The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

JOHN 1:5, ESV
When we set our eyes on our circumstances, we can begin to feel discouraged. The world is filled with darkness and pain, and it would be easy to believe that we cannot do anything to change that. But, as ambassadors of Christ, God has called us to shine His Light into a dark world, and He has equipped us to bring healing and hope to those who are suffering.

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son...
With your support, Samaritan’s Purse stepped into places of suffering and brokenness in 2020. We stood side by side with hurting people, compassionately meeting their urgent needs, and sharing from our hearts about the Savior who meets our greatest need for forgiveness of sin and eternal life.

... in whom we have redemption, forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13-14, NASB
DEAR FRIEND,

In the midst of great trial and uncertainty, King David declared: “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1, ESV). During times of darkness and doubt, we can turn to God—our source of strength and refuge. The Holy Spirit guides us, and God’s Word lights our way.

Last year was full of difficulty and heartache for many of us, and for countless others around the world. Samaritan’s Purse worked in Jesus’ Name to bring life-saving aid and eternal hope to people in dire circumstances.

As our teams cared for COVID-19 patients, ministered to disaster-affected families, and provided food for the hungry and water for the thirsty, we did it all with the life-changing message that “the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10, ESV).

I pray that, as you read the stories of God’s faithfulness during the year 2020, you will join me in giving Him the glory for the work of Samaritan’s Purse. Thank you, and may God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham
Ambulance sirens pierced vacant cobblestone streets and an eerie calm settled over the small town of Cremona, Italy. But inside the local hospital, the atmosphere was anything but calm as hundreds of coronavirus patients filled every spare room and lined the hallways.

"BY THIS all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."  
John 13:35, ESV
Early in 2020, as the virus spread around the globe, Northern Italy became an epicenter of COVID-19 infections. Local hospital infrastructure was incapacitated by the volume of patients, leaving medical staff with a lack of space and resources. At Cremona Hospital, 500 of the 600 patient beds had been converted to care for the influx of COVID-19 patients and the doctors and nurses could no longer meet the critical needs on their own.

On March 17, Samaritan’s Purse airlifted a 68-bed Emergency Field Hospital to Cremona to help support the local hospital. The mobile hospital was outfitted with a specialized respiratory care unit and a 10-bed intensive care unit (ICU) for critical patients. Francesco was the first person admitted to our ICU, where doctors and nurses provided round-the-clock care as Francesco fought for his life. Nurse Shannon Wood prayed that Francesco and the other patients at the Emergency Field Hospital would feel the love of Jesus while receiving care within the tents.

“When we are covered in personal protective equipment and all they can see is my eyes, I’m able to love these patients and stroke their hair and hold their hand,” Shannon said. Their compassion and care opened doors to share the Gospel. “They are curious about the Jesus that we say that we love.”

Though Francesco never saw Shannon’s face, or the faces of the other doctors and nurses who cared for him, he told them: “I feel love through your eyes.” Thanks be to God, Francesco was removed from a ventilator after several days in intensive care and transitioned to step-down medical care.

In addition to the physical healing he experienced, Francesco made the decision to trust in Christ for his spiritual healing. He prayed to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, and returned home with a testimony of all that God has done. Over the course of two months, we treated 281 COVID-19 patients in Cremona.

Samaritan’s Purse also deployed an Emergency Field Hospital to Central Park in New York City. “These are uncertain times,” said Franklin Graham during a visit to thank medical staff serving in the field hospital. “I want the people of New York to know that God created us and loves us. He hasn’t forgotten us.” Through our partnership with the Mount Sinai Health System, we treated 335 coronavirus patients in New York, including 190 at our Central Park site.

We deployed a third field hospital to Nassau, Bahamas—where the number of coronavirus patients had overwhelmed the local healthcare system—and sent medical teams to King Salmon, Alaska, and Navajo Nation, Arizona.

