

2025 Annual Report

Celebrating 30 Years of Ministry



SEEDS OF HOPE
helping orphans around the world

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MISSION STATEMENT

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry® exists to equip children and those in need, to love and serve Jesus Christ, while becoming healthy, educated, responsible members of society.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry® was incorporated in British Columbia in 1995 and is a registered charity with Revenue Canada under BN # 891228280 RR 0001.

In the USA, Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry USA® is incorporated in the State of Washington and is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization. (EIN# 61-1953620)

In Zambia, Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry Zambia was incorporated as a charitable organization in 2002 and Seeds of Hope Educational Centre as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 2010.

In Thailand, Seeds of Hope is registered as NuRain Foundation.

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry Tanzania registered in 2025 under the Non-Governmental Organizations Act 2002 – registration No. I-NGO/R/8561.

In Australia, Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee ACN 606 739 897.

Susan Chalkias | FOUNDER / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Rev. John Chalkias | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kerri Dibski, BSN - Director

Eldon Guenther – Treasurer

Kevin McAllan -Director

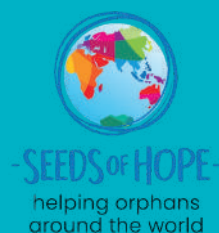
Brydan Patzer, LPN - Director

Deni Starbuck – Vice Chair, USA Representative

Tami Strople – Secretary (Ex-Officio)

Kim VanderHaak – Director, USA Representative (Term ended June 2025)

Elvira Warner BSN MEd- CHAIR



Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry

1995 – 2025

From John Chalkias, Executive Director



2025 was a year of celebration and reminiscing as we looked back on 30 years of ministry.

Recently, I found the journal I wrote during my very first trip to Thailand in 1997. As I read through it, my mind was flooded with memories of the people and children we met.

Their names were foreign to me—difficult to pronounce and even harder to remember—but their stories are etched in my mind and have forever changed my life.



It was on that trip that I first witnessed the suffering of children affected and infected by HIV/AIDS. It was the first time I experienced the death of children and helped organize funerals for them. Those experiences opened my eyes to a world of pain and hardship that I had never known before, and they profoundly shaped the course of my life and ministry.

It was also on that trip that I first visited Myanmar, where I witnessed the struggles of the impoverished and persecuted church. At the time, the city of Yangon was gripped by fear amid reports of conflict among the military generals. The pastor who picked us up at the airport told us that they had been awakened that morning by the sound of tanks rolling down the streets. Barbed wire barricades lined the roads, and we watched as truckloads of soldiers passed by with bayonets already fixed to their rifles.

Despite the uncertainty around them, we spent a week ministering alongside a local church. Every evening, believers gathered to worship, pray, and encourage one another. What I remember most was their sense of urgency to share the Gospel regardless of the volatility of their circumstances.

As we were preparing to leave, a young man from the church came to say goodbye.

**His final words to us were,
"When you get back to America,
don't forget about us."**

I don't remember his name, but I will never forget what he said.

Since that time, I have dedicated my life to serving the Lord through Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry. I am deeply honored to be part of a compassionate and dedicated team committed to serving children affected and infected by HIV/AIDS, as well as the communities in which they live. You are an essential part of this ministry. Through your prayers, generosity, and faithful support, we are able to continue this life-changing work.

As followers of Christ, we are called to be advocates for those who cannot speak for themselves. At Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry, we serve on the frontlines in the fight against HIV/AIDS and extreme poverty. Over the years, our ministry has expanded to support children devastated by conflict in Myanmar, children vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking in Thailand, and girls in Tanzania who have been affected or infected by HIV/AIDS.

Our largest ministry project is Grace Academy in Zambia, located on 72 acres just outside the city of Ndola. There, we have built a thriving village community that includes a working farm, a kindergarten-to-grade-12 school, a church, and loving family homes where more than 200 children are cared for, nurtured, and given hope for the future.



Over the past three decades, we have had the privilege of raising many children from infancy through high school and university graduation. Today, our graduates include three doctors, one in 4th year medical school, an engineer, two in law school, numerous nurses, teachers, skilled tradespeople, and other professionals.

Our goal has always been to provide a family environment where children experience love, security, and the eternal hope found through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Some of these children are now married and raising families of their own. Through the education, care, and opportunities provided by Seeds of Hope, they have transformed not only their own lives but also the future of generations to come—breaking the cycle of extreme poverty and creating lasting change within their communities.

In addition to our ongoing programs, Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry has provided emergency relief and humanitarian assistance in numerous countries over the years, including Cambodia, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jordan, Mexico, Thailand, and Zambia.

