

Annual Report 2023



An Outpouring Of Support



IN THE WAKE OF A DEVASTATING FIRE

On August 27th, we were awakened by frantic phone calls from our School of Mission students and staff; the heart of our Mexico campus was on fire.

Later on in this report, you will get to read more about that night, but we wanted to share our own perspective. The students called us because their dormitories were located in that building. It was absolutely nerve wracking to count and recount students; trying to be absolutely certain that everyone had made it out in time. Thankfully every student got out safely. Words cannot describe how grateful we are for that.

Fire trucks and police arrived but the damage was already too extensive. The campus had begun to wake up, from the noise and activity, so many of us watched as the 36,000 square foot building that had housed so much of our life's work, crumbled. One small but heartbreaking loss, were the photos that dated back to the late '80s, when The Mission was first breaking ground.

In 2022, our team had planned for a “normal” year of serving at-risk children and their families. Early that year, however, the horrific war broke out in Ukraine and we responded with love, intention, and hundreds of thousands of pounds of food for our neighbors. We felt, once again, that 2023 would be a time to get back to our “normal” routine. Although, what is normal when you're following Jesus?

As the news about the fire began to spread, we found ourselves on the opposite side of our “normal” equation. So many of our neighbors, near and far, came to our rescue. The local government provided free clean-up of the rubble, and many of our local neighbors came to help in the arduous process. Thousands of our neighbors, around the globe, made donations which allowed us to quickly build temporary facilities. We were stunned by the outpouring.

There is much to be done, but each of you has given us hope for what is to come.

Genea & Jimmy Horner
SENIOR LEADERS OF THE MISSION

the
MISSION

DANTE'S STORY



Dante has been in orphanages since he was two years old. In 2014 he was brought to The Mission's orphanage in Tijuana by social services. He was 8 years old and it was the fourth orphanage that he had been placed in. Since the moment he arrived, Dante has had a sweet and gentle spirit. Nine years later, we had the privilege of helping Dante celebrate his 18th birthday! We cannot imagine our family without him.

"In the beginning, my transition to The Mission was really difficult because social services separated me from my siblings. Over time, I started to feel safe and comfortable here."

Dante is the youngest of four siblings; all of whom were removed from their parents' guardianship. Most of his childhood and memories have been at The Mission.

"I never lacked anything. I celebrated my first Christmas at The Mission!"

Dante completed elementary, junior high, and high school at The Mission with excellent grades. He enjoys cleaning (yes, really!), cooking, watching movies, and is highly determined and sincere.

In most orphanages, children are immediately removed from the program when they turn 18. The Mission has a transition home that is available to all of the children who "age out" of the orphanage. Dante chose to stay at The Mission and now works as the receptionist at the main administrative office. He plans to work for one year and then begin college to study dentistry, while continuing to live at The Mission.

"Turning 18 and moving out of the orphanage felt strange but liberating. I no longer have to seek permission slips from my social worker to leave campus!"



Along with working in the office, Dante helps in the orphanage program. Every other weekend, he and another staff member care for kids; "relieving" the full-time caregivers.

"I feel honored to be entrusted to watch over the kids. It is easy for me to empathize with them because not long ago, I was in their place."

It is difficult to describe just how proud we are of Dante. Seeing him care for other children, giving them the same love he was given, is truly breathtaking.

To help other children like Dante,
click here to sponsor a child today!

REBUILD WITH US

TRANSFORMING LOSS INTO TRIUMPH



On August 27th our campus in Tijuana suffered a devastating fire, destroying the 36,000 square foot building that was the true heart of the campus. We are deeply thankful that no one was hurt and that no other buildings were affected. For over 20 years this cherished building has stood as a beacon of hope, providing a safe haven for at-risk children, a place of learning, a sanctuary of faith, and a center for the community. It housed our jr. high, high school, School of Missions, administrative offices, coffee shop, place of worship, and church.

TEMPORARY FACILITIES

Because of your generosity, the jr. high, high school, School of Missions student housing and classrooms, and administrative offices were relocated to temporary facilities shortly after the fire utilizing existing on-campus buildings. A large tent, which seats 600 people, was purchased for our local church and daily devotions during the week.

