



# ASIAN CHILDREN'S MISSION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**PREPARED BY** 

**ACM BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 



#### A LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Greetings in the name of the Almighty! As we write this annual report, we are humbled and grateful for the steadfast love that God has showered upon us throughout the year. Truly, "God's banner over us is love (Song of Solomon 2:4)."

Reflecting on the events in Myanmar and the impact on our staff's lives, we are reminded of the children's hymn, "His Banner Over Me is Love." Throughout the past year, we have witnessed God's love repeatedly in our midst. In the face of uncertainty and turmoil, our journey has drawn us closer to God and to one another, fostering a deepened connection with our dedicated staff.

The year 2023 presented its challenges, testing our resolve to adhere to long-term plans. However, by letting go of the reins and allowing God to guide us, we witnessed miracles unfolding, facilitated by the sacrificial contributions of donors like yourself and the unwavering commitment of our staff.

Our hearts ache for the people of Myanmar. We shed tears and offered prayers while grappling with tough decisions concerning the welfare of our children amid the nation's turmoil. Yet, God, in His infinite goodness, manifested His love throughout the year. Despite adversities and our own limitations, we harnessed our obedience and your obedience for His glory and the well-being of the people we serve.

At Hope Children's Home, our children are thriving, a testament to the love of God that surrounds them. We reached out to many in need, equipped our staff with Trauma Therapy training, provided nutritious food for children at our schools and at Hope, and realized our dream of sustainable farming to support our ministries through the cultivation of crops, fruit trees, and the construction of greenhouses.

As we express our gratitude, we lift our voices in exaltation to the One above all—yesterday, today, and tomorrow. The hope and freedom we have are anchored in Him.

We extend our deepest appreciation for your steadfast support, faithful giving, encouragement, and prayers in alignment with God's calling throughout the year. As you read these updates, we hope that you will witness our unwavering faith in the Lord, our hope for vulnerable children in Myanmar, and our love for the people we seek to reach. Please continue to keep the people of Myanmar in your prayers, trusting that God will use this challenging time to draw them closer to Him.

We feel immensely blessed to have you on this journey alongside us. Your partnership is a beacon of hope, and together, we look forward to another year under God's banner of love.

In Christ, ACM Board of Directors



#### A LETTER FROM JOSIAH

#### Director of ACM

The year of 2023 was full of God's blessings and also there has been many difficulties and worries. God is always there and we feel peace inside because of what Jesus has done for us. We know we are being protected by His powerful blood and He is a miracle making God in times of no hope.

Apostle Paul encourages us with this truth even when he was in prison, it says in 1Thessolonians 5: 16-18 'Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus".

We praise and thank God that even in this turmoil all the children here at Hope Children's Home, completed the school year well and are progressing in their education and learning about Jesus and His love. The children are also learning about growing vegetables and raising pigs and chickens.

In 2023 we saw our God at work as we shared the Good News to unreached people and God extended His family by many and 3 churches were planted. In any situation, we have hope in Jesus and we are to give this hope to hopeless people and lead lost people to an eternal life. Again I am reminded through the word that Paul encourages us in Roman 12:12 'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.'

Please be deeply praying for us as we know that prayer changes everything! AMEN!!

Blessings and Love, Josiah



#### THE MISSION

ACM exists to care for, protect and educate the vulnerable children of Myanmar.

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

When our founder Joana Jones lovingly asked the Board of Directors to move into an active role of running the day to day operations of Asian Children's Mission, we were reminded of how passionate we all were about the country of Myanmar and the staff that lovingly serves the organization.

This past year has certainly challenged us and even more importantly brought us closer to an almighty God who walks beside us and calls us to trust Him through all seasons.

Our board has been actively building a closer relationship with our staff although we are unable to travel to the country at this time. We have spent much time hearing their journeys to faith through family and circumstances, which were shared with you in our past newsletters. We shared our stories of faith and how we arrived to serve at Asian Children's Mission with the staff in Myanmar. It was a great beginning of a deeper relationship as we all encourage each other to share the Kingdom Message with so many in need of the Savior.

The Board of Directors met in Indiana again and were privileged to see many of our supporters and new faces alike. It is a thrill to share stories and dreams with many who have a heart for Asian Children's Mission. We thank you for such a wonderful opportunity.

Part of the board traveled to Oklahoma City to share in the amazing ICOM Conference. Many partners attended which made the conversations so valuable to us. New connections and incredible life changing tales of what God is doing all over the world truly made us humble and proud to worship such a loving God.



### **EVANGELISM**

Matthew 9:36-38

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

As if the Civil War in Myanmar is not enough to disrupt the country, the natural disasters continue to plague many areas. It is humbling to watch God move in the hearts of people as we serve them through food, shelters, and the Gospel. After Cyclone Mocha we received a grant from IDES that allowed us to help rebuild the tragedy-stricken area. The outreach continued beyond the original borders and the crew shared the incredible power of the Holy Spirit that was moving in them and among the people they were serving. There was no denying the power of this movement. God is a powerful God. We will return to this area, hopefully this year, to plant two churches as a result to this outreach.

