



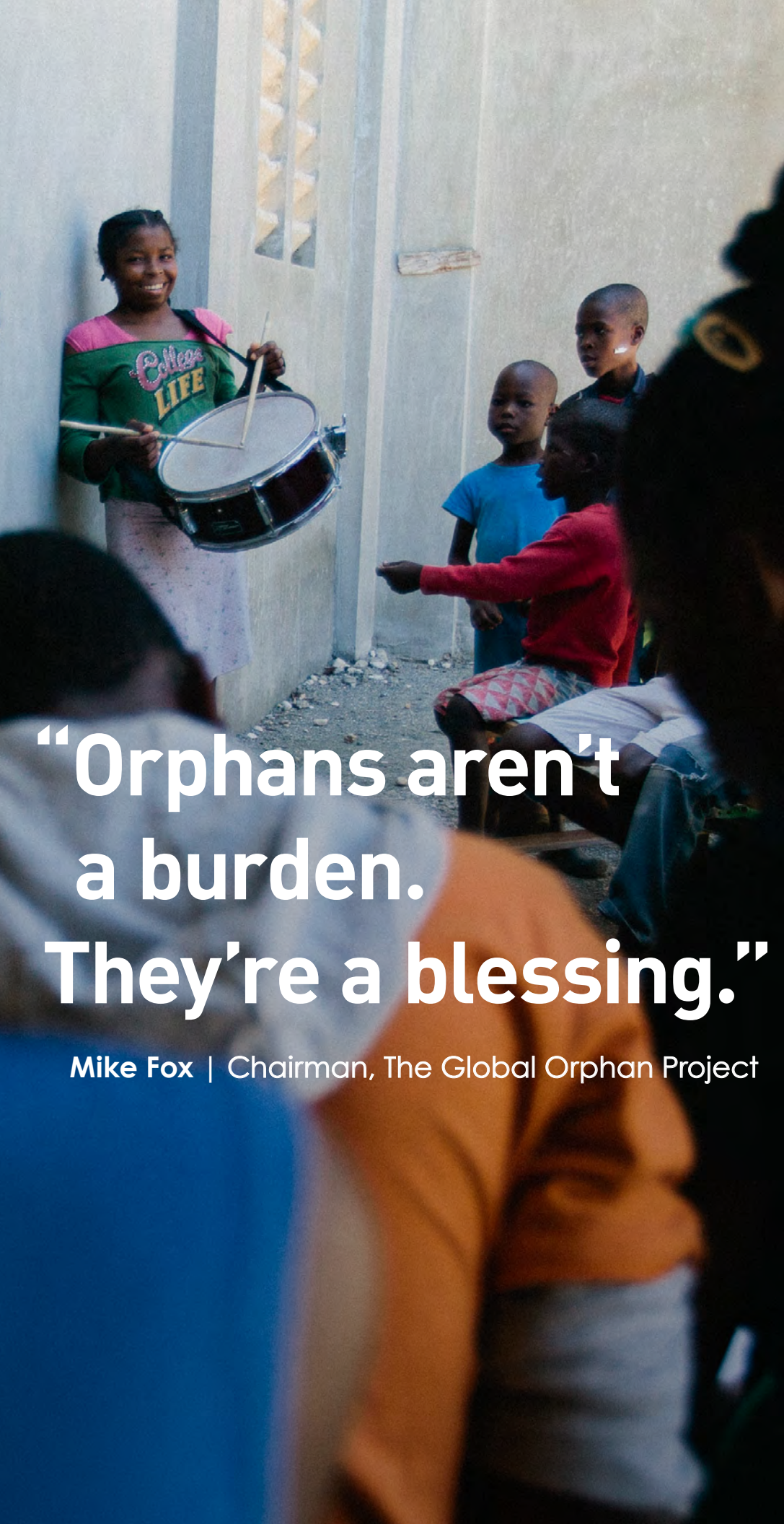
2016

ANNUAL REPORT

THE  
GLOBAL  
orphan  
Project







**“Orphans aren’t  
a burden.  
They’re a blessing.”**

**Mike Fox | Chairman, The Global Orphan Project**



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## Dear GO Family,

The Holy Spirit is calling people all around the world to care for the orphan. He is compelling hearts from different races, religions, cultures and nations. This movement is a compulsion of joy, not sadness; of unity, not division; of hope, not guilt.

