



Planting Hope International

2020 Annual Report

Providing agricultural, educational, and medical support in developing countries.



Distributing food to people in India affected by the COVID pandemic



Executive Summary

The COVID pandemic is having a significant impact in many of the communities where we work, not only because of the illness, but also because the meager incomes of many struggling people have been further reduced due to collapsing economies worldwide. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have helped provide food and medical supplies to families, clinics, and hospitals in India, Nepal, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, Thailand, and Pakistan. This is in addition to the agricultural, medical, and educational support we typically provide. 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. We have supported over 180 students.

Our overhead costs remain at less than 1% of our budget. In everything we do, we are transparent in our activities and respectful of donor wishes as we seek to minister to the needs of our brothers and sisters worldwide.



Seed being distributed through ECHO in Thailand





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Mission Statement

We seek to meet the needs of the poor 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 guiding Scripture verses are James 1:27 which commands us to minister to the orphans and widows, and James 2:18 which challenges us to show our faith through our works.





Board of Directors

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

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



Pam Warren

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

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



Karla Fisher



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

- Secretary: Gayle Dowell, Manhattan, KS.
Jewelry Designer.





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

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

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

Danny Rogers

- Jeremy Houser, Field Technology Specialist at Wilbur-Ellis, Leoti, KS.

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



David Brundage



Stan Grecian



Donn Leach



Jeremy Houser





Advisory Board

- Rusty Thornley, Manhattan, KS. Associate Professor, Cross-cultural Ministries, Manhattan Christian College. Retired.
- Lieutenant JG Kayla Naughton, Fallbrook, 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, Lawrence, KS. Park Ranger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Rusty Thornley



Terry Cole



Greg Wilson



Kendall McFall





Accomplishments

Our previous work includes sending containers of agricultural and medical supplies to Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, and Laos. We have also provided food aid to millions of people in Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Pakistan, Nepal, Uganda, and India. We have funded the drilling of water wells in Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and we have built school buildings in several villages in Tanzania, a library in Kenya, and paid primary, secondary, college, and trade school tuition for over 180 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.

2020 Projects:

Thailand and Tanzania. We had been funding interns with the agricultural group ECHO in Tanzania, but since the suspension of the program due to COVID, we are now sending funds to ECHO for their "Seeds of Hope" initiative for the purchase and distribution of seeds to local farmers. Our preferred way of helping with food relief is helping people grow their own food. A representative from ECHO sent us this note: "Cancelled flights, transportation restrictions, etc. are making it hard to transport seeds across borders. Thus our local seed banks in East Africa and Thailand can meet the unique local needs of those

in their areas, helping supply schools/malnutrition centers/partner organizations/farming families with quality seeds as well as training in seed saving and seed banking." We also sent funds to a school in Tanzania that is reaching out to families of the students since the school is not in session.



Seed being distributed in Thailand

Zambia and Zimbabwe. We fund many kids in southern and eastern Africa through the group, Children in the Wilderness. Since schools and businesses are now closed, they asked us to help families who now have no income. Here is the note we got after sending a donation: "On behalf of Children in the Wilderness, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your generous donation for the feeding program. Due to Covid-19 and the

impact that it is having on livelihoods through the inability of people to work and provide basic needs for their families, we are facing an impending food crisis across the country. Thus, these funds are gratefully received, and will make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it most. Most families live hand to mouth and we ask child sponsors to donate funds for food for these families."



Nepal, India and Pakistan. A friend in the foothills of the Himalayas in India contacted us to help people around his village who are suffering due to the economic impact caused by the COVID crisis. We have been provided food to almost 100 families and 20 orphan children there. Many of the families had wage earners who lived far away in large cities, but they suddenly lost their jobs. We know of a single mother with five kids who earns a meager living sorting garbage from hotels and restaurants to find items to resell. However, with all businesses closed she cannot even collect garbage to resell. We have been able to get food aid to her through our contact in India. Our Indian friend states: "Church is light and salt to the society, without us society has no hope today. People needed comfort and direction and also counselling. Many faced emotional and mental pressure at this stage but they were all met, from food to prayer to encouragement. Many have now opened the door for us to visit and pray with them. Thank you so much for coming together to reach out to these lost souls." Similarly, we sent funds to a ministry in Pakistan to help with the economic impact caused by this pandemic. We also distributed food through a church in Kathmandu and in a village in the Langtang region of Nepal.



