



Wholeheartedly
2022
ANNUAL REPORT



A FAMILY FOR
EVERY ORPHAN



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A Letter From the Executive Director

"Servant hearted, wholeheartedly."

These are words I use to describe the heart of AFFEO, our international partners, board members, teams, volunteers, and donors like you. Each day I am amazed at the grace, humility, and sacrificial service and gifts given by all to serve the most vulnerable – God's children.

This past year was exceptionally difficult. Households continued to struggle from the economic impact of the pandemic and war; world-wide inflation exacerbated existing financial hardship and disparities. These challenges have consistently been more severe for lower-income families with children. Families struggled to buy household goods, sufficient food for their children, and cover rent or utilities for their home.

However, looking back on the past year, I am in awe of all that the Lord has done, because so many wholeheartedly said "Yes!" to give of their time, talents, and treasure. All gave for the orphan, child, and family when they needed it most.

As a result, over 303,860 children and families were served this past year! 303,860 children and families received tangible help, a message of hope, a path to healing - an expression of God's love for them. For many, this came through the gift of a loving and stable family. Due to the war in Ukraine, children and families have experienced unimaginable brokenness and more trauma than ever before. Because your support has allowed AFFEO to serve in Ukraine since 2010, we were able to respond to their needs on day one of the war.


Our partners have shared that this timely support gave them much needed hope when their world was falling apart. We wholeheartedly believe that AFFEO was positioned and continues to be called to serve in a "time such as this." This would not be possible without you!

Because of you, AFFEO continues to meet critical needs not only in Ukraine, but in eight other nations as well. I am so excited to share this report with you. I hope you are encouraged by the many ways that the lives of orphans and vulnerable children have been positively impacted. May these stories inspire you as we continue this work together to touch many more today, tomorrow, and in generations to come. Thank you!

With a full heart,



Heather Dyer



"Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord let me lift up, those who are weak, and may the prayer of my heart always be, make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today."

As a child I sang this song, because I thought it was pretty. As an adult I began to understand how those words were a prayer that spoke to my heart in ways I could not have imagined. Today, it brings me joy to hear my daughter sing it, and I pass it on to you - to put words to the song in your heart that has been on full display this year.

Wholeheartedly Serving Vulnerable Children and Families

AFFEO is a Christian organization committed to advancing sustainable family-based care for orphans and vulnerable children. We achieve this by mobilizing churches, communities, and governments around family strengthening, foster care, and adoption.

MISSION

To create paths for orphans to find care in loving and stable families in their home country.

VISION

A world without orphans.

BECAUSE CHILDREN BELONG IN FAMILIES.

2022 At a Glance



303,860

Children and
families helped



6,745

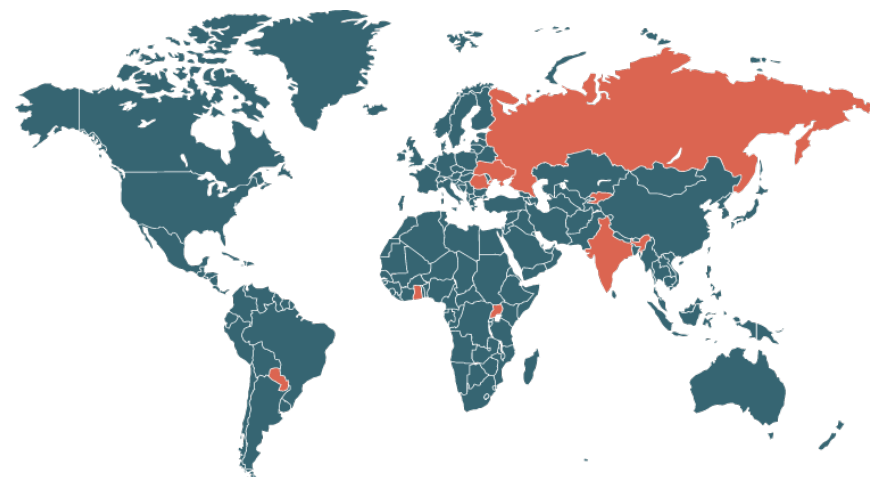
Churches engaged to
support orphaned and
vulnerable children



196,963

People encouraged,
trained, informed

Countries Served



Ukraine

Russia

Ghana

Kyrgyzstan

India

Uganda

Romania

Bangladesh

Paraguay

How It's Done

YOU ARE HELPING ORPHANS KNOW THE
INCREDIBLE LOVE OF A FAMILY.

