

A full-page photograph serves as the background. It depicts a young woman with a warm smile, wearing a blue and white striped polo shirt and dark grey trousers. She is holding a young child who is wearing a purple t-shirt, red shorts, a colorful patterned hat, and light blue Crocs. They are standing in front of a weathered building with peeling white paint and a wooden door frame. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daylight.

2023

ANNUAL
REPORT



A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Forgotten Voices Board of Directors, I would like to say thank you for your continued prayers and support.

In 2023, we had the privilege of partnering with local churches dedicated to empowering families and caregivers to meet the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities. Despite the challenges we face, I am constantly reminded that God's goodness is present even in our most difficult times.

Over the past year, our ministry has faced many challenges. We lost two crucial staff members: Remmy Hamapande, who served as the Zambia Country Director, and Sikhangezile Moyo, whom we fondly knew as "Skha." Their passing created a significant void in our programming. It was difficult for us to grieve and move forward with our work simultaneously. Remmy and Skha were passionate advocates for the orphaned and vulnerable, and they used their God-given talents to impact countless lives in their communities and beyond.

The situation for the children, families and communities we serve in southern Africa is challenging due to several factors, including extreme poverty, family breakdown, trauma, political and economic instability and other local conditions. These issues continue to significantly impact communities, putting the health and well-being of vulnerable children and families at risk.

Additionally, in the past year, inflation and an increase in the cost of living in the US have led to a decrease in the amount of donations received across all of our funding streams. Our Board and staff are actively working to improve engagement with donors and adjust our financial projections and program priorities accordingly. Yet, even during a year marked by loss and increasing hardships, His faithfulness carried us through. We believe there is a lot worth celebrating!

In this report, we are excited to share all God accomplished through Forgotten Voices in 2023. You'll hear how Forgotten Voices is collaborating locally and globally to improve the well-being of orphaned and vulnerable children and their families. We pray that you'll be inspired by the resiliency of those we serve and encouraged by stories that show how **you strengthen local churches, build strong families and help children thrive.**

Thank you! Your prayers, encouragement and generosity make Forgotten Voices happen. May you be encouraged by the impact and transformation you have made possible this past year!

With Gratitude,
Dr. Beverly Nyberg, Board Chair 2023



OUR MISSION

To **demonstrate the love of 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.**



INNOVATING ORPHAN CARE THROUGH THE LOCAL CHURCH

We believe the Church is an anchor in times of crisis and a reliable support system for vulnerable children and families. Local churches know their community's needs and are best-positioned to address them using sustainable solutions.

Our model for orphan care is based on listening to and supporting local church leaders in creating comprehensive plans for vulnerable children and their families using local solutions. This family-based care approach seeks to equip the local church, empower caregivers and ensure every child grows up in a safe, stable and loving family.

Church-Based



We partner with trusted and committed churches to **equip local leaders** to serve children and families.



Family-Focused



We work with the church to **empower families** with skills and resources to meet their needs.



