

# Child Hope

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# DEAR CHILD HOPE FAMILY,

What a year!

As we look back on 2019, we can say with certainty that God's grace carried us through very tumultuous times here in Haiti.

We experienced a political and social unraveling: 18% inflation, schools were forced to close, and at 3 different times the city of Port Au Prince was barricaded and locked down because of protests in the street. Although Haiti was extremely volatile, the staff and kids at Maison de Lumiere remained safe.

In the midst of these challenges, Child Hope International, by God's grace, was able to walk out our mission: to provide care for the orphaned and create hope for families in Haiti through Christian-motivated care, relationships, and training.

We are most excited about the work we accomplished through our Family Hope program, focusing on reunifying children with their families. God made it clear to us that children belong in families, and therefore we need to grow this program. In 2019, we located 13 new family members through our family tracing efforts. We successfully reintegrated four of our kids with their families. We've continued to follow-up on a regular basis with each family and are thrilled at the success and the joy of seeing first-hand how "God sets the lonely in families" (Psalm 68:6).

This can only happen because our Child Sponsors and Hope Partners continue their support. You made this possible. I hope you enjoy the content of this annual report, because you co-authored it!

Mesi Anpil,

*Spencer & Risa Reeves*

## MISSION:

provide care for the orphaned and create hope for families in Haiti through Christian-motivated care, relationships, and training

## VISION:

provide orphan care that reduces the future demand for orphan care in Haiti



# Family Hope Accomplishments

## RECONCILING AND REUNIFYING “ORPHANS” WITH THEIR LOVING FAMILIES

For our 23 children:

- 4 transitioned into their family’s home, while still receiving services from CHI, with an additional 11 children on the reunification path in 2020
- 22 had monitored interactions with a family member
- 6 visited their family’s home during summer break
- 4 had extended stay visits with family of 2 days or longer

Additional accomplishments:

- Advised and collaborated with other organizations interested in reunification
- One family kept together instead of separated due to our orphan prevention efforts

Child Hope International’s first reunification took place in October 2018. Reunification is an important milestone, but not the completion of our Family Hope program. After a child moves into a family’s home, we provide wrap-around services such as financial assistance for education and medical care for the children, business classes, microfinance loans, and other services on a case-by-case basis. We define success by not only placing children in family-based care, *but seeing them grow and thrive in a family.*



Our social worker meets a child at her family’s home

## A STORY OF REUNIFICATION

After the 2010 earthquake, a young girl was separated from her mother and brought to our orphanage. In 2018, due to our family tracing efforts, we located her mom. After an assessment period, we were able to reconcile and reunify this child with her mother. Today, our social workers make regular visits - announced and unannounced - to check on the child’s safety and wellbeing. On a visit in December 2019, our social worker reported that the young girl was doing well emotionally and physically. Our social worker met with her mother to collect school records, verifying attendance and progress. They also discussed business prospects. Her mother currently makes an income by selling fresh produce, and Child Hope is one of her biggest customers! It is a win-win for us: we are feeding the children in the orphanage with wonderful fruits and veggies from her garden, and the mother feels empowered because she is earning a living that helps care for her child.



# Maison de Lumiere Accomplishments

## PROVIDING EXCELLENT HOLISTIC CARE TO CHILDREN IN OUR ORPHANAGE

- 23 children were nurtured, loved, spiritually disciplined, fed, clothed, sent to school, and they attended worship services in our orphanage
- Psychologist/counselor led 75 individual counseling sessions & 12 group sessions to address the trauma that our children have experienced
- All staff completed a Child Protection Training course, where they learned new approaches and techniques for caring for children
- Children received their required vaccines, eye exams, and services from a mobile dental clinic
- Children enjoyed these summer programs: VBS at a local church, STEM Camp, beach day, trip to the movies, and pool day



Our children have been extraordinarily resilient. Due to political protests and the threat of violence, schools were closed for weeks at a time. Teachers sent lesson plans to our nannies, and we began homeschooling our students. The kids and staff rose to the occasion, really diving into their studies and taking their education seriously. Our staff has worked hard to maintain normalcy and celebrate important milestones. Despite the protests, our youngest child was able to celebrate her kindergarten graduation, and our 9th grader took the national exam in June and passed!

