



Planting Hope International 2017 Annual Report

Spreading the Gospel through providing agricultural, educational, and medical support in developing countries.



A recent college graduate in Tanzania!



Executive Summary

We continue touch lives of many around the world as we are now working in about 17 countries. We sent 2 containers of agricultural equipment to Business as Mission projects in closed countries, and funded a medical clinic. We traveled to Nicaragua and Brazil, and participated in a Missionary Conference in Illinois.

Our biggest efforts continue to be paying tuition as we have over 120 students now. We continue to see this as a way to have a long-term impact in these countries. Our overhead costs remain at less than 1% of our budget. In everything we do, we are transparent in our activities, respectful of donor wishes, and above all seek to honor our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We continue to see people saved, spiritually and physically, through this ministry.

The picture on our cover page is a young lady that we put through college in Tanzania, and she is now a teacher there! Coincidentally, I met her Uncle on my first trip to Africa 20 years ago!

We ended the year on a very sad note as Patty Grecian, one of our Board members, died suddenly and unexpectedly just before Christmas. She and Stan have been avid supporters of our work. She worked tirelessly with us many times as we took apart grain bins and feed mills to ship to Laos. She is dearly missed.



Patty and Stan Grecian



Contents

Executive Summary.....	1
Contents.....	2
Mission Statement.....	3
Board of Directors.....	4
Accomplishments.....	7
Finances	10
Donor Summary	12
Background	13
Future work.....	13
Contact Information.....	13





Mission Statement

We seek to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through improving agriculture, education, and health in developing countries.

Most of our efforts focus on promoting sustainability, so that those we now support can support themselves.

We continue to be guided by James 1:27 that commands us to minister to orphans and widows, and James 2:18 that tells us to show our faith through our works (James 2:18).



Some of the 17 countries where we have worked





Board of Directors

Our Board consists of Christians who are passionate about reaching the lost for Christ, and meeting the needs of the poor. Our 2016 Board includes:

Dr. Floyd Dowell, President, Manhattan, KS.
Agricultural Engineer, U.S. Dept. Agriculture.



Derrek Marteney

Derrek Marteney,
Vice-President,
PrairieStone, Inc,
Riley, Kansas.

Karla Fisher,
Treasurer,
Manhattan, KS.
Retired teacher and
farm manager.



Floyd, Gayle, Kayla and Christine Dowell

David Brundage, Secretary, Solomon, KS. Executive Director, King Solomon Christian Camp.



David Brundage

Pam Warren, Manhattan, KS. Worship Coordinator,
University Christian Church.



Pam Warren

Dr. Donn Leach, Manhattan, KS. Adjunct Faculty,
Manhattan Christian College.

Kendall McFall, Manhattan, KS. Senior Vice President,
EnGrain.

Terry Cole, Manhattan, KS. Director, KSU Helping
International Students.



Donn Leach



**Patty and Stan
Grecian**

Gayle Dowell, Manhattan, KS.
Owner, Kit and Caboodle Shop.
Founding Board Member.

Tyndol Turkovic, KSU Student,
Solomon, KS.

Patty and Stan Grecian, Farmers,
Palco, KS.



Tyndol Turkovic

Jeremy Houser, Crop Consultant, Abilene, KS.

Taylor McFall, EnGrain, Manhattan, KS



Jeremy Houser



Advisory Board

- Rusty Thornley, Manhattan, KS. Associate Professor, Cross-cultural Ministries, Manhattan Christian College.
- Kayla Naughton, Indian Head, MD. Nursing Student. U.S. Navy. Founding Board Member
- Emily and Jordy Nelson, Suamico, WI. Elementary school teacher. Runs a mentoring program at Fort Howard Elementary School, Green Bay. Active supporter of Young Life Green Bay. Wife of Jordy Nelson, Green Bay Packers.
- Greg Wilson, Manhattan, KS. Owner, Howies Recycling.



Kayla Naughton



Emily and Jordy Nelson



Rusty Thornley



Accomplishments

Past work. In prior years we have sent containers of agricultural and medical supplies to Zimbabwe and Laos. We sent about 1 million meals to the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya at the height of the famine in neighboring countries. Several water wells have been funded in Tanzania. We built a school study house and a classroom building in Tanzania, and paid primary, secondary, college, and trade school tuition for over 120 kids in various countries. We have worked in Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe. In addition to the current projects discussed below, we collected funds for Hurricane relief efforts in Houston.