SITE CLEANUP

The city of Tijuana generously provided a dedicated cleaning crew. Covering a free demolition of the sanctuary walls and clean up! The area is now ready for us to rebuild.





What Is Still Needed

FINANCES

Following the fire, our team estimated a need of \$200,000 for the immediate relocation of the schools, offices, and church. The generosity of our partners exceeded that by \$45,000, which we put directly into our 'Rebuild' fund, dedicated toward a new building!

Since September, our team has been working with incredibly talented architects, dreaming of a new building that will once again echo with laughter and learning.

Although the rebuild process will be extensive, over the last 35 years The Mission has faced and overcome countless adversities. We are believing for yet another breakthrough.

The new building, including furnishings and necessary equipment, is estimated to cost a total of \$3 million. You have each been so generous in your support of The Mission, and we hope you will join us on this new journey; allowing us to not only continue our existing childcare programs but to also rebuild something even better.



Orphanage & Transitional Care

24HR CARE • MEXICO

Located on our campus in Tijuana, the orphanage provided care to 40 children this past year. The children live in family-style homes, with two house parents in each.

When a child in the orphanage turns 18, we give them the option of moving into our “transition homes.” Here, our team supports them in their next-steps, whatever they may be. Nine young adults are currently in this stage.



Jr. High & High School

12HR CARE • MEXICO
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

Located on our campus in Tijuana, the school had 220 students in 2023. All of the classrooms and school offices were lost in the fire, which happened the day before the fall term was supposed to start. Temporary on-campus facilities are currently being used.



Elementary & Family Care



12HR • CARE
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
MEXICO AND ROMANIA

These programs are located on both our campuses in Mexico and Romania, with a total of 374 children enrolled in 2023. The combination of services that these two programs provide to our local communities is one of the key ways that The Mission serves families. Accessible education and childcare are not widely available and most families in our area have two working parents.



Feeding Program

• NICARAGUA •
500 MEALS A WEEK

The Mission partners with a local feeding program in Dario, Nicaragua that serves approximately 500 meals a week to children and senior adults in the community. The team serves meals to the children at the facility and delivers meals to the seniors. We are proud to support and work alongside friends who are passionate about serving those who need it most.

Get To Know Our Kids *in* Romania

NAME **MARIAN** • AGE **12**
JOINED **THE PROGRAM** IN **2022**

Marian is brilliant, extremely observant, and artistic. Once he gets to know people, he loves to joke around and laugh! He joined our program in 2022, although our team had known his family long before then.

Marian lives with his mom, her boyfriend, and three siblings in a village called Stefan cel Mare. His mom washes dishes at a local restaurant. Marian's family is Hungarian-Roma, and although they have grown up poor, their mother has worked hard to provide for them.. Since joining our program, Marian has been drawn to music. He is now an integral part of the worship team! He rides his bike to every practice and service, multiple evenings a week. His reading has improved so much in the last year that he now often manages the slides during worship!



NAME **ILEANA** • AGE **8**
JOINED **THE PROGRAM** IN **2021**

Ileana is a protector; she is bold and silly, stubborn and tenderhearted. Most of all, she loves taking care of others. Ileana lives with her parents and four younger siblings. Her aunt and grandparents live next door, in the Clujului village (see village highlight). Her mother stays home with the two youngest children, while Ileana and her two siblings attend our program. Their father is often unemployed, but sometimes obtains seasonal employment in another city. Because Ileana is Roma, she has faced many adversities. Her family is very poor and her mother was only 14 when she was born. Neither her grandparents or parents

had access to an education. Their home burned down in June and the family spent weeks sleeping under plastic draped over wood. Some of our team, and other neighbors from Sighisoara, helped them rebuild a small home.

Ileana has made great academic improvement. She can now read in Romanian and is learning to read in English! One of the greatest improvements she has made is emotional. Our teachers have worked tirelessly with her, to validate emotions and give her tools to process them healthily.



Clujului



Romania



In 2021, local Romanian government officials asked our team to enroll children from the village Clujului. All other local schools were refusing to do so.

