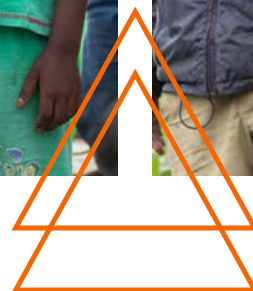




THE  
GLOBAL  
ORPHAN  
PROJECT

2020 IMPACT REPORT



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**- Nelson Mandela**

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## FROM JOE'S DESK



Dear friends,

As we continue to battle through a pandemic that has caused so much pain and death, we look back with gratitude on 2020 - our greatest year of life impact ever.

Eighteen years ago, a little local church in a refugee camp on the border of Thailand and Myanmar needed help funding a bamboo shelter for traumatized children whom the church had "adopted." That need escaped the camp, found its way into an email, and pinged through space, around the world, into one couple's inbox in Parkville, Missouri. Mike and Beth Fox said "yes." Since then, we've been honored to connect courageous "yes" dots all over our nation and world, thousands and thousands of times over, with life change firing-out in all directions in the process.

Over the years, we've found new ways to increase the dots and accelerate the connections. But at the core, the ministry remains exactly the same as that first "yes."

Through this Impact Report, we celebrate the sacrificial work of our local church partners all around the world. They are the heroes of the ministry. As are you, the unseen angel investors who make this ministry possible.

Thank you.

In Jesus' name,

Joe Knittig, CEO





"Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see."





## Global Reach | Local Care

Across the world, more than 140 million children live as orphans\*. These children are among the most vulnerable and most in need of connection to caring people and resources.

Our mission at The Global Orphan Project is to break the orphan cycle through the power of community, commerce, and the love of Jesus. The Church is God's answer to children at risk of experiencing family breakdown, so we partner with local churches all over the world to help stabilize and strengthen families, provide family-style care to vulnerable children, and help young people successfully transition into adulthood. Focusing on one child at a time, we support sustainable, local, family-style care that is deeply rooted in compassion, hope, and the belief that every child deserves a chance to achieve their full potential.

**46,023**  
children served in 2020

As a worldwide pandemic challenged us to deliver our mission with an even deeper sense of urgency, we were able to serve more kids, more quickly, at an extremely critical time, due to the elevated response of our global partners, donors, and volunteers. THANK YOU.

\*Source: UNICEF

Total kids served:

# 13,845

Economic Impact:

# \$3,338,202

# 12,380

children received prevention services.

Every child who receives prevention services also attends school.

## International Impact

Due to COVID-19, ministry travel was put on hold, but that didn't stop incredible work from being done. Our intentional efforts of establishing local staff and church partners to provide local care was vital during the pandemic, and these groups remained committed to serving children and families with excellence.

### ORPHAN PREVENTION

Many families face challenges related to poverty, food insecurity, substance use, trauma, and physical and mental illness. These challenges can impact a family's ability to succeed and may be too difficult to overcome without the support of caring people. Removing a child from their home is disruptive and requires significant resources to provide out-of-home care. By coming alongside a child or parent before a crisis even begins, we can partner with our local church and community leaders to provide wrap-around support to keep that child with their healthy, loving family. That's why we're working passionately and strategically to prevent family breakdown through education, community support, and job creation.

## 2020

**740** children served through health/HIV services

**4,387** children and **1,105** families served through Father's Family, our family-strengthening initiative

**\$545,000+** provided in direct support to schools so that children can receive an education



## ORPHAN CARE

Setting traditional institutional orphan care models aside, we have equipped our local church partners to care for vulnerable children in a way that is sustainable and centered around the unique needs of the child. Our partners are focused on providing local, family-style solutions in order to keep kids close to their family and home community.

**1,279** children received safe, nurturing care from a foster family, kinship placement, or residential home.

## ORPHAN TRANSITION

Kids aging out of orphan care with no family or home to turn to need help gaining the skills required to become a healthy, thriving adult. That's why we created the GO Transition Academy, our two-year discipleship, life skills, and vocational-technical program. The academy equips teenagers who have aged out of orphan care in Haiti and India for a successful transition to adulthood.