Child-Driven

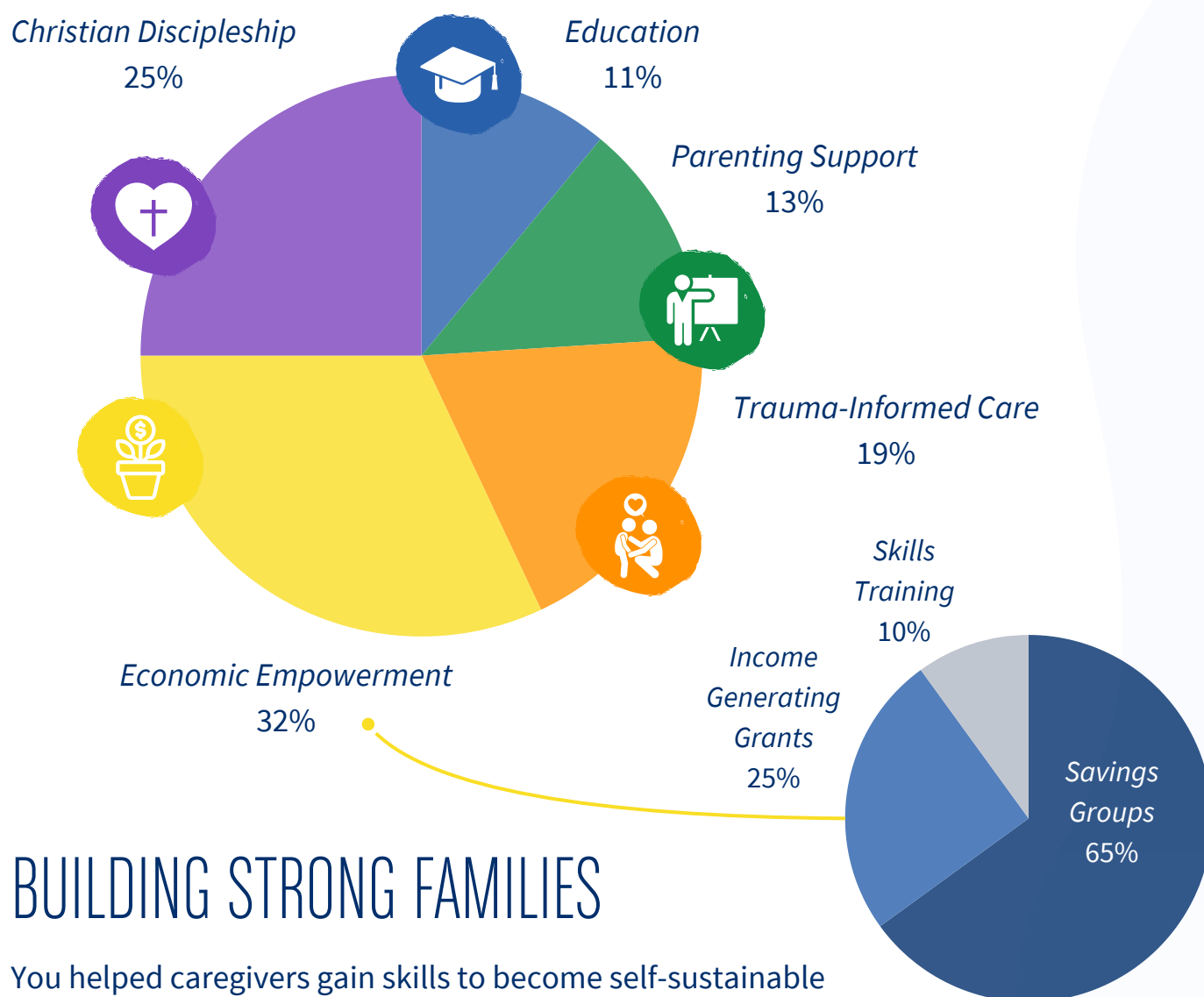


We co-create custom development plans with services designed to **meet the unique needs of children.**



HOW YOU MADE AN IMPACT

Despite many challenges, we are excited to celebrate the impact you made on **7,648 orphaned and vulnerable children** and **1,385 caregivers** in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi! Through your faithful giving, we partnered with **56 local churches** to provide sustainable, Christ-centered programs that offer relief, support and hope for the most vulnerable children and families.



BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

You helped caregivers gain skills to become self-sustainable and ensure children grow up in safe, stable and loving homes!



