



CHILDIMPACT INTERNATIONAL

THE FUTURE THEY NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE

At five, Jesudas was orphaned and begging for food. Sponsorship set him on the path to success.



EMPOWERING EDUCATION. **ERADICATING EXPLOITATION.**



Left: Jesudas as a child. Right: Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO (left), with Jesudas (center) and his wife, Sephina (right).

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

This issue's cover may surprise you. Usually, the face looking back at us is that of a young child whose journey is just beginning. This time, our cover features Jesudas, a successful hospital executive, husband, and graduate with a master's degree in public health.

Why feature an adult? Because Jesudas answers a question we are often asked: *Does sponsorship really make a lasting difference?*

Jesudas was born in India. When he was just 15 days old, his mother passed away. To this day, he does not know what happened, and he has never seen a photograph of her. When Jesudas was five, he returned home from school to find a crowd gathered outside, wailing. His blind father had died. Suddenly, Jesudas was completely alone. With no parents to protect him, this five-year-old orphan went from door to door begging for food.

"I am living proof of the powerful difference your compassion can make," Jesudas declares.

Compassion changed the direction of his life.

Jesudas was welcomed into Sunrise Children's Home, where "Mummy" Lalitha and "Daddy" Raj Varma gave him the love and stability every child deserves. Through sponsorship with Child Impact International, he received food, shelter, education, and the opportunity to believe his life had value and purpose.

Jesudas became the first rescued orphan from Sunrise Children's Home to complete his studies. Today, he serves as a senior executive at one of India's leading hospitals, overseeing hundreds of employees. Recently, his employer flew him by helicopter to visit one of its projects, an extraordinary image when we remember the little boy who once begged for food.

Jesudas also recently married a Seventh-day Adventist university professor, Sephina, who desired to marry a committed Christian. "I am a complete person now," Jesudas says. "I can stand on my own feet." His greatest dream is to meet the sponsor who stood beside him and give her a big hug.

Jesudas is on our cover because he represents what can happen when someone invests in a child's future. Sponsorship does far more than meet today's needs. It can open the way to education, faith, dignity, leadership, and a loving family. "I am living proof of the powerful difference your compassion can make," Jesudas declares.

Thank you for believing in children like Jesudas, and for helping them become all God created them to be.

Together, we are making a difference.

With gratitude,

Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO

CONTENTS

Issue 4 | 2026

4 THE FUTURE THEY NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE

7 SEEING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

6 A LEGACY WORTH CONTINUING

8 ONE BOY, MANY LETTERS

10 A SAFE PLACE TO DREAM

11 A PIECE OF MY HEART IS IN ZAMBIA

12 FREEDOM BEGINS WITH HOPE

12 A HEART FOR RESCUE AND RESTORATION

13 HEEDING THE CALL

13 OUR TEAM BEHIND THE SCENES



EMPOWERING EDUCATION. ERADICATING EXPLOITATION.

Child Impact International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of children. We believe that education empowers children to break the chains of generational poverty. First launched in 1966 under the name Asian Aid, our sponsorship program has grown to support more than 5,000 students. In 2014, Operation Child Rescue was launched to help eradicate exploitation. Over 10 years later, Child Impact is an emerging leader in the fight against human trafficking with 36 projects in 18 countries and counting. Our generous supporters have helped us bring hope and a brighter future to thousands of vulnerable children around the world.

SHARE A MEAL. IGNITE HOPE.



Join Child Impact International at one of our upcoming fundraising dinners!

- September 27 | Salem, OR
- October 11 | Grants Pass, OR
- November 8 | Wichita, KS
- November 15 | Collegedale, TN

To learn more about our fundraising project and to RSVP, visit childimpact.org/dinner.

If you are interested in hosting a fundraising dinner at your church or organization, we would love to come to you! Contact us at development@childimpact.org or 423.910.0667 to get started.





This page (L-R): Hannah, Child Impact supporter Eve Naidoo, and Sunrise Children's Home graduate Raji. Opposite page (L-R): Jesudas sitting at his desk at work.