The Global Orphan Project is a practical vessel for the compelled. Our "project" is this: to grow and mobilize a global community that champions the orphan, so that our world's most vulnerable children experience the love of family.

Through our ministry and marketplace initiatives, you've impacted more than 20,000 children in the United States and around the world. As you'll read in our Annual Report, these are not mere numbers; each represents a powerful story of transformation.

**On the ministry side of GO Project, we empower local churches to care for local children in crisis.** You've provided education, life care and family strengthening support to more than 15,000 children in need. Through our local church partnerships in the U.S. and around the world, we serve children globally, with a specific emphasis in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, East Africa and India. And we serve children locally here in the United States through our CarePortal ministry. In the last two years, our U.S. ministry has become our fastest growing ministry to children. God willing, we are on a path to fundamentally shift child welfare in the United States from State-centered care to Church-centered care.

**On the marketplace side of GO Project, we break the orphan cycle through the dignity of work.** More than a thousand people go to work every day because of our network of partnerships and businesses. They are care providers, teachers, farmers, cooks, drivers, artisans and some of the best apparel workers in the world. Collectively, we estimate that these workers provide day-to-day care for 6,000 children and family members through the excellent work of their own hands. There is dignity in work and beauty in keeping families together.

We own GOEX, our flagship apparel enterprise. Through GOEX, we aim to disrupt an exploitative industry that creates orphans — the global T-shirt industry — and turn it into a marketplace engine to advance our mission.

2016 was our most fruitful year of ministry to date, but we are just getting started. God has laid the foundation for exponential growth of The Global Orphan Project in the ministry and the marketplace, globally and locally. We eagerly press on.

Thank you for saying "yes" to your compulsion. Thank you for being part of this community. We especially give thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, as He is the true CEO of this ministry. He is the heart, mind and inspiration in all that we do.

Gratefully yours,



Joe Knittig | CEO



# INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY



## **Global Reach. Local Presence.**

If one organization were to care for all the orphaned and abandoned children in the world, they would need global reach and local presence. They would speak hundreds of languages and have access to caregivers with diverse skill sets like cooking, security, teaching, parenting, transportation, etc. They would know the details of individuals' stories and have earned the trust of the community.

They would need an altruistic motive to step into the lives of abused and abandoned children, and they would need the resolve to stay when ministry gets messy and life gets difficult. Such an organization would take centuries to build . . . or maybe even 2,000 years.

**The Church is God's  
answer to local children  
who need family.**

GO Project considers it a privilege to closely partner with Bible-teaching churches in Haiti/DR, East Africa and India to care for orphaned and abandoned children whose families have suffered catastrophic breakdown. Our partners are faithful leaders who are committed to the children God has placed in their care, especially in times of crisis. Leaders like Bishop Oringa.

In 2016, violence, once again, reigned across South Sudan, affecting rich, poor, young, old, foreigners and locals. Rather than flee or quit, Bishop Oringa and his church stayed, ministering to the local community and keeping the 29 children at The Father's House in Torit safe. The Bishop even said that he saw this as an opportunity to teach his children, like Angelo (see page 4), how to care for others in a broken world. With your help, we are honored to provide the support Bishop and other pastors need to lead and care for their church, children and community.





The children of The Father's House welcome their new brother, Angelo. | 2013

## Angelo's Story

Born in South Sudan, Angelo was abandoned because he was blind. He was then abused because he was an orphan. In 2013, Bishop Oringa and The Father's House opened their doors and provided a home to Angelo.

Taken in and loved by a new family, Angelo began to flower. Despite being the only blind child among other "normal" children, he learned English faster than the others and became a spiritual leader in his new school and home.

While Angelo blossomed, his beloved country once again fell into war, leaving thousands dead and millions hungry, displaced and longing for peace. In the fall of 2016, regional leaders organized a day-long peace rally. Aware of the rally, Angelo requested and received the right to read a poem that he wrote from deep in his heart.

