



A FAMILY FOR
EVERY ORPHAN

**Steadfast
and
Hopeful**

A Letter From the Board Chair

Friends –

THANK YOU for your steadfast support of A Family for Every Orphan throughout this challenging and tumultuous year!

None of us could have possibly imagined what the year 2020 would bring to the world. A global pandemic was not something any of us considered possible. This past year was also “world altering” for our organization as our beloved leader, Micala Siler, died unexpectedly in September. Our hearts are broken for her family, and we continue to pray for her husband and daughters. Your compassionate support through this season has been overwhelming! Thanks to you, the legacy of orphan care Micala started will continue through our efforts around the world.

This year was also the 10th anniversary for our organization! **You have helped over 227,589 children and families the past ten years.** I'm grateful for your faithful support that continues to change the lives of orphans around the world and for the steadfast hand of God on us as we go

about our work. We remain steadfast and resolute in our mission to help orphans around the world find permanent loving families in their home countries.

DURING THE LAST YEAR WE SAW SUCCESS IN:

- legal advocacy for orphans
- laying legal groundwork for children toward the path to a family
- growth in the areas of prevention and support for families in crisis

There is great hope as we look to all this next year will bring. Opportunities have arisen to help more children as the impacts of COVID-19 linger. While the pandemic prevented many programs from being carried out in 2020, strategies were adapted to provide support for orphans. There is hope that governments will see the benefits of reallocating funds to family-based care and away from institutions. There is also great hope that the paradigm will continue to shift from institutional care to family-based care.

We are encouraged by Hebrews 10:23 – “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.” As we look to the future, we hold to the hope we profess, because we know God is faithful!

As you review the wonderful stories shared in this report, please share in the hope that the year 2021 brings.

I'm grateful for your partnership, and I look forward to seeing how God will continue to express His steadfast love for orphans and position us to have the most impact in our work.



David Melilli

THEREFORE, MY BELOVED BROTHERS, BE

Steadfast, Immovable,

ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD, KNOWING
THAT IN THE LORD YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN.

1 Corinthians 15:58

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You Make This 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 IS DONE

You are helping orphans know the incredible love of a family. With your support, we are working with in-country partners at every step of an orphan's journey to a family.

Because Children



Laying
Foundation



Activating
Change



Breaking
Barriers



Equipping
Caregivers



Finding
Families



69,953

Children and families helped



8,040

Churches engaged to support orphans and vulnerable children



41,541

People encouraged, trained, informed



COUNTRIES SERVED

Russia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, India, Bangladesh, Ghana, Uganda, Paraguay

Belong in Families

IMPACT OF COVID-19

When the world was hit with uncertainty, you remained steadfast. Unfortunately, orphans and vulnerable children around the world were not immune to the devastating impacts of COVID-19. **But thanks to you, efforts were adapted to ensure these children received the help they needed.**

In Ukraine, wellness checks and counseling were provided to children returned to unsafe homes from orphanages. Long-term support solutions are in progress with the hope that these children may never need to return to the orphanages! In Romania, vital trainings and counseling were transitioned online to provide support to vulnerable children. And in Kyrgyzstan, the Church was ignited to help care for children and families living in crisis, aiding in the prevention of children becoming orphans.

Thank you for your steadfast support through COVID-19! It's vital that we continue to adapt our efforts to meet these critical needs facing orphans around the world.

Laying Foundation

Alina was 14 when her world was shattered. After arriving home from school in Romania, she found her father's lifeless body. While grieving this loss, her mother decided to prevent her from going to school and give her up for marriage.

This brave 14-year-old escaped and desperately sought help, eventually making her way to Child Protection Services. Child Protection Services reached out to our on-ground partners and asked if there was a family who wanted to care for Alina.

Years earlier, Diana had participated in a summit regarding adoption and began praying about her future as an adoptive parent. When our partners called Diana, she instantly said, "Yes!" **Thanks to your prayers and support, Alina is now living in a safe home with a loving mother.**

She studies very hard and wants to become a lawyer to protect vulnerable children.