THE FUTURE THEY NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE

Once Orphans with Little Hope, Now Professionals, Leaders, and Examples of What's Possible

By Christina Donesky

Typically in an article found inside Child Impact International's magazine, you would expect to see children, the primary audience we serve. This article is a little different. I want to introduce you to some incredible adults I had the privilege of getting to know on my last trip to India. These individuals were once children in our sponsorship program. Now, they live accomplished, meaningful lives, contributing to a society that once only saw them as orphans.

Hannah was once a seven-year-old girl who slept beside a dog because no one had given her a bed. Today, she is a registered nurse and a professional, a transformation she describes as a journey "from fear to fearlessness."

Hannah's childhood began with loss. Her mother, struggling with poverty, placed her into domestic servitude with a local schoolteacher's family when she was just seven. She cooked, cleaned, and cared for their baby and their dog from morning until night, with no bed of her own and no complaint. She didn't know her life could look any different. Then came the night that changed everything: Hannah became an orphan in an instant, with no home, no security, and no idea what would come next.

The police who responded that night didn't simply walk away.

They brought Hannah to Raj Varma, the man she now proudly calls "Daddy," who took her to Sunrise Children's Home, an organization that is 100% supported by Child Impact. There, alongside his wife, Lalitha, whom Hannah calls "Mummy," she found a home and began to heal.

"At Sunrise, I received much more than food, clothing, and shelter," Hannah says. "I received something I had never truly known before: love, acceptance, safety, and hope." For the first time, she held a book in her hands. She sat in a classroom. She learned to read and write. Most importantly, she says, she learned to dream.

It wasn't easy. Hannah had missed years of schooling, and catching up felt impossible at times. But her teachers didn't give up on her, and neither did Mummy and Daddy

Varma, who encouraged her at every step until she began to believe in herself. She set her sights on nursing, which was a way, she says, to become someone who could help others the way she had been helped. With hard work and the steady support of caring people who believed in her, she completed her nursing education and now works in a private hospital.

"I am no longer the little girl who slept beside a dog. I am no longer the child who was abandoned and forgotten. I am a nurse. I am a professional. I am a survivor. I am a woman with purpose."

"I am no longer the little girl who slept beside a dog," Hannah says. "I am no longer the child who was abandoned and forgotten. I am a nurse. I am a professional. I am a survivor. I am a woman with a purpose."

She's proud to name where that transformation came from. "The support I received through my sponsor was not simply financial support," she says. "It gave me a future. It gave me dignity. It gave me an opportunity to become the person I dreamed of becoming. You did not simply invest in my education. You invested in my life." It's hard to imagine carrying the trauma she described. But when I met Hannah in January, what struck me first wasn't the weight of her story. It was her smile.

Hannah isn't the only child whose life has been transformed at Sunrise. Not long before her, a five-year-old boy named Jesudas arrived at the home, the very first child Sunrise ever took in. He lost his mother as an infant and then his father when he was five. The relatives who remained struggled just to keep him fed. A local pastor learned of the family's situation and brought Jesudas to Sunrise not long after the home opened.

Jesudas grew up there alongside Hannah, both part of the home's earliest family of children. Today, he's a senior manager in the

medical field, overseeing 500 employees and 15 projects. His success is proof, he says, that no support given to a child like him ever goes to waste.

I was able to see just how far Jesudas has come firsthand. When I visited in January for Sunrise's Silver Jubilee celebration, both Hannah and Jesudas stood up front and shared their stories with everyone gathered. At one point, Jesudas proudly called his wife up to join him. Watching him introduce her, you could see how proud he was simply to be living a life he never imagined for himself.

In the video below, Jesudas shares more about what that childhood was like, what his life could have looked like without it, and a heartfelt thank you to the sponsor who supported him for years but whom he has never met in person.

Hannah and Jesudas are two children out of hundreds who came through Sunrise's doors with nothing and left with everything: an education, a family, and a future they couldn't have imagined.

To anyone who feels forgotten or unloved, Hannah shares this: "There are good people in this world who care. Your circumstances today do not have to determine your future. With love, education, opportunity, and support, you too can rise. My life is proof." ■



Scan the QR code to watch more of Jesudas' story. To support children like Hannah and Jesudas, become a sponsor: childimpact.org/sponsor.





Eliana Manda (center) with some of the girls she mentored and supported at Riverside Farm Institute.