The following day, the governor recommended Angelo record his poem for radio stations to broadcast across the region. Angelo, whom no one wanted, is now influencing and inspiring tens of thousands in his nation. One key leader recently referred to him as "the blind boy who gives sight to those with both eyes!"

*Thousands listened to this blind 13-year-old boy "Talk to Peace."*



**"PEACE, WHERE ARE YOU?  
SINCE I WAS BORN I NEVER SAW YOU;  
DEAR, HONOURABLE PEACE, WHEN WILL I SEE YOU?  
MY MOTHER NEVER SAW YOU.  
MY FATHER NEVER ENJOYED YOU.  
PEACE, WHEN WILL SOUTH SUDAN EXPERIENCE YOU?  
WHEN WILL EASTERN EQUATORIA MEET YOU?  
CHILDREN ARE BORN TO ONLY MEET WAR.  
PEACE, WILL I SEE YOU?" PSALM 34:14**





**OCT. 2**

**GO Haiti begins stockpiling food and supplies** in preparation for Hurricane Matthew.

**OCT. 3**

**400+ children** moved to safer shelter.

## HURRICANE MATTHEW

# RELIEF EFFORTS

On October 4, 2016, GO Project's church partners in southern Haiti took a direct hit from a Category 4 hurricane, the strongest storm to make landfall in 10 years. Wind speeds in excess of 145 mph and flooding from more than 20" of rain leveled homes, removed rooftops and stripped the land of vegetation.

Amidst terrible devastation, children were kept safe, by the grace of God and the dedication of our faithful church partners. Our GO team was honored to provide assistance.

### Haitians Lead

The real story of Hurricane Matthew is found in the resilience of Haitian people, as employees, students and pastors once again rallied to help their own.



**Employees** | As the rain stopped, skilled apparel employees at LIFE S.A., our apparel manufacturing enterprise, sprung into action. As they sewed and packed the first batch of clean, new and dry clothing for children who lost everything, their sense of ownership and active responsibility was evident to all.



**OCT. 4**

**Hurricane Matthew** makes landfall. Port-au-Prince airport closes.

**OCT. 6**

GO Haiti receives report that **544 children need food and emergency supplies**. Airport reopens.  
8AM | GO Haiti makes first emergency helicopter food drop.

**OCT. 7**

**Food drops made in Les Cayes and Jeremie**. Damage assessments begin.

**OCT. 8**

**30 days of food and supplies for 544 have been delivered** via plane, truck and helicopter.

**OCT. 10**

30-day rehousing and redevelopment plan is implemented. **Estimated cost of repairs totals \$250,000.**



**Students** | The GO Transition Academy is our two-year discipleship and life skills training program for young adults who grew up in the care of our local church partners. Many of those students grew up in Cayes, the region devastated by the storm. In the days following Matthew, these students worked with GO Haiti's Bertrand Lozier to supply their home communities with clean water and food.



**Pastors** | Pastor Mongerard lives at Darivager with his wife, two biological children and their 56 previously orphaned and vulnerable siblings. Mongerard foresaw the danger the storm posed and evacuated his children to a safer location. Following the hurricane, Pastor Mongerard made food runs into the nearby city, salvaged scrap metal to repair damaged roofs and returned the children to their homes, as quickly and safely as possible.

**It is a privilege to partner with pastors like Mongerard, who continually place the needs of children above their own.**

**544**

**children in Les Cayes and Jeremie received emergency food, housing and supplies.**

**343**

**churches and individuals responded by contributing to the Hurricane Relief Fund.**

**200+**

**children housed for weeks at temporary locations during the rebuilding process.**

**100%**

**of displaced children were returned home within 30 days.**

**0**  
**CHILDREN HARMED.**





# CarePortal

every church doing a little



## DOMESTIC MINISTRY

To most, the term “U.S. Orphan” seems like an oxymoron. Orphaned and abandoned children live in distant countries or in times past, right?

Unfortunately, that is not the reality. Today, more than 400,000 children started their day in foster care. Tens of thousands of those children have no legal parents. They are U.S. orphans and they live in every community in America. The U.S. also has nearly 400,000 churches. 400,000 children in need. 400,000 churches. Seems too close to be coincidence, doesn't it?

