Bangladesh



# CHILD IMPACT SPONSORSHIP

## Education

Tuition, Books, Uniforms



## Meals

Day students 1 meal/day  
Boarding students 3 meals/day



## Health

Medical assistance



## Housing

Boarding students stay at a dorm  
with supervision & security



\*Some of the items included may vary based on the specific location and student type

## SPONSORSHIP IS CHANGING THIS STORY!

**1 in 4**



In developing countries, one out of four girls is not in school. (UNDP)

**60%** of children are not achieving a minimum level of proficiency in reading and in math. (UNDP)

57 million primary-aged children remain out of school, more than half of them in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNDP)



**2.4 billion** people

do not have constant access to food. (UNICEF)

Nutritional deficiencies (such as iron deficiency) in the first 1,000 days of a child's life can impact their cognitive, socio-emotional, motor, and physiological health, even changing the actual structure of their brain. (No Kid Hungry)



# LITTLE HEROES, BIG IMPACT: A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STORY OF GIVING



VBS girl participants



Boys' vs. girls' money war

## GRAND RAPIDS CENTRAL SDA CHURCH, MICHIGAN

This summer, Grand Rapids Central SDA Church had a Babylon-themed vacation Bible school (VBS) where our kids learned how to be courageous like Daniel during his captivity. We wanted to incorporate a fundraising element into the program, and after discovering Child Impact on Instagram, our team felt impressed to support this ministry.

We had several stations at our VBS. At the mission station, children enjoyed a fun snack while they viewed a brief video about Child Impact. The kids learned about child sponsorship, a school for deaf children, and a school for the blind through these videos. Our hope and prayer was to collectively sponsor at least one child. The kids became very excited about raising money for Child Impact, especially when we had a boys' versus girls' money war. Our VBS ended up raising over \$1,100 for Child Impact. God is so good! This was enough to sponsor three children for a full year, and our kids were thrilled!

*By Nicole Van Allen Horne, VBS Director*



Volunteers welcoming guest

**Join hands with us in bringing change through your VBS. Connect with us at [development@childimpact.org](mailto:development@childimpact.org) to explore fundraising opportunities for Child Impact.**

**Special thanks to the churches, including the Collegedale SDA Church, the Impact Church, and the Grand Rapids Central SDA Church, that made a difference through VBS fundraising, empowering children to play an active role in transforming the lives of others.**



VBS program



# JULY 30: A WEEKEND OF IMPACT

Seeing that the United Nations World Day Against Human Trafficking fell on July 30th of this year, Child Impact facilitated a dynamic and engaging weekend that involved hundreds. Remarkably, the newly released movie “Sound of Freedom” stirred widespread awareness for vulnerable children, perfectly aligning with Child Impact’s unyielding fight against human trafficking.

More than 200 churches joined forces with us to magnify our rescue message. By sharing our featured Operation Child Rescue video and distributing magazines amongst their congregations, these churches became vital allies in our mission.

In the local sphere of Collegedale, TN, we were excited to have our team members and representatives engage with local churches, including Collegedale SDA Church, Collegedale Community SDA Church, Crosswalk Chattanooga, Impact SDA Church, La Iglesia Adventista de la Comunidad, Orchard Park SDA Church, Su Casa, and The Well. The unwavering commitment and support emanating from these local churches have truly transformed the landscape of our work.

Our gratitude extends not only to the local partners but also to the numerous churches and congregations nationwide who have rallied around our cause. Your solidarity is profoundly appreciated.

The success of our first annual Impact Family Festival on July 30 was resounding. Community members and families interacted with a diverse range of nonprofits and organizations dedicated to safeguarding children. This was heartwarming for us to observe. The variety of organizations present, from nonprofits and businesses to law enforcement agencies, was a testament to the collective determination to protect our most precious resource—our children.

In the drive to combat human trafficking, we’ve been humbled by the number of individuals who have aligned themselves with us as part of The Rescue Party. **Giving monthly to Operation Child Rescue as a member of The Rescue Party allows us to sustain and expand our rescue efforts.** Your decision to stand alongside us in this critical fight is a beacon of hope. Thank you for joining us on this journey against human trafficking.



Child Impact at Collegedale Community SDA Church



Family-friendly activities at the festival



Family learning about car safety



Child Impact at Crosswalk Chattanooga



# BUSINESSES JOIN HANDS WITH CHILD IMPACT TO EMPOWER CHILDREN

## KOALA CENTER FOR SLEEP AND TMI DISORDERS



Recently, I was invited to share with the staff of the Koala Center for Sleep and TMI Disorders located in Peoria, Illinois. The owners, Dr. Rod and Donna Willey, are incredible supporters of Child Impact. They wanted to encourage their staff and clients to unite in the mission to rescue vulnerable children and to empower them through education. There were two powerful results of our meeting in their office:

1. The business committed to sponsoring 17 children from the Falco's Children Home in Tanzania. A couple of staff members additionally sponsored children on a personal basis.
2. The team identified a strategy to support staff members wishing to attend an upcoming mission trip.