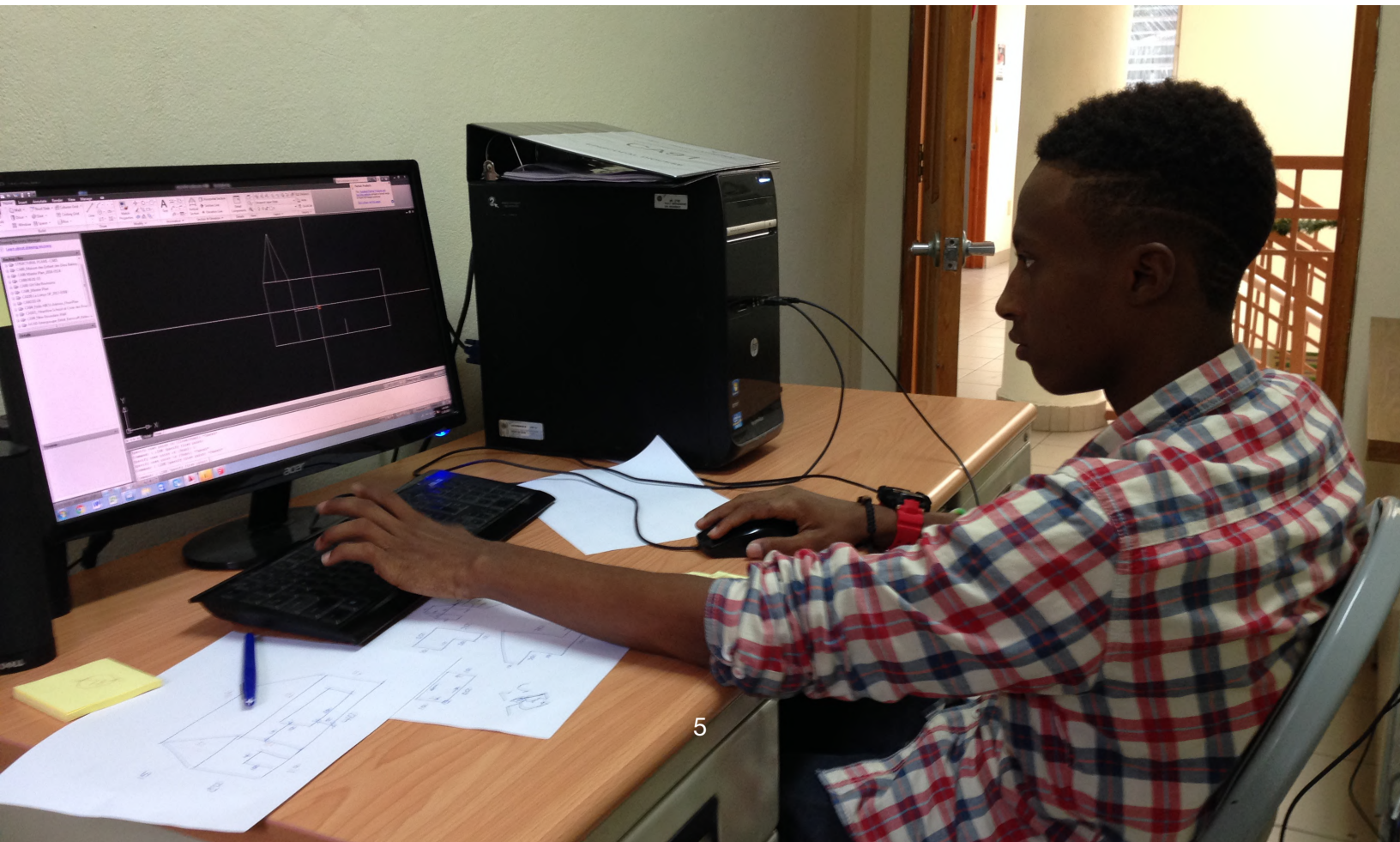


# Future Hope Accomplishments

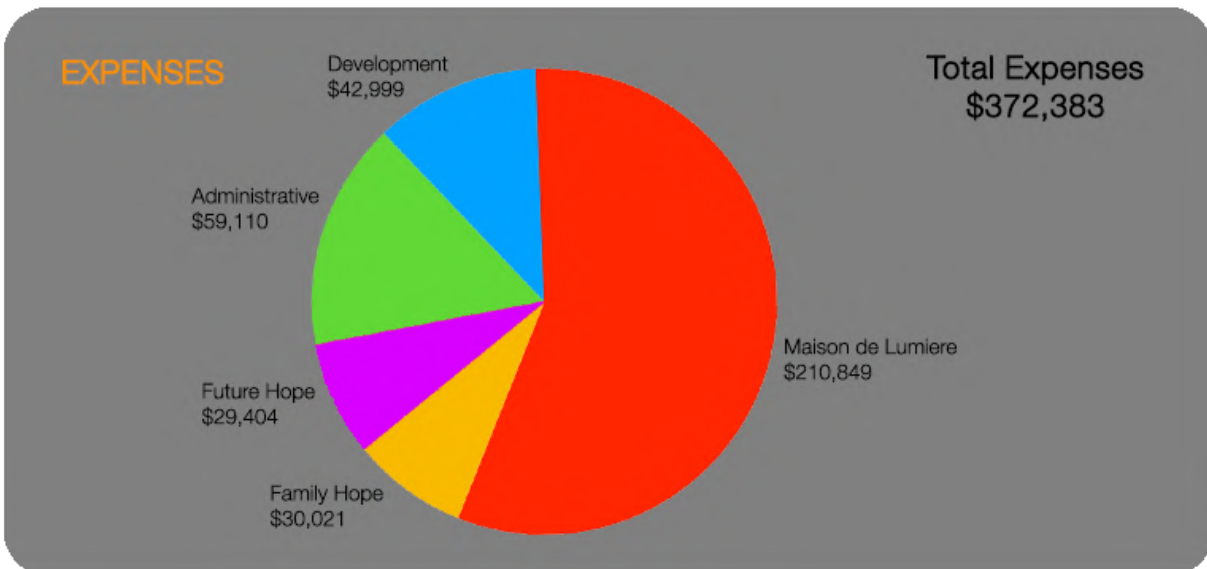