As we celebrate 30 years of ministry, we are reminded that every child has a story, every life has value, and every act of compassion can have an eternal impact. We are profoundly grateful for the many faithful supporters, sponsors, volunteers, and prayer partners who have walked alongside us throughout this journey. Together, we have witnessed God's faithfulness transforming lives, families, and communities around the world.

While much has changed over the past three decades, our mission remains the same: to share the love of Christ by caring for vulnerable children, strengthening communities, and offering hope for a brighter future. We look forward to all that God has in store in the years ahead.

**“...every child has a story,
every life has value,
and every act of compassion
can have an eternal impact.”**

With deep gratitude,



Executive Director
Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry
“Sowing life, love and laughter”



Our Purpose

- To save the lives of children by providing medical care, nutritious food, and loving homes.
- To raise children who are productive, compassionate, and God-honoring individuals who contribute positively to their communities.
- To teach strong family values and moral principles that help prevent future cycles of HIV/AIDS and social vulnerability.
- To provide a high-quality education that enables each child to reach their God-given potential.
- To equip children with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to break the cycle of poverty and dependence, moving toward lives of self-sufficiency and purpose.
- To bless the communities where we serve by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, assisting the poor and vulnerable, and creating sustainable programs that bring lasting hope to children and their families.

As we celebrate 30 years of ministry, we thank God for His faithfulness and for each person who has partnered with us along the way. Together, we have witnessed lives transformed, futures restored, and communities strengthened through the love of Christ.

Thank you for standing with us. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity continue to make this ministry possible. Inside these pages you will find some of the highlights of the year and our audited financial statements.



Shepherd Katongo
4th Year Medical Student

2025 In Review

This year marked a significant milestone for our ministry as we celebrated 30 years of God's faithfulness and provision.

As we reflect on 2025, our hearts are filled with gratitude and celebration. What began three decades ago with the simple act of baking apple pies to help establish the first home for HIV/AIDS orphans in Thailand has grown into what we affectionately call "An Amazing Place Called Grace" in Zambia. Through every challenge, opportunity, and step of faith, God has faithfully guided and sustained this ministry.

The highlight of our anniversary year was our annual banquet, which brought together an overflowing crowd of supporters, friends, and ministry partners to celebrate this remarkable journey. We were honored to welcome many of our former directors, creating a joyful reunion of people who had served side by side throughout the years. Builders, medical, nursing, and dental teams; teachers and educators; musicians, artists, and performers; cooks, administrators, child-development specialists, social workers, and countless volunteers who simply stepped in wherever help was needed—all came together to celebrate the ministry they helped

build. Many sponsors who have faithfully supported us from the very beginning joined friends we have met along the way for an evening filled with memories, stories, and thanksgiving for all the Lord has accomplished. The banquet hall was lined with photographs spanning three decades, capturing the teams, events, and lives that have been touched through this ministry.

Eddie Vumbi

Each image told a story of faith, compassion, and transformed lives.

One of the most memorable moments of the evening was hearing from our guest speaker, Eddie Vumbi. Eddie first came into our care as an infant. He attended Grace Academy, continued his education, and eventually graduated from law school. He is now working on his Masters Degree before writing the bar exams.

Eddie shared his deeply personal journey of growing up at Buseko Home and Grace Academy. He spoke candidly about the early years before life-saving medications were available, recalling the pain of watching some of his friends pass away and wondering if he might be next—thoughts no child should ever have to face. His testimony was both moving and inspiring as he reflected on the hope, care, and opportunities he received through the ministry.

As he concluded, Eddie spoke about the profound impact of child sponsorship on his life. His final words brought many in the room to tears:

"If you have ever wondered whether child sponsorship makes a difference, look at me—I am your answer."

It was a powerful reminder that behind every act of generosity is a life being changed, a future being shaped, and a story of hope being written. As we celebrate 30 years of ministry, we give thanks to God and to each person who has partnered with us along the way.

Together, we have witnessed lives transformed and communities strengthened, and we look forward with anticipation to all that God will continue to do in the years ahead.

Go to <https://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/child-sponsorship/> or scan the QR code to sponsor a child today







Toy Town

Grace Academy, Zambia



Toytown A Place Where Imagination Comes to Life

Grace Academy in Zambia continued to grow in 2025 with the completion of Toytown, a project designed especially for our younger children.

At Grace Academy, we believe in the power of play. Laughter, joy, and imaginative adventures are more than just fun—they are essential to a child's development. Through play, children grow physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. It sparks creativity, strengthens coordination, supports cognitive development, and teaches valuable life skills such as cooperation, communication, and teamwork.