## NITEOWL AFTER HOURS URGENT CARE



A couple of weeks ago, Jason Churchwell (Child Impact Field Director) and I met with Eric and Emily Dunkel in the Chattanooga, TN area who are under a conviction that they can spread the word about Child Impact through their business. They own NiteOwl After Hours Urgent Care Centers. It was an exciting conversation, and we look forward to seeing what this new partnership will look like.

## DR. PERRY'S DENTAL PRACTICES

A dentist and supporter of Child Impact, Dr. Greg Perry, approached me at a conference and shared that it was time to do more. He increased his sponsorship from three students to 20. He then posted photos of these students in his dental practice.

As a business owner, perhaps you would like to consider sponsoring a large group of children or a specific Operation Child Rescue project. You can make a world of difference in the lives of the children you support and additionally benefit from.



As a business owner, perhaps you would like to consider sponsoring a large group of children or a specific Operation Child Rescue project. You can make a world of difference in the lives of the children you support and additionally benefit from a tax deduction. Become a Partner for Change!  
Contact [help@childimpact.org](mailto:help@childimpact.org)

# HOST AN ORPHAN FOR CHRISTMAS

It was with great anticipation that my wife and I waited at the Chicago O'Hare airport for a flight to arrive from Latvia. Why was this flight so special? We were meeting two brothers from an orphanage in Latvia, and hosting them in our home for four weeks over the Christmas holiday. They were just five and seven years old. This incredible experience was made possible through Project 143, an organization that provides families with the opportunity to host one or more orphans for a period of time. It was life-changing for us—and for them! Several years later, these two amazing boys became a permanent part of our family.

Our youngest adopted son, Andris, battled leukemia. Tragically, he passed away on April 13, 2023, after a second relapse. In his honor, we set up a memorial fund to assist families with orphan adoption.

Project 143 is coordinating opportunities for orphans to spend the Christmas season with families in the United States. Children who are still waiting for a host this year are featured on the Project 143 website. One of the young people who is hopeful to spend this Christmas with a family is Jon (age 14). The energy changes when Jon walks into a room. He exhibits confidence and has a kind and genuine demeanor. He describes himself as happy, honest, and grateful, with a good sense of humor. In addition to being a leader, Jon is also a great teammate and a student. He is respectful and goes out of his way to be helpful. Everyone who meets him describes him as a 'true gentleman.'

Mention that you heard about Project 143 through Child Impact, and you will be eligible for a \$1,000 grant from the Andris Evans Memorial Fund. Project 143 has additional grants for hosting available as well. If you would like to open your heart and home to an orphan this Christmas break, register to host a child at [p143.org](http://p143.org).

*By Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO*



Tom meeting Andris and Daniel through orphan hosting



Jon

For more information,  
contact  
**Tammy Cannon**  
(470) 295 - 8536  
[tammy@p143.org](mailto:tammy@p143.org)



# OUR **IMPACT** AROUND THE WORLD

SPONSORSHIP SCHOOLS & OPERATION  
CHILD RESCUE PROJECTS



UNITED STATES

AUSTRIA

COLOMBIA

ZAMBIA

## LEAVING A LEGACY

Our supporters are passionate about giving hope to some of the most vulnerable children in the world. There are many ways to steward your resources and to become a powerful advocate for education and the eradication of exploitation. Have you considered honoring a friend or family member by making a memorial gift? Create your legacy through a thoughtfully planned gift that will help us meet our mission for many years.

- Bequest through your will or trust
- Retirement assets including IRA roll over (i.e., pension plans, IRA's)
- Gifts of stock
- Charitable gift annuities
- Real estate
- Life insurance policy you may no longer need
- Naming Child Impact International as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy

 SPONSORSHIP

 OCR PROJECT



## PLANNED GIVING SERVICES

Child Impact International utilizes the professional services of Western Adventist Foundation (WAF). With more than 100 years of combined expert service, the team at WAF dedicate themselves to God's work through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. You can learn more by visiting [wafsa.org](http://wafsa.org).





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 Chattanooga, TN  
 College Press

# JOIN THE RESCUE PARTY TODAY



**The Rescue Party** is an exclusive group of donors who commit to giving every month to support projects rescuing families and children from exploitation.

To join, scan the QR code or visit [childimpact.org/donate](http://childimpact.org/donate) and set up a recurring donation to Operation Child Rescue.

Once you become a member, you will receive exclusive updates on our rescue operations each month in your inbox.



Make your monthly donation at [childimpact.org/donate](http://childimpact.org/donate)