Clujului is a small Roma village with some of the worst living conditions imaginable. Racism toward Roma people have kept these families in abject poverty. Homes in the village are one room spaces without running water or electricity, and most have dirt floors. Water is brought from a nearby stream and winter temperatures average 25 degrees Fahrenheit. These living conditions have led to families stricken by generational alcoholism, teen pregnancy, prostitution, begging, and many illnesses such as, scabies, ringworm, fleas, and impetigo.

Since 2021, The Mission has provided 12-hour care to children from this community that includes, showers, uniforms, two meals a day, academics, arts, and bible. While we are deeply passionate about caring for children, we know that to break this cycle of poverty we need to work with the entire family.

Along with childcare, our team has been working with the adults. A weekly small group has provided a safe place for mothers to find love and strength, and to learn about the unfailing love of Jesus. Our team has escorted several parents to the doctor, bank, or government offices, to advocate on their behalf for equal treatment.

Because Roma people have been underserved for so long, breaking

this type of poverty will take an incredible amount of work. Most local businesses will not employ Roma people, and due to the lack of utilities, physical hygiene only adds another barrier when it comes to interviews.

Although there is a long way to go, we have seen breakthroughs since 2021. Children are learning to read, gaining confidence, and getting to know the love of Jesus. Six times throughout the school year, we invite students and their families for a night of celebration and fun; these have become some of our favorite events. Parents, most of whom cannot read, are championing their children's education, as they witness the hope growing within each of them.



Get To Know Our Kids *in* Mexico

NAME MELISSA • AGE 17
JOINED THE PROGRAM IN 2018

Melissa was brought to The Mission's orphanage in Tijuana by social services in 2018. Now, she is 17 years old and has recently completed high school! Melissa is cheerful, perseverant, and very focused on her studies. Her favorite course was administration and she loves listening to music.

Our team is currently helping Melissa apply to nearby universities and scholarships, so that she may continue her studies. Since the moment we met Melissa, it was clear that she had a very well-defined set of goals and immense determination. She has brought a unique joy to our family here at The Mission and we are so thankful to be able to provide a safe place for her to pursue her dreams.

*Due to governmental restrictions, the pseudonym "Melissa" has been used and her photo has been blurred.



NAME ABDIEL • AGE 16
JOINED THE PROGRAM IN 2019

Abdiel is in 10th grade and has been part of The Mission's school on the Tijuana campus since 2019. Each weekday, The Mission's bus picks him up at 5 AM. Abdiel lives with his parents, sister, grandmother, and uncle in a community called Villas del Campo. His mother works at a local market, his father is retired from the navy, and his grandmother is a retired high school literature teacher. Abdiel shares that because of this, literature is one of his favorite subjects.

He is friendly, fun, and kind; a joy to have in class! Abdiel shared that his time at The Mission has helped him become more empathetic with classmates, and worry less. He also shared that since joining our school, he has been encouraged to dream more, and hopes to travel to many places.

Click here to help make stories like this possible by sponsoring a child from The Mission!

Niño Heroe



Mexico

The Mission's longest partners have witnessed the immense development that has happened in the Tijuana valley that is home to our Mexico campus. In the beginning, 36 years ago, the valley held a few farms and ranches. As downtown Tijuana grows, many people are displaced to its outskirts. Dozens of communities have since developed in our valley. They usually begin as small groups of people "squatting;" making use of whatever materials they can source to build homes on vacant land. Villas del Campo started as such and now has a population of over 33,000.



The newest community in the valley, Niño Héroe, was established in 2021. It is relatively small, home to about 45 families. Niño Héroe, like so many others, began by displaced families. The lots are about 25 by 60 feet, and homes are built of whatever materials families can obtain. No utilities have been made available; meaning, they lack access to clean water, electricity, and garbage collection.

The Mission serves this community through various outreach programs such as "garbage and water ministry;" providing clean water and



collecting garbage twice a week. Residents were immediately very grateful and quickly connected with The Mission's team. Over time, residents began attending our local church and now several families regularly open up their homes to host Connection Groups (weekly small groups). So far, one family has enrolled their children in The Mission's schools. We hope to see that increase as our team and School of Mission's students, along with visiting groups, faithfully serve Niño Héroe; creating a sense of family and hope.



