Abakoranabushake "Committed" Empowerment Group, Nyamagana, Rwanda Partnered with St. Luke's UMC, July 2017 – June 2020

A Summary Report on First Year Groups in Rwanda as of April 2018

The ZOE Rwanda staff wrote the following report which provides an overview of the activities and achievements the groups have experienced since their empowerment training began in July 2017. At that time, recruitment took place in two communities and enrolled 600 child-led families, a total of 1,960 children, into 20 working groups.

TRAININGS HELD DURING THE PAST YEAR

<u>JULY 2017</u>: **Dreams and family action plan.** The youth who are the heads of their households learned how to design an action plan for their families. They created their "**DREAM**" chart in which they expressed in pictures what they wanted to do in short and long time. They also included their experiences on what made them sad, what they do not like to see happen in their communities, what they like having and what is the guiding principles which will lead them to achieve their plan, to make their dreams true.

<u>AUGUST 2017</u>: Food security and nutrition. During this first year in program, children were facing malnutrition and hunger issues. To handle this problem, ZOE provided training on nutrition and food security before giving any in-kind assistance. The children learned how to have sufficient food in quality and quantity to eradicate malnutrition among families. ZOE staff and youth defined and agreed on how they should prepare balanced meals with food that can be found in respective communities. Required standard to be achieved by the families are meals with at least three items such as: beans or soya peas or groundnuts, eggs, meat, milk for protein; vegetables and fruits for vitamins and minerals; potato, rice, maize, wheat, plantain, sorghum, cassava for carbohydrate. Also fat should be added.

They also agreed on requirements of food security which every household must apply such as having a kitchen garden for vegetables, a store of cereals (rice, wheat, maize), a farm of roots (sweet potato, cassava, arrow root, yam or potato), at least one fruit tree, and legumes (beans, pea, groundnut or soya). Training on kitchen garden making was facilitated by agronomists who are government staff. Afterwards, ZOE provided all households with vegetable seeds (carrots, beetroots, onion, spinach, cabbages and amaranth) and manure as needed. ZOE believes that by the end of the three year empowerment program, 100% of families will be capable of finding their own food and be secure in quantity and quality.

<u>SEPTEMBER 2017</u>: Income Generating Activities (IGAs). Group members learned how to identify a good business idea, conduct a feasibility study, and do bookkeeping. They also learned how to develop a project proposal to apply for a grant. After training, ZOE provided all families with grants and start-up kits to start small businesses.

<u>JANUARY 2018</u>: New farming techniques and animal keeping. Additional agricultural training was attended by 307 heads of households. They learned how to use certified seeds and advanced techniques to increase crops/agriculture products. In terms of animal keeping, the youth have learned how to keep animals not only for household consumption but also for having manure and to generate money. With government promotion of land use

consolidation, youth from Tuzamurane, Twiyubake, Ubumwe, Twisungane, Urumuri, Ikizere, Zaneza, Indangamirwa, and Twitezimbere groups formed a cooperative of wheat growers and were supported with land and technical advice for growing wheat on two hectares of land. ZOE supported with wheat seeds, manures and technician demonstration fees. (Picture below of youth working one of the cooperative wheat farms.)



MARCH 2018: Hygiene and disease prevention. Before ZOE, these children suffered of many diseases due to poor hygiene. Hence, ZOE provided training on hygiene and disease prevention where they learned about keeping a clean body, clean clothes, clean house and surroundings, drinking clean and boiled water, using a toilet, sleeping under mosquito net, and on an above floor bed. They were also encouraged to not keep animals inside the house in which humans are living. ZOE helped groups construct toilets for households which lacked a facility. ZOE provided iron sheets, nails, and trees while the group members contributed by working - 196 new toilets were constructed. As result, frequency of illness caused by lack of hygiene decreased. ZOE believes these diseases will even be eradicated.

MARCH 2018: HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health. Through Health Centers Workers and ZOE collaboration, all heads of households were trained on reproductive health, how to prevent sexual transmitted diseases, and unwanted pregnancy. They have been trained also on how people contract HIV, its consequences, how to prevent HIV, and how to care for a person living with HIV. This training focused more on causes of contracting HIV and on youth behavior change towards HIV pandemic. Two directors of health centers facilitated the trainings and then offered voluntary HIV testing so the children could know their status. After training, groups created youth clubs to increase of awareness on topics of the HIV pandemic, avoiding early pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STD), and drug abuse.