With your
support, we
champion efforts
to see children in
families through
work to:



PREPARE

Equip caregivers with training and resources.



PROMOTE

Promote the vision that children belong in families.



PROTECT

Advocate for improved child welfare policies.



PREVENT

Support struggling families to prevent parent/child separation.



CONNECT

Provide connection for orphans through mentorship and family-based care.

PREPARE

Ensure adoptive and foster families have training, support services, and resources along their journey.

Nishan is experiencing trust and love in a foster family!

Nishan was left at a pastor's home in India after being found living on the streets. When he first arrived, he pushed everyone away. He struggled to communicate and often used harsh words. Tragically, millions of children living on the streets in India, like Nishan, are forced to work in fields or factories, and many are sold to extremist groups and forced to fight as child soldiers.

The pastor and his family had compassion for Nishan and took him in as their own. They knew it would be costly, but that didn't stop them from fostering and caring for him. They took the next step with confidence that help would come, and it did.

With your support, this family was equipped with everything they needed to send Nishan to school (breaking a generational cycle of poverty by giving him access to education!). With school and book fees covered, Nishan's foster family had critical support and encouragement they needed to focus on meeting Nishan's physical and emotional needs. As they consistently loved and cared for him, Nishan experienced trust in a safe relationship and slowly opened up. He recently started school and has even made a couple of friends.

Today, his foster mom and sister help him with his schoolwork and share stories from the Bible. He likes books and tries hard to read. He especially enjoys running errands with his foster dad.

By equipping this foster family, you also increased the likelihood that they will foster again in the future. Foster families with wrap-around support are on average 25% more likely to continue fostering.

Thank you for PREPARING foster families, like Nishan's, to meet children's physical and emotional needs.



PREPARE: Romania

Andrea attended a training camp for foster and adoptive families that you support in Romania. She shared, "It was like a breath of oxygen: the stories of other parents, the training we received on working with trauma, the wonderful memories our kids created through the games they played."

PREPARE



4,154

Foster and adoptive families trained in trauma-informed care



1,411

Caregivers received counseling services



2,101

Social workers trained

PROMOTE

Share the vision of orphans in families and the need for family-based care.

Children in Paraguay are being connected with loving foster families, thanks to your support!

Due to cultural prejudices surrounding orphans, Paraguay has lacked interested, willing, and qualified foster families. In light of this, an AFFEO partner in Paraguay launched a search campaign for potential foster families for children in need. Churches were given short videos each month. These videos showed specific needs of vulnerable children and called the church to prayer and action.

This was a call to action for churches and Christians in Paraguay, and the response was incredible!

Sixty families became qualified to foster after watching a video about 19 infants who were placed in an orphanage, because there were no qualified families to take them! Not long after the start of this prayer initiative, babies in high-risk situations were lovingly received in the open arms of these families, families who are now being wrapped with ongoing support from their local church and foster care teams.

Because you are PROMOTING family-based care, more orphans and vulnerable children are experiencing the love and care of a safe family.



PROMOTE: Bangladesh

"We prayed together for orphan and fatherless children. I learned a lot. I will raise my voice in my church, community and also my workspace for vulnerable orphan children. Thank you for having this." - Orphan Sunday participant

This year over 300 churches celebrated Orphan Sunday in Bangladesh. Orphan Sunday has been a key way for countries around the world to promote the vision of family-based care for orphaned and vulnerable children.