**186** graduates from GO Transition Academy





# Nourishing Resilience in Beirut

On August 4 near the Port of Beirut, 2,700 tons of ammonium nitrate exploded causing damage as far as ten miles away. Hundreds of people died, thousands were wounded, and 300,000 were instantly homeless. Lebanon as a nation was already facing enormous challenges, and this explosion exacerbated an already desperate situation for vulnerable children and families.

In addition to claiming lives, businesses, and homes, the explosion destroyed 85% of the country's grain storage, making food an even scarcer commodity. With so many homeless, poor, hungry, and grieving, this was a pivotal time for the Church to take action.

Tyre Church, our local partner in Lebanon, supported families that had lost everything, and did so safely in the face of a pandemic. The group gathered and distributed food, hygiene kits, toys, and prayers in the neighborhoods most affected by the explosion, serving tirelessly to give something to so many who suddenly had nothing.







A single mother and her children lost everything after the Beirut explosion. They had fled from Syria and had nowhere to turn. The UN was unable to help, but the local site director shared the family's story with our local church partner, Mohammad. He asked to meet the mom and offered to bring her to Tyre Church. Mom and her kids now live in an apartment owned by GO MENA and Tyre Church that is available for emergency refugee housing. She attends services at Tyre multiple times a week and works part-time. Her family has food, and her kids are getting an education. The UN continues to refer families to Tyre Church that they are unable to help.





## Domestic Impact

Everyday life as we know it was turned upside down in 2020. Across the United States, COVID-19 caused schools and businesses to close, brought travel to a halt, and greatly limited our ability to gather in-person.

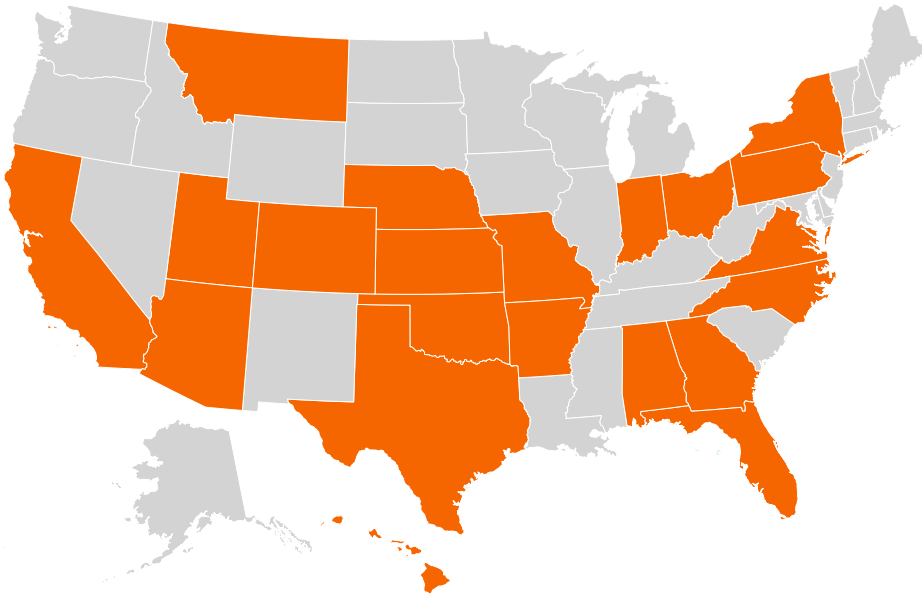
In the face of those challenges, opportunities emerged. At the start of the crisis, the number of children we served in April more than doubled. Fortunately, CarePortal was well poised to serve more children and meet those needs quickly during an extremely uncertain time. April was just the start to several months of serving record-breaking numbers of kids. We also increased our response teams and connecting churches in order to meet increased needs due to the pandemic.

A single mother in Virginia was working two jobs in order to provide for her three kids. The family lived in a home needing repairs that could not be completed due to limited finances. A caseworker with the Department of Social Services submitted a request to help this family via CarePortal, and a local church responded. The need for a small repair on the roof quickly turned into a need for a whole new roof. The church fulfilled that need, and a member who owned a gutter company decided to put new gutters on the house. Church members visited the family several times and built a relationship with the mom who felt so blessed by the support she received. She said, "As soon as COVID is over, I am going to this church because I want to be where these people are. I want to meet their families and get involved because they invested in me."

