## **2022** Annual Report

CHILDREN THRIVING FAMILIES STRONG CHURCHES ENGAGED



# Thank you!

To all WWO partners globally for your involvement, support and help. To every church, community, business, media and government leader, to each partner organization involved in WWO collaborative efforts in the nations of Africa, Europe, North America, Asia and Latin America. To adoptive families, support families, and all partners believing with us that the best place for a child to grow up is in a safe and loving family. To all donors and all of you who support this shared effort financially.





The world has a crisis with five million children living in orphanages, 150 million children who have lost one or both parents and one billion children who experience violence, abuse, or exploitation each year.

Thanks to faithful support over the years from people like you, we have been seeing a global shift to focus on safe and loving families for every child in many countries and communities. We have seen many children adopted and large institutions transition to children in families.

However, the fact that one out of every two children face violence each year hit home when I was leading a weekly small group of four boys in my church. I realized that two of the four boys were vulnerable, and you could see the impact it was having on them. While it may seem like an overwhelming problem, the solutions are right in front of us. As we see the reality of the situation for children in our own churches and communities, we can all do something. The more the Church is engaged and working together, and collaborating with local business, government, and community leaders, the more we will see children thriving.

We know what works! Collaboration is a driving force behind the WWO movement's vision of a world where every child grows up in a safe and nurturing family. By working together, Christian leaders, local churches and other stakeholders can create lasting change and improve the lives of countless children and families affected by orphanhood, violence, and institutional care. While each nation has its own unique challenges in addressing this crisis, WWO has seen firsthand the power in connecting and equipping national leaders to find the best solution for the challenges in their country.

Thank you for answering the call to serve unprotected and exposed children. You are helping more and more children find love, protection, and their God-given purpose each day. Your faithfulness is a critical part of what God is doing to create a world without orphans. We hope you will be encouraged to read about the impact your prayers and financial support have made possible this past year.

Together in Christ for children,

Karmen Friesen Executive Director

## WWO Vision 🔯

For every child to grow up in a safe and loving family, know their Heavenly Father and reach their God-given purpose.

## **WWO** Mission

Call and equip national leaders to collaborate in solving their own country's orphaned and vulnerable children's crisis.

The World Without Orphans movement began in **2010** as a collaborative effort by Christians in Ukraine to focus on promoting family-based care and the end of institutionalization of children. The Ukraine Without Orphans movement recognized that children's best interests are served when they are raised in loving families rather than in orphanages or institutional settings.

What began as the dream to see Ukraine without orphans soon grew into a dream to see a world without orphans. Over the last 13 years, we have become a global initiative that brings together leaders from churches, organizations, government, and business in each nation who share in the vision of creating a world without orphans.

We foster active learning communities in a growing number of countries in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe that helps our partners to develop and implement effective strategies for family-based care.

We seek to address the root causes of family separation, including poverty, conflict, and lack of support systems, by promoting strategies and interventions that strengthen families and communities.



You inspired more countries to protect vulnerable children and families 2022 AT A GLANCE

40 Countries with active and emerging WWO teams

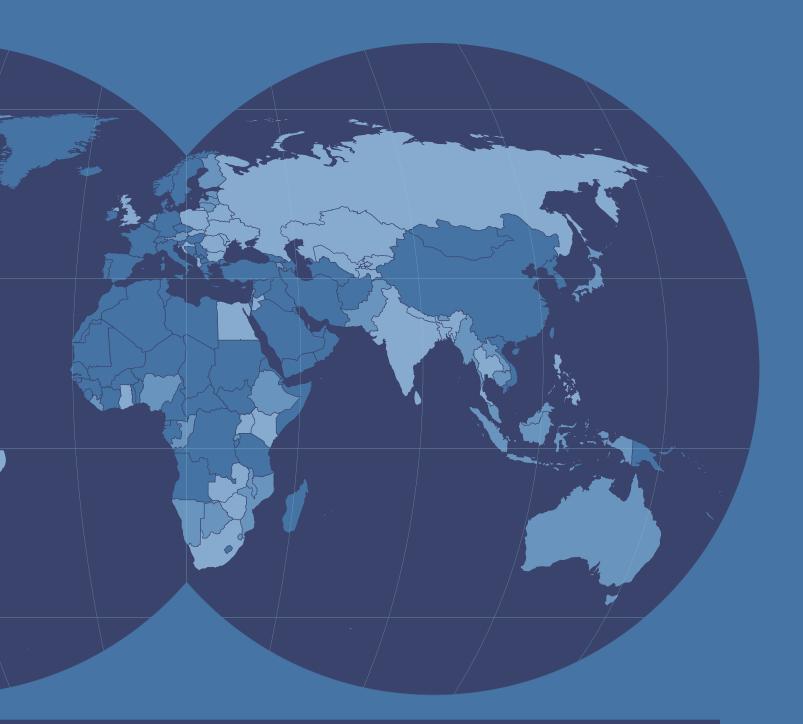
Countries with potential WWO teams

#### Active Teams

51

Albania Bangladesh Belarus Brazil Bulgaria Chile Croatia Egypt Ghana Guatemala Hong Kong India Israel Jordan Kazakhstan Kenya Kyrgyzstan Mexico Moldova

