



2020: A RACE TO SAVE AND PROTECT CHILDREN FROM COVID-19

HUNGER RELIEF INTERNATIONAL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Statement of the CEO

What a long, strange year it was! As the severity of COVID-19 revealed itself in early 2020, the HRI professional team and Board quickly realized that accurate information about the virus, albeit still scarce but growing daily, was not reaching vast numbers of people in lesser developed nations and was certainly not reaching the vulnerable children and families HRI works with daily. The world was facing a huge crisis and the folks that relied on HRI had little information, and much of that was inaccurate. In response, HRI launched a series of outreach projects through which we provided accurate information to tens of thousands of people in Haiti and Guatemala daily - what was this virus, how was it spread and most importantly how could they protect themselves and their children from falling ill. **Saving lives was uppermost on our minds for much of 2020.**

We also faced a huge increase in food insecurity as a result of COVID-19 in 2020. Many subsistence farmers in Guatemala could not get the seeds, fertilizer and pesticides they needed for their crops - the same crops that they would rely on to feed their families through 2021! Poor urban dwellers relying on the informal economies of their countries, i.e. vendors in open markets, were unable to leave their homes due to stay-at-home orders. When they could venture out, their daily sales plummeted to unsurvivable incomes. Thanks to our donors, partners and churches, HRI was there to assist! **People are alive today, children are healthy and well nourished today because HRI stepped up to the unprecedented challenges of 2020.**

RACHEL ZELON

President & CEO

SAVING LIVES

2020 was incredibly challenging for the world. We faced the worst health crisis in our generation, and too many lost the fight. But thanks to HRI's partners, thousands were saved!

7,210

people served through HRI's ongoing programs

500,401

people served through HRI's COVID-19 education, prevention & relief programs

WHEN OTHER ORGS LEFT, HRI STEPPED UP

When COVID-19 first broke out, many organizations ceased operations or pulled their entire teams out of the country.

It was during those most dangerous moments that HRI's staff in both Guatemala and Haiti insisted we must step up to do more. But none of what we did would have been possible were it not for our donors who gave so generously - even when you were struggling yourselves.

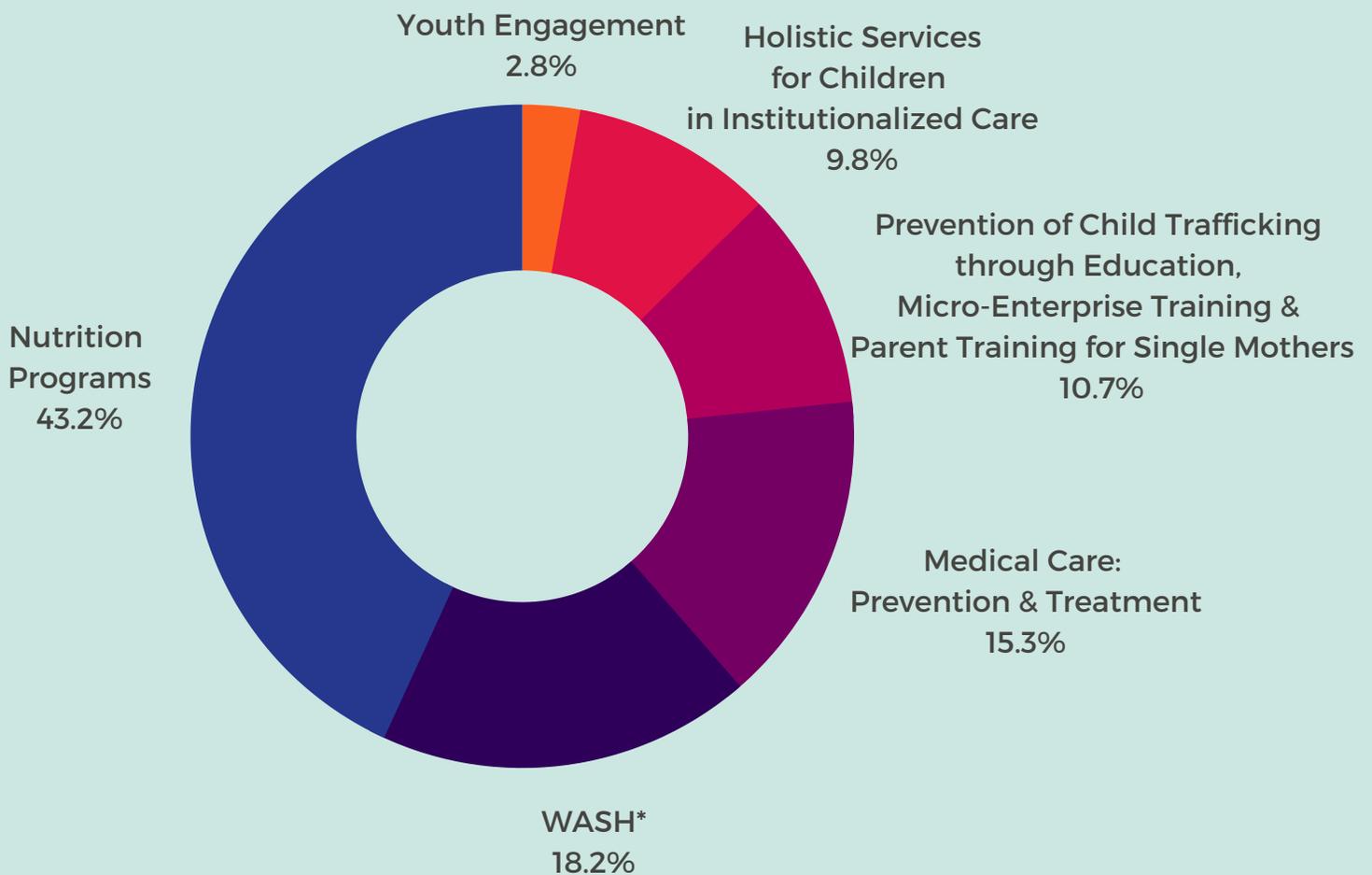
HRI is grateful for the children's lives we saved together in 2020 - saved from hunger, saved from abandonment and trafficking, saved from the fear of sickness!

