



A FAMILY FOR
EVERY ORPHAN

New Beginnings



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

In gratitude and anticipation!

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend,

THANK YOU for your generous support in 2019! You made a difference in the lives of 20,789 children and families. Amazing! Because of your faithful prayers and financial gifts, countries that have relied on orphanages for centuries are making great strides toward family-based care.

Some of my favorite things that you helped make happen in 2019:

- A major shift in cultural attitudes, legal reform, and the development of social services to see more children in families
- A new website with an upgraded donor platform and opportunities for connection between you and the children you support

New areas of focus for 2020:

- A mentorship initiative to assist our in-country partners with developing legal reform packages
- Pilots of community wrap-around services that will promote keeping children in families and allow

for the successful transition of children in orphanages back into families

- A growth trend analysis that will allow us to better study the progress and success of each program you support

Challenges and opportunities:

One of the disappointments we suffered in 2019 was in India. There was great success in 2018 with registering children for adoption, but that program scaled far back this year at the request of the local government. Although we are disappointed with this turn of events, the team is ready to resume if given the green light to continue. They quickly adapted by developing other projects to benefit children and grow possibilities for family-based care in India.

In 2020 our biggest challenge will also be a great opportunity. Several of our amazing staff members will be reducing their hours or stepping down from their roles completely, so that they can focus more



energy on their families. Though they will be sorely missed, we applaud them for prioritizing FAMILY!

Change is hard and we will need your prayers, but we know that God will provide us with the tools and the right people to lead our programs to the next level! He will make a way in the wilderness.

Thank you for being part of our family. Together, we are A FAMILY FOR EVERY ORPHAN!

Blessings,

Micala CH Siler

Micala CH Siler



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*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it? I am making a way
in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

Isaiah 43:18-19

*Without you, none of this
would be possible*

MISSION A Family for Every Orphan is a Christian organization that helps orphans **find loving families** in their home countries.

VISION A world without orphans.

HOW IT'S DONE You are helping orphans know the incredible love of a family. Together with our in-country partners, **your gifts are working at every step of an orphan's journey to a family.**

*Because children
belong in families.*





20,789
CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES HELPED



300%
INCREASE IN SOCIAL
WORKERS TRAINED



27,457
PEOPLE ENCOURAGED,
TRAINED, INFORMED



COUNTRIES SERVED
UKRAINE, ROMANIA,
KYRGYZSTAN, RUSSIA,
INDIA, BANGLADESH,
GHANA, UGANDA,
PARAGUAY

5,438 CHILDREN HAVE FOUND PERMANENCY IN THE PAST THREE YEARS

A FRESH LOOK

Our new logo visually represents the community that is needed to wrap around a child who has been orphaned. Caring for an orphan takes more than one person or even one set of parents - it takes many concerned individuals to provide medical, physical, and emotional support. It takes advocates to walk parents through the legal processes of adoption, foster care, or reunification. It takes investors like you who make this kind of support possible. It takes a FAMILY. Thank you!



A FAMILY FOR
EVERY ORPHAN

2019 AT A GLANCE



LAYING FOUNDATION

Developing child
protection laws and
government advocacy



90% of children in orphanages in Ghana are there because of government ruling. There is also a disconnect between the laws and how they are actually followed by local court systems. The result? Many children stay in orphanages or get returned to ill-equipped or abusive families. Shifting mindsets of judges, lawyers and government officials is vital to one day see a Ghana with no orphans. **Children like Johnson deserve to grow up in loving families!**

* Names and photos replaced for children's privacy

Johnson has been in and out of orphanages for much of his life. His father abused him and his little sisters. Thanks to your faithful support in 2019, our on-ground team in Ghana organized legal conferences to help children like Johnson. Government workers were trained on the importance of children growing up in families rather than orphanages. Over 80 judges, lawyers, social workers, church leaders, and government officials were trained. Another training reached 20 senior judges! The team reports that attendees agreed that child welfare must be a top priority for Ghana. Because of these trainings and legal advocacy, Johnson can know what it's like to be loved, not hurt, by a father.

YOUR IMPACT: LAYING FOUNDATION

5

CHILD WELFARE
AND ADOPTION
LAWS/PROCESSES
REVIEWED OR REVISED

500

LAWYERS AND JUDGES
TRAINED ON
JUDICIAL PROTECTION
OF CHILDREN

"Since 2012, Christians can legally adopt in India. So, it is important to mobilize, encourage, and guide these families so they can live out this part of their calling and the gospel."