PROMOTE



32,442

People attended motivational
and educational events



6,745

Churches engaged in
family-based care programs



3,516,468

People reached with the
message of adoption

PROTECT

Ensure child protection laws exist and shape policy to create paths to see orphans in loving and stable families.

Children's rights laws are changing in Romania with your help!

In Romania, an orphaned or abandoned child spends an average of 7.5 years in institutional care. That is nearly half of their childhood! Due to many children entering an institution around 8-years-old, most will age-out during this time, never knowing the love and care of a family and left to navigate adulthood on their own. Amendments to Romania's laws to protect children's rights will prevent children from languishing in institutions and provide more opportunities for them to grow up in families.

With your support, AFFEO partners in Romania have worked tirelessly the past 5 years to improve and update these laws. They have been instrumental in shaping these amendments and advocated relentlessly for their passage.

Here are some of the reforms you made possible:

- Social workers can seek out foster families that live in a different county than the child. This improves their chances of finding a family.
- When searching for the child's relatives, social workers now stop at a 3rd degree relative (great-grandparent) instead of a 4th degree (great-great-grandparent). This makes the process more timely and realistic.
- In cases of reintegration (where children have returned home from an orphanage or foster family), social workers will maintain relationships with families for two years instead of six months, and counseling is required.
- Children cannot be transferred from a family-style home to a residential facility to prevent unnecessary disruption and additional trauma.

Thank you for your dedication to caring for orphans and **PROTECTING** their right to grow up in a safe and loving family!



PROTECT: Ghana

In Ghana, there is a strong belief that institutional care for children is adequate - that it provides for their physical, educational, and emotional needs. Our partners are working to address this, not only by raising awareness but also by reforming the child welfare system.

This year, your generosity allowed the team in Ghana to approach the government with concrete ideas to improve child welfare laws and processes. For example, foster and adoptive families currently do not receive any financial support or subsidy from the government. Often this support can make the difference in whether a family is able to pursue foster or adoption. AFFEO partners are working with the government to instate tax breaks for foster and adoptive families, with protective measures to avoid abusing the system. They believe this will revolutionize the child welfare system, destigmatize foster care, and significantly decrease the number of children in orphanages in Ghana!

"They (individuals, churches, orphanages, and child welfare professionals) used to see us as enemies just a few years ago. But now, through radio, programming, and with government support, we are seeing more buy-in to family-based care. They are coming around to the idea that children do not belong in institutions."- Kingsley, AFFEO Partner in Ghana

PROTECT



13

Child welfare laws, policies,
or processes improved



55

Child social investigations
conducted



208

Government leaders and lawyers
trained in best practices for
orphans and vulnerable children

PREVENT

Strengthen families to prevent children from entering institutional care.

You are strengthening families and empowering the next generation in India.

Satya's mother loves Satya deeply. They live in an area of India where women and girls are often not highly esteemed. When Satya's father abandoned Satya and her family, her mother struggled to care for Satya and her grandmother who was living with them. A great concern for Satya's mother was how she would send Satya to school. Financially and logistically, this became a huge burden. At times, Satya's mother wondered if she could keep her family together.

Over a third of girls in India do not attend school, limiting their future ability to care for themselves and their own children. Knowing this and wanting the best future for her daughter, Satya's mother wondered if it was in Satya's best interest to go to an institution where she could be educated and have basic needs provided. Thankfully, your support for Satya came at just the right time. You enabled Satya to attend school and provided her with basic necessities. In doing so, **you kept this precious family together while investing in the future of a young girl - strengthening the next generation.**

Satya's mom says, "I thank God for this support that came just when we needed it most." Satya loves her mom, going to school, and helping with chores. She is a kind-hearted young girl who is confident and happy knowing that she can stay with her mom.

Thank you for strengthening families like Satya's and
PREVENTING their separation!