MARCH 2018: Human trafficking and drug abuse. The training was conducted in collaboration with "human security and community policing" who are staff of local government. Youth learned about worldwide current issues including human trafficking and the high number of unemployed youth. Since youth unemployment and vulnerability are main causes of drug abuse and human trafficking among young populations, ZOE believes that involving and supporting young people in entrepreneurship and small business creation is one of the best practices in fighting these problems.

<u>MARCH 2018:</u> Training on child rights. This training was based on "International Convention on Child Rights." Group members learned about their rights and how to protect and claim their rights. The training was facilitated by the Executive Secretary (government leader) of the sector from ZOE's operating community.

ACTIVITIES IN AREAS OF ZOE EMPOWERMENT, July 2017-April 2018

Food Security: During the September-December farming season, all households in this class of groups planted vegetables, fruit trees, and cash crops such as bean, potato, sweet potato, cassava, wheat, or maize. Eight vegetable farming group projects have been created for selling and consuming with the family. During that season, they planted

and harvested carrots, beetroots, onions, celery, and green pepper. Also, nine groups have wheat growing projects. Even though there was a natural disaster of flooding, 100% of youth re-planted vegetable seeds after the disaster. The season was good. For example one group called "Indashyikirwa (see photo)" got a great harvest of vegetables. With harvesting season, they got enough food for their families and even got surplus for selling. Overall, about 27% of the families are now eating two balanced meals per day.



Unfortunately, during the planting period of February-April 2018, there has been another natural disaster and flooding and crops are not doing well. There is a risk of insufficient food for next harvesting season.

During past year, all families received either a goat, a pig, or a sheep each according to their choice. With their group merry-go-round funds, they were able to buy additional animals for breeding and selling: 150 goats, 130 rabbits, 110 hens, and 70 pigs.



Income Generating Activities: In terms of business projects, each head of household received grant to start an individual business. Thanks to the profit from their businesses, heads of households supported siblings to start new business, also some have created new businesses in addition to existing projects; many run more than one business.

The most successful projects were wheat growing and vegetable and fruit selling. This first serves as a cash crop business while the second one (vegetables and fruits selling) can be applied in every village through a program of the government which encourages each community to have farmers' market to facilitate to access food.

Businesses/Income activities created and				
still operating:				
Food Store	100			
Fruits and vegetables selling	201			
Livestock	344			
Animal trading (goats, rabbits,	56			
chickens, pigs)				
Barber shop project	6			
Canteen	27			
Boutique & retails	7			
Bicycle taxi (pictured right)	8			
Shopping bag making and selling	20			
Food crop growing and selling	112			
Sorghum juice selling	20			
Donuts selling	28			
Tea growing and selling	10			





During this period, 75 youth received vocational training and start-up kits for the following trades.

Barber shop	12
Tailoring	28
Shopping bag making	20
Shoes mender	1
Driving License	1
Welding	11
Carpentry	2

An additional 30 youth have ZOE support to attend three year high school vocational training. At graduation they will receive their start-up kits.

Thanks to their businesses, households started meeting daily needs such as food, clothing, school materials and uniforms for siblings; they also began hiring laborers to help with farming, house repairs, and toilet construction. Many youth were able to hire pieces of land for farming on which they planted food and cash crops such as cassava, beans, sweet potato, maize and vegetables. As result, these once vulnerable children no longer suffer from hunger, no longer need to beg or doing labor for food.

Skilled youth from third-year ZOE groups taught the first year participants how to make shopping bags. In turn, ten of those who learned the skill of weaving the bags taught their siblings. (Since plastic bags are prohibited in Rwanda, youth used this opportunity to start a project of making shopping bags so that community members will buy these bags to help them doing their shopping.)

During this reporting period, four groups created table banking projects. With this project, youth take loans to boost their businesses or create new ones for siblings.



Health and Hygiene: During the period of July 2017 to April 2018, there have been malaria incidences which caused frequent illness among families. With the assistance of ZOE, 293 families, including 916 children, received health insurance for one year. As result, the children can now access medical care earlier, when they first fall sick.