A LEGACY WORTH CONTINUING

Eliana Manda Spent Her Life Showing Vulnerable Girls That They Were Seen and Worth Fighting For

By Christina Donesky

Protector. Loyal. Determined. Hardworking. Generous. Dependable. Compassionate. Loving.

These are some of the words that students, family, and team members used to describe Eliana Manda as they gathered to honor her life following her unexpected passing. Manda served as Executive Assistant to the Director of Riverside Farms in Zambia, an organization that Child Impact International has partnered with for years on both sponsorship and rescue projects.

Manda joined Riverside Farms in 2022 as an intern, hired to fill a secretarial role. She quickly proved she didn't know how to do "a little," throwing herself into her work and into supporting the students around her. Her dedication soon earned her the role as Executive Assistant to the Director, Craig Harding.

Manda became a driving force behind Child Impact's sponsorship program at the school and, later on, programs serving rescued girls. She was often the first person from Riverside girls would meet. She traveled to their homes and villages, sometimes finding girls living in extremely difficult circumstances, and sat with them long enough to hear their stories. Then

she did something about it: colleagues remember her walking into homes where girls were being mistreated and speaking up for them, making it clear that these girls deserved the opportunity to come to school. She truly cared, and she backed that care with action.

Once the girls arrived on campus, Manda stayed close, serving as their protector, their listening ear, the mother many of them never had. She opened her home, carried their burdens as her own, and celebrated their victories with them, making young people feel seen, valued, and worth fighting for.

Manda didn't simply talk about giving vulnerable girls a better future. She went looking for them, advocated for them, and helped bring them into a place where they could begin building a different life.

Craig Harding captured the significance of her life during her funeral: "I think it's an opportunity for each of us to reflect—what have we done with our lives? Because in 27 years, she's impacted more people than most people do in a life two or three times that length."

Sandra, one of the girls Manda brought to Riverside, had this to say at the funeral:

"Although she's no longer with us, the seed she planted will continue to grow for generations..."

Let us honor her memory by continuing the work she cared so deeply about."

"...in 27 years, she's impacted more people than most people do in a life two or three times that length.."

The Child Impact International family grieves the loss of someone who made an extraordinary difference in the lives of vulnerable children. We are grateful for the years God gave us with Eliana Manda, for the work she poured herself into, and for the countless girls whose lives are impacted because she showed up for them.

Eliana Manda is deeply missed, but the lives she touched and the mission she championed will carry her legacy forward. She will not be forgotten. ■

SEEING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

Restored Vision Revealed a New World While Love and Education Reveal a Future with Possibility

By Shana Fairchild

Of all the five senses, most people would choose sight as the last one to lose.

Several years ago, Child Impact International received a request from our blind school in India for support to bring an eye doctor to campus to examine the children in order to see if any might be candidates for eye surgery in an attempt to restore their vision. One child that became a candidate was a little girl named Nandini.

Born blind, Nandini underwent eye surgery, and miraculously, her vision was restored to 90 percent! Gaining her fifth sense, now Nandini is experiencing a whole new world that had once been dark to her.

On a previous visit of Child Impact's Nandini was still recovering from surgery and wearing dark glasses. During Child Impact's most recent visit, her beautiful eyes shine as she runs, jumps, interacts with classmates, helps her friends who do not have their sight, and takes in the world around her.

Nandini's success story has set a new standard that Child Impact wants to ensure happens at the blind school: every child has a professional eye exam to determine whether they can regain some of their sight.

For the children who may not regain their sight, Child Impact

is still committed to ensuring that they are cared for in a safe environment where they can have the most exceptional education possible in order to succeed in this life without their sight.

Wonderfully, technology today has offered opportunities for the blind students that were previously not possible! Many of these children are able to enter careers where they can be successful and where their limitation does not keep them from being able to support themselves.

In this society, these children—many of whom were born blind or are severely visually impaired—are seen as cursed by God. To have a safe place to come to that envelops them with love and surrounds them with opportunities to grow, learn, and develop skills is life-changing.

For some, they will regain part of their sight through surgery, thanks to the contributions of Child Impact supporters like you. For others, they will never regain their sight, but they have found a welcoming place where they are loved, seen as valued, and where they are given opportunities to succeed in life. Thank you for helping to make this possible!

