

ANNUAL REPORT 2019





MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

February 2020

To our Donors and Prayer partners in the Work of Forgotten Voices,

Thank you for your ongoing support of Forgotten Voices and the mission of helping orphaned and vulnerable children through the local church. As we began our 14th year of ministry in 2019, we focused on reviewing our mission and refining the methods of achieving that mission in the coming years.

In March, an independent contractor completed a comprehensive assessment of our programs. Using her recommendations, and input from staff and partners, the Forgotten Voices Board of Directors adopted a number of adjustments to our program model to ensure greater accountability to both donors and the vulnerable children we serve. We subsequently revised our mission statement to reflect this clarified approach.

Even while we looked inward, we responded to the devastation caused by Cyclone *Idai* in southern Malawi, we introduced new income generation projects for caregivers, and continued our core work of equipping church partners on the ground to provide life-giving help to vulnerable children and their caregivers.

Thank you for continuing to support this dynamic ministry. It is your generosity that enables us to remain faithful to our current commitments and to respond to what God is calling us to do in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Steve Proctor,
Forgotten Voices Board Chair



IMPACT HIGHLIGHT

JEAN — *Dreaming Big*

When Jean's* husband died, according to the customary laws in Malawi, her husband's family seized the property she and her husband had developed together, leaving Jean destitute with 4 young children – 3 of her own and her HIV+ orphaned niece.

The local church saw that Jean and her children were in crisis and began helping her with food, school support, and finally an income generation project so that Jean could meet her family needs on her own.

With the church's help, Jean attended Tiyamike Sewing project. After successfully completing the training, she was given a sewing machine. Now Jean is able to earn money to support herself and her children.

Before the church stepped in, Jean felt helpless and vulnerable.

"I thought all opportunities were gone after losing my job ... let alone, losing my husband. But I have seen the light now, and I am beginning to realize my potential and dream big for me and my family..."

* Names have been changed to protect those we serve



Now that Jean is able to provide for her family, the church no longer pays the children's school fees and are able to help other orphans in the community. Jean feels empowered, knowing she can care for her children on her own.

"This what I have attained, no one can take it away from me - it is the greatest capital, far greater than receiving money and I can see an amazing improvement. I cannot fathom such great love, and I greatly thank those who have made this dream of mine a reality."

"I have always been waiting for this moment, that without struggle, but from doing the very things I love, I will be able to support my family, providing for the basic needs. One special thing that is so dear to me is the recent joy I have experienced this term by being able to pay school fees, examination fees and buy school materials for my 17 year old boy John who is now in form 4. Through the savings from the sales I am making, I am also able to buy us food items...To realize I can do it by myself through the help I have been given gives me and my children joy as we are part of our own progress here. Thank you."

With Forgotten Voices' support, Jean has built resilience and capacity to look after the orphans in her care. Like many of the amazing women standing up for their families, she dreams of being able to help others: "I dream of a day I will own my own shops across the country, and being able to be a blessing to some through helping them in sewing skills just as I have been. I would like to be able to tell my church one day; 'Give me one or two that are in need like I was, I want to see God changing their stories through me.' I want my children to learn from what is happening, and be responsible as they become mature. I desire for them to have a brighter future just like any mother would wish for her children."

Family by family, this is how we will end the orphan crisis together.





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.

OUR VISION

That every child will experience the love of God and the security of a family, church, and community.

OUR APPROACH

We believe that the local church, under trustworthy leadership and with committed community members, is the best-positioned entity to meaningfully and effectively serve the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities.

We partner with local churches in southern Africa to empower families and caregivers to support orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities.

We partner with local churches to create holistic custom plans that meet local needs through sustainable local solutions.

We use robust evidence-based assessment tools to identify needs, design appropriate interventions, and monitor, evaluate, and learn about the progress towards the health and wellbeing of each child and family we serve.

We collaborate with other trusted entities to build the capacity of the church to ensure the community leaders have the tools they need to serve orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities.