Community interaction and networking:

- Support from government agencies. For example, ZOE paid the cost for trainers and materials while district authorities provided the training facility as a government contribution. Also, local government authorities have provided land on which the groups planted vegetables farms.
- Youth from Tuzamurane group helped the group of Ubumwe group in terms of kitchen garden demonstration and making.
- Groups also supported the community during disaster period by helping with water channel cleaning and road repairs.
- Group members attended an exhibition with accountability during the Open Day of Government partners in community development. Youth presented their products such as their harvest of vegetables, banana, fruits, and handcraft products (baskets, bags).

Awards: With the 2017 evaluation of ZOE's Program in Ruhango District, Southern Province, ZOE received a certificate of merit as one of the top best practices in youth entrepreneurship and empowerment models.

Name List: Before an empowerment group name list is created, ZOE staff members take time to get to know the youth. They make home visits to record information about the children, their dependents, and caregivers. They assess if any emergency interventions are required to alleviate health issues, abusive conditions, or inadequate shelter. Once they have confirmed who is eligible for the ZOE program, and have allowed time for children who are not interested to drop out and others to join, then the staff creates the name list. Please note, children joining the ZOE program often have no parents or birth documentation, and have suffered multiple traumas in their young lives. Sometimes they are suspicious of the outsiders asking questions. For these reasons, the children occasionally provide erroneous information which we later correct.

On the following page is the list of names and a picture of your specific group. The names in bold are heads of household, followed by their siblings and dependents. Although ZOE records both first and second names, we use only first names in public lists to preserve the privacy of children in the program. The ages of the orphans and vulnerable children in the ZOE program range between infant and college age; however, the youth who is the head of household must be old enough to manage a small business and so is usually between 14 and 21 years old.

Some of the children live with an elderly grandparent or disabled caregiver. Most often such arrangements include shelter only and the caregiver is unable to provide food, education, health care or other support which children need. Child rights are especially important in such situations so that the children are not abused.

The children are encouraged and strengthened by the knowledge that their partner, a ZOE Angel Investor, is not only supporting them with resources, but also with prayer and in the belief that they are capable of great things. Thank you for making this journey of transformation with them.

Abakoranabushake Nyamagana Empowerment Group, Rwanda

33 households and a total of 112 children



Adeline (f) 19		Elizabeth (f) 19	Hassinah (f) 18	Josianne (f) 19
Beyonce (f) 7	Claudette (m) 19	Pacifique (m) 17	Hashula (m) 14	Charlotte (f) 16
Peace (f) 5	Joseph (m) 19		Nuliatha (f) 11	Emmanuel (m) 15
Annick (f) 5	Eric (m) 3	Emmanuel (m) 18	Jamila (f) 9	Florence (f) 13
Large (m) 2	Celestin (m) 6		Aime (m) 1	Beatrice (m) 12
	Ashili (m) 2	Francoise (f) 19		Mariam (f) 11
Alice (f) 18		Nsengimana (m) 17		Chadrack (m) 9
	Claudine (f) 19	Elina (f) 13	Irene (f) 19	Tresor (m) 3
Alphonsine (f) 19	Fidel (m) 17	Belda (f) 5	Goreth (f) 16	
Jean de Dieu (m) 17	Clarisse (f) 16	Belyse (f) 3	Alice (f) 15	Lauise (f) 18
Antoinette (f) 11	Dancille (f) 15		Florence (f) 14	Joiyeuse (f) 17
Sonia (f) 4	Jeanette (f) 11	Gerard (m) 19	Leandre (m) 12	Charlotte (f) 2
Chella (f) 1		Francois (m) 18	Damas (m) 9	
	Darius (m) 19	Giselle (f) 10	Rosine (f) 7	Nadia (f) 18
Amina (f) 17	Bruno (m) 19			Bienfait (m) 14
Eric (m) 14		Giribanga (m) 16	Janvier (m) 17	
	Elias (m) 18	Diane (f) 15	Alex (m) 15	Pascaline (f) 19
Azelle (f) 18	Aloys (m) 15	Barore (m) 12	Fabrice (m) 13	
Ezechias (m) 13	Rachel (f) 13	Anitha (f) 9	Vanessa (f) 8	Rene (m) 16
	Belyse (f) 5	Sarah (f) 3		Jamvier (m) 13
Belthe (f) 19	David (m) 3		Jeanette (f) 18	Alexis (m) 11
Vincent (m) 17		Halima (f) 19	Anitha (f) 1	
Christine (f) 13	Emerance (f) 19	Zula (f) 18		Samuel (m) 19
Liberee (f) 10	Roger (m) 17	Sifa (f) 17	Jean Claude (m) 18	
	Fiona (f) 15	Salma (f) 14		Sandrine (f) 20
Bernard (m) 18	Felicien (m) 9	Mariam (f) 9	Jeanne (f) 18	Nadia (f) 18
	Thierry (m) 7		Chantal (f) 15	Bienfait (m) 13
Bertra (m) 19	Alno (m) 1	Innocente (f) 19		Alpha (m) 6
Eric (m) 17		Robert (m) 2		Yvan (m) 2
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The following is an overview of how ZOE empowers orphans and vulnerable children to move beyond the need for charity by comprehensively addressing the multiple challenges faced by those in living in extreme poverty.