PREVENT: Kyrgyzstan

In Kyrgyzstan, 80% of children in orphanages have at least one parent or relative. AFFEO partners are working directly with families in crisis, while also supporting local champions doing the same critical work, to prevent more children from being placed into an orphanage. As an example, Sabira, a long-time champion in caring for vulnerable families in her community, recently opened a respite home for families at risk of losing their children to an orphanage. Your generosity is raising up advocates like Sabira, while also providing safety, temporary shelter, counseling, and support for struggling families until they are back on their feet... helping these families become stable and healthy together!

PREVENT



547

Families received daycare services



153

Women received vocational training



4,057

Biological families strengthened to reunite or remain together



1,033

Aged-out teens educated and supported toward independence

CONNECT

Provide stability and connection for orphans through mentorship and family-style care, while efforts are made to help them remain in, reunite with, or regain a family.

15-year-old Anton has been adopted!

Orphaned at a young age, 8-year-old Anton went to live with his uncle. In the chaos of the annexation of Crimea from Ukraine in 2014, his uncle was no longer able to look after him, and Anton was placed in the care of an AFFEO partner. The Ark is a non-government family-style home for orphans and vulnerable children. There, children are cared for while efforts are made to first reunite with their biological family or find a safe and loving foster/adoptive family when reunification is not possible.

Caregivers are trained in trauma-informed care and **provided Anton a safe place to process trauma from his past, receive love and guidance from consistent, safe adults, and have his basic needs met.** After two years at The Ark, Anton was reunited with his uncle. However, it was sadly short-lived. His uncle had suffered tremendous trauma and loss and was not able to provide for Anton. Authorities removed Anton permanently and placed him back at The Ark.

Knowing children thrive in families, The Ark did not stop advocating for Anton. **After a few years, and through a safe program that gives young teens an opportunity to connect with prospective foster or adoptive families, Anton met a loving Ukrainian family.**

Their relationship grew, and in 2021 this family opened their hearts and home by inviting Anton into their family. Anton was elated and could not wait to be adopted. However, before the process could be finalized, Ukraine was invaded and Anton was evacuated to Germany. The uncertainty of if and when his adoption would ever be finalized was really hard.

In Germany, a path was forged for Ukrainian authorities to finish processing Anton's adoption at 15 years old. After seven long years of waiting, Anton is now a beloved son!

*Your support is **CONNECTING** children like Anton with a family, giving them critical skills and experiences to make this transition and helping them thrive!*



CONNECT: Russia

In 2022, Russia Without Orphans celebrated their 10-year anniversary! That is ten years of sharing the vision of children being raised in families and implementing programs to address the needs of orphans, thanks to your support! This has resulted in thousands of children being raised in safe and loving families today. Many of these children were introduced to their adoptive or foster family through a letter exchange, which provides critical mentorship.

CONNECT



1,706

Children placed
into families



1,013

Children connected
with mentors

UKRAINE WAR RELIEF

Timely Response

"The timely support from AFFEO when the war started was really important for us. There were many days that we felt the world was coming to an end. The support AFFEO provided gave us hope. In the first, darkest days, it showed us that people cared and understood what was happening - we were not alone."

- Oleg, AFFEO Ukrainian Partner

Because of your response
to children and families
in Ukraine:



411,865

Ukrainian families were provided
with urgent humanitarian aid



90,878

Ukrainian families received
psychosocial support



58,080

Ukrainian families were
provided with safe shelter



134,327

Ukrainian families received
life-saving evacuations



Evacuations

Children in Ukraine have **experienced unimaginable horrors from war.**

Too many have spent months in cold and dark basements, listening to air raid sirens and bombs overhead. When 40% of Ukraine's energy infrastructure was damaged, millions had inadequate heat or were living with nothing more than plastic tarps to protect their war-ravaged homes from winter weather.

With your support, tens of thousands no longer remain stuck in combat zones, occupied territories, decimated villages, or in uninhabitable living conditions. Because of you, the most vulnerable children and families were rescued and evacuated to safer regions. Families of children with disabilities, large foster families, and entire orphanages are now connected to safe shelter and have their needs met.

The work of our Ukrainian partners is not without risk. But each is resolute in their commitment to protect children and reunite them with their families when separated.