IMPACT NUMBERS

2019 AT A GLANCE

\$600,690 Total Expenditures

59 Church Partners Empowered

6,031 Orphaned, Vulnerable children, and Caregivers served

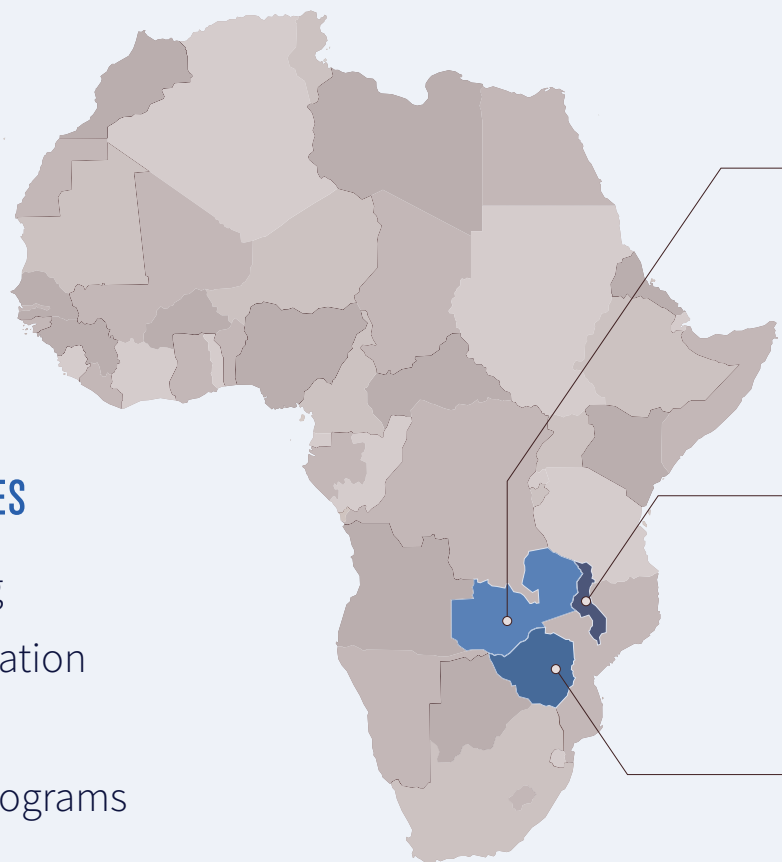
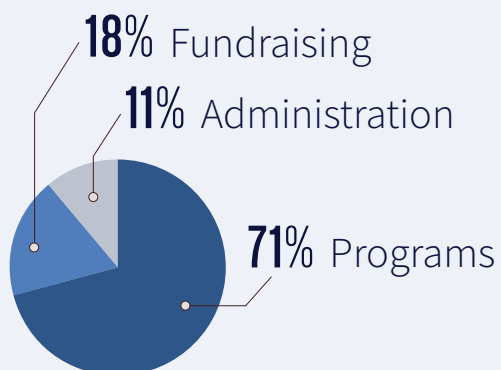
FINANCIALS — BREAKDOWN

\$ 426,297 Programs

\$ 69,001 Administration

\$ 105,392 Fundraising

ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



ZAMBIA

25 Church Partners

3,516 Orphans & Caregivers Impacted

\$100,766 Total Program Expenses for 2019

MALAWI

12 Church Partners

1,335 Orphans & Caregivers Impacted

\$73,483 Total Program Expenses for 2019

ZIMBABWE

22 Church Partners

1,180 Orphans & Caregivers Impacted

\$109,917 Total Program Expenses for 2019

HOW WE HELPED SERVICES PROVIDED



1,389 Children received assistance with school fees and supplies for their Education



823 Children and **150** Caregivers received Psychosocial services to help them heal from trauma and loss



110 Caregivers participated in the economic empowerment Savings and Credit Associations group



100 Small-businesses started for caregivers



28 Children and **19** Caregivers received skills training



17 Households received farming inputs

DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS IN MALAWI:



72 Families who lost homes and livelihoods during Cyclone *Idai* received food, hygiene kits, and basic supplies





2020 PRIORITIES

1. Casting a sustainable, evidence-based and family-based orphan-care vision to the local church in Africa.
2. Equipping and supporting local church partners and country staff teams with a robust capacity-building approach that will ensure that all stakeholders have been adequately equipped to meet the needs of orphaned, vulnerable children and their families.
3. Improving our program approach by adapting monitoring and evaluation tools that allow us to track and effectively communicate the impact of our ministry with partners/ donors.
4. Implementing a fundraising strategy that is based on building relationships with current donors and new donors to increase our financial support and diversifying our fundraising strategy to sustain our work.
5. Selecting 20 new church partners to serve more orphaned and vulnerable children in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi.





SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE