

IMPACT



A Newsletter of Children's World Impact **VOL. 1 | Issue #6**

TWO HOMES FOR TWO FAMILIES

Due to the extremely unsafe conditions in Haiti, CWI has been exploring other opportunities to continue our impact in the lives of widows, orphans, and the neglected.

This led Tyson and his family to head out to Mexico to partner with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) and Homes of Hope.

Tyson took his two older sons, Nelson and Austin, down to Ensenada Mexico this past July to build a home for Reyna and her two sons. Reyna, 46 and blind, who lives off monthly support of approximately \$30 a month, is the mother of two sons. Oliver is 8 years old and in the second grade. Andres is 12 years old, in the sixth grade and takes guitar lessons Sunday afternoons at church. A



Ignacio and Yanet's home before – shared with their 4 children

neighbor gave the family property which had electricity but no running water. Reyna was born in Pachuca and went to the United States in about 2007. At that time, her son Andres was just one. Reyna went to the US looking for the father of Andres and found him. While living in the US, she gave birth to Oliver. During this time, Reyna got sick; she had fainting spells and found it difficult to walk. After Oliver was born, her children's father left them and wanted nothing more to do with them, so she returned to Mexico with the boys. Soon after, she started getting headaches and

had blurry vision. Reyna saw many doctors but all they told her was that they couldn't do anything with her right eye, and she would soon lose her sight and she did. For Reyna this has been very difficult. She lives off donations from other people. Some pastors help her out with food, and another missionary helps her as well by giving 600 pesos to her each month (about \$30 USD). The land was donated to her by a man after he saw the conditions she was living in. She has not been able to see the faces



Nelson Ray and a colleague painting Reyna's new home.

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THE FOOD PACKAGING EVENT IS BACK!

CWI is excited to bring back this great outreach opportunity and we are committed to doing this every year on the first weekend of December! This year, on December 6 & 7 hundreds of volunteers will descend on Lakeland Community Church to package 150,000 meals. We are partnering with Kids Around the World, Lakeland Community Church, and (we hope) YOU, to make a global impact. For anyone that hasn't participated in the past, gather a group and join us. It is a fun event that will energize you as you help pack nutritious meals for hungry children around the world. If

you don't have a group, join us solo! We guarantee you will have a great time and meet some new friends.

Here is what one volunteer says about the event. "Having the opportunity to package food that is helping those in need around the world (and here in Walworth County), is a privilege and a blessing, and I am so humbled to play even a small role in that."

We need to raise \$37,500 to cover food and shipping costs. Whether you have a little or a lot, *please consider a donation to help with this worthy project. 100% of every donation will go directly to the food and shipping.*

WHY GET INVOLVED?

The staggering truth is this: 1 in 7 children in the world suffers from the effects of food insecurity, living in a chronic state of malnutrition.

This program ensures that impoverished children have a warm, nutritious meal EACH DAY. Each meal packed

costs just 25 cents and provides a superior source of protein, essential vitamins and minerals, and is packed with fortified rice. These ingredients are critical to physical growth and brain development in addition to providing critical calories for children. According to Kids Around the World "This program is called 'OneMeal' because we know that when a child has a reliable source of one meal every day, we can impact that child physically, mentally and emotionally. Food does more than fill a belly."*

When we each share what we can, whether it is our time, talents, or resources, we can make a profound impact. As Desmond Tutu said "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Let us overwhelm the world with our kindness this Christmas season! A heart-felt thank you to all of our sponsors: Kunes Country Auto, Baker Tilly, Royal Basket Trucks, FORM Wealth Advisors ■

*Source: kidsaroundtheworld.com

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MAKING AN IMPACT IN GHANA

According to Reuters, there are an estimated 584.6 million children worldwide whose mother is widowed. When a woman already in poverty becomes a widow, the effects it has on her children can be devastating.

The Loomba Foundation's World Widows Report cites that the fall in income leads to a decline in living standards, resulting in hunger and poor child health. In addition, children are often removed from school due to cost, and forced into paid labor situations to help the family's financial crisis. For female children, it often results in early or child marriage.

Understanding the situations in which children of widows find themselves entrapped is what keeps CWI dedicated to supporting and improving the resources that are provided to the many widows who reside in the Upper West region of Ghana. While the project, for the most part, is self-sufficient, there are times when capital improvements are needed in order to keep things operational.

In early 2019, CWI was notified that

a new transformer was required in order to deliver adequate electricity to the main building which houses the mechanized equipment for shea butter production, the industrial oven used for baking bread, as well as the potable water bagging machine. The lack of electricity was affecting many of the entrepreneurial opportunities afforded to the widows in the area. CWI financed the purchase and installation of the transformer, thus allowing the women to once again participate in these money making endeavors. Since the installation of the transformer, the project has operated in the black, with the profits put in savings for future repairs and operational expenses.