In addition to our medical response, Samaritan's Purse worked in 24 countries to meet the needs of vulnerable communities and prevent the spread of the virus. We trained 878,289 people in prevention measures, and distributed 489,573 protective supplies and 147,458 hygiene kits. Our teams also provided more than 28,000 food baskets to families whose livelihoods were threatened by the economic impacts of the coronavirus. Through these efforts, more than 120,479 people were presented with the Gospel.
HOPE IN THE MIDST OF A CRISIS

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF

DC-8 Cargo Plane
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
November 2020
Hurricane Relief in Honduras

When Hurricane Eta brought flooding, torrential rain, and landslides to Honduras in November, Samaritan’s Purse immediately responded. We dispatched our DC-8 cargo plane, loaded with critical relief supplies, to the disaster zone.

Then, just days later, Hurricane Iota struck right on the heels of Eta. Families who were still reeling from the first storm were devastated by the second. The consecutive hurricanes created widespread devastation and left hundreds of thousands of families without access to shelter, clean water, or medical care.

Our team was already on the ground when Iota hit, and we immediately began ministering to survivors, meeting urgent needs and sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Partnering with local churches, we distributed aid in San Pedro Sula and surrounding communities. “For the churches of Honduras, this is an opportunity to complete the Great Commission,” said Pastor Josue Sanchez, the pastor of one of our partnering churches. “The Great Commission is not only to speak—it is to do. When Jesus ministered to people, it wasn’t just covering their physical needs. It’s a way for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of people.”

Working together, we distributed more than 2,500 hygiene kits, 4,000 personal water filters, and 6,300 tarp kits to storm-affected families. We also installed eight water treatment systems, which have provided over 300,000 liters of clean water to date.

Samaritan’s Purse also established our Emergency Field Hospital, where more than 2,230 people came to receive medical treatment from Christian doctors and nurses, or to replenish crucial medications that were lost during the hurricanes. Our medical staff also traveled to remote communities isolated by flooding to provide care for over 1,590 patients at mobile clinics.

When Israel came to our field hospital, he was in a dark place. The destruction caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota had amplified the anxiety and depression he’d struggled with for years after witnessing his brother’s murder. Israel had lost his job due to the coronavirus pandemic, then he lost his home in the floods.

After listening to Israel’s story, our medical staff presented the hope of the Gospel—a beacon of light that shone through the darkness of his traumatic past. “Coming here and hearing about God and His salvation, it gives me peace,” he said. Israel surrendered his life to Jesus Christ, leaving the field hospital with a new Bible and new hope for the future.

Responding to the Beirut Blast

On Aug. 4, the port of Beirut in Lebanon erupted in a deadly explosion, killing nearly 200 people, injuring thousands, and leaving more than 300,000 people without a home. For 150 miles surrounding the blast site, entire communities were filled with shattered glass and debris.

Sabine* and her mother, Corinne*, were at home when the blast occurred. Both of them were injured and their home was rattled, but the women praise God that they survived.

“We thank God that we are still alive,” said Corinne. “We saw our house being destroyed but I look at myself and I say, ‘Thank God I’m still here.’” Samaritan’s Purse sent our DC-8 cargo plane with emergency relief supplies and a team of disaster response workers to offer aid and support to those affected by the explosion.

I LIFT UP MY EYES to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord. PSALM 121:1-2, ESV
response specialists to bring immediate aid to hurting people in Beirut. More than 4,500 families received a hygiene kit, shelter tarp, two solar lights, and a food parcel.

A 13-member team of doctors, nurses, and additional support staff established a mobile medical unit and coordinated with local healthcare authorities to provide care to more than 730 people who were injured by the blast. We also worked with local partners to provide trauma counseling and spiritual support to those who were traumatized by the explosion.

"Samaritan’s Purse goes to disasters wherever they may be," shared Bev Kauffeldt, team lead for the Beirut response. "When we help people in situations like this, it gives us the opportunity to pray with them and to tell them that they are truly loved by God."

*Names changed for security.