Group Formation

When ZOE first enters a community to help children, we begin by engaging the local leaders. Staff members explain how ZOE is an empowerment program, enabling children to move from crippling poverty and dependency to economic and social self-sufficiency. Although different from the usual relief approach, it resonates with leaders who want to see sustainable change in their village. Since staff are indigenous to each country in which ZOE operates they understand local customs, challenges, and resources available.

During the first meeting the youth elect leaders, make rules to guide their meetings, choose a group name, and decide when and where to hold weekly gatherings. The youth complete training on topics of food security, health and disease prevention, business management, and child rights within the first six months. If they have access to land they receive seeds to start gardens and plant crops. If siblings are not attending school, ZOE provides uniforms and other resources to get them back into classes. Children who have skills are provided grants so that they can start small businesses, others begin vocational training. Most importantly, all begin to experience God's love and they realize that though many are orphans, they have a Father in heaven who loves them.

The Dream

One of the first tasks new members complete is the creation of their "Dream" chart. Most orphans and vulnerable children entering the ZOE empowerment program face a daily struggle to survive; there is neither time to think about the future nor reason to hope for something better. But through ZOE and your partnership, the children learn to imagine a new life and prepare to make it a reality.

The ZOE program facilitator leads members through an exercise called the Dream process where they examine their current situation and then set their goals. After considering their family's hopes and needs, the youth who is considered the head of the household and is the primary member of their empowerment group creates a poster of responses to a standard set of questions.

This youth then presents the Dream to the rest of the group members who express support and give feedback, especially concerning the primary goal. These Dream documents help the program facilitators better understand the conditions of the children's lives so they can address specific needs or traumas suffered. The family keeps a copy of their Dream, often displaying it in their home to provide daily motivation as they strive to create their new life. As they progress through the empowerment program they will often update their Dream.



Connections

One of the biggest disadvantages orphans and vulnerable children face is isolation from peers and the larger community. Struggling on their own, the children lack moral support, access to community resources, and a network of people to help them progress and face challenges. ZOE creates connections.

<u>Peer group.</u> The youth served by ZOE have often dropped out of school and stopped attending church or community events. They do not even realize how many others share their plight, but at the first group meeting, when each new member tells their story, the bonding process begins. By working together on group projects and helping each other make improvements to their homes, friendships form and the group becomes an extended family committed to helping each other face challenges and achieve their dreams. New ZOE group members are also introduced to youth who have graduated from ZOE or been a member of another group for a couple years. These relationships provide advice based on experience, networking possibilities, and inspiration.

<u>Program facilitator and mentor.</u> ZOE program facilitators usually hold a diploma in social work or related fields and have experience working with children. They care deeply about the children and are available to provide counseling as needed, but they do not fill a role of guardian nor do they attend all the group meetings. This is important so that the youth develop their own problem solving abilities and can become fully self-reliant. Each group has a local mentor which they select to help represent and guide the group within their community. Mentors receive training from ZOE and then attend weekly meetings, make home visits, and help resolve challenges in the community.

<u>Community leaders and government officials</u>. This includes school administrators to help children return to classes; local leaders who can address cases of abuse and improperly seized property; government officials and specialists who can provide expert advice on business development, agriculture and higher education; and health service providers. In Rwanda, many government programs exist to promote better use of land for agricultural purposes, support entrepreneurship, and recognize innovation. ZOE staff works closely with the groups to increase awareness of these opportunities and make sure the youth know how to take advantage of them.