In addition, CWI was able to support the Ghanaian director of the project, Felix Bongnea, with the purchase of a camera, computer, printer, and modem, which has made communication, accountability, and updates so much easier. Transportation was also updated with the purchase of a brand new motorcycle for Felix. This will allow him to travel more easily to the various villages whose widows are supported by the project.

The preschool, located next to the production building, that was built

in 2015 from donations raised by CWI, continues to flourish and welcome little ones. New this year was a "Back to School" event that was hosted by Felix and the teachers. Local children were invited to come enjoy a treat and participate in games as a way of introducing the facilities to as many families as possible. Enrollment this year is close to 50, which is up from last year, giving many children from nearby villages the opportunity to get a head start to their education.

Finally, CWI is extremely excited about a micro-loan program that will begin in 2020, allowing women the opportunity to receive a small loan of \$20-\$100 to start a new or build upon an existing business. Working in groups of 10 from various local villages, widows will be offered loans at a much lower rate than is normal through the bank, with the commitment that the group supports each other in paying off each loan. We look forward to sharing success stories with you of women who are changing their lives and the lives of their dependent children through this new program. None of this could be accomplished without the faithful donations of the supporters of CWI. When you support a widow, you directly help her children. Please consider giving today! ■



New transformer being installed



TWO HOMES FOR TWO FAMILIES

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of her children since Oliver was 3 and Andres was 9. Reyna has no money, cannot see and is alone with her two children.

The trip was only 4 days - a travel day, two days to build the home and a day to travel back. Yet the impact on Reyna and her sons will last for decades. In addition, the impact on Nelson, age 16, and Austin, age 14, was also amazing. Nelson said at the debrief on the first night, "I take two steps out of my room into my own shower, toilet and sink!" Nelson could not get over the fact the family had no running water. They get water delivered into a 50-gallon plastic drum once a week from a government run service. Austin wrote, "Thank you for giving a new mindset to me."

Upon returning home, the CWI

Board had discussions about the trip and what a future partnership would look like. It was decided that Tyson would go down again and take his whole family down as a test run for leading future teams.

The November Build was for another family in need. The father is Ignacio, age 36 and on disability due to a back injury. He receives monthly support of approximately \$150 a month. The mother is Yanet, age 33, who cares for their 4 children. Santiago is 2 years old, Esmeralda is 5 years old, Valentina is 9 years old and in the second grade, and Ana Isabel is 16 years old and attends Junior High. They were also given property with no electricity and no running water and were living in structure made from old wood and tarps.

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2020 INTENTIONS – WITH YOUR HELP

As we look ahead into the new year, we are committed to our mission of breaking the cycle of poverty and making a significant difference in the lives of widows, orphans and the neglected. There are people in every corner of the globe who need such support.

Our specific intentions for 2020 include:

- Launching and growing the micro-financing loan program in Ghana, Africa for the widows who are now becoming more entrepreneurial.
- Continuing the Food Packaging Event as an annual event, providing food resources for hungry people around the world and for those in Walworth County.
- Building two homes in Mexico for neglected residents, taking volunteers to the mission field in Ensenada.
- Supporting the provision of clean water facilities in Haiti. Praying for stability and safety in that county.

With your generous year-end donations, these goals can be met and the impact will be great.

Please consider CWI and the ability you have to change the world. Thank you for your support. ■

TWO HOMES FOR TWO FAMILIES

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Yanet used to live in Jalisco and had been married to a man who was a drunk and abusive. Yanet had two children with this man but suffered from domestic violence during their marriage. After leaving her husband, Yanet moved in with her father. She had been living with her father before meeting her current husband, Ignacio. They now work together to make ends meet and keep their family going. Ignacio is disabled and receives a very small pension. Neither of them has a steady job currently.

Nelson and Austin were again impacted and truly enjoyed the opportunity to build another home. Yet 11-year-old Carson, during lunch on the first day said, "Dad, their current home, that 6 people live in, you can fit that whole house inside my bedroom!" Carson worked very hard to help build their home and still found time to play soccer with his newfound friends.

CWI is looking into two trips in 2020 to partner with YWAM and Homes of Hope. We are seeking to lead teams of 20 people each with the hope of changing the lives of the neglected. While doing so, it is likely you will have your own life changed. You might not be able to go but you can help support those who can go for you. Together let's make an impact. ■

Tyson and Jenny Ray covered all their family expenses for these trips. No CWI donations were used.

"It's hard to describe what this experience was for us but one thing is for sure; this family gave us a gift so much greater than what we gave them."

Tyson Ray

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Ignacio and Yanet's new home



Andres, Oliver and Reyna



Tyson hard at work



The Ray family in Ensenada



HAITI WATER PROJECT

At the end of 2018, CWI was contacted by a group that works in Haiti with the mission of supporting widows and orphans. We connected over the common threads of our work. They let us know that, after the earthquake hit northern Haiti October 6, 2018, they assessed the damage to their children's home in Gonaives -- which is about 60 miles away from the epicenter of Port-De-Paix and home to about 70 children. One non-dorm building was lost but, thankfully, none of the children were injured. However, it unearthed another problem.