If you would like to support children like Nandini, make a gift at childimpact.org/bdo. ■



Scan the QR code to watch more of Nandini's story.

Nandini braids the hair of one of her friends. Now that Nandini can see, she steps in to help her blind friends where she can.

ONE BOY, MANY LETTERS

A Story of the Incredible Impact of Sponsorship on a Student in Thailand

By Tony Dennis

Some trips stay with you long after you've left. My time visiting Sunshine Orchard Learning Center, near the Thailand-Myanmar border, was one of them, and I have a nine-year-old boy named Saw Aung to thank for that.

Child Impact International sponsors over 480 students at Sunshine Orchard. While visiting the school, I had the chance to sit in Saw Aung's home, and what I found there is a picture I won't forget. His mother pulled out a stack of letters, every single one his sponsor has ever sent him. The staff at Sunshine Orchard print each letter and place it in his hands. He keeps every one of them. When I sat with him, he and I held up that stack of letters together, and I could see in his eyes exactly what they meant to him. It wasn't paper. It was proof that someone far away had chosen him and cared for him.



Tony Dennis, Sponsorship Operations Manager, meets Saw Aung at his home, where he is shown the sponsorship letters Saw Aung has been saving.

To understand why that stack of letters matters so much, you have to understand what Saw Aung's family has been through.

His mother survived a severe domestic violence situation in Myanmar. Eventually, she made the decision to flee, crossing the border into Thailand with her sons and settling near Sunshine Orchard. Life since then has required daily sacrifice. She works hard to provide for her boys, but the food is meager. Drinking water comes from a

nearby stream, which she boils to make safe. Dinner is often fish paste mixed with vegetables and herbs, stretched to feed everyone. In a small garden, the family grows okra, squash, and a little papaya. Eggs are a rare luxury. Her sons walk into the woods themselves to gather firewood so she can cook.

Sitting in that home, I saw exactly what sponsorship exists to do. Every day, Saw Aung receives a full, nutritious meal at

Sunshine Orchard. He sits in a classroom built with him in mind. He is known by name, cared for, and given a foundation his mother could not have provided on her own, however hard she worked. Sponsorship doesn't erase what his family has been through. It opens a door that hardship had kept closed.

That door leads somewhere beautiful. Saw Aung comes from a Buddhist family, but through his teachers, the school's

spiritual leaders, and the worship services he attends at Sunshine Orchard, something has taken root in his heart. He told me himself that when he turns 15, the age at which his culture recognizes such decisions as his to make, he wants to be baptized as a Christian.

I asked his mother how she felt about that. Her answer reflected the same grace she has shown through every hardship she has faced. She has watched the love the Sunshine Orchard staff has poured into her son. She has seen, firsthand, what this community has done for her family when few others could. "As long as he's a good person," she told me, "I'm okay with whatever he decides."

That is what I believe sponsorship truly offers: not just provision, but presence. Not just a meal, but a relationship. Not just education, but hope. It is a nine-year-old boy learning, one letter at a time, that someone he has never met, someone with no reason to know his name, cares whether

he eats, whether he learns, and whether he grows up knowing he is loved. Saw Aung has kept every letter because each one is evidence of that love, something tangible he could hold in his hands, show his mother—and show me—and say: someone chose *me*. It provides a great illustration to show Saw Aung that God has chosen him as well.

Right now, other children at Sunshine Orchard and at Child Impact learning centers around the world are still waiting for a sponsor of their own. They are waiting for someone to write that first letter, to take that first act of faith on their behalf.

I believe you could be that someone.

For less than it costs to take your family out to dinner, your sponsorship provides a child like Saw Aung with daily nutrition, a Christian education, and the steady presence of someone who believes in their future. And the letters you write, however

simple they may feel from where you sit, become something a child treasures. Something a mother shows to visitors with pride. Something a family holds onto as proof that they have not been forgotten.

Saw Aung's mother gave up everything

Sponsorship doesn't erase what his family has been through. It opens a door that hardship had kept closed.

she knew to give her sons a chance at a better life. She cannot give them everything they need. But together, we can help fill that gap, one letter, one meal, one class, one sponsorship at a time.