ZIMBABWE

17 church partners
402 caregivers empowered
2,334 children served

\$123,238 invested in
programs, services and
grants

ZAMBIA

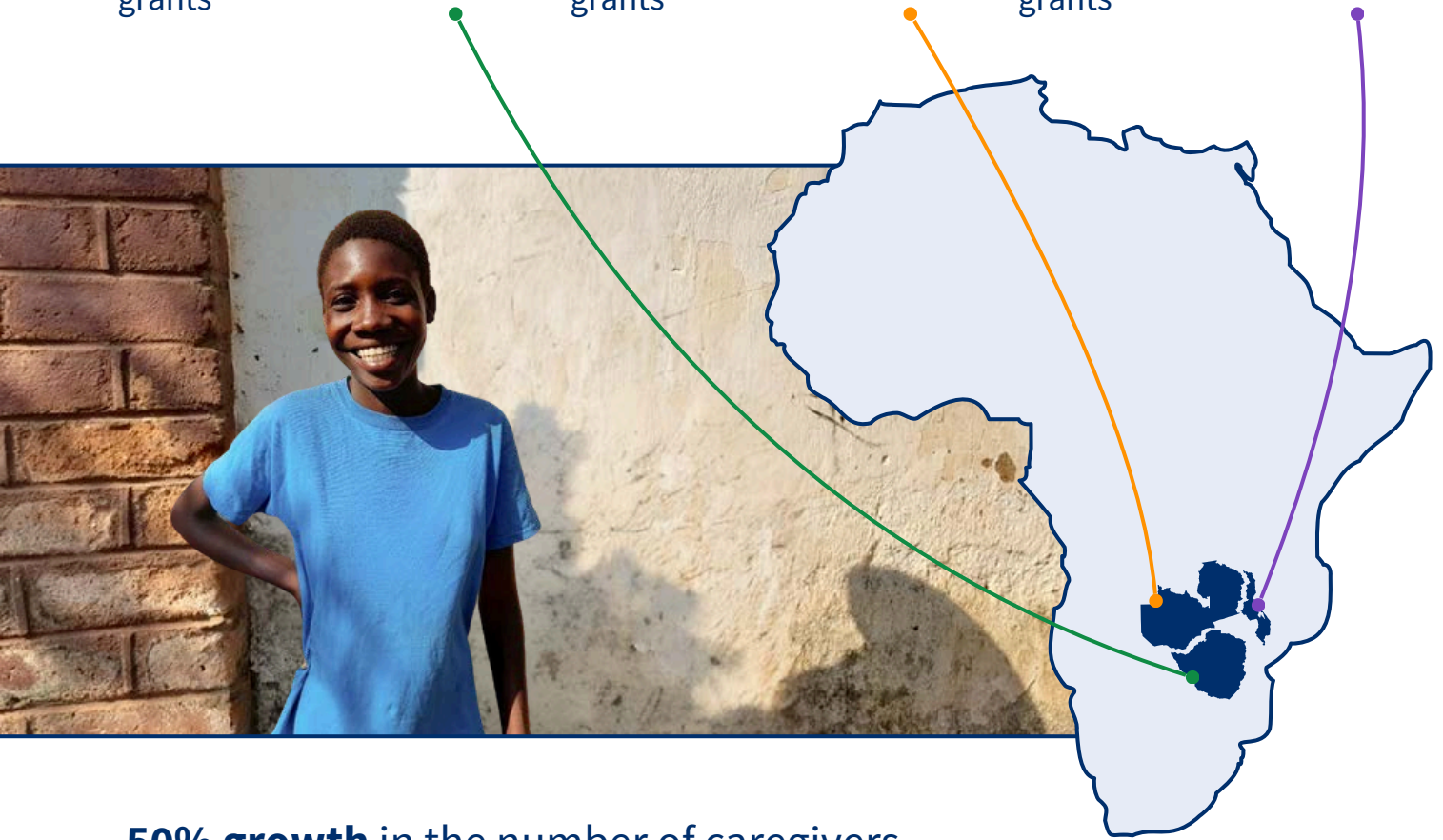
22 church partners
374 caregivers empowered
4,470 children served

