



FORGOTTEN VOICES



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



# OUR MISSION

To demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ by **partnering with local churches** in Southern Africa to empower **families and caregivers** to meet the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of **orphaned and vulnerable children** in their communities.



## A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Dear friends,**

Despite a challenging year, we've continually reminded ourselves of the following truth: **God is faithful.**

As we've reflected on God's faithfulness, we've been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support from friends like you. We're so thankful for you and the way you have demonstrated God's love to the orphaned and vulnerable through prayer, giving, and encouragement.

Over the past year, COVID-19 has created many challenges in southern Africa and around the world. But **God has been faithful** in meeting the needs of the orphaned and vulnerable we serve. Inside this report, you'll find a breakdown of all that we've accomplished together in this past year.

I pray that this report is a blessing to you and a reminder that **God is faithful** in good times and bad times. Thank you again for your commitment to demonstrate the love of Christ to the orphaned and vulnerable.

**Thank you for journeying with us,**

*Shelton Taguma, Executive Director*





# HOW WE **SERVE**

Forgotten Voices demonstrates the love of Jesus Christ through a holistic and sustainable model of orphan care. Through the voices on the ground, evidence-based methods, and worldwide research, we’ve solidified our approach to orphan care into three tiers.



## Church-Based

Local churches know their community’s needs and are best-positioned to address them. Forgotten Voices partners with trusted and committed churches to serve orphaned and vulnerable children and their caregivers in their communities.



## Family-Focused

Children thrive in nurturing families – so we equip families with safe parenting skills training, economic empowerment, emotional support and more. That way, families have skills and resources to meet their family’s needs while creating safe and supportive homes for children.



## Child-Driven

Every child’s needs are different: some need education support, others need grief counseling or even skills training. Whatever the need, we work to co-create custom development plans with our church partners to ensure every child’s needs are taken care of.



# CHURCH-BASED

NUMBER OF LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERS:

61



## Local Churches: Trusted & Committed

As the orphan crisis has grown in southern Africa, something else has been growing as well: the local church. Local churches are the solution to the orphan crisis.

They are centers of the community, a beacon of light, and they understand the needs of the people who live there. That’s why we partner with these experts who are committed to help vulnerable families and orphaned children in their communities.

### Meet Agape Missions Nketa in Zimbabwe!



Meet Pastor Sifiso Moyo (left in white) and her team at Agape Missions in a suburb of Bulawayo! We’ve partnered with them since 2016.

Together, we have cared for **over 400 orphaned children and vulnerable families** through:

- Education Support (tuition, uniforms, etc.)
- Counseling for Healing from Trauma
- Skills Training
- Parenting Training
- Spiritual Support

The church also has a garden that provides struggling families with food and funds future initiatives to better serve the children and families in their community.

**“Orphans need someone who will stand with them, who will walk by their side, and be a friend to them.”**  
- Pastor Moyo

### Will you join us in prayer?

This year, Agape Missions Nketa graduates from our 5-year partnership program! Now, they’re equipped with best practices in orphan care, trained in project management, and more. They will join a network of well-prepared churches dedicated to serving orphans and vulnerable children.

**Will you join us in praying for them as they continue the mission of caring for the orphaned and vulnerable?**





# FAMILY-FOCUSED

NUMBER OF FAMILIES & CAREGIVERS EMPOWERED:

1,194



## Children Belong in Families

Children thrive in loving, safe, and stable families. That's why we work to strengthen a family's or a caregiver's ability to care for children through parenting skills and economic empowerment.

## How Caregivers Were Empowered in 2020



**1,194** caregivers attended workshops and were equipped with parenting skills, practical tips, counseling assistance, and more



**873** caregivers received skills, business, or agriculture training, investments into their small business, seeds for farming or livestock



**265** caregivers placed in savings & credit associations to safely save money, invest in local ventures, and receive spiritual support

## Meet Katherine in Zambia!



Katherine is a young teacher who has two children of her own and also cares for two other orphaned children. After her husband abandoned the family, Katherine felt overwhelmed and alone trying to provide for the children.

**But God is faithful.** Through a partnership between Chinkuli Free Methodist and Forgotten Voices, Katherine joined a savings and credit association(SCA) at the church and began saving a little amount each month.

Together with Forgotten Voices, the church also helped her start a market garden to support her family.

Katherine has become an instrumental member of her community. She volunteers on Chinkuli Free's orphan care committee and tutors young girls. She's also helping train others in the creation of SCAs!





# CHILD-DRIVEN

NUMBER OF  
CHILDREN SERVED:

5,418



## Holistic Care for Better Futures

Orphaned and vulnerable children experience significant trauma that affects their development and well-being. To best care for these precious children, we need to address their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Well-adjusted children are more likely to succeed in school, develop healthy relationships, and avoid early marriages, early pregnancy, and poverty.

## How Children Were Served in 2020



**5,418** children learned of God’s love, were prayed for, and encouraged in their faith



**918** children received counseling and at-home visits to heal from trauma



**836** children received assistance with their school fees, uniforms, and school supplies

## Meet Sipho in Zimbabwe!



Sipho is a young girl from Zimbabwe. When she was young, her parents left her and her 3 older siblings to look for work but have never returned. She stays with her old grandmother who is unable to carry out most of the household chores.

Sipho is a bright student who enjoys studying and playing netball. She longs to see her parents and wishes that they could see her receive her academic awards.

Sipho’s local church has been a place of hope for her family. Together with Forgotten Voices, the church has paid for Sipho’s school fees, provided food, spiritual support, counseling, and medical assistance.

One day, she dreams of being a nurse!





# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

## ZAMBIA

**27** Church Partners

**507** Families/Caregivers empowered

**3,094** Orphaned or vulnerable children served

**\$132,433** in program expenses

## ZIMBABWE

**22** Church Partners

**218** Families/Caregivers empowered

**1,377** Orphaned or vulnerable children served

**\$137,352** in program expenses

## MALAWI

**12** Church Partners

**190** Families/Caregivers empowered

**947** Orphaned or vulnerable children served

**\$100,098** in program expenses

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**836** children received an education with their fees, supplies, and uniforms paid for



**1,698** children and caregivers received counseling and at-home visits to heal from trauma



**5,418** children learned of God's love and were encouraged in their faith



**1,194** caregivers attended a variety of parenting training to better care for their kids



**1,138** caregivers empowered economically to better support their family's physical needs





## FINANCIALS

Stewardship and transparency are key values of our work. So, we maintain strict guidelines of financials and work to make every dollar count. Here's a breakdown of how our finances were used in 2020:

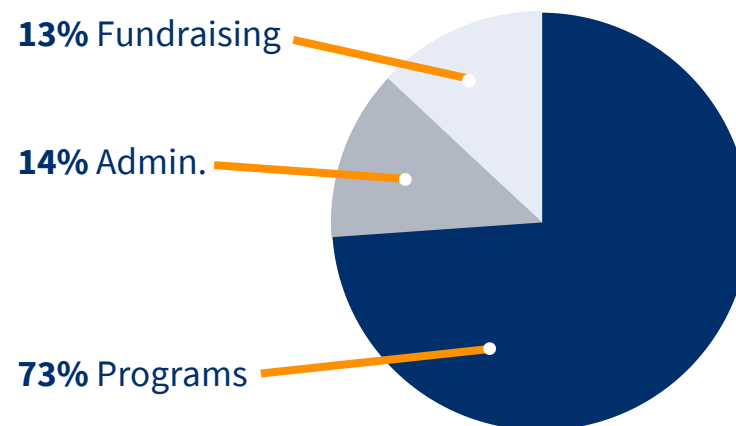
**Programs:** \$369,883

**Admin:** \$72,035

**Fundraising:** \$64,700

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**Total Expenses:** \$506,618



Contact us via **email** ([info@forgottenvoices.org](mailto:info@forgottenvoices.org)) for any questions or further documents related to our finances.





# COVID-19 RESPONSE

Just as COVID-19 has affected our daily life here in the US, life in southern Africa has changed dramatically. Businesses failed and schools were shut down. This led to food shortages across the region.

To address these overwhelming challenges, Forgotten Voices and its church partners rolled out custom plans to address food shortages, parenting challenges, and more.



**383** households in **Zambia** received food, cleaning supplies, and more



**145** households in **Zimbabwe** received food, cleaning supplies, and more



**185** households in **Malawi** received food, cleaning supplies, and more

Mapalo and her mom (photo, top right) were in a tough spot when COVID-19 began affecting their day-to-day lives.

Their food stand business was failing and the family was not sure where to turn. They were running out of options to purchase food and needed help.

Thanks to you, the Forgotten Voices led food distribution was an answer to Mapalo’s family’s prayers. At the food distribution, Mapalo and dozens of others in rural Zambia received much-needed food, cleaning supplies, and COVID-19 education. Mapalo’s family was especially grateful to God for the way he provided this blessing!





# OUR BOARD

Our board members play an integral role for the organization, with primary responsibilities for governance and fiduciary management. They also share their time, financial resources, spiritual counsel and professional expertise to advance the mission. We are grateful to have experienced board members guiding our work in all our country offices.

## United States Board Members

- Dr. Beverly Nyberg, *Board Chair*

Shelton Taguma, *Ex-Officio*

Elizabeth Stevko, *Vice Chair*

Terry Harris, *Treasurer*
- Dan Davis, *Secretary*

Maureen Matthews, *Director*

Ryan Keith, *Director*

Oscar Zebron, *Director*

## Zambia Board Members

- Maybin Kabwe, *Board Chair*

Mweetwa Hambai, *Treasurer*

Agnes S. Zalila, *Secretary*

Martin Kapenda, *Member*

Remmy Hamapande, *Country Director*
- Mary Mwiche, *Member*

Philip Ngonga, *Member*

Cathrine Phiri, *Member*

Mulimba Hendrix, *Member*

## Zimbabwe Board Members

- Jorum Mugari, *Board Chair*

Regina Nkomo, *Vice Chair*

Musoka Banda, *Treasurer*

Bekithemba Moyo, *Country Director*

## Malawi Board Members

- Jonathan Mbuna, *Board Chair*

Edson Kachitsa, *Treasurer*

Dr. Violet Odala, *Secretary*

Stephen Rodgers Monjeza, *Country Director*





## PRIORITIES FOR 2021

1. To reach 1,000 more orphaned and vulnerable children through comprehensive custom plans.
2. Co-create custom plans for 19 on-going church partnerships, facilitate the graduating process for 40 church partners, and onboard 35 new church partners to begin the 5-year partnership process to serve more orphaned and vulnerable children.
3. Increase family empowerment activities to support caregivers and families to be self-sufficient and recover from the challenges caused by COVID-19.
4. Strengthening our programming approach by adapting evidence-based tools to improve program planning, delivery, evaluation and reporting.
5. Continue to strengthen our organization, operational systems, networking/advocacy, and fundraising to improve program delivery and stability.



# *Thank You!*

**Friends, all of this work would be impossible without you.** Thank you for being part of God's plan to serve orphaned and vulnerable children in southern Africa. We are grateful for your partnership!



**FORGOTTEN VOICES**