Will you join us? ■

IMPACT A *life*. BECOME A SPONSOR *today*.



You can make a difference in the life of a child in need like Saw Aung!



Visit our website, childimpact.org/sponsor, to start your journey.



A SAFE PLACE TO DREAM

Anika's Life Began with Heartbreaking Loss; Sponsorship Now Provides the Chance to Dream

By Flora Drong and Dr. Tom L. Evans

Along the banks of a winding river in southern Bangladesh lies Bagdha, a small village surrounded by trees and ponds. It is here that Anika's* story began—a story marked by heartbreaking loss, then by hope, opportunity, and the life-changing impact of sponsorship.

Anika was born in 2018. Before she ever had the chance to meet her father, tragedy changed the course of her family's life.

Her parents, Sanjay and Maya, had left their village and moved to the capital in search of a better future. Sanjay found work while Maya cared for their home. They were building a life together and looking forward to welcoming their first child.

Then everything changed.

A man Sanjay considered a friend approached him for help, explaining that his family was deeply in debt. Having a generous heart, Sanjay eventually agreed to lend him a significant amount of money, but the man failed to repay the loan. When he finally offered to return the money, Sanjay went to collect it. As he was returning home with the money in hand, he was ambushed and killed by men connected to the person he had trusted.

Maya was seven months pregnant. Overcome with grief, she faced the unimaginable reality of losing her husband while preparing to become a mother. Not long afterward, Anika was born prematurely. She experienced health problems during early infancy but gradually grew stronger.

Mother and daughter returned to their village with very little. Maya

carried the responsibility of trying to raise her baby alone without a steady income. She worried about how she would provide for her daughter. During those difficult years, one of Maya's older sisters helped them survive.

As Anika grew, a new possibility emerged. When she was about four years old, someone told Maya about one of Child Impact International's sponsorship schools. For a mother carrying so much uncertainty about her daughter's future, the school offered something precious: a safe environment where Anika could receive an education and be cared for.

Today, Anika is a cheerful young student who enjoys learning and spending time with her friends. She takes her schoolwork seriously, and English is her favorite subject. Through Child Impact's sponsorship program, Anika has the support she needs to continue her education.

Maya continues to take whatever domestic work she can find to provide for her family. Life remains difficult, and the grief of losing her husband has never completely disappeared. But when she talks about Anika's education, there is hope. "I am humbled by the benevolent person who looked upon our condition and helped my daughter," Maya shared with gratitude.

Sponsorship cannot erase the tragedy Anika and her mother have experienced. But it can help change what happens next. It can replace uncertainty with hope and opportunity. It can provide a safe place for a child to learn and grow. It can remind a struggling mother that she does not have to carry every burden alone.

Anika already has a dream for her future: she wants to become a teacher.

For now, that dream begins with something wonderfully simple—a little girl sitting in her classroom, studying her favorite subject, drawing pictures, playing with friends, and knowing that she is cared for and belongs.

For Anika, sponsorship is helping turn a childhood marked by loss into a future filled with possibility. Thank you to our sponsors who are making a difference from halfway around the world. If you would like to bring hope to a child, you can sponsor a child like Anika by visiting childimpact.org/sponsor. ■

*Name changed to protect identity



Anika with Flora Drong, sponsorship coordinator at the school.



Rachel Pfieffe meets her sponsored girls at two different Child Impact-supported schools in Zambia.



A PIECE OF MY HEART IS IN ZAMBIA

A Sponsor Describes the Transformative Experience of Meeting Her Sponsored Students

By Rachel Pfieffe

If you had told me in the summer of 2025 that I would be traveling to Zambia the following summer, I would've laughed. I never saw myself traveling across the world, especially not to Africa. In fact, I genuinely believed I would never want to travel outside of America. All of that changed when I was visiting Child Impact International's office last summer, and I learned about the opportunity to meet my sponsored students. Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO, shared about a trip planned to Zambia and told me it would be an incredible experience to join them.

When I told my sister-in-law, who is from Peru, I was going, she teased me: "How can you travel to Africa? You won't even go to my home country with me!" She was right. Traveling internationally felt far outside my comfort zone. Even the thought of going to Africa was intimidating. But God had other plans.