\$151,497 invested in
programs, services and
grants

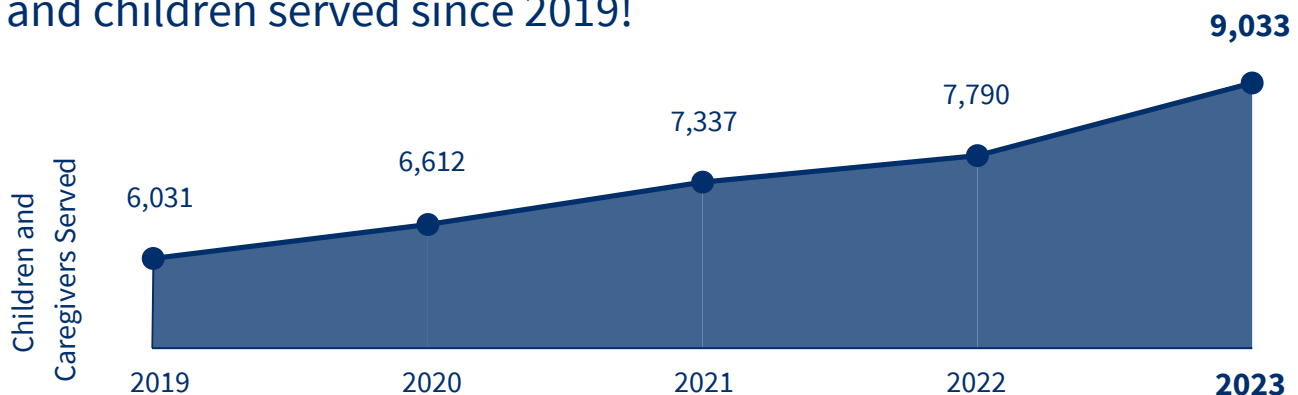
MALAWI

17 church partners
609 caregivers empowered
844 children served

\$146,261 invested in
programs, services and
grants



50% growth in the number of caregivers
and children served since 2019!



BUILDING STRONGER FAMILIES

Joyce and her husband live in a partially built, one-room shanty with 4 of their children and 8 grandchildren. Even in their old age, Joyce and her husband work hard to provide for the children, but cannot meet their family's needs. To keep their family together, they collect large river stones and use hammers to break them down into smaller gravel to sell, which is hard work.

Despite Joyce's tireless efforts to provide for her family, more was needed, and it seemed impossible to keep food on the table or her children in school.

Forgotten Voices' church partner in the community visited the family and brought basic food supplies to help them. Joyce was overwhelmed with emotion, saying, *"My mealie-meal bucket was actually empty. I did not know what I was going to feed the children tonight."*

Since that visit, and in less than a year of receiving support from her local church, Joyce has participated in life skills and parenting support seminars, undergone Christian discipleship training with One Hope and has been empowered to start and manage her own business! Furthermore, the children can attend school and have the necessary supplies to learn.



Today, Joyce shares, *"Thank you so much. You have greatly helped me and my family. Words alone can never be enough to say thank you."*

Joyce's family is one of many empowered to meet the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children. Thanks to your generous support, we can provide lasting solutions to **support caregivers and build stronger families so children can thrive!**





With tears in her eyes, Lidia expressed, “Thank you so much for the love you have shown us.” One act of kindness and a holistic, family-based approach to orphan care transformed Lidia’s family.

Visit bit.ly/FVI-Lidia to read their story!

Facing Economic Instability

In much of southern Africa, inflation, unemployment, exchange rate volatility and other economic issues threaten the well-being of children and families.

These challenges are often among those most identified by our church partners. We’re helping churches respond to these issues and help care for children and families, which is possible because of your support!



“The training was excellent. I liked how balanced it was: the spiritual aspects and the practicality of setting up a savings group.”

- A caregiver from Dambwa North BIC, Zambia



In May, students from Messiah University’s Economic Empowerment group traveled to Zambia with Forgotten Voices to co-facilitate Community Savings Group trainings with our local church partners.

The workshops helped 69 caregivers learn new financial skills to effectively meet the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children in their care.





We are grateful to have partnered with One Hope in Zimbabwe to distribute Christian discipleship materials and **train caregivers and church leaders** on how to best share the Word of God with children!



With help from the church, Catharine enrolled in tailoring school and now uses her skills **to better meet her daughter's needs!**



Empowering Families

In March, Malawi was struck by a tropical cyclone equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane. The storm destroyed homes, displaced over 500,000 people and compounded the vulnerabilities of orphaned children, families and communities.

In partnership with local churches, Forgotten Voices responded to the crisis through disaster relief efforts, trauma-informed care and by providing income generating grants that empowered caregivers to rebuild their livelihoods.



*"The church gave me money to renovate my house and start a business, so I purchased sugarcane to sell. The business went on successfully, such that **my four children can eat at the same time that our house is being renovated.** It is like a miracle! My heart is filled with gratitude."*

- Esther, a mother of 4 children, Malawi





Did you know that the caregivers we serve are thankful for the ways you are caring for their kids?

