



# Planting Hope International 2019 Annual Report

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



**A recent college graduate from Tanzania on an internship in Israel.**



## Executive Summary

In 2019, our impact as a charity expanded as we added Iraq, Ethiopia, and Liberia to our list of countries we have impacted. We have touched many lives around the world as we now have worked in 24 countries. We added about 20 students to the list of those we have funded, with our total now being 157 students that we have supported. We traveled to Ethiopia and Nepal this year to check on projects and explore new possibilities in those countries. We also helped teach a class on reducing food losses at a training class with ECHO in Ft. Meyers, Florida. We also continue to fund a medical clinic in Zimbabwe, and a Business as Mission project in Laos.

Our biggest effort is paying tuition as we continue to feel that this is 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 see people saved, spiritually and physically, through this ministry.



**Meeting with good friends in Nepal.**



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## Mission Statement

We seek to fulfill the Great Commission through improving agriculture, education, and health in developing countries.

Most of our efforts focus on promoting sustainability, so that those we support can sustain themselves and impact their respective countries.

Our two guiding Scripture verses are James 1:27 and 2:18. James 1:27 commands us to minister to the orphans and widows. Much of our work aims to impact the lives of the less fortunate. James 2:18 challenges us to show our faith through our works.



Some of the 24 countries that we have impacted.



## Board of Directors

Our Board consists of Christians who are passionate about reaching the lost and meeting the needs of the poor. Our current eleven Board Members are:

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



**Gunnar Naughton, Gayle Dowell, Kayla Naughton, Christine Dowell, and Floyd Dowell**

- Vice President: Pam Warren, Manhattan, KS. Worship Coordinator, University Christian Church.

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



**Pam Warren**



**Karla Fisher**

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



**David Brundage**



- Dr. Danny Rogers, Professor Emeritus, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS



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



Stan Grecian

- Gayle Dowell, Manhattan, KS. Jewelry Designer.

- Tyndol Turkovic, Manhattan, KS.

- Stan Grecian, Farmer, Retired, Palco, KS.



Donn Leach

- Jeremy Houser, Abilene, KS.

- Taylor McFall, Manhattan, KS



Taylor McFall



Tyndol Turkovic



Jeremy Houser



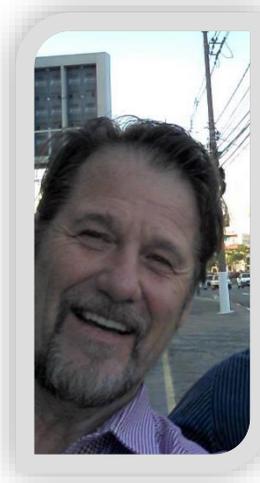


### Advisory Board

- Rusty Thornley, Manhattan, KS. Associate Professor, Cross-cultural Ministries, Manhattan Christian College.
- Ensign Kayla Naughton, Vista, CA. Registered Nurse, U.S. Navy. Founding Board Member
- Emily and Jordy Nelson, Riley, KS. Formerly with the Oakland Raiders and Green Bay Packers.
- Greg Wilson, Manhattan, KS. Owner, Howies Recycling.
- Kendall McFall, Manhattan, KS. Senior Vice President, EnGrain.
- Terry Cole, Manhattan, KS. Director, KSU Helping International Students.
- Christine Dowell, Lafayette, Indiana. Wildlife Technician, Purdue University.



**Rusty Thornley**



**Terry Cole**



**Greg Wilson**



**Kendall McFall**





## Accomplishments

In prior years, we have sent containers of agricultural and medical supplies to Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, and Laos. Further work comprised of sending about 1 million meals to the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya at the height of the famine in 2011 and funding the construction of water wells in Tanzania. We have built a school study house and a classroom building in Tanzania, and paid primary, secondary, college, and trade school tuition for over 150 kids in various countries. We have helped people in Belize, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

### 2019 Projects:

#### Agricultural Support.

One of our biggest efforts was helping Business as Mission grain storage projects in Laos and Kyrgyzstan. It has been encouraging to see how the Laos “Harvest Centers” continue to impact many communities through their work to establish grain drying, storage, and feed-making centers. The bins we sent to Kyrgyzstan in 2018 for a large grain storage and milling facility have been assembled and that work continues to grow. We are also providing analytical testing of their soybeans to help them improve their crops.

It was also great to see a tractor we donated to a project in Zimbabwe arrive finally! That was no small feat considering the tough import regulations in that challenging country.



Some of the beneficiaries of the grain storage and feed milling work in Laos.

We traveled to Ethiopia with Engineering Ministries International to design an agricultural program as part of a larger church campus master plan. We hopefully helped them develop a usable plan to increase their agricultural production. I hope the relationships I developed with some of the local people will result in additional projects.