Nepal Paraguay Philippines Poland Romania Russia Singapore Slovakia South Africa Sri Lanka Tajikistan Thailand Uganda Ukraine United Kingdom Uzbekistan Zambia Zimbabwe



#### Potential Teams

Argentina Armenia Australia Bhutan Botswana Burundi Cambodia Canada Colombia

#### Costa Rica Estonia Eswatini Ethiopia Finland Haiti Honduras Indonesia Japan Laos

Latvia Lebanon Liberia Lithuania Macau Malawi Malaysia Mozambique Myanmar Namibia

Netherlands New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Panama Peru Republic of the Congo Rwanda

## You brought peace, guidance and support to parents in the middle of war.





760

Leaders equipped in Ukraine

944

Parents and children received parenting support through direct support groups and webinars

273,000

Parents and children received other parenting support

684

Children served in trauma informed summer camps

You brought comfort, friendship, and healing for dazed, angry, anxious, and scared Ukrainian families who have been impacted by war. One of the ways you achieved that is through launching WWO HOPE Groups.

WWO Hope Groups provide evidence-based parenting tips and trauma-informed care to small groups of Ukrainian women and men for ten weeks. Their aim is to empower men and women to better care for themselves and their children. "Originally, we started HOPE Groups because we wanted to do something to help Ukrainian women who were living in Polish refugee shelters," said Dr. Susan Hillis, WWO Global Coordinator for Strategy. "These women were experiencing trauma and survivor's guilt. As we listened to their stories, it became clear that their greatest needs were psychosocial and positive parenting support, as well as spiritual support. We began collaborating with the refugee women to contextualize the evidence-based tools we had, to cocreate a small group program – the Hope Groups.

The initial success of the HOPE Groups soon fueled their expansion to include participants in over 10 countries in Europe with Ukrainian refugees. The groups also began helping more men who needed hope and healing as well.



"This course taught me to take care of myself in order to survive this difficult time. It taught me how to get rid of anger and survive losses. It gave me hope and hope is the ability to see that there is light despite all the darkness." Hope Group participant You gave food, water and fuel to Ukrainians as they faced a long winter and increased missile strikes.

### 4,811

Families served with food, shelter and helped with evacuation services

Two years ago, Nataliya and her husband Andrii were led to adopt four young children from a Ukrainian orphanage. Already the parents of five other children, they quickly realized a larger home would be needed to accommodate their growing family. In the middle of February, it seemed their dreams were finally becoming a reality when they purchased a larger home in the suburbs of Kyiv, a house that would fit their entire family.

But two weeks later, their dreams would shatter when they realized that Russian troops were nearing their home. The family did not want to leave their home but felt they had little choice. Nataliya gathered her nine children and their documents and walked 15 km to the nearest town. The bridge was blown up, so they waded across the river in order to reach Kyiv. The sights were horrific. Once they safely reached the capital city, they were able to find transportation to western Ukraine. Thanks to your support, Nataliya and her children had a safe place to land when they arrived in western Ukraine. You made it possible for WWO partners to welcome them with open arms, provide them with food and a place to sleep, and get them their needed medications. Because of your generosity, we were not only able to receive them, but we were able to help them continue on their journey. Today Nataliya and her children are safe in Germany and have been assisted in finding a new place to live.

Thank you for your care for foster families like Nataliya's in these difficult days.