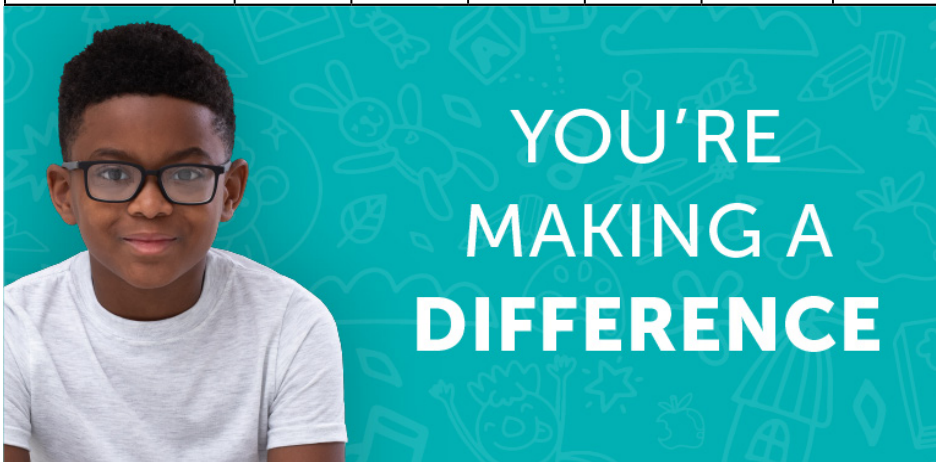




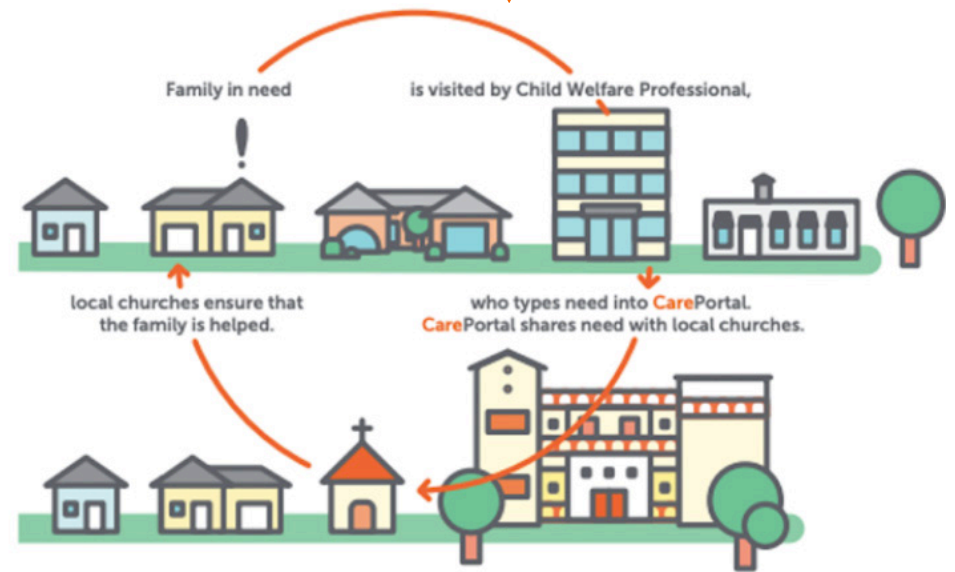
## Active States



	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
CarePortal Requests	15,386	11,685	9,941	8,350	2,319	512
Children Served	32,178	18,496	14,877	12,108	5,556	1,209
Economic Impact	\$9,632,733	\$6,003,835	\$4,730,157	\$4,189,914	\$2,584,896	\$769,623
Total Activated Churches	2,234	2,064	1,723	1,334	845	545
Active States	23 & 2 CANADIAN PROVINCES	20 & 1 CANADIAN PROVINCE	18 & 1 CANADIAN PROVINCE	12	8	7

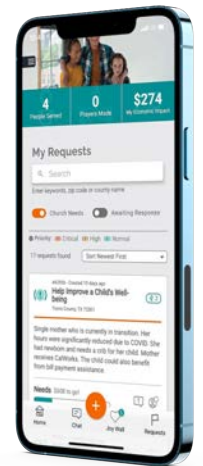


## How It Works



# CarePortal

**connects** vulnerable children and families to **churches, businesses, and individuals** who want to help.





COVID-19 created enormous challenges for many businesses across the world. Businesses, including our own GOEX marketplace, were forced to re-examine and rethink everything about the way they operate. We weathered the obstacles that were thrown at us, but most importantly, we stayed true to our number one mission of caring for people.