If every church did a little, the source of care in the child welfare system in America would shift from the state to the church. That's the vision of CarePortal, an easy-to-use, technology platform that facilitates the cooperation of church and state.

CarePortal's approach is local, county by county. It's relational, bringing government, church and family together. It's personal, meeting individual needs. It's effective, keeping families together. It's growing exponentially, and it's only getting started.



**“To the world you may be one person, but to one person, you may be the world.**

**CarePortal allows this to happen every day.**

**Child welfare fills out the request, the Church responds and God is glorified! ”**

Mike Worley | Beautiful Redemption, Colorado Springs



CarePortal brings the needs of hurting children and families in your community to your attention. Child Welfare workers uncover the needs. CarePortal makes local churches aware, giving them a real-time opportunity to respond.

Watch "How it Works" at [careportal.org](http://careportal.org).

## Hope Disguised as Furniture

By Pastor Tommy Estes  
Williamson County, Texas

Christian band, Big Daddy Weave, sings a song titled My Story. The first verse says, "If I told you my story, you would hear HOPE that wouldn't let go." I believe that to be true of CarePortal's story — it's a story of hope that will not let go!

I recently had the privilege to help deliver furniture and other household goods to two families in Austin, TX, coordinated through CarePortal. The experience was life changing. If you have ever carried a crib up a flight of narrow stairs with a quarter space landing, then you know it can be challenging. After many attempts, the young mother told me that we could leave the crib downstairs.

But it hit me that if she were my daughter, I would not be satisfied leaving a job undone! So, with the help of two young adults (one of whom is my son), we were able to spend some time to disassemble, move, and then reassemble a crib in an upstairs bedroom for a single mother with a newborn.

The second delivery was just a few miles away from the first. We brought a couch, chair, lamps, toddler bed, and a washing machine to a mother restoring a relationship with her children after a life of drug abuse. The apartment was empty when we arrived and full when we left.

**"Lifting and carrying the furniture into the apartment definitely left my body feeling sore, but watching my son and his friend encourage this young mother's son with hope was priceless."**

CarePortal goes far beyond meeting physical needs. The emotional and spiritual need for hope to the hopeless is met when someone sacrificially gives or donates time, finances and other resources.

The need for hope is met when someone coordinates the delivery of hope-giving resources. It is met through actions that say, "I care about you enough to take apart a crib and reassemble it upstairs for you." Hope is given when we stay to laugh and visit a family without time restraints, because they are valuable enough to have our undivided attention.

Everyone deserves hope. Hope that God extends to our country will never be found in government institutions. It's found in the lives of caring strangers who make up local churches throughout our nation and the world!



# 2015

CarePortal Requests  
**512**

Children Impacted  
**1,173**

Financial value  
of requests met  
by churches  
**\$169,906**

Enrolled  
Churches  
**545**

# 2016

**2,319**  
(450%)

**5,510**  
(470%)

**\$649,121**  
(380%)

**1,380**  
(153%)

CarePortal

# NATIONAL EXPANSION

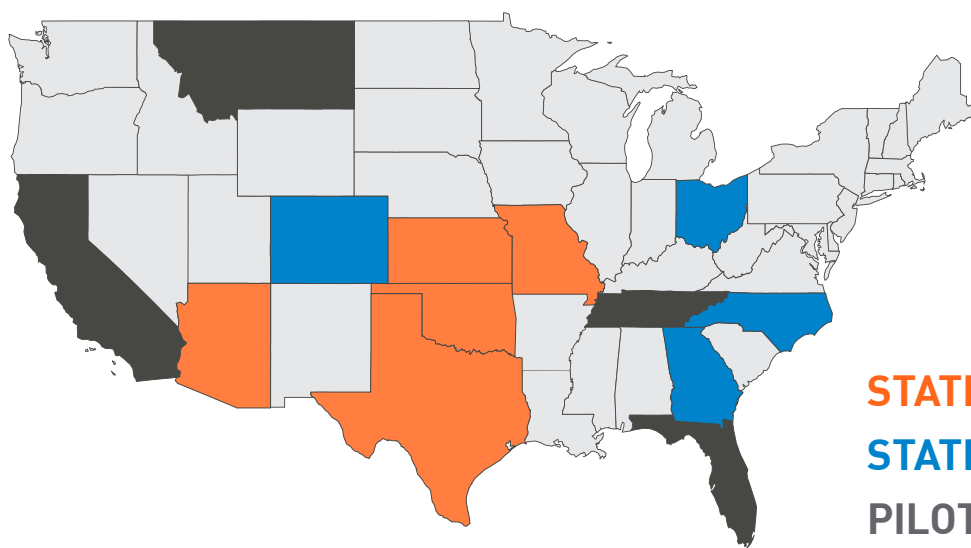
Families are in crisis. In our nation, 4 million children are touched by the child welfare system. In those same communities, 40 million adults regularly attend church. Imagine the impact if those believers were empowered to help children in crisis in their own backyards.