My journey with child sponsorship began simply. In December 2023, I signed up with my credit card and began sponsoring girls in Zambia. At first, sponsorship felt like a meaningful way to help from far away. I had no idea how personally connected I would become.

Each time I received a letter, drawing, or report card, I could hardly wait to open it. I loved hearing about what was happening in the girls' lives. I was continually impressed by their beautiful penmanship, their hard work in school, and their dreams for the future.

One of the girls is ranked fifth in a class of over 40 students. Another hopes to become a nurse when she grows up. Their determination, intelligence, and joy have made such an impact on me, even from thousands of miles away.

Then came the opportunity to meet them in person.

Traveling to Zambia and seeing the girls I sponsor face-to-face was one of the most rewarding and life-changing experiences of my life. I was excited to meet them, but I was not prepared for how excited they would be to meet me. Seeing their smiles, their joy, and their eagerness made the whole experience incredibly eye-opening.

These were no longer simply names on letters or photos on a sponsorship page. They were girls with personalities, dreams, talents, and stories. Being able to spend time with each of them, even though it never felt like enough time, was a gift I will always treasure.

Their warmth and excitement touched my heart in ways I cannot fully put into words.

This trip changed me. What once felt frightening and impossible has now become something I long to do again. Instead of wondering whether I could ever travel to Africa, I now find myself counting the days until I can return.

I believe that preparation for any journey, whether it is across the world or simply into a new season of life, needs to be bathed in prayer. This trip was no exception. Prayer carried me through the preparation, the travel, the uncertainty, and the many emotions of meeting the girls.

A piece of my heart will always belong in Zambia. I went there hoping to encourage and bless the girls I sponsor, but I returned home deeply encouraged, humbled, and changed by each one of them. ■

"Seeing the girls I sponsor face-to-face was one of the most rewarding and life-changing experiences of my life."

Consider joining Child Impact International for a life-changing donor trip! Contact us at development@childimpact.org to learn more.

FREEDOM BEGINS WITH HOPE

Child Impact's Annual Weekend Exceeds Goals for New Projects Fighting Trafficking

By Liz Thomsen

In Sonagachi, India, within the world's largest red-light district, more than 16,000 women face the daily reality of selling their bodies simply to survive and provide for their children. For many, there seems to be no other option.

But Child Impact International believes there is another path. Through a vocational tailoring program, women are learning practical skills that can open the door to honest work, dignity, and a different future. We are also creating a safe, nurturing drop-in center for children whose mothers must work. Too often, young girls are targeted by clients because of their age. Our hope is to give these children a place where they are protected, cared for, encouraged to learn, and experience joy and peace for the first time.

Behind the scenes, Child Impact's investigative team is also

working with authorities to identify and expose those who exploit women and children. Please pray that rescue operations will carry on despite the odds and that yet another minor finds justice and healing. During Child Impact International's annual Freedom Weekend (in honor of the United Nations' Word Day Against Trafficking in Persons) on July 25 and 26, we witnessed what can happen when people come together to join the fight for freedom. Over 470 guests attended that weekend between our two events, exceeding our goals!

Supporters came together to raise \$101,277 for our projects in Sonagachi (including a \$50,000 matching donation) and \$58,139 for Operation Child Rescue—bringing the weekend's total to \$159,416!

Thank you to our supporters for helping to provide freedom, hope, and a new path forward! ■



Supporters turned out for Child Impact International's Evening of Freedom program and Day of Freedom open house events.

A HEART FOR RESCUE AND RESTORATION

Donor Highlight: Carol Mays

By Liz Thomsen

For Carol Mays, helping children has been a lifelong passion. Over many years, she and her husband have supported children and young people who need access to Christian education. But when Carol discovered Child Impact International, she saw an even greater opportunity to help children facing some of life's most difficult circumstances.

"What drew me to Child Impact was the huge need for children—not only for education, but for many who need to be rescued from terrible abuse, trafficking, and abandonment," Carol shares.

Child Impact's work across multiple countries has opened Carol's eyes to the many ways she can make a difference. Her particular passion is supporting child rescues and supporting projects that provide safe homes, education, and an opportunity for children to learn about Jesus.