"I have to know what is happening and see with my eyes how to better help children and families. **Many do not want to leave, but it is not safe for them to live there. We want to talk to them and find out how we can better help these families,**" stated AFFEO partner Nikolai as he coordinated rescue teams in combat zones and recently de-occupied cities. In addition to evacuations, Nikolai's team provides community-based services for war-torn children and families, helping them heal and make their next steps with proper resources and support.

Tens of thousands of children are out of harm's way and beginning their path to healing and a brighter future because of you!



Family Strengthening

65% of Ukraine's child population, or 4.5 million children, have been displaced in the past year by the war in Ukraine.

Thousands of families have been separated. As men are on the front lines, and homes and villages have been decimated, Ukrainians have been forced to evacuate and start life over completely.

Many lost everything - their homes, source of income, and stability...their loved ones. In this time of great instability, AFCEO partners are clear of their mission - to meet the needs of families, keeping them together and protecting children from abandonment, trafficking, and abuse.

With your support, several partners are providing stability through community centers that serve thousands per day. At these centers, children and families are given humanitarian aid, health checkups, psychological aid, employment and legal support. Many also serve as day centers, providing safe places for children to learn and play - to be a child in the midst of incredibly difficult circumstances.

"Our day center serves children whose families are in difficult life circumstances. In the midst of grief and war on civilian infrastructure, we continue to teach children despite the power outages. The most important thing is that the light and warmth is within us." - Slava, AFCEO Partner.

"So many people start crying when they get to our center, they say that they just can't believe that someone would care for them the way we do. We give them hope and a place to breathe easier," - Sergey, AFCEO Partner.

After months of working together, Dima began making sounds that he had not made since his traumatic war experience. He is showing great progress!

These centers are helping build strong families and strong communities - a resilient Ukraine.



Trauma Care

Every Ukrainian has been impacted by trauma, many experiencing or witnessing horrific realities of war.

Parents are suffering from varying levels of mental and emotional anguish. Many are struggling to care for their children. Children and parents alike have difficulty sleeping through a single night and are in survival mode. Some have been unable to continue their education or fulfill responsibilities at a current or prospective job.

With your help, several AFFEO partners in Ukraine and Romania are building capacity amongst psychosocial support specialists, equipping war-torn caregivers with healing resources, and working directly with orphans, vulnerable children and families, like Dima's. They are helping to restore their ability to feel safe again, sleep through the night, and begin the journey of healing from trauma.

During the invasion of their hometown, 4-year-old Dima and his mom were forced to hide in a basement for 10 days. They did not have electricity or heat and had to ration their canned foods. Homes nearby were destroyed, and shelling was constant.

Because of these acutely traumatic experiences, Dima became mute and began experiencing bladder control issues, while his mother developed a stutter.

After evacuation and with the help of our partners, Dima's mother was taught stabilization techniques that helped her relax and diminish her stutter. Our partners also empowered her through training to nurture feelings of safety in Dima. After months of working together, Dima began making sounds that he had not made since his traumatic war experience. He is showing great progress!

Because of you, children like Dima are healing from the traumas of war.

Wholehearted Supporters Spotlight

Meet some incredible orphan advocates who make this work possible!



Rachel

My husband Charles and I have hearts for orphans across the world, and adopted Rachel and her brother Derick from Sierra Leone, West Africa in 2018. During the COVID lockdown of 2020/21 when the kids were doing remote school, Rachel needed a hobby to keep herself busy.

She stumbled across an old crochet hook and skein of yarn that my mom had in her closet. She asked my mom to teach her a few stitches.

With that little bit of teaching and a ton of Youtube, Rachel began crocheting for a little side business, making blankets, hats, scarfs, doll clothes, and even mermaid tails!

It is amazing how naturally talented she is! When she found out about what was happening in Ukraine, and that there were so many orphans in need, it really resonated with her as a former orphan herself.