HRI was there for thousands of children, moms, dads and grandparents. We worked tirelessly to educate, feed, and keep healthy and safe so many who would otherwise have been forgotten in the chaos!

TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED

Thanks to our wonderful partners in 2020, together we served more than 7,210 people through HRI's ongoing programs and an additional 500,401 people through COVID-19 education, prevention, and relief programs!

This includes distribution of 683,956 meals to more than 4,000 people, 331 trainings, and 125 hand washing stations that enabled more than 372,000 people living in high-risk slum communities to wash their hands with soap and water regularly to prevent infection from COVID-19.



According to the World Bank, COVID-19 is estimated to have dramatically increased the number of people facing acute food insecurity in 2020-2021. This increase is reflected in HRI's statistics.

* Includes Safe Cookstoves

HEALTH

HRI meal programs, combined with medical support, access to clean water and education, psychosocial support, and trainings on nutrition, sanitation and hygiene ensure people no longer suffer from the various effects of hunger and preventable illness and that they receive all they need to learn, grow and thrive.

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COVID-19 RESPONSE

More than 500,000 people benefitted from HRI's COVID-19 education, prevention, and relief programs in 2020. HRI was identified as a lead agency responding to the crisis. Families had nutritious food, psychosocial support, information and more to stay safe and healthy.

TRIFECTA

HRI's Trifecta Approach includes providing one water filter, one traditional latrine and one safe cookstove for one family. Our holistic approach of providing all three to each family will decrease water-borne illness, respiratory illness (also one of the top five killers of children under the age of 5 worldwide), and improve overall health and safety.

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GARCIA FAMILY

Javier and Katherine have five children. Katherine sells wood on the streets and Javier works as a lumberjack, farmer, guard and mason. Katherine had open heart surgery less than a year ago. Due to her medication and special diet, the family was struggling and dined on tortilla chips alone... until HRI stepped in.

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WEDSON

Wedson, his mother, and his baby sister are all legally blind due to a genetic condition. Last year, HRI raised support to send Wedson to a special school so he can learn to read using braille and learn how to adapt to living as a blind boy/man in a seeing world.

YVIONA

Yviona grew up in an orphanage supported by HRI. In 2017, she completed HRI's entrepreneurship training program. She now runs a small business selling oils for health and beauty. To improve her business and increase her income, last year HRI helped her buy her own fully automatic oil press machine. Watch video for more.

[Click to Play Video](#)



AS THE PANDEMIC HIT

HRI WAS THERE

2020 was a year of fear, death and mystery. We didn't know what was going to happen or how to navigate in the United States or elsewhere. When other agencies stepped back or completely out of the countries where we work, HRI stepped up.

Thanks to our generous partners, HRI went above and beyond in 2020 by implementing life-saving programs to bring a dozen new COVID-19 education, prevention, and relief programs which collectively saved lives and transformed the futures of thousands of people - and all while maintaining our regular programs.

