



# BRIGHT HOPE FOR TOMORROW

Overcoming Extreme Poverty



## ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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# Program Highlights



## Zambia

Christian Farmers Associations (CFAs) are core to the work of our church partners in Zambia. CFAs facilitate loans, provide training in agriculture and finance, and manage the local processing and marketing of produce. By keeping added value in the community, CFA programs improved the lives and incomes of almost 300 farming households in 2023. And it's not only the farmers who benefited! The sale of eggs alone generated enough profit for \$2000 to be given to local churches for their work with the most needy people in the community.

In addition to agricultural projects, we helped with the construction of a high school girls dormitory in Kalasa Mukosa, which is due to open late Spring 2024. We also were able to send 15 children to Lusaka for surgeries on severe burns, club foot, and cleft lip. Cletus, Lenard, Charity, and others are now well on the road to full recovery!

## Cuba

Last year we helped more than 700 pastors and Christian workers with their outreach initiatives in 17 municipalities. Hundreds of people expressed faith in Jesus! Churches were also enabled to provide food, clothing, and fun programs to 30 orphans and 1000 children living under the guardianship of relatives.

## Haiti

It has been another year of increased turmoil in Haiti as violent factions fight each other for power and control. The generosity of Canadian donors has helped keep a clinic and schools open in the northwest of the country,, providing vital services in incredibly challenging circumstances.

## Kenya

Turkana is an extremely arid region in the north of Kenya. Less than a decade ago, the people of Natoot village were barely subsisting as goat herders. Tribal and church leaders wisely broke with tradition and encouraged the community to embrace farming. Bright Hope helped with training in agriculture, literacy, math, and finance. We also provided funding for a borehole, so water would be available for drinking and irrigation for a 2.4 hectare plot. 137 families now have 3 meals each day, and are earning enough to improve their homes, keep their children in school, and save for the future.

In 2023 another 5.3 hectares was added to the Natoot farm. Bright Hope is helping to fund 2 more boreholes, solar panels, pumps, and water tanks. This will enable an additional 100 families to grow their livelihoods toward sustainability. The long term vision is for Natoot to become a centre of learning for agriculture, business, leadership, and effective church partnerships that can influence the whole region.





## Sewing Centres

In 2023 our partners facilitated six sewing courses in Pakistan, with 73 women earning certificates and sewing machines. These courses enable women to provide for their families, while building strong relationships with Christian community.



## Sustainable Agriculture

Soil depletion and harsh droughts have resulted in food security crises in many countries around the world. Foundations for Farming (FfF) is a Zimbabwean organization that teaches a Jesus-centered approach to sustainable farming. The result is farmers growing enough food to feed their family for a whole year. In 2023, Bright Hope support enabled hundreds of farmers in Zimbabwe and Kenya to receive Foundations for Farming training.

# Financial Report

## Revenue

### Donations

General	\$30,487
Bright Hope International	\$3,450
BHI Kenya	\$362
BHI Zambia	\$81,185
BHW Sustainable Agriculture	\$1,035
BHW Sewing Centres India	\$500
BHW Sewing Centres Pakistan	\$2,935
Haiti Anse Rouge	\$575
Haiti MEBI	\$20,278
Cuba	\$86,158

**Total Donations** **\$226,965**

### Other Income

Grants	\$12,800
Investment	\$1,335
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$14,135</b>

**Total Revenue** **\$241,100**

## Expense

### Operations

Bank fees	\$527
Board Expenses	\$87
Database	\$1,188
Events	\$271
Insurance	\$1,410
Internet	\$916
Memberships	\$685
Supplies, Phone, Postage	\$2,620
Payroll	\$35,209
Travel	\$7467
Website	\$1,819

**Total Operations** **\$52,159**

### Projects

BHI Zambia	\$68,039
BHI Kenya	\$200
Haiti MEBI	\$10,470
Cuba	\$86,158

**Total Projects** **\$164,867**

**Total Expense** **\$217,026**

# A Year of Incremental Growth

When I visited Zambia in January, I met formerly hungry families who now eat three meals every day, are able to keep their children in school, improve their homes, help their neighbours, and even save for the future. The resilience and joy in their eyes is seared in my memory, and I see it again every time I hear from our partners there, as well as our partners in Kenya, Zimbabwe, India, Pakistan, and Haiti about others whose lives are changing in similar ways.

If we are to help more people experience this kind of change, we need to grow our capacity in Canada. Thankfully, 2023 was a year in which we took some small, but significant steps in that direction. Subscriptions to our email updates doubled, and we entered the social media world with the launch of our Instagram and Facebook pages. With regard to revenue, donations from outside Canada were lower than previous years, but Canadians gave \$40,000 more than in 2022! This included contributions from 29 new first-time donors, and 4 new monthly donors.

We also expanded our Board of Directors. Peter Scholtens is a business owner from Hamilton, ON, and Jim Chen is a pastor in Ajax, ON. Both Peter and Jim have extensive experience with Christian charities, and with intercultural partnerships. We are already benefiting from their wisdom and input.

We are praying for further growth in 2024, including the addition of 3 more Directors to our Board, and increasing our Canadian revenue to \$174,000. If a significant proportion of revenue comes through new monthly donors to our programs, that will be a huge help to our partners in how they plan and manage their initiatives. So, since I am turning 60 in 2024, it seems only fitting to aim for 60 monthly donors by the end of the year! I hope you will join me in praying for God to increase our capacity to help people trapped in extreme poverty.



Greg Reader  
Executive Director

## A Word from our Board Chair



A dictionary definition of 'incremental' is forward progress that happens gradually in a series of small steps. Scripture tells us that's how we learn, 'precept upon precept, line upon line'; and that's how we do discipleship - we follow, step by step, where He leads. So we rejoice at the amount of progress BHFTM made in 2023, and anticipate further increments to come in 2024!

Alan Veale, Board Chair