Her desire to help children began with a personal experience. Carol and her husband once helped a relative and his family move and provided tuition for the two daughters to attend an Adventist elementary school. Over time, the family embraced the faith, making that experience especially meaningful for Carol.

Today, Carol continues to search for ways that God can use her to make a difference in the lives of children. ■



HEEDING THE CALL

How One Child Impact Speaker is Answering a Call from the Lord

By Jonathan Blackburn

It is a tremendous privilege of mine, here at Child Impact International, to support our wonderful speakers. We have speakers across the country preaching in various churches, and I want to highlight one specifically.

Gabriella de Asis joined our speaker team at the end of 2025 after years of feeling a call on her heart to support young girls affected by forced child marriage in the Philippines. After seeking out an opportunity to meet these children firsthand, she returned home and began the work of preparation. She told me that she loves preparing devotions, thoughts, and sermons. She began to write, record, and upload these sermons to YouTube so that as she grew her speaking skills, she would have resources to share and would be prepared when the Lord



opened a door for her. Thankfully, a position on our speaker team opened, and soon the Lord connected Gabriella with Child Impact International.

We've been exceedingly grateful for her and the work she has done since then. Her story is a wonderful example to all of us of the power of a calling from the Lord. She heard His call, equipped herself for an opportunity, and the Lord has changed countless lives through her efforts since. She has shown a commitment to spreading the work of Child Impact and our global partners to the ends of the Earth.

If you'd like to invite a Child Impact speaker to your home church, please email me at jblackburn@childimpact.org. We'd love to spend time with your congregation. ■

OUR TEAM BEHIND THE SCENES

How Student Workers and Interns are Helping Advance the Mission of Child Impact International

By Jonathan Blackburn

Soon after joining Child Impact International, I was introduced to one of the most important teams here. They handle a great deal of detail-work for our sponsorship program, the relationships built between churches and Child Impact, and the overall organization of the significant number of materials here in our office. When asked to go above and beyond, they have often already anticipated the need and taken care of it. Our team of student workers is dedicated, punctual, generous, and a joy to work with. We're incredibly blessed to have each one.

This summer, we welcomed a full-time student worker for the summer to help with our local Freedom Weekend events at the end of July. From his first day, Ryan Williamson has jumped right in, carving out healthy working relationships around the office with team members and paving the way for the communication he championed in preparing for these events. He spent hours, days, and weeks on the phone with me, pushing to extend personal invitations to as many people, churches, and organizations as possible. His hard work ensured that the events were a success and that lives around the world would be impacted forever. We're very thankful that when his summer position ended, Ryan chose to continue working with us during the school year while he completes his second year at

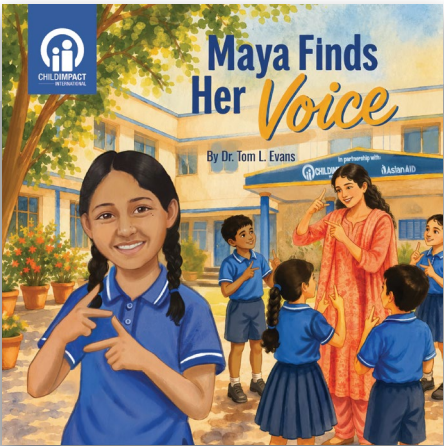
Southern Adventist University. If you pick up a phone call from us in the near future and hear a well-spoken, friendly, and professional voice that leaves you feeling uplifted, chances are you will have met Ryan now, too. ■



Two of Child Impact's student workers: Mya Wong (left) and Ryan Williamson (right).