Our team made COVID Care Calls, provided mental health referrals, and became the lead agency in the OCHA working group on mental health in Guatemala during the pandemic.

We reached more than 21,000 people every month with COVID-19 prevention and education messages and trained more than 100 Good Health Ambassadors.

Our emergency food assistance programs targeted the most vulnerable, including elderly, disabled, and single mothers with young children.

We assisted 86 farming families in rural Guatemala with the seeds, fertilizer and pesticides needed to ensure they were able to plant their crop to sustain them through 2021.

We built more than 125 hand washing stations and distributed them in orphanages and slums.

We trained women to establish cottage businesses and together produced 2,000 high-quality masks, cleaning supplies and disinfectants which the women sold in response to increased demand and to generate income.

Even with all of the challenges COVID-19 brought us, HRI continued and expanded our regular programming as lives depended on us. Much of our work focused on Child Protection. Our Children First program which prevents child trafficking and abandonment doubled in size thanks to a new partnership. Our team of social workers addressed violence in the household as families were quarantined. Teens in our Youth Engagement programs assumed lead roles in their communities under our leadership to bring relief to those most impacted by the economic crisis. Our Guatemalan youth developed a Violence Prevention Proposal which is now used as the basis for activities by the Children Adolescents & Youth Municipal Commission and the Violence Prevention Commission.



Even with COVID-19, HRI continued to implement institutional capacity building to ensure children in orphanages received the highest standard of care. Our nutrition programs continued in Haitian orphanages; however, in Guatemala, we transitioned from school feeding programs to home-based nutritional support. HRI targeted extremely poor families in need; this enabled us to work more closely with families to identify specific needs. We worked closely with single mothers to build their capacity to protect, provide and care for their children. We completed 15 trifecta projects for a total of 15 latrines, 23 water filters and 17 safe cookstoves which immediately improved the health of the beneficiaries.

TESTIMONY OF A SINGLE MOTHER LIVING IN THE SLUM COMMUNITY OF DELMAS 32, PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI



"Before Naila was enrolled in school through the HRI program, the atmosphere in our home was chaotic. Naila was struggling with poor behavior, she was acting out, being disruptive and sometimes even shouting to draw attention to herself. I did not know what to do, and often became angry. I was making a tough situation worse and the angrier I became, the more she acted out.

After attending the HRI-sponsored parenting workshops, I felt able to address the chaos in our household from a position of knowledge and understanding instead of anger. The workshops helped me to reassess my own core values, which I also understood are reflected in my children's behavior and the values they are adopting as they grow. I wanted to teach my children better values!"

MEET THE JIMENEZ FAMILY FROM RURAL GUATEMALA

The Jimenez family lives in a remote, rural village of Guatemala. The family of 8 lives in a one room home constructed of wood, sheet metal and a dirt floor. When we met the family, they were drinking water from the river, they had no sanitary facilities, and their meals were cooked indoors on an open fire. This extremely dangerous practice resulted in the youngest child suffering severe burns.

The family's health was poor - everyone regularly suffered from diarrhea as a result of drinking contaminated water and the lack of even a simple latrine, the youngest children were suffering from malnutrition and dehydration, and respiratory illnesses were a regular occurrence due to constant exposure to smoke inside the small home.

The family income averages \$2.00 per day, not nearly enough to feed, clothe, educate nor access healthcare for the children and adults.



HOW HRI'S TRIFECTA HELPED THE JIMENEZ FAMILY

Thanks to HRI's Trifecta program designed to educate communities about the importance of these three basic resources required for good health AND to provide direct relief through the provision of a water filter, clean cookstove and latrine to families like the Jimenez's, lives were saved and health improved dramatically for this family.