Some of my new Ethiopian friends



**Medical Support.** We continue to support the clinic at Eden Children’s Village in Zimbabwe. Our funds are used to buy supplies in-country as they have not been able to receive a shipping container due to the instability there. Our funds were also used for a monthly mobile medical clinic and to meet specific medical needs that they encounter. In October, we received an urgent email from the nurse, Judy Ervine, saying that a young man had been attacked by a crocodile in the lake beside the orphanage. He needed immediate and extensive surgeries, and she asked if we could cover the initial costs. Thanks to our faithful donors, we could immediately agree to do this!



**Trekking through the Himalayas with friends in Nepal.**

years old to college age. We have done this long enough to see a steady stream of students graduate with degrees in fields that include agriculture, medicine, and business. We feel this is an effective way to have a long-term impact in developing countries since these students will likely become leaders in their countries where many are not able to complete school. We require that 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.



**A recent graduate and her proud mother!**

**Nepal!** We went to Nepal where we helped fund a Bible Training Center for indigenous church workers several years ago, and where we have supported several orphans. Four generations of my (Floyd’s) family have been to Nepal, so it was exciting for me to return to the country where I was born. Since returning home, we have begun paying tuition for one young lady there, and we helped a church with their building debt.

**Student Support.** We have supported 157 students in countries such as Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Liberia, Kenya, Nepal, and Malawi. Ages range from about 5

When selecting students, we give preference to females and children of single mothers as they are the most vulnerable and helpless in many of these locations.



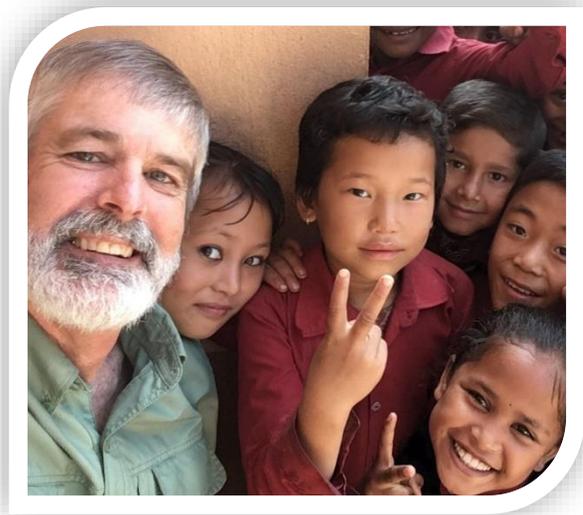
Mobile medical clinic in Zimbabwe.

We have a friend, Larry Kies, that teaches at Africa University in Zimbabwe, and he attended a conference in South Africa where he stated in his newsletter: ***“It was exciting to meet many AU Agriculture students that have become missionaries, using their skills to lead Agriculture development in other African countries as they take the gospel out to the communities they work with.”*** These are very encouraging words and an excellent example of how we

are having a long-term impact in these countries. That is, we are helping to raise up educated indigenous leaders.

Regarding our recent graduates, one has become the Assistant Administrator at a hospital, another received an internship in Israel to further his education, another has become a teacher at a local school, and a young lady is starting her own business selling horticultural crops.

In another exciting project, we agreed to fund indigenous interns with the Christian agricultural group, ECHO, whose mission is to reduce world hunger through agricultural training for people working in tropical areas. They have training centers in Ft. Meyers, Florida, Tanzania, and Thailand.



New Nepalese friends!

We partner with groups like Africa University in Zimbabwe, Stephen Tito Academy ([stephentitoacademy.org](http://stephentitoacademy.org)) in Tanzania, and Children in the Wilderness (<http://www.childreninthewilderness.com/>) to fund students through those organizations. Children in the Wilderness is based in South Africa and funds students of all ages in South Africa, Malawi, 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 on the progress of each student.

We also fund a lady at a village in rural Kenya that seeks out and mentors young girls in that village to encourage them to stay in school and get a good education. This mentor is funded through She Shines Ministry that was started by a good friend from Kenya, Dr. Maggy Sikulu-Lord.



## Finances

Our funding remains consistent, and we received some nice year-end contributions. Our administrative expenses remain below 1%, so essentially all contributions go to projects we support. Administrative expenses consist of website annual fees, stamps for newsletters, liability insurance, and tags for equipment trailers. We significantly reduced the number of mailings as we now use MailChimp, email, and Facebook for most of our newsletters, thus further reducing our administrative expenses. Several tractors and implements that were not repairable were sold and thus our equipment assets were reduced. We never operate with a deficit, and no funds are used for salaries or personal expenses. We used to attempt to allocate our budget evenly to agricultural, medical, and educational projects, but the past few years we have focused more on paying tuition for bright young students.

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		
2018	\$115,815	\$111,729		
2019	\$116,819	\$95,346	\$39,877	\$17,350
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$39,877 + \$17,350 = \$57,227</b>			

Table 2. 2019 Income Statement

<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$116,819</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Program Expenses	\$94,602
Administrative Expenses (Overhead)	\$744 (0.6%)
Fundraising Expenses	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$95,346</b>
<b>Excess (or Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>\$21,473</b>



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)	\$500
18 ft gooseneck trailer (for hauling large items such as tractors and grain bins)	\$2,000
12 ft enclosed trailer (for moving and storing items)	\$500
Bobcat skidsteer (for loading containers)	\$8,000
Ford 8N tractors – overhauled (1)	\$1000
Ford 8N tractors – repairable (2)	\$500
Ford 3000 tractor – overhauled	\$2000
Chevrolet 5 ton dump truck	\$1000
Pallet jack	\$50
Laptop computer for keeping books and generating reports	\$100
Bush hogs (3)	\$200
Case 900	\$1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,350</b>

\*All assets were either donated or purchased with designated funds.