God is moving. Since CarePortal's launch in March 2015, hundreds of churches have already impacted thousands of children in nine states. More child welfare agencies across the nation are ready and waiting to partner with churches — and CarePortal can be implemented anywhere.

**Additional markets across the nation—California, Tennessee, Montana and Florida — are in the early stages of ministry. By the end of 2018, CarePortal could be in 25 states with more than 4,000 churches engaged.**

Based on current rates of church engagement, more than 100 children PER DAY could receive the blessing of a local church stepping up to meet critical needs in real time.

We are in awe of the transformation that has already taken place, and our vision for the future is God-sized. Children in need are waiting. We are excited and ready to serve them with you.



**STATES ACTIVATED BEFORE 2016**  
**STATES ACTIVATED IN 2016**  
**PILOT STATES**





“ We’re extending an invitation to play a crucial role in unleashing technology positioned by God to change child welfare in our nation. ”

Adrien Lewis | CarePortal Executive Director

Catalyze the movement to care for kids. ▶▶

**\$1.8** million

to onboard **3,000** new churches

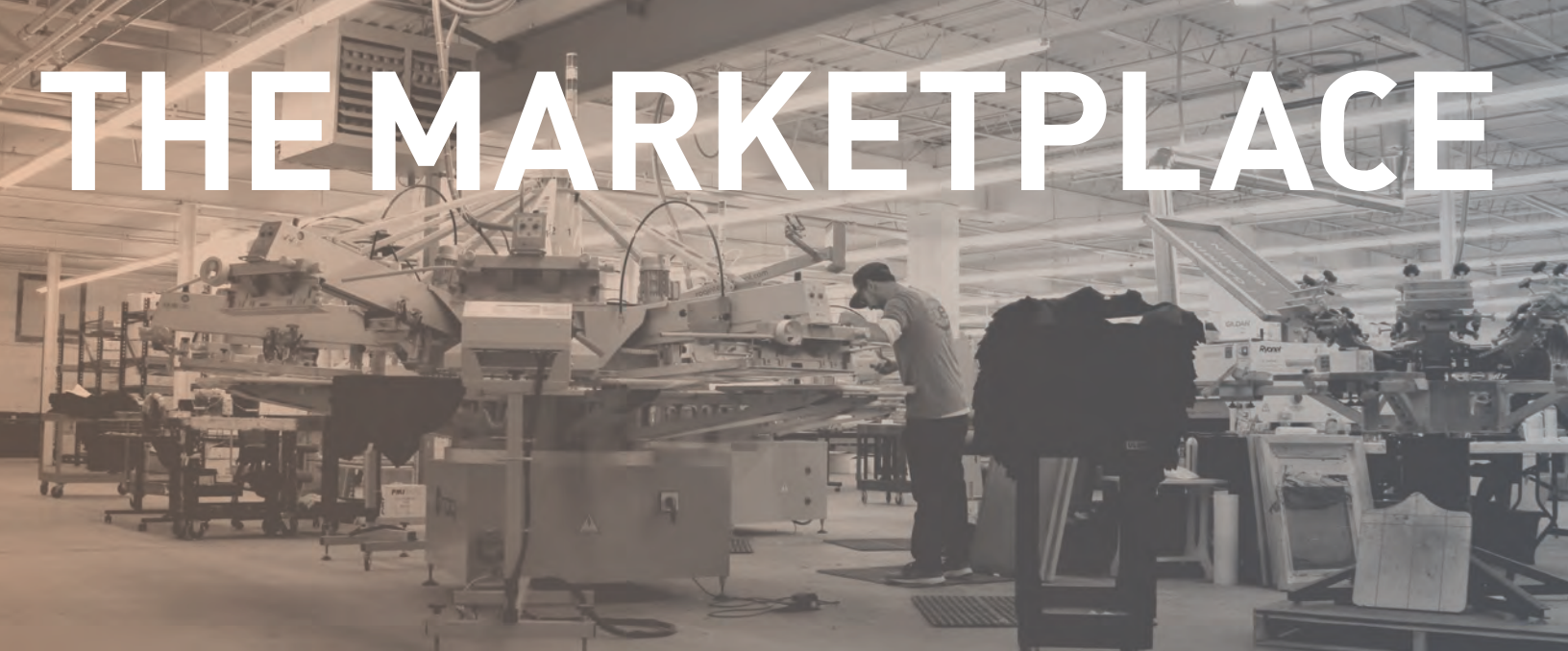


and impact **50,000** children and families in crisis by the end of 2018

Looking forward, we see a clear opportunity for exponential growth. We are assembling a core group of Angel Investors to help mobilize thousands of churches and catalyze the movement to care for kids. By investing in the launch of new markets across the nation, you could help meet the real-time ends of 50,000 vulnerable children within the next two years.



# THE MARKETPLACE



**“My dream for when I have enough money is to join hands with the people who are helping the orphans, so that I can help them help those kids.”**

**Isemary**

After growing up in the care of one of our local church partners in Desire, Isemary is now a GO Transition Academy Graduate & LIFE SA Employee.







## THE BRAND THAT CARES FOR KIDS

**The GO Exchange — GOEX — is the marketplace arm of The Global Orphan Project. Our mission is to break the orphan cycle through the dignity of work.**

Children suffering from family breakdown need generous hearts to help meet their basic needs. This is a constant. But there is another truth: so many of these children are economic orphans.