Armenia Refugee Response

Armenia and Azerbaijan have battled over a piece of land known as Nagorno-Karabakh for decades. It lies within the borders of Azerbaijan, but until last fall, it was home to ethnic Armenians. Escalating tensions led to a war, causing some 90,000 people to flee their homes for survival.

Lisa, who was pregnant with her first child, knew she had to try to escape as the bombs fell just outside her house. "We left without anything," she said. "It was too dangerous. We had to flee. I was thinking only to save my life and my baby's life."

Samaritan’s Purse responded to the crisis, airlifting more than 23 tons of emergency relief supplies to Armenia, including warm winter clothing. The conflict began in late summer, so refugee families were thoroughly unprepared for the below-freezing temperatures and snow that wintertime brought.

Our teams provided nearly 5,500 people, including Lisa and her family, with jackets, boots, gloves, thermals, and other cold weather gear.
On Aug. 27, just hours after Hurricane Laura struck the Gulf Coast as a Category 4 storm, Samaritan’s Purse deployed a seven-truck convoy from our Southwest Ministry Center in Dallas, Texas. The disaster response fleet set up Louisiana command centers in Lake Charles, DeRidder, Jennings, and DeQuincy.
From these four locations, teams of volunteers quickly spread out to help Gulf Coast families—reminding them that they were not alone and Jesus Christ loves them. Then, just six weeks later, Hurricane Delta made landfall as a Category 2 storm with sustained winds of 150 mph.

The Oct. 9 storm dumped up to 17 inches of rain across a nearly identical path as Hurricane Laura—bringing devastation to already overwhelmed Louisiana homeowners. Immediately following Hurricane Delta, our volunteer teams went back to work and continued aiding homeowners in the hardest-hit communities. We get to come in and be a joy and a light, but also remind them that God is always there and He’s with us in the storm—whether it’s a physical storm or the storms of life,” shared volunteer Aneasha Lawrence.

John Chenier was one of more than 1,600 Louisiana homeowners who received help from Samaritan’s Purse. The storms damaged John’s home and his mother’s. She was recovering from surgery, so John was overwhelmed with the task of cleaning up the damage to both properties. When a team of volunteers arrived at his mother’s house to help her recover from the storm, John was touched by their hard work and kindness. “It means so much to see people give up their time and look out for those in need,” he said. Clad in matching orange T-shirts, the volunteers cleared away debris, removed fallen trees from the property, and salvaged family mementos that had survived the hurricanes.

John began to ask questions about their motivation for helping him in the wake of disaster. Volunteers shared that they came to serve in Jesus’ Name, and chaplains from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association shared the Gospel. John prayed with them to accept Jesus Christ as his Savior. “I appreciate you all and everything you’ve done,” said John, thanking the team. “I think you all have that peace from God. It’s really great that you do what you do.”

In 2020, Samaritan’s Purse responded to 25 disasters in 12 states. Ministering to hurting families in the U.S., our staff and volunteers worked together to serve disaster victims across the country.

We’re thankful to God for how He used over 16,000 volunteers to bring aid to more than 5,700 families during their time of need.

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We’re thankful to God for how He used over 16,000 volunteers to bring aid to more than 5,700 families during their time of need. Even during a year when the pandemic made our work more complex, we were able to assist more families in a single year than ever before. We praise Him for the 808 new believers in the communities where we worked.
OCC = The Greatest Gift of All

Shoebox Outreach Event
Cúcuta, Colombia
April 2019
Antonin’s mother died while giving birth to him, and his widowed father carried such heavy grief that his neighbors in their village in Burundi say that he never smiled. Antonin’s father could not afford to provide him with clothes or shoes, so the boy was often dressed in rags.

Then, at an Operation Christmas Child outreach event, Antonin received a brightly colored shoebox gift. He opened the lid and was amazed to find clothes and new shoes that fit him perfectly. For the first time in many years, his father wore a bright smile, filled with joy at the gift that his son had received. He and Antonin began attending their local church and learning about the eternal joy found through a personal relationship with Jesus.