Kyrgyzstan. We started working with a Business as Mission project in Kyrgyzstan last year. We had several 10,000 bu bins donated that we disassembled in Nebraska and shipped along with grain cleaners, augers and other equipment. They arrived in Kyrgyzstan just in time for the soybean harvest and were reassembled almost immediately. This is essential equipment for work in this muslim country where Christians use agricultural businesses to spread the Gospel.

Laos. We were fortunate to be the recipient of a Giving Back Foundation grant from the



Grain bins from Nebraska that were shipped to Kyrgyzstan



Harvest Center under construction in Laos

American Society of Biological and Agricultural Engineers (Floyd's professional society) to support some of our Business as Mission work in Laos. The funds were used to help establish a grain drying and feed making facility and to train a couple of Laotian technicians. We have supported several Business as Mission projects in this communist country and this is the first time we have received funds from a secular group to help in this work. Laotian and American Christian business men run these Harvest Centers and share the Gospel with Laotians as they get the chance. Churches are often planted along with each Harvest Center.



Nicaragua. Gayle and I had the chance to volunteer with Engineering Ministries International to work with a group of engineer and architects to design a church/sports/agriculture complex for a ministry there. It was a great experience to work with a bunch of young professionals with a heart for using their professional skills to further God's Kingdom. Our role was to design a sustainable agricultural system that will help support the camp and that can also be used as tool to teach improved farming methods to people attending the camps.



Engineering Ministries International team in Nicaragua



Medications purchased for a clinic in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe. We continue to support the medical clinic at Eden Children's Village. In the past we have sent medications, but import issues are making this more difficult. Thus, we sent \$10,000 so they could source supplies and medications locally. We also collected clothing and other items for a shipment that should leave for Zimbabwe later this year. In addition, we paid a portion of the total container cost. We also donated a tractor to a Business as Mission project that hope to start up there in 2018.



Sorting clothes for a shipment to Zimbabwe



Student updates. We have now supported over 120 students in countries such as Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi. Ages range from about 5 years old to college graduates. We have done this long enough that we are now seeing a steady stream of graduates with degrees in fields that include agriculture, medicine, and business. We continue to believe this is an effective way to have a long-term impact in developing countries. We continue to require students send receipts from the school when tuition is paid and to send us transcripts so we can make sure they are making C's or better. In addition, we have paid tuition for farmers to attend various agricultural short courses. When selecting students, we give preference to females and children of single mothers as they are most vulnerable in many of these locations.

We continue to partner with Africa University in Zimbabwe, Help to Help (<https://helptohelp.se/en>) and Children in the Wilderness (<http://www.childreninthewilderness.com/>) to fund students through those organizations. Help to Help is based in Sweden and funds college students in Tanzania.



A young Tanzanian student



Tanzanian students and our friend that handles our payments

They also coordinate technical training to teach young people a skill such as computer literacy. Children in the Wilderness is based in South Africa and funds students of all ages in South Africa, Malawia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia. Each group meets personally with students to encourage and mentor them. We also work through trusted contacts in these countries to make sure money is used wisely and to follow up the progress of each student. We share the love of Christ with them whenever we can, and have online Bible studies with some.

We have also arranged internships for college seniors and recent graduates at ECHO in Tanzania.



Finances

Our funding remains consistent, with about \$80,000/yr coming from regular donors. One-time gifts from memorials or for special projects account for the additional income. Our overhead remains below 1%, so essentially all contributions go to projects we support. Overhead costs consist of website annual fees, stamps for newsletters, and tags for equipment trailers. We never operate with a deficit.

Table 1. Income and expenses since inception.

Year	Income	Expenses	Checking Balance	Equipment Assets
2011	\$22,805	\$2,839		
2012	\$82,004	\$70,295		
2013	\$87,624	\$101,492		
2014	\$84,490	\$69,763		
2015	\$121,014	\$115,687		
2016	\$109,309	\$125,188		
2017	\$138,034	\$151,420	\$14,318	\$21,750
Total Assets	\$14,318 + \$21,750 = \$36,068			

Table 2. 2017 Income Statement

Revenue	
Total Contributions	\$138,034
Expenses	
Program Expenses	\$150,229
Administrative Expenses	\$1200 (0.8%)
Fundraising Expenses	0
Total Expenses	\$151,420
Excess (or Deficit) for the year	(\$13,386)



Table 3. Assets. (The tractors will all be sent to developing countries. The other assets are used to collect and load items for shipments).