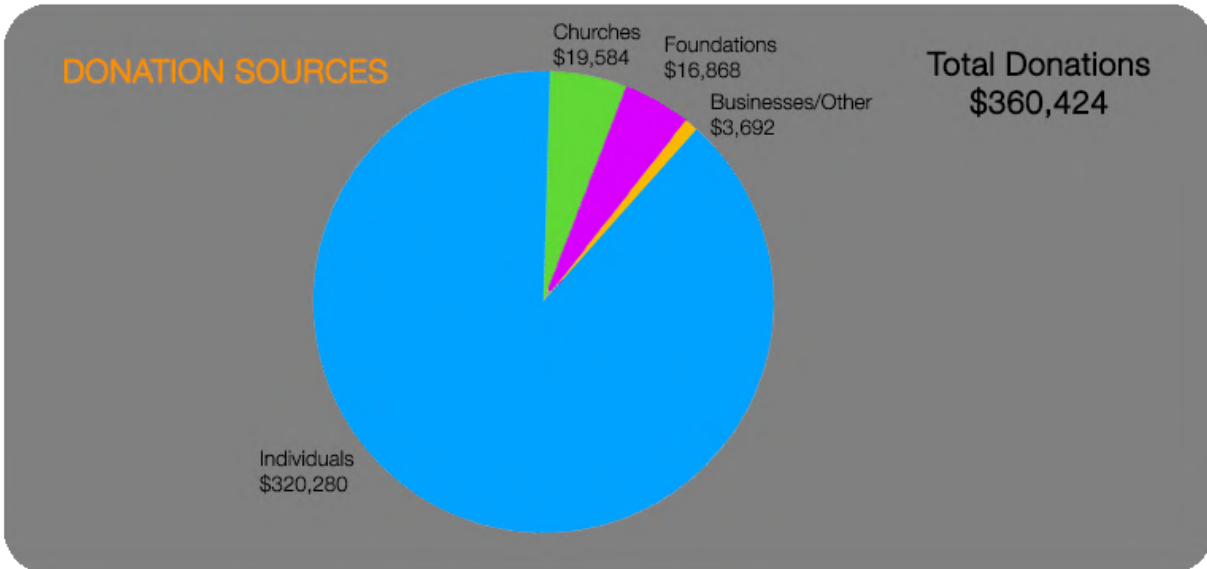
## PREPARING THE CHILDREN AND GRADUATES FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