Last year, more than 9.1 million shoeboxes were collected through Operation Christmas Child. As these gifts make their way into the hands of children like Antonin, these little ones and their families are learning about the Greatest Gift of All, Jesus Christ.

In another remote village in Burundi, Esil was ensnared in his grandmother’s witchcraft rituals. She was using the boy in her dark business practices. Esil was invited to an outreach event, where he received a shoebox and enrolled in The Greatest Journey, our discipleship program for shoebox recipients.

Esil accepted Jesus as Savior and, through the witness of this young boy, his grandmother’s eyes were opened. She burned her charms in repentance, gave her life to Christ, and began attending church with Esil.

In 2020, more than 3 million children took part in the 12-lesson discipleship program and over 1 million boys and girls made decisions to follow Christ as Savior and Lord!

Among them were sisters Leonie, 13, and Robbine, 11, in Madagascar. Since the death of their father, their mother drowned her sorrows in alcohol. When Leonie and Robbine learned through The Greatest Journey that salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone, both girls decided to place their trust in Him. They started a family prayer time at home and were joined by their two older siblings. When their mother saw the change that Jesus was making in her daughters’ lives, she began attending church with them.

Our Operation Christmas Child ministry team in Colombia had been fervently praying the Gospel would be established in a dangerous neighborhood called Compostela.

Then a boy named Sebastián, who was from Compostela, received a shoebox and began attending The Greatest Journey classes. Each week after class, when Sebastián’s mother, Arelis, came to the church to pick him up, she lingered and began asking questions about Jesus. As her interest in the Gospel grew, she and Sebastián began attending church regularly.

Arelis accepted Christ as Lord and Savior and now, she is an ambassador for Operation Christmas Child in Compostela—assisting our ministry team as they prepare to distribute shoeboxes and offer The Greatest Journey in this neighborhood that desperately needs to hear the Good News.

In another community in Colombia, a woman named Juanita offered her home as a location for a shoebox outreach event and The Greatest Journey discipleship lessons. Her grandson, Bryan, was one of the participants. His parents had been struggling with drug dependency, and Bryan prayed for them to be free.

After the 12-lesson discipleship program was over, our ministry partners started teaching a Bible study at Juanita’s house, and “Children began to bring their families and friends!” said Doris Sandoval, the National Leadership Team’s prayer coordinator. “One of our prayers was that The Greatest Journey experience would bring whole families together.”

This includes Bryan’s family, who began attending the new church that formed out of that Bible study, called The Worship Mountain. “His parents say, ‘Now we are free because of the prayers of our son,’” Doris recounted. Now, Bryan’s parents volunteer at outreach events in surrounding communities and lead a drug rehabilitation program, sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ—the only source of lasting hope.
Wounded Hearts Healed in Alaska

The sound of the doorbell still startles Linda even though her husband, Army Staff Sergeant Drew Mills, retired from the military years ago.
“To this day when I hear the doorbell ring, my heart palpitates a little,” she says. For years she’d feared news of her husband’s death during his deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. As a senior scout gunner, he was often first into battle. Drew loved his job. He’d still fight today if he could.

But on June 7, 2012, his military career changed forever. It was the day Drew earned a Purple Heart and a recognition of valor, but it was also his last day of military combat.

His unit was hunting for improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in Afghanistan when an explosion erupted, injuring Drew and killing two of his comrades. From that moment onward, life seemed like a blur of surgeries and therapy as doctors fought to save Drew’s legs, which had been severely damaged in the blast.

The Mills applied for Operation Heal Our Patriots, hoping to find healing from the trauma and grief that has haunted them during the eight years since Drew returned from battle. The weeklong program offers military couples, like Drew and Linda, physical rest and spiritual renewal, surrounded by the majestic Alaskan landscape.

Through our Biblically based marriage classes, Drew and Linda learned about God’s plan for their relationship and their family. They learned how to communicate clearly and work through conflict. They learned how to love each other the way God designed.