The cistern for this community was also damaged and was unable to hold water adequately. They were already bringing in non-potable water by the tank loads weekly and this only exaggerated the situation. The caretakers had to treat this water or use chlorine tablets to make the water usable for the children. This

is typical, but became strained by the leaky cistern. Meanwhile, the community just outside our walls, which includes about 300,000 people, had their own access to water severely diminished as well. This group was asking CWI if we could partner together to develop a water project for this children's home and surrounding community.

This would involve the following:

- Drill a well
- Build a water treatment building
- Install a water treatment system (solar operated)
- Establish a Haitian-run water committee:
 - Who maintain and test the treatment system
 - Who manage water sales to the community
 - Who report to us here in the USA

The overall expense for all of the above is \$50,000 US. In January of 2019, the CWI board voted to make this a priority project and the information was shared at the annual golf outing fundraiser. To date, \$20,000 has been raised and sent to fund the work.

The lack of quality water supply in Gonaives, Haiti is still critical. Meanwhile, the recovery from the earthquake which hit October 6th continues to move very slow. There are few well drilling machines in the whole country, and the drill machines nearby were damaged by the earthquake. It took time and money to secure a working machine and to date, two wells have been dug.

Once the wells are dug, water testing will be done to determine what will be needed by way of filters and other equipment to produce 300 gallons of clean water a day. Local leaders will do training and form an Operations team who will oversee and maintain the system. They will also discuss how best to make the system secure from theft or vandalism.

There is a great deal of political unrest in Haiti which is disrupting the progress at this point. But that doesn't stop the need. Please pray for this project and the people of Haiti. They need your support. ■



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

A special thanks to our 2019 CWI Annual Golf Outing Sponsors for their generosity:



"I believe every human is hardwired to care for others. I know no greater satisfaction than improving the lives of widows and orphans. I desire everyone to know how it feels to be a part of this impact we are making at CWI."

Tyson Ray



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GOLF OUTING SUCCESS

The 2019 CWI Annual Golf Outing was held on August 12 and raised over \$20,000 which is dedicated to the three main projects for 2019-2020: the annual food packaging event, the water purification project in Gonaives, Haiti and the micro-financing project in Ghana, Africa. More information on each of these is found in this newsletter.

This year's golf outing was a great event with over 140 golfers in attendance and glorious sunshine was included. Everyone was all smiles during registration and enjoyed catching up during breakfast before the outing. There were different levels of competitiveness apparent throughout the day. None more evident than on the betting hole with Jenny Ray, Founder and CWI Board Member. Foursomes stepped up to take a chance to see if they could come closest to the pin. The pressure was on as folks bet on one another, and sometimes themselves, to make their best shot. All things considered, even those shots gone awry were award worthy as the proceeds benefitted Children's World Impact. Sponsorship support was overwhelming and graciously appreciated.

Tyson Ray, CFP® and FORM Wealth Advisors continue their support of the Children's World Impact Foundation. After completing the round of golf, Tyson provided an overview of the current projects and showed the immediate impact of the golf outing proceeds at work. Overall, it was a terrific day of fun, fellowship and philanthropy. Please save the date and plan to join us in 2020. ■



SAVE THE DATE:

August 17, 2020

@ Geneva National Golf Club



2019 IMPACT AWARD

The Impact Award is given annually by Children's World Impact to an individual(s) or an organization who has made a significant contribution toward the effort of Breaking the Cycle of Poverty through, but not limited to, the investment of their time and personal finances, and whose life specifically reflects a genuine care for widows and orphans. This year, as part of the annual Golf Outing, the award was presented to Michael Hoffman.

In 2010, Mike reached out to Tyson seeking advice on fundraising after spending time in Africa and wanting to do a project for widows. Since CWI's mission is to impact widows and orphans, working together was a great fit. Mike became a CWI Board Member in 2012 and served on the board until January of 2018. Mike has been instrumental in all aspects of CWI, including participating in mission trips to Haiti, traveling to and coordinating projects in Ghana, Africa - working with Brother Bosco and now Felix on the ULLO Widows project, working on all the Food Packaging events, and coordinating and hosting

the CWI Tea fundraisers. Mike has also provided organizational structure and support to the CWI organization and was responsible for recreating the CWI website.

Mike's generous gifts of time, talents and treasure have been a blessing over and over again. He is a most deserving recipient of the 2019 Impact Award and we thank him for his care and grace. ■



Breaking the cycle of poverty!

OUR MISSION

At Children's World Impact we commit to looking after orphans and widows in their distress, and to make a significant impact on the lives of the neglected.

OUR VISION

Children's World Impact seeks to break the cycle of poverty through care and community development.

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tyson Ray
Jenny Ray
Trish Edwards
Mariann Hunter
DeAnna Miller
Judy Moser
Michael Moser

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