While our older children and teens enjoy a well-equipped Youth Center, we recognized the need for a dedicated space where children aged 5 to 12 could learn, explore, and simply be children. In 2024, we launched the Toytown project with a vision of creating four simple playrooms. As the dream grew, so did the project.

What emerged is a charming miniature town where imagination can flourish and children can experience the joy of creative play in a safe and nurturing environment. Toytown has become a wonderful addition to our playground and a place where **young minds can dream, explore, and create.**

The town features a variety of themed spaces, including an old-fashioned fire hall, gas station, and general store. Inside, children can enjoy specialized play areas such as a Lego room, toy kitchen, and car play zone, each designed to encourage hands-on learning and imaginative exploration.

Built with love, generosity, and countless prayers, **Toytown is much more than a collection of playrooms. It is a place of healing, joy, and belonging for children who have experienced deep loss and hardship.** Here, they are free to laugh, imagine, build friendships, and create happy childhood memories.

As we watch the children play, we are reminded that sometimes the most important work of childhood is simply having the freedom to be a child. Toytown provides that opportunity, and we are grateful for all those who helped make this dream a reality.

Empowerment

At Seeds of Hope, we believe in empowering nationals. In 2025, we employed 118 Zambian staff across our ministries, including caregivers, kitchen staff, administration, maintenance and security personnel, construction workers, and farm workers.

Our desire to continually improve extends beyond childcare to the way we care for our facilities and invest in our staff. In 2025, our two Managing Directors and school principal attended Kurumbuka ("to multiply") Leadership Solutions in Rwanda, a leadership development program for Africans by Africans. Following this, our two Managing Directors traveled to Thailand for a leadership training workshop with the Seeds of Hope founders and the Thailand Managing Director. Since returning, our leaders have been holding regular workshops for staff, focusing on stewardship, accountability, transformation, and taking ownership. We are continually striving to grow and improve—in how we care for children, support our staff, educate our students, and serve our communities. A heartfelt thank you to all who made these training opportunities possible.



Nicholas
Managers, Zambia,

Prudence

Aom
Manager, Thailand

Susan
Founder

John
Executive Director

StudyForge

Another exciting initiative launched in 2025 was our online learning program. Through a partnership with StudyForge, we introduced a curriculum designed to complement and strengthen the Zambian curriculum.

StudyForge courses feature interactive video lessons, engaging exercises, and thoughtfully designed quizzes that encourage critical thinking rather than simple memorization. The self-paced structure allows each student to learn at a speed that matches their individual abilities and learning style.

Beyond academic enrichment, the program offers many additional benefits. As students engage with the platform, they naturally develop typing skills and gain confidence using technology. The interactive nature of the courses also helps improve spoken English, expand vocabulary, and strengthen grammar. As a result, our children are becoming increasingly proficient in computer skills—an advantage that will serve them well in higher education and provide valuable opportunities in the job market after graduation.

Grace Academy, Zambia



Grace Academy continued to flourish in 2025. Our graduating class had a 95% pass rate. 19 candidates sat for the exams. 18 out of 19 got full grade 12 certificates. Grace Academy was rated number 8 in the district; hence, we are among the top 10 best-performing schools. Grace Academy was leading in terms of the quality of results because almost all of the 18 students who received certificates were selected to attend universities.





Farming Operations at Grace Academy

Our laying hens produce approximately 1,000 eggs each day, providing for our children while also generating income through the sale of any surplus. In addition, we have four broiler barns, a piggery, seven greenhouses, and open-field crops that help provide food for all our children and staff seven days a week. The only food items we regularly purchase are flour, sugar, cooking oil, and condiments.

In 2025, we expanded our orchard by planting orange, lemon, and avocado trees alongside our existing banana and papaya trees.

The farm is a tremendous blessing. It not only provides nutritious food and income for the ministry, but also creates employment for 15 people in the local community.



Rays of Hope, Thailand

Our prayer has always been, “Lord, we want to help more children.” In Thailand, 2025 marked the completion of our third children's home, with our fourth home scheduled for completion in early 2026.

Our homes in Thailand provide a safe refuge for children rescued from human trafficking and sexual abuse. Many believe that children who have experienced such profound trauma will never fully recover—but we have witnessed God doing the impossible.

Recently, social welfare workers who were involved in the initial intake of several of our children came to visit. As they toured the homes, listened to the children's laughter on the playground, and saw the loving care they now receive, they were amazed by the transformation. They remarked that they were shocked to see children who were well-behaved, emotionally stable, and truly thriving.

We can only attribute this transformation to the dedicated care of our staff, who continually affirm each child's worth and God's love for them. We intentionally invest in their faith, character, physical health, and emotional well-being through music, activities, sports, chapel services, mentoring, and a secure family environment that gives them a sense of belonging.