Visit bit.ly/FVI-Abigail today to hear Abigail express her gratitude for her local church and the impact you have had on her daughter, Joyce.

Helping Children Thrive

Our team joined hands with the Malawi Police and Ministry of Social Good to conduct community-based training workshops. These workshops equipped church leaders with knowledge and skills to protect children.

37 leaders and caregivers participated and were trained to identify and respond to cases of child abuse, establish local child protection policies and **create safe spaces for children.**



"I am grateful to God for sending the church!"
- Tiyanjane, 15 years old, Zimbabwe



30 young women, most of them orphaned and vulnerable, learned about reproductive health rights and how to make reusable sanitary pads during a training with Women for Social Change!



Equipping Global Leaders

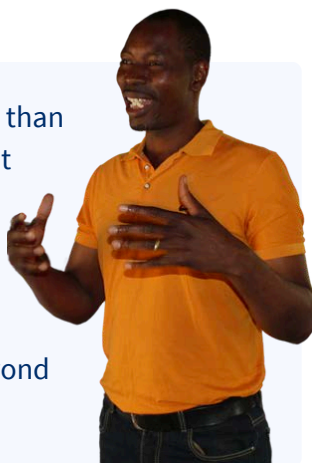
By collaborating and pooling our resources, expertise and skills with partners such as **Mosaic**, **One Hope** and **Tehila**, we have empowered leaders to solve their country's orphan crisis.

We have also been blessed with opportunities to share our model of partnering with local churches at **World Without Orphans** meetings globally.

We believe that God is making a way for children and families as we share and learn from others!

In 2023, leaders from more than **85 countries** learned about our vision, mission and model for orphan care.

Your support is helping us **expand our impact** beyond southern Africa!



We partnered with the **Trauma Healing Institute** to equip churches with Bible-based mental health resources to help heal those who are hurting.

Their Executive Director shared, *"When Forgotten Voices comes alongside local churches who are caring for orphans and vulnerable children, **God provides** for those caregivers and church leaders."*





Community Savings Group at BICC Emganwini



"We thank God for this partnership, which has enabled us to become agents of change in our community."

- Agape Life Church, Malawi



Local Collaboration Leads to a Collective Impact for Children

At Forgotten Voices, we are committed to linking arms with like-minded local churches and organizations to support orphaned children and vulnerable families.

In 2023, we were blessed with opportunities to join **Keystone Family Alliance** for Orphan and Stand Sunday, help US champions develop a global view of vulnerable child care and collaborate with a number of other partners co-laboring for the Kingdom of God!

Mark your calendars! This year's Orphan and Stand Sunday - and now Pure Religion Sunday - will be celebrated on **November 10, 2024!**



WILL YOU GET INVOLVED?

GIVE



\$300 can help build strong families and provide life-changing care to a child for 1 whole year!

To help ensure a brighter tomorrow for children and families, **will you prayerfully consider legacy giving options** like adding a provision to your will, memorial giving, donor-advised funds and other non-traditional gifts? Contact us to learn more!

PRAY



Visit forgottenvoices.org to receive regular prayer updates from Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi!

CONNECT



Contact us to volunteer, host an event or explore other opportunities to get involved with our mission!



If you have not already signed up to be a Thrive Partner - Forgotten Voices's new community of monthly givers - we invite you to join us at bit.ly/FVI-Thrive!

By giving monthly to sustain our work, you'll help more children thrive!



Dear Friends,

It is our hope that you are inspired by the resiliency of those we serve, and encouraged by stories from 2023 that show how **you are strengthening local churches, building strong families and helping children thrive.**

Thanks to your generosity and support, we can continue our pursuit of family-based care and family-strengthening work in southern Africa and beyond. You have helped us keep families together by providing educational support for children and economically empowering caregivers through savings groups, business grants, skills training and more. To help families cope with emotional, physical and spiritual challenges, children and caregivers are receiving trauma-informed care, Christian discipleship and parenting support resources. Your support has significantly impacted our work, and we are grateful for your contributions to this mission.