As positive cases began to soar, the health and wellbeing of our employees and their families remained our top priority. When we had to close the factory to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we continued to pay our workers for one month after the factory ceased production.

Our focus on sustainability was propelled by our Fair Trade Federation status as well as our passion for fair trade manufacturing. In addition to providing local employment with fair wages in order to improve the lives of the workers and communities we touch, we set out to help reduce environmental waste by introducing buttons, labels, drawcords, twill tape, and packaging made from recycled plastic. We also introduced a line of garments created from remnant fabric diverting waste from landfills – our ladies rib tee, rib tank and rib cardigan are all created from scrap fabric!

We are so grateful for the new friends, continued support, and new products and initiatives that contribute to our efforts of putting purpose into commerce and ensure a bright future for GOEX, our employees and their families, and our planet.



American-made fabric



Sewn near Port-au-Prince, Haiti



Screen-printed in Kansas City, Missouri





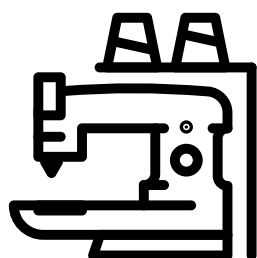
### New Garments

- o White Crew Sweatshirt
- o Olive Sweatshirt
- o Ladies Rib Tank
- o Ladies Rib Cardigan
- o Unisex Long Sleeve Hooded Tee



### New Colors

- o Amber
- o Olive
- o Rose



**75**  
in Haiti

**14**  
in Kansas City





# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Communities thrive when every one of its members has the chance to reach their full potential.

The D-1 football program at Liberty University embraced and reinforced this idea by becoming our very first collegiate Community Champion and school to sign up. Now in their second year of involvement, players, position coaches, and coaches' wives collaborate to fulfill CarePortal needs through local Connecting Churches. Football programs at Auburn University and the University of Missouri have also signed on as Community Champions. These unique partnerships were all made possible by singer/songwriter Chris Tomlin and the organization he founded with his wife, Angel Armies.

These teams are making a tremendous difference in the lives of children all across the nation, and the experience is also making a lasting impact in the lives of the players and coaches. Other schools, organizations, businesses, and groups are also investing in kids and families by enrolling with CarePortal as a Community Champion.

## Total Impact

**2,082**  
children served

**680**  
families served

**\$680,286**  
economic impact

**CarePortal** 

 **ANGELARMIES** 





# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**We can all do something to help vulnerable children and families, and ultimately break the orphan cycle. Support in the way that is right for you!**

## Give

Donate your time, talents, and treasures to care for kids.

[goproject.org/give](https://goproject.org/give)

## Go

Join us at a local fundraising event or watch for travel opportunities to experience the ministry of our local church partners caring for children around the world.

[goproject.org/go](https://goproject.org/go)

## Shop

Purchase custom, sustainable apparel that creates fair wage jobs for families in Haiti and the U.S.

[goproject.org/shop](https://goproject.org/shop)

## Learn

Hear stories, see the places, and meet the people of The Global Orphan Project.

[goproject.org/learn](https://goproject.org/learn)

## Share

Spread the word to help more kids around the world

## Our 100% Commitment

Every penny of your donation goes to care for kids. Yes, really! That's because our administrative overhead and fundraising expenses are covered by a generous group of dedicated donors, our Founder's Circle. Feel confident about your gift and know that it's going directly to support kids and families you care about. For the seventh consecutive year, GO Project received the highest rating for financial health and transparency from Charity Navigator. Audited financials and 990 documents can be found on our website.



**IN 2020, YOUR DONATIONS TO GO PROJECT HELPED LOCAL LEADERS PROVIDE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH:**

- Vocational training
- Medical Care
- Stability and strength
- Foster family support
- Living wage jobs
- 24-hour safe, loving care
- Nutritious food
- Clean water
- Safe housing
- Education

**THANK YOU!**



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