With a little creative ingenuity, she and my dad decided to add some of her fun hats to go along with some grain he was selling to fundraise at a local bakery for A Family For Every Orphan. The rest is history! I think people really appreciated Rachel's heart to give back and pay it forward, because so many people gave graciously to help bring her home. It was a joy for Rachel to raise funds to help orphans in need through the support for AFFEO.

– Mary, Rachel's mom



Mike & Iryna

When we were planning our wedding, one aspect of our lives that we kept coming back to was our privilege and great fortune to both have such loving parents and families. Not everyone is as lucky as we are, so instead of asking for gifts from our wedding guests, we decided early on that we would ask for our guests to support a charitable cause in honor of our wedding day.

Given Iryna's Ukrainian heritage and the fact that her parents still reside

there, we decided we would try to use the occasion to catalyze a little support for the Ukrainian people who find themselves in such a difficult situation.

Through conversation with my colleague, Paul, I learned of A Family For Every Orphan and their work helping support Ukrainian orphans. We decided to ask our wedding guests to make a gift to A Family For Every Orphan with the funds going to help orphans in Ukraine.

We were very touched by the outpouring of support by our friends and family. Truly, the sense of fulfillment we have enjoyed from knowing that we have helped people in Ukraine much less fortunate than us is the greatest wedding gift we could have asked for. We are very grateful to Paul, and to everyone at A Family For Every Orphan, for providing us with this opportunity.

– Mike and Iryna Theoharis



Monthly Giving Matters!

Create lasting change in the lives of orphans by joining our community of monthly supporters! Any monthly amount makes a difference in a child's life. It ensures their needs are consistently met, while allowing investment into long-term solutions for children.

To start giving monthly visit afamilyforeveryorphan.org/give.



On Thursday, February 24th the invasion of Ukraine began. On Monday morning, February 28th, Alliance for Children Everywhere called to donate and offer their support towards AFFEO efforts in Ukraine.

As a kindred spirit and like-minded organization serving in different geographical areas, we are and continue to be humbled and inspired by the immediate graciousness and generosity to help during a time when it was needed most by our team and partners.

In addition, we began a collaboration with ACE. Their expertise in working amongst internally displaced populations due to conflict and establishing systems of care for children and families during war has been incredibly relevant in our expanding work in Ukraine.

We thank God for stirring hearts to share their treasure and talents to **improve the lives of His children everywhere!**

A Letter From the Board Chair

Friends –

I'm grateful for your investment in and partnership with A Family for Every Orphan this past year. Your generous support greatly increased the impact on families, churches, and children around the world. The theme for the annual report is "wholeheartedly." This theme is grounded in Ephesians 6:7 – "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people." Some translations reference "serve enthusiastically" or "serve with good will."

This year we have seen our investors wholeheartedly and enthusiastically respond to the growing needs of vulnerable children and families. We have watched with excitement as our partners enthusiastically, wholeheartedly serve children and families not out of duty or reluctance but with good will and passion.

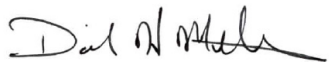
When I reflect on 2022, I think of three areas that demonstrate this theme:

Giving – This year, gifts to AFFEO increased by 99%! Your response to the war in Ukraine was overwhelming. Because of you, we were able to help 286,807 children and families in Ukraine and saw many more around the world connected with safe and loving families.

Partners – Our partners are passionate about what they do and always ready to take on the challenge. In Ukraine, they are running towards the danger to save children and families. They have been unwavering in their commitment to rescue children from dangerous situations and to provide support and care to vulnerable families.

Our gratitude – We have witnessed extraordinary events this year. We witnessed our partners jump in and serve in dangerous times. We watched you, our investors, generously give beyond our expectations. For these things, we are wholeheartedly and enthusiastically thankful.

As you review this report and read the wonderful stories, I hope you recognize the wholehearted and enthusiastic commitment to helping the orphaned and vulnerable children. We believe that children belong in families. We're excited to continue pursuing that vision and goal together.