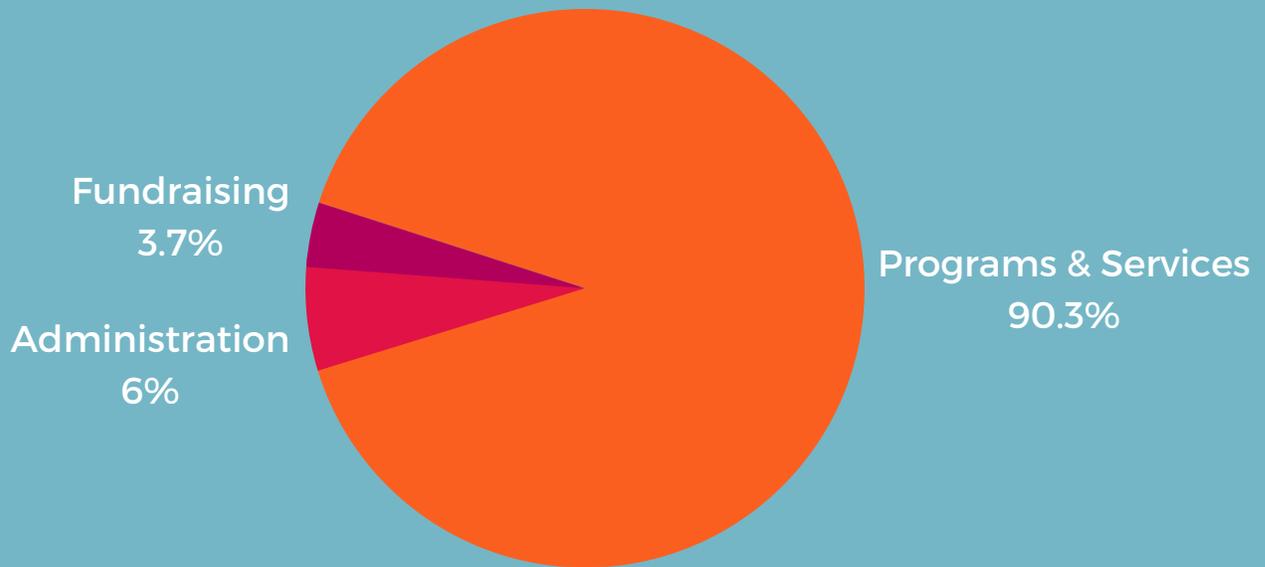
After just 3 months, the family reported no cases of diarrhea, no respiratory illness and improved weight and growth of all of the children. This progress continues 7 months later!

With results this dramatic, community members and neighbors took note and independent of HRI multiple families moved ahead and sought their own access to all of these resources - a true demonstration of behavior change on the community level.



FUNDING ALLOCATION 2020

In the spirit of your compassion and the trust you place in HRI, we commit a minimum of 80% of all income to our programming efforts. In 2020, 90.3% of expenditures went to programs and services! HRI's detailed financial audit can be found at HRICares.org/finances,



PARTNERS

HRI is immensely grateful for our partners. Your faithful support ensures children are alive, healthy and thriving. THANK YOU for your support! We are especially thankful for:

- C3 Global
- C.O. & K.L. Balentine Family Foundation
- Christian Brothers Automotive
- CORE & The School of Hope
- International Social Work Solutions
- Leibner Cooper Family Foundation
- OBU & UCO for Interns
- Several Partner Churches
- Alcaldía Auxiliar Zona 18
- Centro de Voluntariado Guatemalteco
- Cocina Chilera
- Oficina Municipal de Juventud San Miguel Petapa
- Oficina Municipal de la Mujer Cuilapa
- SESAN
- Unidad para la Prevención Comunitaria de la Violencia

HRI Statement of Activities 2020

The complete audit and 990 can be found at HRIcares.org/finances.

	Without donor restrictions	With donor restrictions	Total
REVENUE			
GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	\$447,181	\$14,815	\$461,996
PAYROLL PROTECTION PROGRAM	\$26,107	-	\$26,107
OTHER INCOME	\$1,067	-	\$1,067
NET ASSETS RELEASED FORM RESTRICTIONS	\$22,725	(\$22,725)	-
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$497,080	\$7,910	\$489,170

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES	\$459,793	-	\$459,793
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	\$30,503	-	\$30,503
FUNDRAISING	\$19,056	-	\$19,056
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$509,352	-	\$509,352

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$12,272)	(\$7,910)	(\$20,182)
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NET ASSETS

BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$79,168	\$15,935	\$95,103
END OF YEAR	\$66,896	\$8,025	\$74,921





Mission

Hunger Relief International (HRI) is a Judeo-Christian organization that works to improve and protect the lives of desperately poor children and families by building resiliency, fighting hunger, promoting family unity, and increasing self-sufficiency. HRI does this through direct programming and by raising public awareness.

Vision

HRI serves children and families impacted by extreme poverty or natural disasters who lack food, water, education and/or sanitation by responding to crisis, building resilience and creating opportunities that treat and prevent short and long-term effects of hunger and malnutrition.

Connect

We proudly work with churches, individuals, universities, businesses, foundations, and organizations who have a desire to make a difference and improve outcomes for vulnerable children, families, and communities. We welcome your involvement as a donor, fundraiser, mission trip volunteer, or advocate. Please contact us to learn more.



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