And during excursions in the Alaska wilderness, they connected with each other, with God through His creation, and with other military couples who faced similar challenges.

“This week has brought God back into our lives,” Drew said. Linda agrees: “So much of the last few years has been dealing with trauma and getting back to physical and mental health. Drew is a different person and I’m a different person because of this week.”

The week at Samaritan Lodge Alaska was transformative for the Mills, and for the 75 other couples who participated in Operation Heal Our Patriots during 2020. Daniel Strong and his wife, Cassie, were forever changed by their time in Alaska.

The Marine—whose career ended suddenly when his armored vehicle was hit with an IED—had accepted Christ two years earlier. He had been praying for Cassie to make the same life-changing decision.

During their time in Alaska, the couple gained tools for a healthy bond through Biblically based marriage classes. Our chaplains and their wives offered a listening ear and Christ-centered counsel.

And as Cassie heard the Gospel, the Lord worked in her heart and she prayed to receive Christ as Savior. The next day, she was baptized in Lake Clark. “I saw what God had done in his life, and I wanted that for myself.”
Ministry Through Medicine
Silsa (right) was seven months pregnant and looking forward to the birth of her second child. But the fatigue and dizziness she was feeling didn't seem normal, so her family brought her to Hospital Loma de Luz in Honduras for examination.

The medical staff quickly diagnosed her with severe preeclampsia. Even though Silsa was only 23 years old and had no risk factors, her blood pressure was so high that doctors feared she might have a stroke at any moment. The medication they gave her had little effect.

“We discussed the option of perhaps saving the mom’s life by delivering the baby, but it would be born prematurely and would unlikely be able to breathe on its own,” said Dr. Becky Haak. “We had no NICU unit there, no ventilators. Decisions like this would be tough even in the United States.”

Dr. Haak is an OB/GYN who was serving as a volunteer at the hospital through World Medical Mission last September.

In 2020, Samaritan’s Purse sent 230 medical professionals, like Dr. Haak, on short-term volunteer trips to mission hospitals. We also supported 26 Post-Resident doctors and dentists serving on two-year overseas assignments in preparation to become career medical missionaries.

Our partner hospitals around the world also received critical support from Samaritan’s Purse in the form of life-saving medical equipment and supplies that are hard to come by in the developing world. Last year, we shipped 35 containers filled with equipment and supplies to 16 Christian hospitals in 12 countries.

As the medical team at Hospital Loma de Luz prayerfully discussed the medical options, Silsa went into spontaneous labor and delivered the baby seven weeks early. The little boy was breathing at birth, but his situation quickly deteriorated and he had to be resuscitated.

While Silsa’s health continued to improve, her baby boy—whom she named Joscar—battled for life and breath. Overseeing his constant care were Dr. Nathan Gilley, a family medical physician, and Dr. Anthony Miele, a pediatrician, who are serving at the hospital through our Post-Residency Program.

“It was touch and go for days, with the baby coding when it was several days old,” Dr. Haak said. The team worked diligently and prayed fervently for Joscar. Dr. Gilley’s 6-year-old daughter joined in praying for the infant too, perched on a stool so she could glimpse Joscar through the nursery window.

The doctors watched a miracle unfold as both Joscar and his mother gained strength and were eventually released to go home. “Loma de Luz” means “light on a hill,” and this hospital is among dozens that World Medical Mission partners with to provide ministry-based medicine in Jesus’ Name. “Silsa realized God used our mission hospital to miraculously save her son’s life,” said Dr. Gilley. “She gave the glory and praise to Him.”

“For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds,” says the Lord.

JEREMIAH 30:17
Saving Lives, Mending Hearts
As God restored her child’s health, a Mongolian mom turned to Him to heal her own heart.

Every few months, Mandaa and Dashdavaa packed up their ger—a traditional tent dwelling common in Mongolia—(pictured above) and moved to a different part of the countryside where their 300 cattle could graze on fresh grasslands. As nomadic herders, their lifestyle centered around their cattle, and their belief system focused on rituals to honor their ancestors.