## You helped leaders to become world changers

The WWO Roadmap was developed in 2019 to help train and equip regional and national leaders in effective strategies for family-based care in four essential WWO Foundations: 1) broadscale collaboration, 2) prevention, 3) intervention and 4) living refreshed. As these leaders are equipped, they in turn multiply the impact by training and developing other leaders in their spheres of influence. WWO trained, mentored, and multiplied Regional WWO Roadmap Trainings in Africa, Asia and Latin America.





leaders from 34 countries received training, coaching and mentoring in the WWO RoadMap

436

Through their national and local networks those leaders are working to equip more than

7,300

3,000

leaders

organizations and churches

As these leaders, churches and organizations are equipped in family-based care and family strengthening, they can support

57,800+ 247,000+

parents or caregivers

children

Shamindra Fernando is a part-time lecturer at a University in Sri Lanka. As part of the South Asia Regional WWO Team, he volunteers his time to bring people together, provide mentorship, and offer guidance within the Sri Lanka Without Orphans network. In Sri Lanka, a 26-year civil war, poverty, inflation and COVID left thousands of children without parents. Fernando and his wife Sohani were deeply moved by the issues facing children in Sri Lanka and wanted to be part of the solution.

Although the Christian community is a small minority in Sri Lanka, Shamindra and Sohani and others in the Christian community are leading the collaborative effort on behalf of orphans and vulnerable children.

You helped make it possible to provide WWO Roadmap training, coaching and mentoring to leaders like Shamindra in three global regions so they can do their work more effectively. This, in return, helps leaders like Shamindra facilitate networking opportunities with other nonprofit organizations, faith communities, and government officials, which is essential in addressing the needs of vulnerable children in Sri Lanka and every nation.

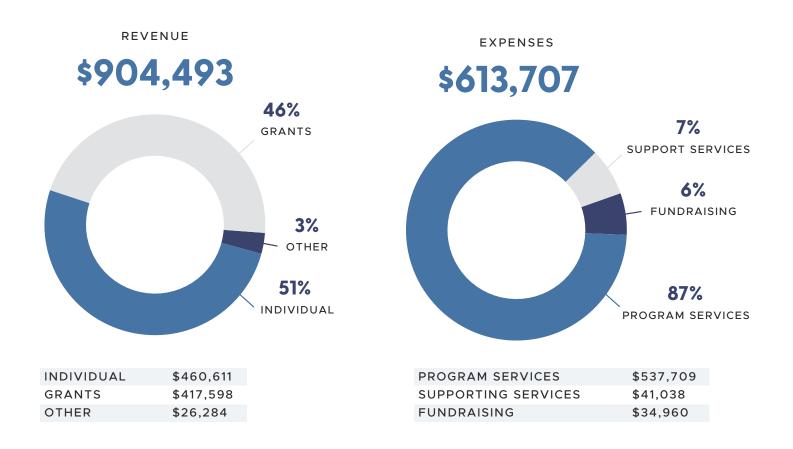
One specific way in which the training has helped is through the support provided through a parenting course aimed at faith leaders. This course enabled these leaders to reexamine their parenting approaches and consider alternative methods. By addressing this aspect, the training fostered personal growth and development among the leaders, ultimately benefiting families they serve in their churches and local communities.



"Overall, the training I received has not only enriched my personal and professional growth but has also enhanced the effectiveness of the work I am doing," said Fernando. "It has fostered collaboration, provided valuable insights, and supported the development of a learning community. Through these outcomes, the training has contributed to collectively addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable children and families in Sri Lanka."

Shamindra Fernando – world changer!

## 2022 Financial Overview



### NOTE

Net surplus consists of large period-end contributions and designated funds used at the beginning of the next fiscal year. All financial figures are audited and can be viewed online at https://worldwithoutorphans.org/about/finances

### BOARD

Dr. Ron L. Braund, President Karmen Friesen, Vice-President Sterling Wharton, Secretary Patricia Zier, Treasurer Randal E. Brauchler, Voting Member

## Looking Ahead

Knowing that God's heart is for the orphaned and the vulnerable and that He is indeed forming and strengthening the global movement for a world without orphans, we are thinking about the challenges and opportunities ahead.

With crises increasing each year and impacting children the most, we desire to invest even more in preparing Christian leaders and local churches to serve children well, whether in war, natural disaster, or pandemic. We will continue our effort in initiating, nurturing, and equipping collaborative national initiatives with this WWO vision in countries of all global regions. We pray for continued open doors in all nations, especially for countries of the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Thank you again for partnering with us!

### Imagine a World Without Orphans

You Are Making It Possible...



World Without Orphans Global supports a global initiative which brings together leaders from churches, organizations, government, and business in each nation who share in the vision of creating a world without orphans. We foster active learning communities in a growing number of countries in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe that helps our partners to develop and implement effective strategies for family-based care. We seek to address the root causes of family separation, including poverty, conflict, and lack of support systems, by promoting strategies and interventions that strengthen families and communities.

WWO Global is recognized by Excellence in Giving and Candid/Guidestar for our commitment to financial responsibility, accountability and transparency. You may view our full audited financial statements at https://worldwithoutorphans.org/ about/finances



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