#### Compensation of Leaders.

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

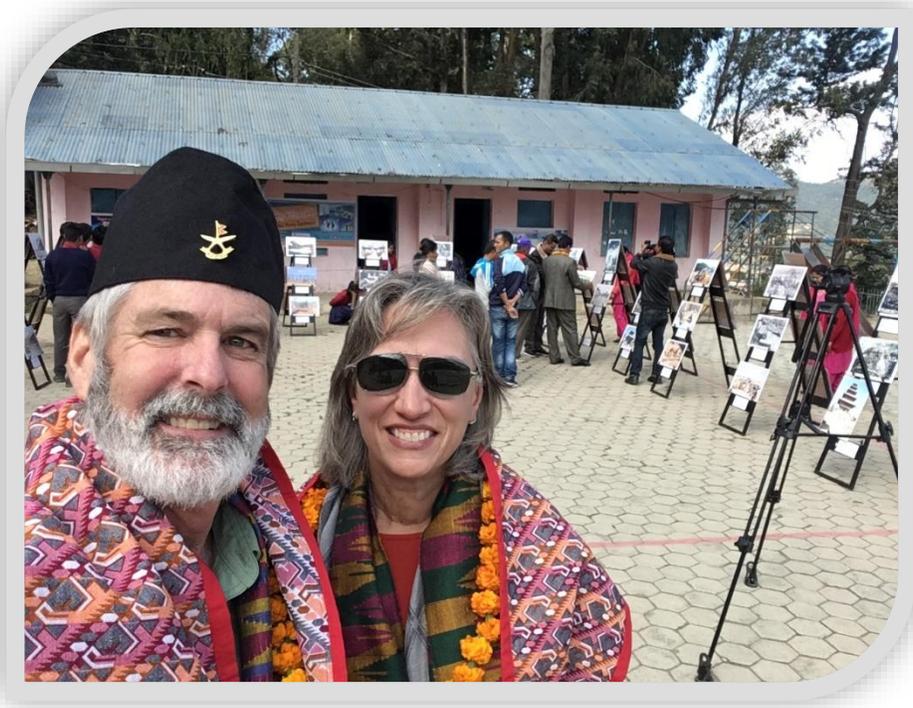
We have earned the “GuideStar Exchange Platinum Participant” award, which is GuideStar’s highest designation and means we have demonstrated our commitment to transparency. GuideStar ([www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)) is an organization that provides information to help donors make informed decisions about charitable giving.



## Donor Summary

We had 35 donors in 2019, which was a slight increase, including 4 churches. Some donors have been supporters for over 20 years.

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.



At a photo exhibition featuring four generations of Dowell's in Nepal.



## Background

Floyd and Gayle have felt called to meet the needs of the poor and elderly since the 1980's. We began doing agricultural charity work in about 1995 with a charity that did developing country agricultural work. That charity focused exclusively on agricultural work, but we began to see the need to include educational and medical 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, our family 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, and retired after 31 years as a scientist with the US Department of Agriculture, and is an Adjunct Professor at Kansas State University. Gayle has a B.S. in Mechanical Design Technology and runs her business, Designs by Dowell where she sells her nature-inspired jewelry.

They homeschooled their two daughters, Christine Dowell (Wildlife Technician, Purdue University), and Ensign Kayla Naughton (RN, Navy) who is married to Sergeant Gunnar Naughton (Marines).

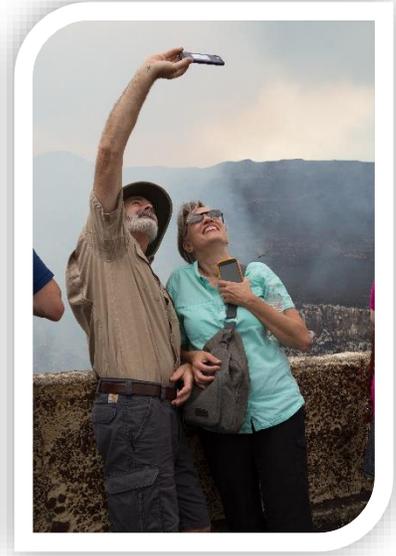
We established this charity with the concept of having very low overhead costs. We donate our time, in keeping with Paul's teaching in Acts 20: 33-35: "You know that with these hands of mine I have worked to provide everything my companions and I needed. I have given you an example that by working hard 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.'" No charity funds are used to fund our trips or personal expenses.

## 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

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Floyd and Gayle Dowell in Nicaragua