As we look to the future, we pray for God's continued provision and for the children, caregivers and churches we serve. **We look forward to journeying with you** as we work to:

- Demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ through mobilizing, equipping and resourcing local churches to effectively support families in caring for orphaned and vulnerable children in their communities through local solutions and evidence-based tools.
- **Empower families and caregivers with skills and resources** to improve the well-being of vulnerable children in their community.
- Build the structure of our organization to strengthen program delivery and improve fundraising efforts.
- Develop and expand our donor partnerships to sustain and increase the impact of our work.
- Continue to build local and global partnerships to improve program delivery, accountability and better care and services for orphaned and vulnerable children and their families.

We are encouraged by all God is doing and grateful for the many ways you are joining us. **Thank you** for your support and partnership!

With Gratitude,
Shelton Taguma, Executive Director



OUR LEADERSHIP

Zimbabwe Board of Advisors:

Jorum Mugari, *Board Chair*
 Musoka Banda, *Treasurer*
 Gugu Hokonya, *Secretary*
 Shamisai Gomo, *Member*
 Precious Moyo, *Member*
 Regina Nkomo, *Member*

Zambia Board of Advisors:

Kabwe Maybin Kabwe, *Board Chair*
 Mweetwa Hambai, *Treasurer*
 Agnes Sakala Zalila, *Secretary*
 Catherine Phiri, *Member*
 Martin Kapenda, *Member*
 Philip Ngonga, *Member*
 Rev. Mary Zulu-Mwiche (PhD), *Member*

Malawi Board of Trustees:

Jonathan Mbuna, *Board Chair*
 Edson Kachitsa, *Treasurer*
 Agnes Kambala, *Member*
 Cecelia Kapalamula, *Member*
 Counsel Sullivan Issac Kagundu, *Member*

United States Board of Directors:

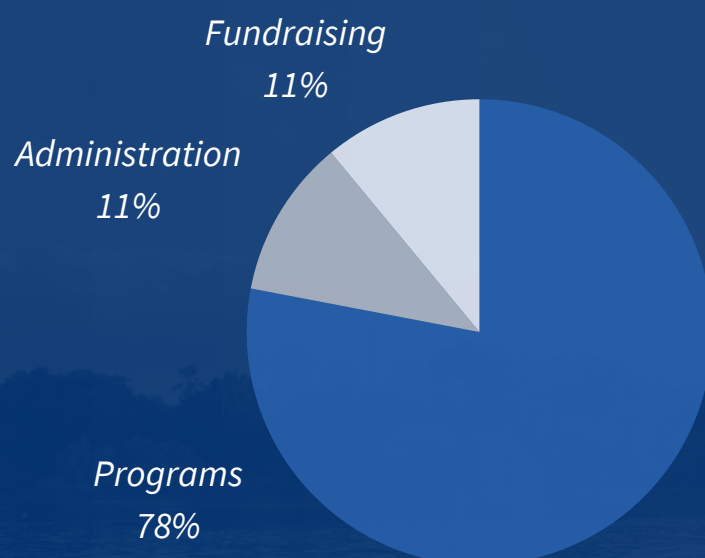
Steve Proctor, *Interim Board Chair*
 Ryan Keith, *Vice Chair*
 Amanda Thompson, *Treasurer*
 Dr. Michael Dolislager, *Secretary*
 Dr. Beverly Nyberg, *Director*
 Dr. Jeff Moshier, *Director*
 Kathy Goss, *Director*
 Shelton Taguma, *Ex-Officio*

Forgotten Voices is committed to wise stewardship of the resources entrusted to us by God through our donors' generosity. Having sought His wisdom, here is our financial breakdown for 2023:

Expense Breakdown:

Programs:	\$420,996
Administration:	\$59,906
Fundraising:	\$58,249

Total Expenses: \$539,151





THANK YOU!

Friends, throughout 2023, we were blown away by the many ways you joined our mission! Transformation in the lives of the children, families and churches we serve would not be possible without your continued prayers, encouragement and support. Thank you for partnering with us. We are grateful to journey together!

STAY CONNECTED!

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ON THE COVER:

Ziwe received a small business grant from her local church's partnership with Forgotten Voices, which she used to start a business that has empowered her to provide for her son and whole family!