But that belief system was tested when their youngest daughter, Enjee, (pictured right with a pink bow, in her mother’s arms) was born with a heart defect two years ago. Enjee’s condition worsened as she grew up, and Mandaa knew her little girl’s situation was critical. “I was so afraid to lose my little baby,” she recalled. Mandaa took Enjee to a cardiologist who referred her to our Children’s Heart Project.

This project of Samaritan’s Purse arranges surgery for children with congenital heart defects who live in countries like Mongolia, Uganda, and Bolivia where the operations are not available. Since 1997, more than 1,400 children have received life-saving heart surgery through our Children’s Heart Project.

We arranged transportation for Enjee, Mandaa, and an interpreter to travel to North America, where a hospital would donate surgical services to repair the little girl’s heart defect. After Enjee’s surgery, she and Mandaa would stay with a host family during her recovery period. As our staff members made arrangements for Mandaa, they listened to her worries and assured her that they were lifting up her daughter in prayer.

Their prayers for Enjee comforted Mandaa. More than that, they caused her to wonder about the God they were praying to. During her stay in the U.S., Mandaa and her interpreter, Nyamaa, read the Bible together daily. One of her favorites was the passage in Matthew 14 about when Jesus walked on water. Mandaa clung to verse 27 to help calm her nerves about Enjee’s surgery, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid” (ESV).

The two women studied Scripture using The Greatest Journey—our discipleship program for Operation Christmas Child shoebox recipients. A week after Enjee’s successful surgery, Mandaa reached the lesson about Jesus, “The Greatest Friend.” That’s when she prayed and accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. Mandaa was baptized during a small gathering with her host family and friends from their church, who had been praying for her salvation.

Mandaa, Enjee, and Nyamaa were flown back to Mongolia on our DC-8 plane—along with eight other Children’s Heart Project beneficiaries—after their stay in North America was prolonged by COVID-19 travel restrictions. They were among the 19 children who received cardiac surgery in 2020. Mandaa is one of four moms who prayed to receive Christ through the witness of Children’s Heart Project last year.

Back at home in their ger, Mandaa told Dashdavaa what she had learned about Jesus. When he saw his daughter’s transformed health, he knew it was a miracle. “Knowing God fills a person’s heart with love,” Mandaa said. “My children and my husband and I want to live in God’s love.”
CLEAN WATER PROJECTS

Water Brings Life

January 2020
Each morning, Sarah used to walk one hour each way to reach the nearest water source. She could only bring home what she was able to carry, which was not enough to last all day for her family. So, each evening she made the trek again, carrying another heavy load of water.

Then Samaritan’s Purse teams excavated a water pond in Sarah’s village, bringing water much closer to home. Sarah and the other women no longer spend four hours each day collecting water, so they have more time to be with their children and to tend to household responsibilities.

Access to clean water was life-changing for Sarah, but the greatest transformation came when she heard the Gospel for the first time. Communitywide showings of the JESUS film and Bible distributions accompany Samaritan’s Purse water and hygiene programming in Kenya, and through these efforts people like Sarah are hearing the Good News and coming to faith in Jesus.

“The sufferings of Jesus got my attention, and His death and resurrection. I decided to give my life to Christ so I can have eternal life,” she said. A number of Sarah’s neighbors also put their trust in the Lord through the witness of Samaritan’s Purse staff, and now they all regularly attend church.

Other families in Kenya have water nearby, but it is contaminated and unsafe to drink. Lily’s family used to get sick often from drinking dirty water. Once, she and her husband were so ill that they could not work on their tea farm for three months. The time away from work cost their family income that they could not spare.

“That time was a waste. It was a total loss,” Lily recalled. Without the income from their farm, they didn’t have a way to pay the school fees for their six children, which meant they had to stay home and miss classes. Sometimes, the children were also absent due to typhoid and other waterborne illnesses.

