

FORGOTTEN VOICES

2018 Impact Report

IMPACT



members of their households.

Testimony of Hope



Before the Church of God intervened, Memory's home was not equipped to last through the rain storms that they have had.



Memory and her four children live in a rural community in southern Malawi. Since the passing of her husband a few years ago, she has been the sole breadwinner for her family. However, it has not been easy for her.

As Memory talks about her life and family, she said: "Life was very hard. I did not know what to do next. He [Memory's husband] had left me with very little twins, and two more children. I just had no idea what would become of my children and me."

Memory and her family struggled to find food and other basic needs. Where possible, she would help to cultivate her neighbor's fields in exchange for food and sometimes she had to beg others for her family to survive. A local church (Church of God) in the community, noticed her struggle and decided to intervene. In partnership with Forgotten Voices, the church's custom plan provided the family with the support they needed both physically and spiritually. Now, the family has enough food and all the children attend school and have the necessary school supplies. However, even more, the church went an extra mile in caring for this family. Memory told others at the church:

"I count my blessings. During the last rain season, part of the wall of our house had fallen while my children and I were sleeping. We could not bear the rainy seasons, and I was just confused- mostly sleeping with deep worries within me not knowing what will happen next. My children were asking questions I had no answers for them. Food was hard to find, and they continually went to school on an empty stomach, consequently not doing well. However, our story has changed. A church I was not part of [Church of God] intervened and showed us, love, from a place we never imagined. I no longer worry of rains. Even now, when many are rendered homeless due to the floods, I can sleep with a peace of mind, and my children are doing great at school through the church's provisions of school materials, uniforms, and follow-ups. We have seen God's love."

Memory and her children have a very sturdy new home.



Help us support many more families like Memory's!

Memory believes that the Church of God saved her from her struggle, and she has since been very active at church. She now has a supportive community in the church and is part of a group of caregivers who are taking care of a market garden at the church. She feels her struggles have drawn her closer to God in ways she never thought of and loves the Bible verse: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me [Christ]..." John 14:1.

Names have been changed for the protection of those we serve.

FINANCIALS



The total organizational expenses for fiscal year 2018 totaled \$850,847. Fundraising and administrative expenses were 26% of this total, while programmatic investments were 74% overall.

2019 PRIORITIES

- 1. Re-evaluating Forgotten Voices' current program approach to seek new ways to improve our partner experience and increase impact.
- 2. Developing an evidence-based model in collaboration with other global partners, that will be utilized as the foundation for our next 5-year strategic plan from 2020-2025, as well as become a model for other orphan care leaders.
- 3. Work with our church partners and FVI staff to improve the delivery of our programs by incorporating the staff with community development experience will help us track the impact of the work more effectively.

ABOUT US

OUR Our mission is to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ by equipping local churches in southern Africa to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children orphaned by AIDS in their communities.



Our vision is to innovate orphan care by listening to and supporting the existing efforts of local churches in Africa to preserve each family ability to care for orphaned and vulnerable children.



We partner with local **SEMINARIES** to find theologically-sound pastors who lead churches serving their communities with effective orphan care strategies. We help a local **CHURCH** create a **CUSTOM PLAN** that meets the unique needs of families caring for orphaned and vulnerable children in their community. Forgotten Voices then **QUIETLY INVESTS** in the plan and provides tools for **SUSTAINABLE**

INCOME.

These **CAREGIVERS** are already caring for orphaned children in their communities. We tap into their wisdom to encourage and support them by equipping the church to help them thrive. Each **CHILD** is cared for in a way that is custom, quiet, and sustainable. We do this by empowering a network of support around them.

All-Staff Retreat 2018

In 2018, FVI brought staff in four locations together for the first all-staff retreat in Livingston, Zambia. Fifteen staff members traveled to Livingstone for a three-day retreat. A time of prayer, worship, devotion and training sessions to discuss and enhance the organizations' mission and vision. There was a time of reflection and looking at future goals for the organization. The overall view from the four FVI staff locations was a new community that connected Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and United States offices. The combined retreat provided a new understanding and commitment to our program delivery and executing our mission and vision.

We are looking forward to what the Lord has in store for Forgotten Voices.



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