Distributing food to a village in Nepal



A harvest center being constructed in Laos

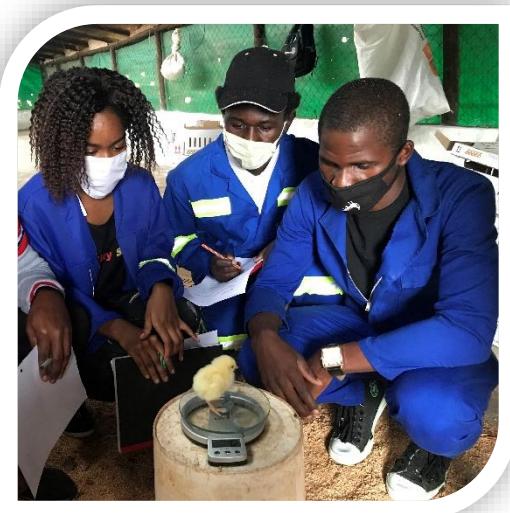
Laos. We continue to support "Business as Missions" work in Laos through funding "Harvest Centers". These are village-level grain harvesting, drying, storage, and feed making systems. They are designed to supply the missing parts of the animal husbandry system at the village level. The goal is to increase village level productivity and increase the farmer's ability to care for his family.



Medical Support. We provided funds to buy masks, sanitizer, and general medical supplies in Uganda and Zimbabwe. We also donated a breathing machine to a hospital in Nepal where the pandemic has strained their medical system. We also continue to support the clinic at Eden Children's Village in Zimbabwe where we donate funds for them to purchase medical supplies as they serve many people in their community.

Student Support. We have supported 180 students in countries such as Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Liberia, Kenya, Nepal, and Malawi. Ages range from about 5 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 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 the most vulnerable and helpless in many of these locations.

We also continue 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 Florida, Tanzania, and Thailand.



Students at Africa University in Zimbabwe



Our friend in Nepal participating in the ceremony to hand over the breathing machine we donated to their hospital

We partner with groups like Africa University in Zimbabwe, Stephen Tito Academy in Tanzania, and Children in the Wilderness to fund students. 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 monitor the progress of each student.

We also fund a mentor at a village in rural Kenya who 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 friend from Kenya, Dr. Maggy Sikulu-Lord.



Finances

Our funding remains consistent and our five-year summary is shown below. 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. Our trailers and some equipment were recently sold, 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. Recent Annual Income and Expenses

Year	Income	Expenses	Checking Balance	Equipment Assets
2016	\$109,309	\$125,188		
2017	\$138,034	\$151,420		
2018	\$115,815	\$111,729		
2019	\$116,819	\$95,346		
2020	\$115,603	\$138,097	\$17,382	\$9,900
Total Assets	\$17,382 + \$9,900 = \$27,282			

Table 2. 2020 Income Statement

Revenue	
Total Contributions	\$115,603
Expenses	
Program Expenses	\$136,934
Administrative Expenses (Overhead)	\$1,163 (0.8%)
Fundraising Expenses	0
Total Expenses	\$138,097
Excess (or Deficit) for the year	(\$22,494)



Table 3. Assets.

Item	Value
Portable Ramp (for loading 40ft containers)	\$500
Bobcat skidsteer (for loading containers)	\$8,000
Ford 8N tractor – overhauled	\$1000
Ford 8N tractor – repairable	\$250
Pallet jack	\$50
Laptop computer for keeping books and generating reports	\$100
Total	\$9,900

Compensation of Leaders.

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

We continue to hold 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) is an organization that provides information to help donors make informed decisions about charitable giving.





Donor Summary

We had 26 donors in 2020, 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.



ECHO intern in Tanzania





Background

Floyd and Gayle have felt called to meet the needs of the poor and elderly since the 1980's. They 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 they began to see the need to include educational and medical work. They realized the importance of educating the next generation as a way of having a long-term impact on communities. They were also confronted with many medical needs that they could not ignore in the impoverished countries where they were working. Thus, their family started Planting Hope International. They 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 as 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 (Park Ranger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), and Lieutenant JG Kayla Naughton (Registered Nurse, U.S. Navy) who is married to Sergeant Gunnar Naughton (U.S. Marines).

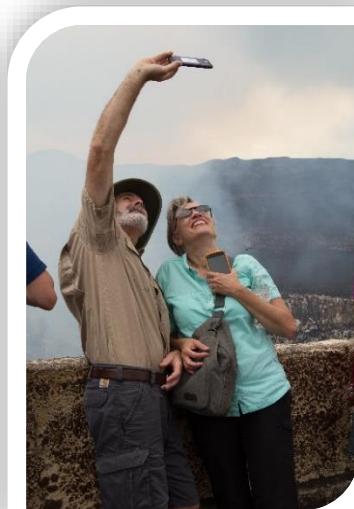
They established this charity with the concept of having very low overhead costs. They donate their time, in keeping with Paul's teaching in Acts 20: 33-35: "You know that with these hands of mine I have worked to provide everything my companions and I needed. I have given you an example that by working 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 for fund trips or personal expenses.

Future work

We plan to continue similar projects as we provide agricultural, medical, and educational support to promote sustainability in developing countries. We may 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 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
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Floyd and Gayle Dowell in Nicaragua