Item*	Value
18 ft box trailer (for storing items to be shipped)	\$500
Portable Ramp (for loading 40ft containers)	\$1,000
18 ft gooseneck trailer (for collecting large items such as tractors and bins)	\$3,000
12 ft enclosed trailer (for moving items such as food donations)	\$3,000
Bobcat skidsteer (for loading containers)	\$9,000
Ford 8N tractors – overhauled (1)	\$2000
Ford 8N tractors – repairable (4)	\$1000
Ford 3000 tractor – overhauled	\$2000
Pallet jack	\$50
Laptop computer for keeping books and generating reports	\$200
Total	\$21,750

*All assets were either donated in-kind, or purchased with designated funds.

Compensation of Leaders.

Compensation	% of Expenses	Paid to	Title
\$0	0%	Floyd Dowell	President
\$0	0%	Derrek Marteney	Vice President
\$0	0%	David Brundage	Secretary
\$0	0%	Karla Fisher	Treasurer

We have earned the “Guide Star Exchange Platinum Participant”, which is their highest designation and means we have demonstrated our commitment to transparency. GuideStar, www.guidestar.org, is an organization that provides information to help donors make informed decisions about charitable giving.

We continue to meet the State of Kansas requirements for a charitable organization, as shown at www.kscharitycheck.org.

You can also check us, or any other charitable group, out through the IRS Exempt Organizations Select Check at <http://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits/Exempt-Organizations-Select-Check>. This IRS website lets you check for information about an organization’s federal tax status and filings.



Donor Summary

We had about 70 donors in 2017, including about 5 churches. Many donors have been supporters for over 20 years as they supported this work when we worked with the group Tractors for Our Daily Bread.

Administrative expenses remain less than 1% of our total budget. We continue to rely on volunteers to do this work as we have no paid staff.



Recent picture of a tractor purchased last year for Africa University

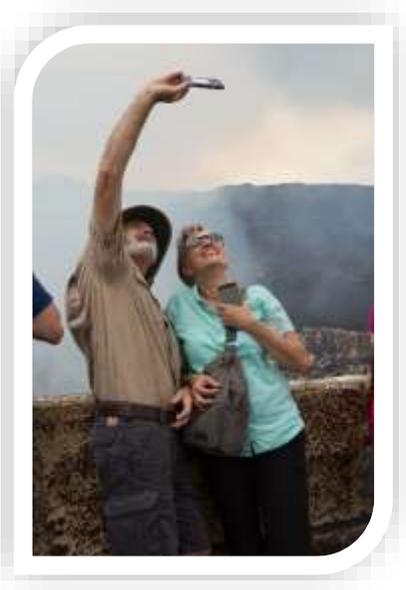




Background

Floyd and Gayle have felt called to serve God through meeting the needs of the poor and elderly since the 1980's. We began doing agricultural charity work in about 1995 with Tractors for Our Daily Bread. Through that work we realized the importance of educating the next generation as a way of having a long-term impact on communities. We were also confronted with many medical needs that we could not ignore in the impoverished countries where we were working. Thus, we started Planting Hope International. We incorporated on October 31, 2011, using Arthur-Green LLP Attorneys at Law. Our EIN is 45-3746722.

Floyd has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering has been a scientist with the US Department of Agriculture for 30 years, and is also an Adjunct Professor at Kansas State University. Gayle has a B.S. in Mechanical Design Technology and currently runs her business Dowell Designs where she sells her nature-inspired jewelry. We homeschooled our two daughters, Kayla and Christine.



Floyd and Gayle Dowell in Nicaragua

We established this charity with the concept of having very low overhead costs. We donate our time, in keeping with Paul's teaching in Acts 20: 33-35: *You yourselves know that with these hands of mine I have worked to provide everything my companions and I needed. I have given you an example that by working hard like this we must help the weak, remembering the words that the Lord Jesus Himself said, "There is more happiness in giving than in getting."*

Future work

We plan to continue similar projects to spread God's Word as we provide agricultural, medical, and educational support to promote sustainability in developing countries. We will likely send containers of agricultural equipment and medical supplies to Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, and Laos. We will continue providing tuition for kids that have little or no source of income, send medical supplies to various missions, and provide agricultural support to improve food security in various countries. All this will be done with the emphasis of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through ministering to those in need. Whenever possible, we will require recipients to share in the cost of these projects. We only commit to projects if we have funds on-hand.

Contact Information

Floyd and Gayle Dowell
Planting Hope International
3310 Germann Drive
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-776-8523
plantinghope@yahoo.com; www.PlantingHopeInternational.org