Meet The Team



GENEA HORNER
SENIOR LEADER &
ROMANIA BASE DIRECTOR



JIMMY HORNER
SENIOR LEADER &
FUNDRAISING



KARINA ROCHA
SENIOR ASSOCIATE LEADER &
MEXICO BASE DIRECTOR



SANDRA LOPEZ
SENIOR TEAM &
FINANCE



LEO LOPEZ
SENIOR TEAM &
WORSHIP DIRECTOR



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BRAD BENTLEY
EXPEDIA COO



So Many More



THE MISSION STAFF TEAM IS MADE UP OF 104 INCREDIBLY GENEROUS AND GOOD-DOING HUMANS. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR EACH OF THEM.

Staff Highlight



Mateo has been part of The Mission's team in Mexico since 2002. He is married with four children. Since he was hired 22 years ago, Mateo has been an integral part of the campus construction team, as well as our local church. Mateo shared that his first project, building the cinder block walls that surround the 30-acre campus, was one of his favorites, despite it taking over a year to complete!

"I am grateful for The Mission; the time I have spent working here has been a tremendous blessing for my family."

Mateo is incredibly kind and hard-working. This year, in 2024, he will be retiring! He has shown exceptional dedication to his role and the joy he brings each day will be missed.

YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE

We are truly speechless. Because of your generosity The Mission accomplished so much in 2023. From construction projects like renovating parts of the campus in Romania, to building temporary facilities due to the fire in Mexico, serving local communities, caring for children, and so much more - we could not do this without your support.

In 2023 donations were made by 2269 people from 20 different countries! Plus, 947 people worked alongside of us, in person, in Mexico and Romania!

Thank you to all who gave, prayed, helped us spread the word, and physically worked alongside of us.

Breakdown of Operational Expenses.

The Mission is unique in the sense that all of our operations teams are located on The Mission bases; we have no U.S. administrative headquarters. This significantly lowers our operational expenses and also helps us achieve one of our main goals: empowering and equipping directly impacted people. It has been a privilege to work alongside missionaries who have left their homes to serve, as well as citizens of these beautiful nations, who are fiercely fighting for their local communities.

Programs Services
72.8%

Project Development/Maintenance
12.1%

Admin/Fundraising
15.1%



How It Helped

Transparency matters to The Mission. Since 1987, we have made many, many friends who have been incredibly generous to us. Being good stewards with what people choose to invest is a top priority for our entire team. Review The Mission's financials for 2023 to see just how impactful each gift is.

2023 At A Glance

TOTAL REVENUE IN THE PAST FISCAL YEAR

Total Income

\$2,742,781.22

TOTAL RAISED

\$2,224,425.45

TOTAL EARNED

[SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS]

\$518,355.77

*Total Operational
Expenses Invested*

\$2,459,504.23

PROGRAMS SERVICES

To clothe, feed, educate and provide family for children and people in need.

\$1,790,993.90

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
AND MAINTENANCE

\$296,951.13

ADMINISTRATION AND
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

\$371,559.20

2023 FIXED ASSETS

\$3,541,404.65

2021 FIXED ASSETS

\$3,396,179.14*

2022 FIXED ASSETS

\$3,479,184.00*

2020 FIXED ASSETS

\$3,367,272*

*Fixed assets owned by The Mission Inc / RDSN, USA (501c3); Rancho de Sus Niños IAP, Mexico; Misunea Globala, Romania

*The financial information included in this report is preliminary, unaudited and subject to revision upon completion of The Mission's closing and audit processes.



The Advocate Program

HELPING THE MISSION GROW

Would you help us by spreading the word about The Mission?

Becoming an Advocate is as simple as sending a text, or posting on social media. (You can track how many people sponsor a child because of your Advocacy!)

Let's
Get
Started

STEP ONE

Join the program. Signing up is free and takes less than five minutes!

STEP TWO

Advocate. Share why you've chosen to sponsor a child from The Mission by sending your unique URL (link) via text, email or social media.

STEP THREE

Track Impact. Log on to see how many children have been sponsored through your Advocacy!

Click
Here To
Start Now!