Their parents (most often single moms or youth who've aged out of care at 18) soon break under the pressure of extreme poverty and limited opportunity. The best form of orphan care is orphan prevention. And that means three words: jobs, jobs, jobs.

Two different worlds of "non-profit" and "for-profit" organizations are merging. Thankfully, there are still many generous givers who choose to donate to help children. But there is also a growing community driving social impact through ordinary purchasing decisions. This is not a passing fancy. This is the future of commerce.

We must provide marketplace solutions to break the orphan cycle. And we must provide buyers the option to care for children through the power of purchase. GOEX springs forth from these truths.

**GOEX is a life change company that uses a simple vessel to drive our mission: the T-shirt.**

Organizations all over the U.S. — non-profits, schools, churches, caring companies — purchase billions of dollars of T-shirts to promote their brands. They print their positive messages on tees often made in hidden sweat shops that create orphans, because they do not know they have other options. GOEX provides a transparent, life-giving choice.

We make GOEX apparel basics. We use premium U.S. sourced fabrics. We make our garments in Haiti, training and hiring struggling parents and youth aging out of care. And we print, finish and fulfill for our customers in the urban core of Kansas City, carrying out our mission both locally and globally.

**What sets GOEX apart is not what we make, but how we make and why we make.**

**GOEX is a purpose driven company, 100% owned by GO Project. Our mission is not our cause; it is our identity.**

God willing, in the years to come we will leverage commerce to create thousands of living wage jobs and generate a constant income stream to help care for orphaned and abandoned children. We hope this business model will be replicated by others, and we will help re-shape 21st century "charity".





GOEX has created  
**131** jobs,  
 globally in Haiti and  
 locally in KC.