Thank you for laying the foundations that enabled Diana to adopt when Alina needed a family. Because of you, there is now ongoing collaboration between state officials, child protection agencies, the local church, and in-country partners to ensure children like Alina are being properly cared for in loving families.



47

Child welfare and adoption
laws/processes reviewed or revised

Activating Change

Lesha was born HIV positive, and with a host of other medical problems present at birth, **doctors predicted that he had approximately 1.5 years to live.** So dire were his medical needs, his caseworkers never even bothered to place him on the adoption registry. Lesha remained in an orphanage, trapped indoors for years, with no family and no hope of ever being adopted.

After joining the **One Church, One Child** prayer program in Russia, a local church heard about Lesha's situation. They knew he was the "one child" for their church. They began praying in earnest for him.

Lesha's health began improving almost immediately. Eventually, after **THREE** long years of prayer and with your vital support, he was adopted by a loving family within that church! The church felt compelled to continue praying for Lesha, specifically for his restoration of health. They knew that adoption was only the first step in his long journey of healing.

Just within the past 6 months, his labs came back and found no immunodeficiencies! It was so shocking to the doctors



14,978

Attended motivational
and educational events



13,720

Family-based care
resources distributed



1.3 MILLION

People reached with
the message of adoption

that they thought perhaps he was never HIV positive. They obtained his original paperwork and labs, and they were utterly astounded! In the orphanage, he most certainly was HIV positive and had 13 other related health issues connected to that diagnosis. He is now completely free of all of those diseases.

This is truly a miracle! Lesha's story of adoption began four years ago with a doctor's prediction that he would live less than 2 years... **now he has his whole life ahead of him!**

Thank you for supporting the **One Church, One Child** program and providing Lesha with a family, where he is able to experience healing surrounded by love.



In Uganda, you support the *Family for Every Orphan* radio show that reaches over 2 million people with the message of adoption and family-based care. By raising awareness in Uganda, more children are being adopted into loving forever families.

Breaking Barriers

2020 YOUR IMPACT



Harshil was stuck. He had no parents to take care of him, and because of a complicated registry process, he wasn't able to be adopted. In India, there are over 50,000 orphans waiting to be added to the adoption registry. **The only barrier between these children and a forever family is a social investigation.**

A social investigation determines if there are any living relatives who will take the child. If none are found and the orphan is truly without any family care, the child may then be legally freed for adoption.

Because of your gifts, major barriers are being broken to help get more children into families. You are fighting for children like Harshil to receive much needed and deserved social investigations, allowing them the freedom to become legally registered for adoption! Thank you for supporting new and updated child welfare laws, processes, and regulations in India. You are providing hope to children in India, showing them they can and should belong to a forever family.



1,787

Calls made to adoption hotlines



47

Orphans legally
registered for adoption

Equipping Caregivers

When her 14-year-old daughter, Nina, started running away, Anna was helpless and confused. There were arguments, tears, and a broken relationship between this mother and daughter. Through her church, Anna heard about trainings offered for caregivers of children who have experienced trauma. **When Anna was desperate for help, you made sure she got it!** Your gifts allowed Anna to attend these trainings.

Anna says, "Through the training I realized the reason for her running away from home was not just her or her bad behavior. It was not easy, but I began to apply the principles of building a connection with my daughter, which I learnt at the training. I was consistent and showed warmth and understanding."

Today, Anna and Nina have a thriving relationship built on trust. They are able to openly communicate and love spending time together. Nina no longer runs away, and the moments that were once filled with tears are now full of laughter.

By equipping caregivers of children with trauma, you brought healing to Anna and Nina's relationship. "Thank you for restoring my relationship with my daughter," says Anna.

Your gifts are providing vital trauma training and workshops for the caregivers of orphans and at-risk children. Thank you for supporting these families, giving Nina and Anna a chance to have a flourishing relationship.



7,932

Social workers
trained



2,871

Foster and adoptive families
received support or counseling

Finding Families



8,758

Families strengthened
or reunited



1,124

Children placed
into families



The medical staff caring for 6-month-old Maria thought she was a hopeless case—in Paraguay, children from indigenous tribes are often rejected by society. Maria's mother was gravely ill and could not care for her baby. Baby Maria was suffering the consequences of neglect and life on the streets.