<u>And a powerful connection is you!</u> All ZOE groups know the opportunities they receive are from God, through the love and concern coming from their partners far away. They are amazed that you would care for them without ever having met them. This powerful connection is further strengthened if a partner can visit the country to witness what the youth have achieved.

Child Rights

A major focus of ZOE's empowerment program is teaching children about the rights their local government and international laws promise. Such training is often conducted by the local officials in charge of enforcing child rights so the children get to know those who are responsible for their protection. Additionally, ZOE's group-based model creates crowd support through which the youth can defend each other from all forms of abuse; physical, financial or emotional.

In the many communities where ZOE works, young girls are particularly vulnerable to abuse and often feel they are powerless to resist. Protecting the rights of girls includes educating the entire community about the dangers and harm inherent in all forms of mistreatment, especially child marriage, sex trafficking, and female genital mutilation. ZOE's emphasis on forming gender-mixed groups strengthens the support available to girls within their groups and creates leaders who will encourage fair and just treatment for all.

ZOE's goal is to ensure that all children are able to stand up for themselves and their rights in the community. Often children in the ZOE group learn these lessons so well that they not only defend their own rights, but also the rights of others who may be abused or neglected in their communities.

Food Security

Children entering the ZOE empowerment program struggle every day to alleviate their hunger. Usually they try to find work, but because they lack status or an adult advocate in their community, they are paid extremely low wages or small amounts of food. They might try growing their own food, but they do not have the resources or knowledge to succeed. It is not unusual for these children to go two or three days without eating. Occasionally they must resort to begging or even taking from a neighbor's field just to survive. Even those children who do manage to eat daily suffer health consequences from the poor nutritional quality of their meals.

With guidance from ZOE program facilitators, new groups learn what foods they need to eat as well as explore different ways to attain a stable food source. Because ZOE is an empowerment program, the children are not told what to do, but are instead given options and training so that they can devise their own approach to becoming food secure and self-sufficient.

Children in rural areas who can access land will learn about the best agricultural practices for their region and then be given the seeds, fertilizer, and tools to begin vegetable gardens and/or plant crops like corn. Other ZOE households might start with raising small animals, like rabbits or chickens, after learning about animal husbandry. All children are encouraged to begin earning money as soon as possible to increase their food security.

Income Generation

ZOE helps the children generate an income at both the group and household level. A group project might involve growing a cash crop, raising small livestock, or producing and selling a product like soap. These projects provide experience, foster group cohesion, and produce profits for the group's savings and loan fund. Individual households also start small income generating-activities like buying and reselling food items, phone calling cards, clothing, etc. Some youth who are already skilled immediately receive resources to begin businesses in trades like tailoring, auto mechanics, or hairstyling. ZOE urges youth to continue growing their wealth and financial security by completing vocational training, expanding their business into new markets, or starting multiple businesses.

Before distributing resources, ZOE trains all empowerment group members on how to craft a business plan and manage money. After this training, the group members take the following steps:

- Brainstorm what businesses could succeed in their community
- Create individual and group business plans and present these to the group for discussion
- Vote to approve the proposals or help the members create a better plan

Once the business plan is approved, the individual receives a micro-grant and/or a start-up kit. Throughout this process the ZOE program facilitator is available to provide guidance but does not tell the group what to do or make decisions for them. If a poor decision is made, the youth will learn from the experience, but still have the support of their group and ZOE to try again.

Merry-Go-Round Funds and Table Banking in Rwanda

In many African countries, informal cooperative societies exist that are used to pool and invest savings. Merry-goround funds are used by nearly all ZOE groups to promote savings and are established soon after income from individual or group projects becomes available. At each meeting, all group members contribute a small amount into a single pool of money which is then given in full to a different member each time. A variation of the merry-goround concept used most often in Rwanda involves saving the money until there is enough to make bulk purchases of small livestock, groceries, or housewares to be distributed to each member.

With table banking, all group members contribute the same amount then the money is immediately given out as short terms loans. Interest is paid up front and also made available for loans. By the end of the meeting all money is distributed. These short term loans are most commonly used to quickly expand businesses and the principal is returned by the next meeting. The fund grows fast, and dividends are paid to all members. In Rwanda, laws restrict the very poor from taking out loans to protect them from exploitation. As a result, families joining ZOE cannot participate in table banking until they have reached a level of success with their businesses and family assets. Once the children are doing well enough that they can join a table banking group, they often prefer to join one of the groups that already exist in their village instead of starting one within their empowerment group. They feel the village groups, made up of local business owners, are more stable. Joining one of the groups in their village also helps with their reintegration into the community. One of the goals of the ZOE program in Rwanda is for every family to join a community banking group by their third year.