GO Project has created  
 more than 1,100 jobs  
 supporting more than

**6,000**  
 children and family  
 members.



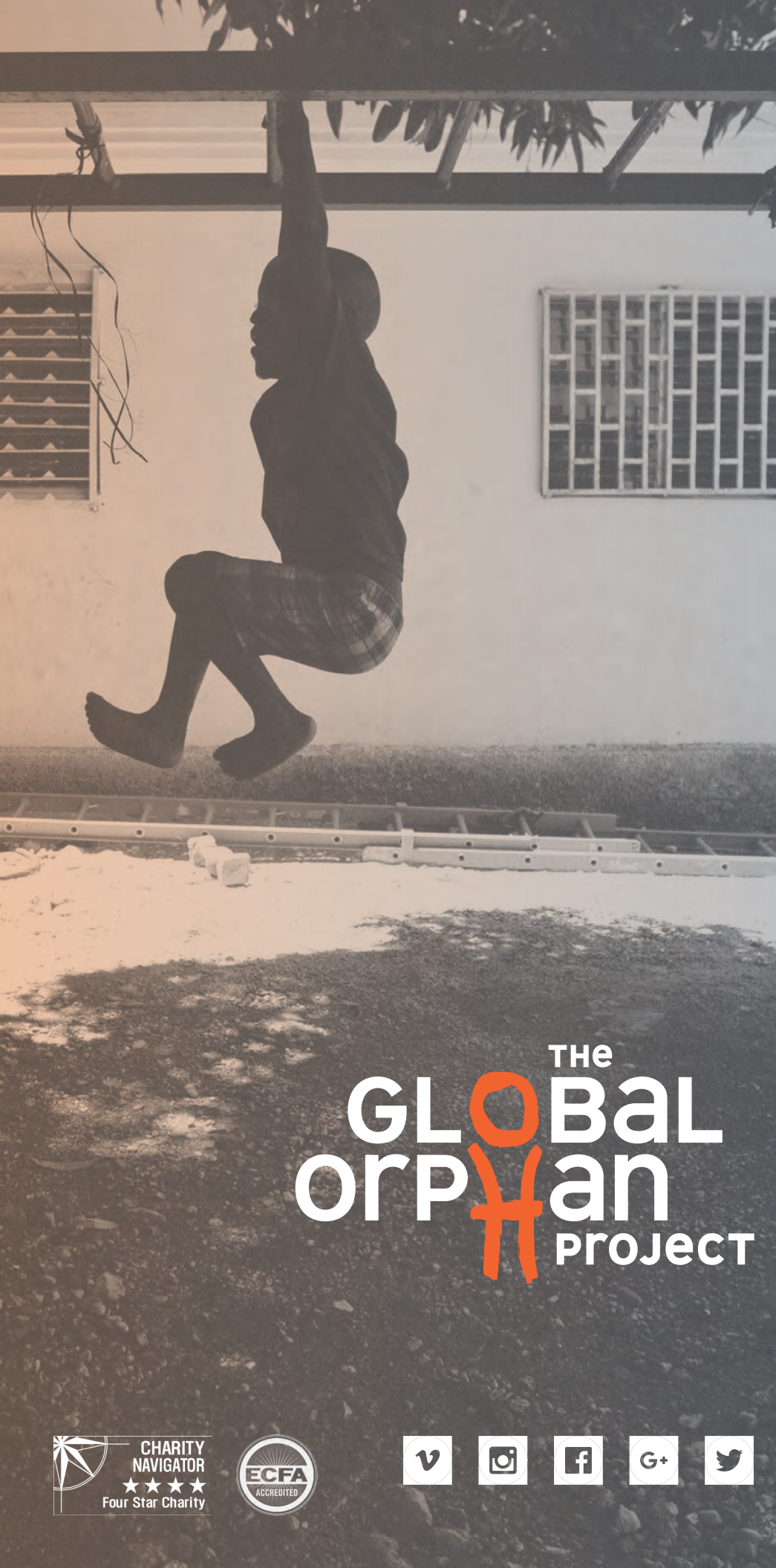


**\$1.6** million in sales



THE BRAND THAT CARES FOR KIDS





THE  
**GLOBAL**  
orphan Project



GO



SHOP



GIVE



LOVE

Learn more at  
[goproject.org](http://goproject.org)