David Melilli
Board Chair



Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Overview

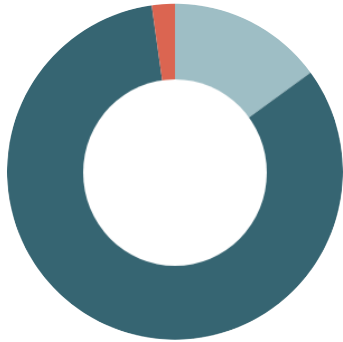
\$1,518,099

Revenue

\$1,288,497

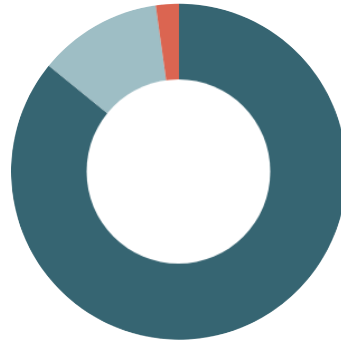
Expenses

SOURCES OF FUNDING



- Individuals: 83%
- Grants: 15%
- Other: 2%

USES OF FUNDING



- Program Services: 86%
- Supporting Services: 12%
- Fundraising: 2%

NOTE: Net surplus consists of large period end contributions and designated funds used in the beginning of the next fiscal year.

All financial figures for FY22 are unaudited as of press time. Audited numbers will be available after May 1, 2023, and can be viewed online at afamilyforeveryorphan.org/financial-accountability.

BOARD

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Looking Ahead With Wholehearted Faith

*"A man's heart plans his way,
But the LORD directs his
steps." Proverbs 16:9*

This verse has resonated greatly with us over the past year, as we quickly shifted plans to respond to the war in Ukraine. We thank God that nothing we intend can override God's will. While we prudently lay out plans for the next several years, we do so in a spirit of humility and obedience, with wholehearted faith that He will continue to direct our steps.

In the face of compounding factors increasing the key drivers of orphanhood - poverty, death, and disability due to COVID, war, and global inflation - AFFEO will continue to focus on programs that help children remain in, reunite with, or regain a family.

AFFEO priorities over the next three years are to:

- **Raise up the local church and NGOs in family strengthening (prevent) efforts for:**

Biological families, keeping them strong and together through providing parent resources and services and child programs. In a strong family, a child is less likely to be trafficked, sold as bride, forced to work in a field, factory, as a soldier, or placed in an orphanage.

Foster and adoptive families, by providing tangible resources and training to care for a child with a history of trauma. With critical support, up to 30% of parents are more likely to foster or adopt another child in need in the future. In addition, a foster or adopted child is less likely to be rehomed and has a better chance of having his or her needs met.

- **Advocate alongside our local partners for improved child welfare policies and systems (protect)** to reduce the time a child languishes in an institution, strengthen gatekeeping to a child entering an orphanage, and improve foster care systems.
- **Equip caregivers and child welfare leaders in trauma-informed care (prepare)** to improve the quality of care for children with a history of trauma, destigmatize and grow hearts for an orphaned or abandoned child, and highlight the value and treasure of a child.
- **Connect children without parental care and aged-out teens to safe and caring adults (promote, connect)** through mentorship programs, orphan awareness campaigns and events, and support for parents navigating complex foster and adoption processes. When a child deprived of parental care is seen and heard, they become known. Once known, connection grows and their chances of finding a safe and loving family significantly increase. And "...when you connect to the heart of a child, everything is possible..." - Dr. Karyn Purvis, co-founder of Trust-Based Relational Intervention

*With your support, we can see more children thrive
in safe and loving families in 2023 and lay foundations
for more in years to come!*



THANK YOU!

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...”

Colossians 3:23a





CONTACT

info@afamilyforeveryorphan.org
(360) 358-3293

GIVE

A Family for Every Orphan
113 Cherry St #37939
Seattle, WA 98104
www.afamilyforeveryorphan.org



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

SOCIAL MEDIA



a family for every orphan



@afamilyforeveryorphan



@afam4everyorphan

Names and photos have been replaced for children's privacy.

Because Children Belong in Families

Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.