- Alex, on-ground partner in India.



ACTIVATING CHANGE

Raising awareness and
engaging the church
and society

"It happened in Varanasi, the Hindu capital of India. This area is traditionally very volatile and oppressed, so praise God that our meeting room was filled with 46 Christian pastors! **After the event, a couple secretly waited outside in the dark to tell me they were moved to adopt a child!** Corruption and persecution are very real in our country, so we give God all the praise when a family is moved to help orphans." – on-ground partner in India

This year over 1,300 people attended motivational and educational events in India. Your gifts help spread the vision of orphans in families and engage the church and local community! As a result, more and more people like this couple becoming involved in caring for orphans.

Thank you for supporting transformative events like this!

YOUR IMPACT: ACTIVATING CHANGE

14,978

ATTENDED
MOTIVATIONAL
AND EDUCATIONAL
EVENTS

13,720

FAMILY-BASED
CARE RESOURCES
DISTRIBUTED

1.3 MILLION

PEOPLE REACHED
WITH THE MESSAGE
OF ADOPTION



"God is the Father of the orphans. He has a heart full of compassion for the orphans; it's extraordinary that we can imitate Him. It is absolutely natural for a Christian to think about adoption. Our first thought was to adopt one child, but God had another plan. We said that we wanted two children and in the end, we found three on the list. It's strange to all of a sudden hear 'mommy, mommy' throughout the house but it is absolutely beautiful."

– Andrei and Sorina, adoptive parents in Romania who attended an outreach event you helped support.



BREAKING BARRIERS

Making sure orphans are
given a chance to
be adopted



Eldana wanted to grow her family through adoption. She frequently visited a little boy named Zamir at his orphanage, and a bond was formed between the two. When Eldana applied to adopt Zamir, she did not know how many barriers she'd have to break through to bring her son home.

For unknown reasons, local social services were reluctant to help. Briberies were hinted at, and Eldana continued to get the run around as Zamir waited at the orphanage.

Thanks to your support, our on-ground team in Kyrgyzstan was able to advocate for Zamir's adoption. After fighting with local social services for weeks, the team involved UNICEF. **Eldana was finally given guardianship for Zamir – a great step toward his adoption!**

What could have been a lonely and heartbreaking process turned into a major victory for Zamir! He is no longer living in an orphanage, and instead he is now with a loving mother. Through your giving, **barriers are being broken every day for orphans like Zamir** to know the love and acceptance of a family.

YOUR IMPACT: BREAKING BARRIERS

1,660

CALLS MADE TO
ADOPTION HOTLINES

130

ORPHANS LEGALLY
REGISTERED FOR ADOPTION
SINCE 2017

VIDEOS ARE AN AMAZING WAY TO GIVE ORPHANS
A CHANCE TO BE ADOPTED.



ONE OF OUR PARTNERS IN UKRAINE CREATES
VIDEOS OF ADOPTABLE ORPHANS.
THE VIDEOS GIVE ORPHANS A

20%

HIGHER CHANCE OF GETTING ADOPTED!




EQUIPPING CAREGIVERS

Practical tools to work
with children who have
experienced trauma

Valeriya from Ukraine suffers from severe early infancy trauma. She never experienced the love and care that a new born baby so desperately needs. When a baby is neglected, it is often difficult for them to trust adults later in life, even loving adults. This can lead to difficult and potentially dangerous behaviors.

Equipping caregivers of children from hard places is vital for orphans. Without support and training, adoptive families can feel overwhelmed, alone, and burnt out... and the child remains at-risk.



When Valeriya returned from summer camp acting like a “frightened wild animal,” her adopted mother, **Liliya**, was at a loss. Something at summer camp, had triggered Valeriya’s trauma and she returned home a different girl. **Liliya** didn’t know what to do or how to survive this new normal. She was in shock.

Your faithful giving provided services and strength to Liliya. She received expert advice from trained professionals, which helped Valeriya heal from her trauma. “I thank God for strength and for giving me support,” says Liliya.

Thank you for helping Valeriya and Liliya thrive as an adoptive family!