- 10 graduates were assisted with financial support for university, vocational school, or secondary school
- 5 of our older youth (age 15+) participated in internships
- Children attended 4 field trips to local businesses
- Children heard about the benefits of volunteering from a local business leader

One of our interns reflected on his internship experience. "During my internship experience with MSAADA (an architecture firm), I was able to develop my planning and sketching plan skills. I understood that if buildings designed by architects, structural engineers, and other design professionals are to achieve the high expectations of stakeholders, it is imperative that the construction process be supervised. Although I found construction planning and sketching to be challenging, I found it to be valuable in developing my confidence in building a new world." This preparation is a step toward lifting himself out of poverty, changing his trajectory, and breaking the orphan cycle!



# 2019 Financials



Haiti's political situation throughout 2019 created financial uncertainty. As an organization, we took measures to help protect our staff, such as converting payroll from Haitian gourdes to US dollars, protecting against devaluation & inflation, and moving away from cash-based transactions. These measures also provide stronger financial controls for the ministry.

Like other organizations in Haiti, Child Hope has seen a decline in donations in recent years, so much so that our expenses exceeded our donations. **However, the needs of children and families remain the same.** God is looking to the church to be the light to orphans and widows. We need our donors' continued support, especially during this time of transition. With your partnership, we can continue making a difference.

# Our Plan for 2020 and Beyond

At our strategic planning meeting in August 2019, the Board of Directors prayed over the direction of the ministry. We asked for God's discernment, assessed our own strengths and weaknesses, and discussed the ministry's Big Holy Audacious Goals (BHAGs).

While our roots and credibility were established in institutional care (the orphanage) in 2004, scripture and research have been pointing us to a better way of caring for children - in families. We concluded the strategic planning meeting with a definitive BHAG: to help all children living in Haitian orphanages to become sons and daughters, thriving in a loving family. Our new model has the potential to impact hundreds, possibly thousands, of children in Haiti!

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**OUR GOAL** over the next three years will be to responsibly and lovingly transition all of the children living at the orphanage Maison de Lumiere to family-based care. The care of the children is our highest priority and we will not rush this process for the sake of a deadline.

**As we transition out of institutional care, we will be stepping into even greater ministry impact.** We will continue to serve children in Haiti by working with the Haitian government to offer family reunification services to the other 750 orphanages - 32,000 children plus their families. We have already had several meetings with the Haitian government and have their enthusiastic support!

Our vision for our ministry is growing! We have the same calling - to "care for orphans and widows in their distress." This new chapter for Child Hope International will allow us to be more effective and efficient in pursuing that call.

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## THANK YOU!

You are an essential part of the good work God is doing in Haiti. We cannot express how deeply grateful we are to have your support and partnership.



# Get Involved

Together we can answer God's call to care for orphans and widows in their distress. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us in one or more of the following ways:

- Pray for Haiti daily. For children & families, our staff, the political situation, and that God's Spirit would move among the local church to stir a revival.
- Meet with our Directors! We would love to meet in person (when possible) or over a video call. Email [communications@childhope.org](mailto:communications@childhope.org) to set it up.
- Introduce friends, family, and your church to the work of CHI. For more info, visit [www.childhope.org/ambassadors](http://www.childhope.org/ambassadors)
- Send a gift today! [www.childhope.org/donate](http://www.childhope.org/donate)
- Increase your monthly or annual support. Call our office for assistance (805) 845-1946.
- Include Child Hope in your tax planning, estate planning, and donor advised gifts.
- Maximize your donation! See if your company supports matching gifts, and let us know if we can help with the process.

## CONTACT

### Board and Staff

Jody Giles- *Chairman*  
Brooke James- *Treasurer*  
David Fiske- *Secretary*  
Craig Ronning - *Member*  
Kimberly Miller - *Member*  
Brett Hall - *Member*

Spencer & Risa Reeves  
*Haiti Directors of Operations & Finance*

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