Health and Disease Prevention

ZOE's goal is to address immediate health needs, teach the children how to live healthy lives, and connect them to medical resources. Preventative education includes:

- Basic hygiene practices such as hand washing, boiling water, and keep their home and surroundings clean
- Nutrition, especially important since the children have often had very limited diets
- Diseases transmission and treatment; especially for malaria and HIV/AIDS
- Dangers of substance abuse
- Specialized training for girls' personal health and safety

Many of the children have lost a parent to HIV infection and often the children too are suffering from the virus. Because of the associated stigma, they are usually reluctant to discuss their status and sometimes even avoid treatment. ZOE provides supportive opportunities for children to be tested, helps them access medications, and educates to counter the many misconceptions held in the community.

After youth achieve basic health and hygiene standards in their homes, ZOE provides the first distribution of items like mosquito nets, sleeping mats, blankets, and hygiene products. ZOE helps families enroll in health insurance plans and/or access medical care by providing assistance. For continued self-care, the youth learn to budget their own money for insurance, emergencies, and health related products.

Training also includes teaching the children about the importance of improving their physical appearance and keeping their home clean and attractive in order to increase their status in the community. When the children look "smart" their confidence increases, they feel better about themselves, and others in the community begin treating them with respect and acceptance. In the second and third years of the program it is possible to pick out the onceragged ZOE children because they are often the cleanest looking children in the village and carry themselves with pride and dignity.

Housing

Often, children entering ZOE are living in houses left by their deceased parents that are in disrepair. At other times the orphans and vulnerable children work in exchange for a room, this leaves them vulnerable to abuse and with little time for other activities or to earn money for food. ZOE does not provide housing for the children, but it does give the group funds which they can use to help out those members in greatest need by providing temporary rent assistance or materials to make emergency repairs. Individually, the youth save money to improve their housing and the group provides labor assistance as needed. In some areas ZOE is able to partner with local governments or

villages to find housing for these children or to supply land and other resources. ZOE's emphasis is on helping the children find appropriate housing while also teaching them how to save money to repair or purchase their own home. Sometimes this means they move in with another group member or find a reasonable renting situation while they save profits from businesses to buy land and build their own home.

Education

ZOE does not need to teach the children and young caregivers who join empowerment groups about the importance of education. These children desperately want to attend school. Prior to joining ZOE, many children participated in school, but were forced to drop out due to chronic illness, hunger, social ostracism, lack of clothing, and/or lack of money. Once in the program, the young heads of households (many of whom have been out of the educational system for too long to be reintegrated) are eager to see their younger siblings back in school as soon as possible.

So that children can quickly return to school, ZOE will meet with school administrators and assist with some of the expenses such as uniforms, fees, and materials. The group may also pay for some of these materials when there is a special need. As with all other aspects of the ZOE program, the emphasis is on empowering the children to pay for their own educational expenses. It is a great source of pride and self-esteem for the youth who are the heads of their households to be able to share how they are able to work to send their younger siblings to school. It is like hearing parents brag about the accomplishments of their children and it is very moving to see in a sibling.

Faith

Often the isolation that the children feel when they begin the ZOE program extends to their thoughts about God. Because they are abused and discriminated against by their community - and often this includes Christians in their village - they believe God has also abandoned or even cursed them. At other times they believe that maybe God does not exist, or if God does exist that they are somehow beyond God's love. In the very first meeting a ZOE staff member often shares the Lord's Prayer with the children, and talk about how they are not truly orphans because they have their heavenly Father who loves them.

Meetings begin with Scripture readings, prayer, and devotions led by a group member, but while this is available to the children they are never coerced into the Christian faith. ZOE's program is religiously non-restrictive, yet offers a compelling view of the love Christians show to others. One of the most powerful parts of the empowerment program is the way these children put their faith into action in their own community. They forgive those who have harmed them; feed others who are even poorer than themselves; adopt other children and share their resources and knowledge with them; pray and care for one another; and pay fair wages to those who had once taken advantage of their situation with hard labor and poor pay. These children return good for evil and can be examples to all of what it means to live as Christians.