Thankfully, before Maria was even born, the Lopez family attended an event promoting foster care in Paraguay. There they learned the difference a steadfast family makes in the life of a child. When the government requested emergency foster care for Maria, **the Lopez family responded without hesitation.**

Now, Maria is living with the Lopez family who continue to surround her in their love and kindness. While the process for more permanent placement has been delayed, due to COVID-19 causing government shutdowns, the family is committed to providing Maria with the best love and care she needs and deserves.

Thank you for championing foster families like the Lopez family! Your gifts are showing children like Maria that they are image bearers of God and worthy of a family. **Maria is safe and loved because of you!**



Merry is just eleven years old, and after losing her father to Malaria fever, she had no one to care for her. There was no one to provide her with food, education, or to surround her with her basic needs.

Thanks to you, children in Bangladesh are being brought out of orphanages and placed into safe foster families. Your steadfast giving enabled Merry to be welcomed into a loving foster home, where she is now thriving.

Merry is now in primary school and enjoys reading.

**BECAUSE OF YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT,
MERRY IS SURROUNDED BY LOVING FOSTER
PARENTS AND A CARING FAMILY.**



A Letter From the Interim Executive Director

DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you so much for **your *steadfast support for orphans and vulnerable children*** through what has been such a difficult year for the entire world. In the midst of a global pandemic and our team's great personal loss of our beloved Executive Director Micala Siler, we remain ***hopeful because of you.***

Deuteronomy 14:29 says,

"AND... THE FATHERLESS...
WHO ARE WITHIN YOUR TOWNS,

**shall come and
eat and be filled,**

THAT THE LORD YOUR GOD MAY
BLESS YOU IN ALL THE WORK OF
YOUR HANDS THAT YOU DO."

Because of you, projects in nine countries deeply affected by COVID-19 have been able to press forward and serve orphans and families in new and creative ways.

Because of you, our team has been able to adjust course after a devastating and sudden loss of a valued leader.

As you read through the stories in this annual report, I hope you will be encouraged by the transformation taking place in the lives of these precious children around the world.

IN 2020, YOU HELPED NEARLY 70,000 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES! THANK YOU!

We are ***steadfast and hopeful*** together.

Moving forward, our focus remains on helping orphans find loving families in their home countries. This is even more vital now as the global landscape is shifting in light of COVID-19.

In the coming year, you will have an opportunity to step in and meet NEW needs that have arisen. For example, the increase in adult deaths in India have led to surges in trafficking, child marriages, and an increased number of orphans and street children. Additionally, the governments in



several countries have ordered orphanages to close down due to COVID-19. This meant that thousands of children were sent back to biological families who were unprepared and/or unwilling to care for them. There is a huge need for programs that focus on prevention and family support services so these children can be protected and cared for... and families can ideally heal and grow together!

As we reflect on a particularly challenging year and look at the tasks ahead, let us take comfort in the words found in Deuteronomy 31:8 “The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

There is so much to celebrate, and so much left to do.

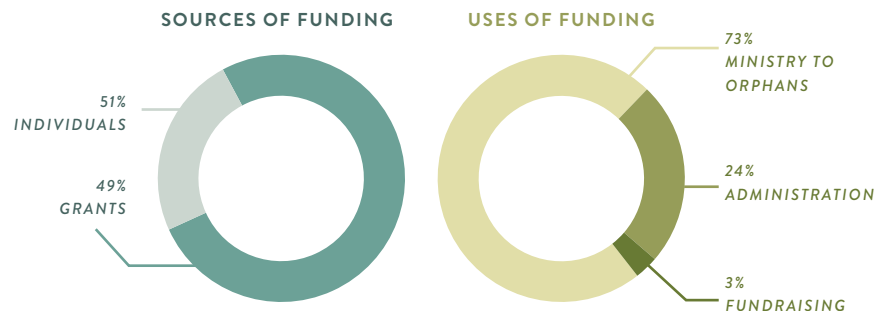
May you carry these words into this new year, remaining steadfast and hopeful in the Lord!