YOUR IMPACT: EQUIPPING CAREGIVERS

9,032

**SOCIAL WORKERS
TRAINED**

3,159

**FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE
FAMILIES RECEIVED SUPPORT
OR COUNSELING**



When she was two years old, Ana couldn’t walk or talk. She suffered from severe trauma, and her adoptive parents were well-equipped to care for her special needs. Thank you for supporting Ana and her family, giving them the tools needed to care for her and their growing family. Today, Ana is thriving!

“Thank you very much for your help for our growing family! Thanks to your support we were able to buy a rocking chair and a double stroller which we would not be able to afford without your help.”

– Ana’s adoptive mother, Sofia.





FINDING FAMILIES

Creating permanency
through adoption, foster
care, reunification, and
kinship care





Vanessa was found lying in the grass – alone and filthy. Her umbilical cord was still attached. Her emotional and physical pain in those first few moments of her life are impossible to imagine. Thankfully, someone heard Vanessa's infant cries and saved her life by taking her to the hospital.

Three years before Vanessa was even born, the Gonzalez family attended an event promoting foster care in Paraguay. They were moved to tears by the need in their country. But they were also scared of loving a child deeply, knowing it might not be permanent. Yet, God worked in the hearts of the Gonzalez family. He knew they needed to be ready to love and care for Vanessa. And when Vanessa needed a home, the Gonzalez family was there!

Thank you for supporting foster families like the Gonzalezes. This loving foster family is smitten with Vanessa. Everyone can't wait to hold her, even Grandma! Now Vanessa knows that she won't always be alone, and there won't always be pain. **She is loved!**



YOUR IMPACT: FINDING FAMILIES

4,604

FAMILIES STRENGTHENED
OR REUNITED

397

CHILDREN PLACED
INTO FAMILIES

You are giving orphans a new beginning

A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Friends – Thank you for your investment of time, talent, and resources with A Family for Every Orphan this past year. Your partnership made a tangible, life-changing difference for children around the world. Families, churches, and children have been blessed and encouraged through and your partnership. Thank you!

The verse for the annual report is Isaiah 43:18-19. As I reflect on these words, I am so encouraged by how it relates to our mission and vision. We are exhorted to “Forget the former things, do not dwell on the

past”. **For orphaned children, the past is filled with trauma, sadness, disappointment, and hopelessness. Our vision and focus- with your help!- is to not leave children in that place;** to not allow them to dwell on the pain of the past.

The verses continue “See, I am doing a new thing ... I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the

wasteland.” We serve a compassionate, active, sovereign God who is renewing the lives of children and leading them through the wilderness into loving, permanent families. It is our privilege and joy to help children find “streams in the wasteland” that can help them remain in their family of birth, reunite with parents, or regain a new family through foster care or adoption.

As you review these wonderful stories, I hope you notice the renewal taking place in the lives of orphans. These children did not continue to dwell on the past, stuck in hopelessness. Rather, **their lives were renewed because of you!** While we are greatly encouraged by what has been accomplished, we look forward to helping even more families and children. God is definitely bringing about a “new thing.” God is changing hearts and minds and bringing a shift from institutional care to family-based care. Children belong in families!

I’m grateful for you and look forward to seeing how God will continue to transform orphans’ lives out of the hopeless wilderness into loving permanent families.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'David Melilli', written in a cursive style.

David Melilli



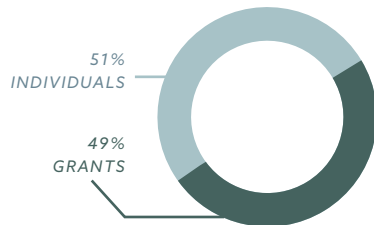
Financial Overview

FISCAL YEAR 2019

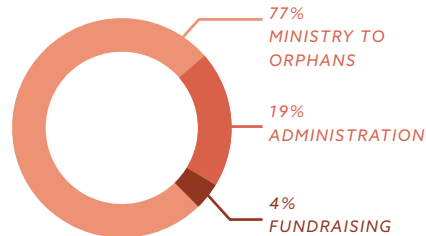


REVENUE	\$ 614,481
EXPENSES	637,691
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(23,210)
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	268,068

SOURCES OF FUNDING



USES OF FUNDING



NOTE: All financial figures for FY19 are unaudited as of press time. Audited numbers will be available after May 1, 2020, and can be viewed online at afamilyforeveryorphan.org/financial-accountability.