The health of Lily’s family changed when they received a water filter from Samaritan’s Purse. “We are so joyful and happy. No one has been sick since we received the filters,” she said. Our teams provided water filters for others in Lily’s community, and taught these families the importance of hygiene and sanitation practices that can keep them safe from disease. Not only is the family healthier, Lily and her husband are able to afford school fees because they aren’t missing work due to sickness caused by dirty water. “My children’s future will be bright if they go to school,” Lily said. “Their poverty level will reduce and their livelihood will improve.”

*WITH JOY you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the Lord.”* 

ISAIAH 12:3-4, ESV
Feeding Migrant Families

Feeding Migrant Families

Food Distribution
Cúcuta, Colombia
January 2021
Having fled Venezuela, thousands of people are being fed by Samaritan’s Purse.

Each day Doris wakes up at 2 a.m. to make yuca empanadas and other pastries. When she’s finished about an hour later, she takes her 15-year-old daughter with her to sell these tasty treats to hungry truckers on the road near her home in Colombia.

“Every morning I pray and bless the food,” Doris said. She asks the Lord to provide, even as she works hard to sell the items she has prepared, because it means she and her children will have enough cash to barely scrape by for another day.

Every peso matters for this single mother of three, who was forced to quickly leave Venezuela—her home for many years—in 2015 and was later abandoned by her husband.

A ray of hope appeared when Doris came to a church in downtown Cúcuta and received a food parcel, or mercado, from Samaritan’s Purse—filled with staples including bags of flour, cornmeal, beans, rice, sugar, salt, and a bottle of cooking oil.

She was overjoyed because it was enough to help feed her family for three weeks or more.
“She had nothing to eat and we were able to bless her with a mercado and, from that moment on, she has been coming to the church,” said Cheilah Rodríguez, a church staff member.

Doris has since received six additional food parcels through Samaritan’s Purse distributions at the church. She is especially thankful that her 8-year-old son, who has cerebral palsy, has gained needed weight. “I’m grateful,” she said. “It’s quite a big help.”

Unable to earn income and forced to move during the pandemic lockdown in Colombia, Doris has recently been making a four-hour roundtrip journey—by bus and on foot—to the church to pick up her mercado. The trip is well worth it to her, not only for the food, but also for the accompanying Bible teaching delivered by Samaritan’s Purse staff. Our feeding program helped open her heart to the Lord, and now she is walking with Him, regularly encouraged by Cheilah and other Christian sisters.

“It has totally changed my life,” Doris said. Her relationship with Christ brings her joy despite great challenges and frustrations. “He is marvelous. He has never left me. And, He has given me the strength to continue and to stand firm.”

Doris is just one of hundreds of thousands of Venezuelan migrants and vulnerable Colombians who benefited from food baskets or hot meals provided by Samaritan’s Purse in 2020. We thank God for this opportunity to help relieve physical and spiritual hunger.
Evan|elism & Discipleship

Planting Gospel Seeds

Kenya
March 2020
They were there to minister to the Wata people, but were greeted with suspicion and even violence from the people who lived there.

“They would tell us, ‘We don’t want you here. Go away,’” Nelson said. But they did not go back home. He, Anisa, and their children stayed in Hona and faithfully continued sharing their faith.

Then a breakthrough came when the couple partnered with Samaritan’s Purse. We provided them with resources to train local families to raise chickens and grow crops.

Nelson and Anisa received seeds for plants, chickens, materials for chicken coops, and training on how to start and sustain a small farming operation.

The couple now has three groups of neighbors learning with them how to grow and farm. This has been a significant inroad into a community that struggles to make ends meet and feed their families.

Nelson and Anisa have the chance to build relationships with the very people who treated them poorly when they first came to Hona. “It has really brought us closer with the community,” Nelson says.

They feel that they are a true part of the community, and sharing the Gospel has become a part of the natural rhythms of their daily work.