With gratitude,

Sarah Wolfe

Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Overview

REVENUE	\$ 625,304
EXPENSES	588,444
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(36,860)
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	304,927



Board

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Why I Give to A Family for Every Orphan



AMY MATTHEWS LLOYD

"I am a Christian singer/songwriter and teaching artist.

After visiting Russia three times on short-term missions with my husband, we were given a pamphlet about A Family for Every Orphan, and that's when we gave our first gift.

Having seen the needs of orphans and at-risk children firsthand, we continue to partner with AFFEO, because God calls us to defend and look after the fatherless."

Amy uses her gift as a songwriter for God's glory and donates the proceeds from her music sales to help orphans find loving families.

JENN FOXWORTH

"My family and I are excited to be a part of AFFEO's mission and feel strongly that Jesus' command to care for the widows and orphans is to ALL believers. For some, that means bringing children into their home through adoption or fostering, and for the rest of us it means being involved in supporting those who adopt, foster, and advocate for vulnerable children.



I love AFFEO's passion to see families equipped to provide a forever home for children within their home country. I really do believe that God's design is for children to be in a loving family. The board and staff of AFFEO are passionate and dedicated to seeing orphans put into loving families, and they do so with professionalism, integrity, and great faith. It is a joy and honor to continue to be able to give to the international work of A Family for Every Orphan."

Jenn and her family live out their faith by supporting the care of orphans and vulnerable children.

JOHN CLEMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

"I've been a full-time landscape photographer since 1980 doing what God has gifted me to do. About 7 years ago I decided to do a fundraiser for charities that I supported, AFFEO included, and that is where the Yarart Sale (a yard sale for art) was born. It was a big success!

AFFEO is one of the most amazing ministries to come along in many years. I was stunned at the number of vulnerable kids around the world. I was convinced and convicted that I would support AFFEO for as long as it continued to accomplish saving kids from a life of isolation, abuse, malnutrition, and homelessness."

John has turned his passion and talent as a photographer into a way to care for orphans.



SHOUTOUT TO OUR 2020 GIVING TUESDAY PEER-TO-PEER ROCK STARS!

Thank you for sharing Geofri's story through your email and social media accounts, spreading the word that older children like Geofri are worthy of healing and hope!

AFFEO ambassadors wrapped around Geofri and his new parents, as they continue to diligently attend therapy and counseling, growing together and developing a flourishing relationship.

Peer-to-peer fundraising is a great way to spread the message that **children belong in families** and ignite your friends and family to join you in helping children find loving families in their home countries.

Looking Ahead With Hope

As we look to the future, we recognize that the need is greater than ever. But, our mission remains steadfast: to help orphans find loving families in their home countries. By working with in-country organizations and existing churches, we are taking a sustainable approach to help orphans along each step of their journey to a family.

With your support, there is great hope that more children will find loving families!

LET US HOLD FAST THE CONFESSION OF

**our hope
without wavering,**

FOR HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL.

Hebrews 10:23

IN 2021 AND BEYOND, YOUR GIVING WILL HELP TO:



Address the long-term impacts of COVID-19

With your help, wrap-around support will be provided to families who unexpectedly received children back from orphanages due to COVID-19. It is the goal of our long-term support solutions that these children would not ever need to return to orphanages! This will also highlight to the government how a re-allocation of funding away from institutions and towards social services, focused on prevention and family support, is a more strategic approach to caring for orphans.



Focus on trauma care training

Caring for orphans does not end at adoption. Without support and training, adoptive families can feel overwhelmed and children remain at-risk. It is vital to provide practical tools to social workers and caregivers who work with children who have experienced trauma. You are helping orphans by providing services and strength to caregivers.



Thank You!

Only .2% of the world's orphans are **ADOPTED**
into the U.S. each year.

*(The U.S. is the highest-ranked country
for international adoption.)*

You are providing a sustainable solution
to finding orphans loving families
in their home countries.

Because Children Belong in Families

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

Names and photos have been
replaced for children's privacy

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