BOARD

DAVID MELILLI, J.D., LL.M., CHAIR

MELINDA MANDELL, VICE-CHAIR

KARL SCHEUERMAN, SECRETARY

PAUL ZHDAN, TREASURER

ALLISON PINKHAM, VOTING MEMBER

ANITA DEYNEKA, VOTING MEMBER

ANTHONY RITCHIE, VOTING MEMBER

ORIAH LONGANECKER,
VOTING MEMBER

ADVISORY COUNCIL

KARMEN FRIESEN

DR. NATALYA AGEYEVA

RICHARD T. MOORE, ESQ.

DR. RICHARD SCHEUERMAN

Why I give to A Family for Every Orphan



FAITH AND HAYDEN DEVERILL

"As newlyweds, God used three underprivileged brothers to burden our hearts for vulnerable children and orphans. He has used AFFEO to open our eyes to orphans' needs around the world. We are grateful for an organization that we can trust to use our donations to truly help children all around the world find a family and forever home!"

Faith uses her accounting background to help her parents' business, and she donates her compensation to help orphans find loving families.

PAUL ZHDAN

"I really do believe that families are the best place for kids to grow up in, and AFFEO helps do just that. They are truly helping children find loving, caring families. Year after year, I continue my involvement because of the real impact that is made in the lives of orphans around the world. AFFEO has incredible people. The staff is knowledgeable, efficient, and hardworking. The board is passionate about orphans and vulnerable children. Genuine, driven people making real change for His kingdom."



By giving a monthly gift and serving in leadership, Paul desires to make a tangible impact on the lives of orphans.



NANCY HARPER

"I have always known the love of a family, and as difficult as it is to admit, I never really thought about what it would feel like to be an orphan, that is, until my daughter introduced me to A Family for Every Orphan. Now each child has a face and a name, and my heart hurts for these children, too far away for me to love in person. I asked the Lord what I could do to help and He said, 'Use what you have.'"

Nancy is the creator of Made with Love. Nancy bakes pies, divides perennials, cans sauces and produce from her garden, and makes garden art and jewelry. Made with Love donates 100% of its proceeds to AFEO.

Streamline Financial Services, Workplace Giving Program

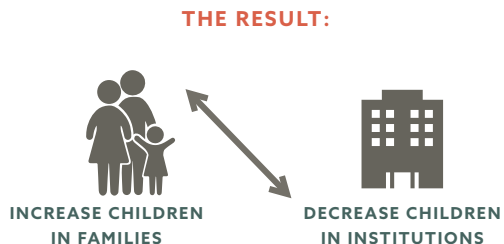
"One key component to managing wealth for people, is helping them manage and plan for their charitable giving. As a business, we then model that by giving 5% of our profits away to our business Donor-Advised Fund. We gather as a team twice a year and each person gets to not only tell us about their cause, but direct a portion of those profits to that cause as a result. It's a great day."

- Tim Meisenheimer CFP®,
Streamline Financial Services Manager

Streamline Financial Services in Warrenville, IL offers a workplace giving program to its employees. Employees nominated AFEO to receive a portion of the business's profits. If your employer offers a workplace giving program, consider recommending AFEO!

Looking ahead – Growing into the future

As we plan for the future, the main objective is finding the best ways to get more children into loving families and keep them there. Over the years, it's become abundantly clear that working through existing churches and in-country organizations is the most sustainable approach. Simply put, these groups know their country best. By supporting nationally-led work, we will see family-based care flourish.



**IN 2020 AND BEYOND, YOUR GIVING WILL HELP
EXPAND PROGRAMS IN:**



LEGAL ADVOCACY

Many developing countries do not have good child welfare laws. With your support, laws and policies will be established to protect children. Just as importantly, these laws and policies will be implemented properly. Together, we will lay a good foundation to reunite or place children safely and legally with families.



PREVENTION AND WRAP AROUND SUPPORT

You are fighting the orphan crisis from two sides – placement and prevention. As children leave orphanages and either return safely to families or are adopted into loving families (placement), we must also ensure other children stay out of orphanages (prevention). This is done through wrap around support to vulnerable families. It is vital to the future of millions of young children.



Thank You!

**You changed Lilmuni's world. In 2019, you gave
her a new beginning through adoption!**

*"Therefore, if anyone is
in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!"*

2 Corinthians 5:17



**BECAUSE CHILDREN
BELONG IN FAMILIES**

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*All gifts are tax-deductible to the
fullest extent allowed by law.*

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and Gustavo Cultivo on Unsplash

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