“Coming together with Samaritan’s Purse and having these resources has allowed us to meet the community in a different way,” Anisa says. “It was impossible to share the Gospel before, but now I can share with people while working in the chicken coop.”

Farming has also provided the missionaries with a way to support themselves financially as they continue working to share the Gospel in Hona. What the Wata feared—Christians disrupting their culture and way of life—has become a delight as the missionaries have helped them in very practical ways.

And it’s been through these efforts, as an expression of Christ’s love and provision for the Wata, that one family has received Jesus into their lives and home.

The family regularly meets with Nelson and Anisa to learn more about the Savior and their newfound faith in Him.

And of course, it only takes one family, one seed, one faithful representative of the Good News of Jesus Christ to grow a garden of new believers in a spiritually dry place.

“They would throw stones—just because we were trying to worship God as a family,” recalls Nelson. He and his wife, Anisa, had moved to the village of Hona, a Muslim community in Kenya’s Tana River region.

Jesus Christ to grow a garden of new believers in a spiritually dry place.

“It wasn’t easy for us to stay,” Anisa said. “But our courage came from the Word of God and from the love that the Lord has given us for these people. Even for those people who first threw stones.”
ASSETS

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents:
- Available for ministries $172,201,415 $36,811,740
- Held for donor-restricted ministry purposes 257,642,392 209,215,913

Investments:
- Available for ministries 202,831,183 231,290,860
- Planned giving program 3,200,096 2,805,914

Grants receivable 10,197,035 8,199,662

Other current assets 42,429,862 49,299,952

Inventories 42,429,862 49,299,952

Total current assets 704,026,925 531,536,266

Noncurrent assets:

Planned giving program investments 50,954,420 39,666,260

Endowment investments 1,386,563 1,325,666

Other noncurrent assets 834,150 804,895

Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation 236,802,147 193,311,089

Total noncurrent assets 289,977,280 235,107,910

Total assets $994,004,205 $766,644,176

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable - suppliers $27,348,103 $28,080,784

Accrued expenses 14,566,696 11,760,859

Current portion of planned giving program obligations 3,200,096 2,805,914

Total current liabilities 45,115,395 42,647,557

Noncurrent liabilities:

Planned giving program obligations 25,169,821 22,039,794

Total noncurrent liabilities 25,169,821 22,039,794

Total liabilities 70,285,216 64,687,351

Net assets:

Without donor restrictions:
- Designated by governing board 131,609,654 57,314,276
- Represented by property and equipment 236,802,147 193,311,089
- General 271,555,505 208,649,762

Total without donor restrictions 639,962,307 458,674,126

With donor restrictions:
- Ministry purpose restrictions 282,749,673 242,275,600
- Perpetual in nature 1,007,009 1,007,009

Total with donor restrictions 283,756,682 243,282,633

Total net assets 923,718,989 701,956,825

Total liabilities and net assets $994,004,205 $766,644,176

2020 REVENUES

Total $898,666,165

Contributions $672,863,717 74.87%

Contributed Goods and Services $209,480,990 23.31%

Other Income $19,321,458 1.82%

2020 EXPENSES

Total $676,904,001

Ministry $576,914,641 85.23%

Fundraising $53,762,607 7.94%

General and administrative $48,276,753 7.06%

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Fundraising $53,762,607 7.94%

General and administrative $48,276,753 7.06%

The Ministry receives significant contributions at year-end due to program activity from projects such as Operation Christmas Child and normal year-end giving from donors. It is usual for cash and investment balances to be at their highest levels at year-end. The cash and investment balances are used as quickly as possible to support Ministry activity. If you would like a complete audit report, please contact us.
SAMARITAN’S PURSE is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan’s Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God’s love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
Thank You,

**LORD**

The glory belongs to God alone for each life touched by Samaritan’s Purse. The people we minister to are His creation. Christ gave His life so they can know Him for eternity—this is the Good News we share as we meet the needs of suffering people in the U.S. and more than 100 countries worldwide. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.