OUR **IMPACT** AROUND THE WORLD

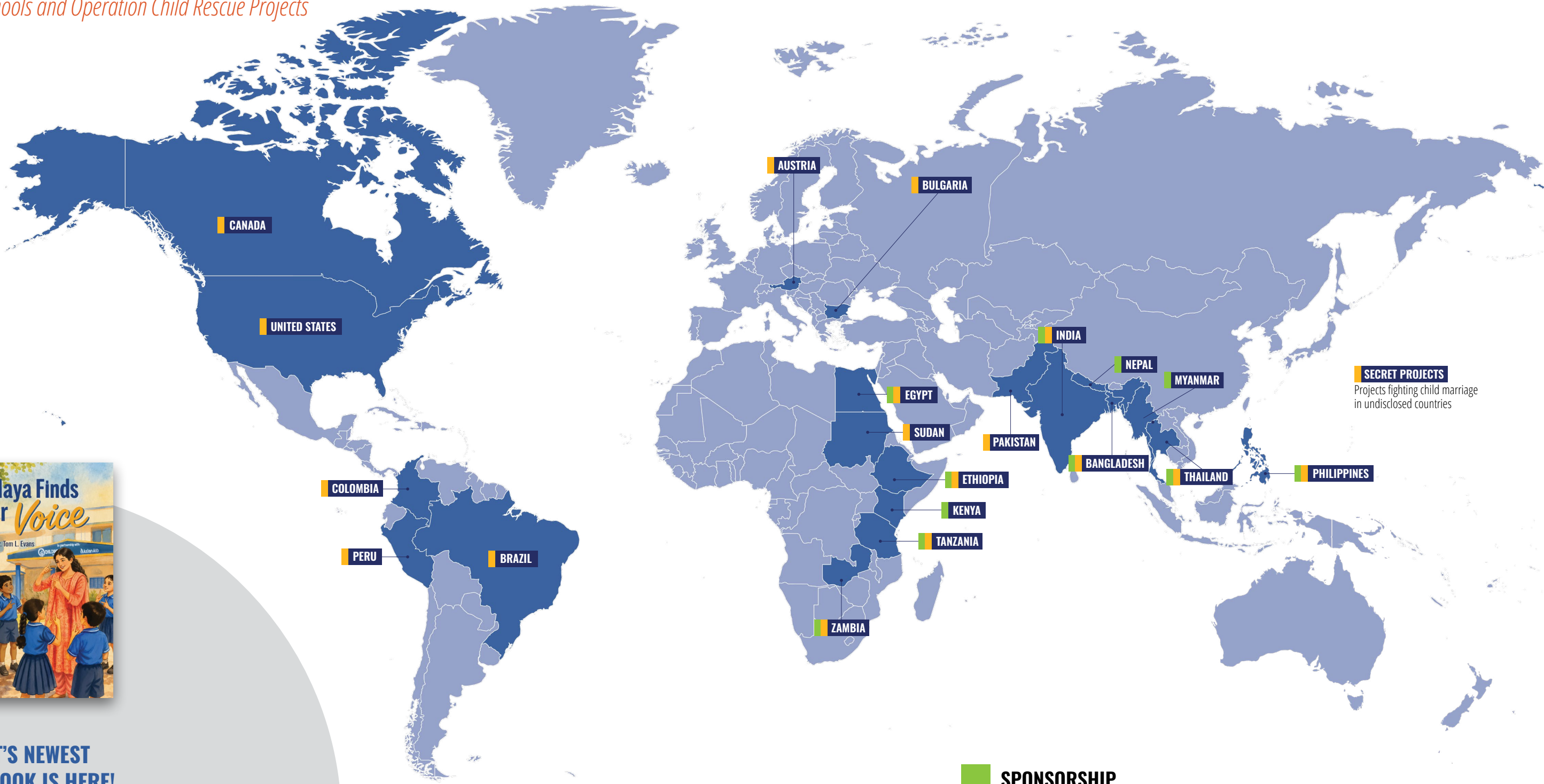
Sponsorship Schools and Operation Child Rescue Projects



CHILD IMPACT'S NEWEST CHILDREN'S BOOK IS HERE!

Written by Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO, the children's book, *Maya Finds Her Voice*, follows the journey of a little deaf girl in India as she navigates a silent world then find her voice in a way she never thought possible.

Look for your copy, to keep or to share, in next month's mail! Additional copies may be ordered at shop.childimpact.org or by calling 423.910.0667.





Child Impact International
P.O. Box 3202
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AMAZON RESCUE CAMPUS

HELP KEEP ME *Safe*

Building a Haven Where Safety, Healing, and Hope Meet



Many children in Brazil's Amazon region are asking for safety from continued abuse. *Will you help us build a haven where they can find it?* Every brick, bed, and classroom tells these children they are worth fighting for.

Visit childimpact.org/brazilrescue or scan the QR code to see our progress.