Asian Children's Mission feels a real call to equip the children that God has entrusted us with, in our children's home and in our schools, to answer the Great Commission and go out as workers into fields to harvest. As these children finish high school we are encouraging them to further their education at one of the Bible Colleges and then to go on with their chosen path. You will hear more about this as we look for support to make this dream come true!



#### **EDUCATION**

Myanmar had hopes for advancements until educational reforms a decade in the making were crushed by political crisis that began with the country's third (and most destructive) coup since 1962. Over 5 million children (more than half of Myanmar school children) dropped out of school in 2021.

In 2023, 17.6 million people – nearly one third of the population – are estimated to be in humanitarian need. Children in remote areas are at severe risk of child labor and exposure to drugs and gambling. Many regions lack safety and security with boys facing the plight of being recruited as child soldiers, and girls facing early marriage, sexual exploitation, human trafficking, violence and abuse.

#### Our God provides:

HOPE CHILDREN'S HOME - Thriving is the word that best describes the children at Hope. They have just completed their second year at Brilliant School and the curriculum is challenging them, the teachers are inspiring them and results are warming the hearts of "their family" at Hope. Sometimes we feel that we have to explain why we would take such an "daring" plunge as to but 100% of the children at Hope and the children of the staff, in a private school that of course costs money. Well with such a non-functional system available to them through the government, we felt God calling us once again to excellence and we took the leap.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting this endeavor!



#### **EDUCATION**

PRESCHOOLS: We started with preschools at the very beginning of this ministry when preschools were unheard of in Myanmar. This past year has shown us once again that this is a beautiful way to show the love of God with the children and their families, and to share the gospel in so many different ways. As we prepare the children for a future that is uncertain, we have this opportunity to be bright Light in their lives.

REMOTE SCHOOLS; Our remote schools have the opportunity to teach many different ages many academic subjects. Best of all we are able, with no hindrance to go deep into God's word and transform the lives of the children and their families.

JOSHUA SCHOOL: What an amazing year we saw at our school for special needs children! With a regular attendance of 15 students, we saw marked improvement in each one. We met the challenge this year by continuing to have three teachers and two assistants who poured love and direction into each day. We are still hoping to train/equip our teachers even more with training outside the country. Please pray for this goal. The families of each child are seeing and hearing daily how Jesus sends His disciples out into the world to bring love and healing.



#### SUSTAINABLE FARMING

ACM has truly been moving in the direction of self-sustaining entities as we have for many years tried to put the CHE (Community Health Evangelism) principles into action. This year provides a great opportunity for us to expand that concept with a Sustainable Farming Program, at our Myanmar Development Center. We have crops growing and being harvested, fruit trees planted and growing and greenhouses built. Stay tuned for and participate in the arrival of the animals...not two by two!



# HOPE CHILDREN'S HOME

Growing up God's children in a home that has so much love that it is overflowing is how we describe Hope. This year we poured into 52 children with a holistic approach that we continue to see allows them to thrive beyond our wildest dreams.

We continued to receive help from the Harvest of Talents program at IDES which allowed us to provide protein to our children even in these difficult times. We continue to see the connection between the gut and brain and have noticed a remarkable rise in health issues, which can be a noted issue in close quarters!

As the conditions in Myanmar grow more intense, we are thankful for the Trauma Therapy Program that was started last year. We hope to be able to have more visits from the team in this coming year.

Discipleship is our overreaching theme at Hope as we see clearly the incredible need for a Savior throughout the country. We take training of our children in the Word of God very seriously and are making plans to expand this in the coming year.





## **EMERGENCY RELIEF**

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

"Across Myanmar 18.6 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023, with people struggling to survive amid conflict and insecurity, civilian safety and protection threats, as well as soaring inflation that is affecting people's ability to meet basic needs."

ACM had the privilege to go with the help of our partners, to four areas of Myanmar to bring relief and help rebuild homes, schools and churches in 2023.







#### **FUTURE PLANS**

ACM is thrilled to report that our second year of Hope children attending private school was a HUGE success and so our hearts are determined to continue for the years to come. Please pray with us for provision and for the future of these children.

ACM saw an extremely positive response to the Trauma Therapy program we began in 2022 and have plans to continue this program for many years.

ACM hopes to continue to partner with Bryantsville Hunger Relief Project and possibly others in our Sustainable Farming Project. Completing Phase 1 only made us more excited about Phase 2...farm animals and a farmer!

ACM is so excited about our special needs school Joshua School and are continuing the search for a larger building. With the necessity of physical therapy for most of the children, we find that the equipment needed takes more space. Also an outdoor area for exercise and play would be so helpful. We will see where God leads us.

ACM is still praying about a structured follow-up program for all children leaving Hope Children's Home. If our primary objective is raising up disciples to spread the gospel in this Buddhist country and afar, we want a program to follow these students for years after they leave. With the present civil war in Myanmar continuing, we are even more concerned with their safety and direction. Please join us in prayer for this.

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

28% ORPHAN CARE

19% EDUCATION

14% LEADERSHIP

9% SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS

26% RELIEF

4% ADMINISTRATIVE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** \$154,603

**TOTAL DONATION** \$177,370