Because of the severe trauma many of our children have endured, each home requires not only loving caregivers but also a psychologist, nurse, and social workers. We also send the children to a private Christian school, where they are nurtured in their faith, reminded of God's forgiveness, and encouraged to rely on the Lord for healing, hope, and a brighter future.

On the other side of our property, we care for women we often refer to as “adult orphans”—women who have been rejected by their communities because of their HIV status, mental health challenges, or difficult life circumstances. Here they find love, acceptance, dignity, and safety. Most importantly, they hear the Gospel and come to know that they are deeply loved by God.

In 2025, we cared for 18 children and 9 women in Thailand.



Precious Gems, Myanmar

In Myanmar, conditions continue to be extremely challenging due to the ongoing civil war, political instability, government surveillance, rampant inflation, and mandatory military conscription for those over 18 years of age.

At present, we have 30 children residing in our home and attending school. Five of our older children are currently in hiding to avoid military conscription. Another two have been conscripted into the Myanmar military, while two others have been forced to join rebel forces. Young people we raised and hoped would pursue college educations and bright futures are now facing life-threatening situations beyond their control.

Communication and the transfer of funds continue to be difficult, as the government closely monitors foreign assistance and communications. Despite these challenges, all of our children remain safe. We are still able to access medication for those living with HIV, and for that we are deeply grateful. We are especially thankful for the ongoing support of our child sponsors and donors, who continue to stand with us despite the limited updates we are able to provide. Their faithful partnership makes it possible for us to continue caring for these vulnerable children during an incredibly difficult time.



Upendo Home, Tanzania

In Tanzania, we were officially registered and incorporated as a nonprofit organization, and the property title was successfully transferred into the name of Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry Tanzania. We were also able to completely renovate all the buildings, including the construction of a new cafeteria for the children.

According to recent statistics, HIV is on the rise in Tanzania, leaving many children orphaned and vulnerable. Our new home, named Upendo (meaning House of Love), was established to care for girls who have been affected by or infected with HIV. As of this writing, three children are residing at Upendo.

We also support 15 young people in their post-secondary education. These students came under our care when GAIN Canada graciously gifted us the property and entrusted us with continuing to support their educational journey.

We are excited to see this ministry take root and look forward to the many lives that will be transformed through the love, care, and opportunities provided at Upendo —creating a lasting legacy of hope for some of Tanzania's most vulnerable girls.



2025 At A Glance

Children In Our Care	Male	Female	total
SEEDS OF HOPE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ZAMBIA			
· Buseko Baby House	9	11	20
· Grace Academy Children's Homes	71	62	133
· Grace Academy Graduates in Our Care	34	19	53
· Children In Our Deaf Ministry Program	15	0	15
· Community Kids Attending Grace Academy	45	60	105
· The Nephews Program	5	0	5
Rays of Hope Thailand	8	10	18
Precious Gems Children's Home Myanmar	15	15	30
Upendo Children's Home Tanzania	0	3	3
· Upendo Graduates In Our Care		15	15
Total Children In Our Care	202	195	397

Seeds of Hope Overseas Staff	Male	Female	total
SEEDS OF HOPE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ZAMBIA	34	84	118
Rays of Hope Thailand	3	7	10
Precious Gems Children's Home Myanmar	1	3	4
Upendo Children's Home	2	5	7
Total Staff	40	99	139

Looking Ahead To 2026

There are many exciting things planned for 2026, beginning with several mission teams.

Our Farming Committee, which advises us on agricultural best practices, is organizing a team to travel to Zambia in January to help improve the efficiency and sustainability of our farming operations.

Our Medical Committee, made up of doctors and nurses who advise us on the care and treatment of our children, is planning a trip to Zambia in April. During their visit, they will meet with our children and staff, conduct medical clinics for our medically fragile children, and provide training workshops for our caregivers.

We are also looking forward to the completion of our fourth house in Thailand, which will allow us to welcome more children into our care.

In Tanzania, we are excited to see the ministry become fully operational.

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn how you can make a difference today.

<https://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/>



Beyond Graduation: Building Independent Futures

One of the questions we are asked most often is, “What happens when the children in your care grow up?”

At Seeds of Hope, our commitment to a child does not end at high school graduation. Through our Graduates Program, we continue to support young adults as they prepare for independent living, meaningful employment, and a hopeful future.

After completing secondary school, graduates enter a one-year Transition Program, funded through child sponsorship. During this year, students spend time at the Transition House, where they learn practical life skills such as budgeting, cooking, household management, and personal responsibility. They also complete discipleship training through Foundation for Cross-Cultural Education (FCE), volunteer with local charities, and return to the Transition House to put their learning into practice. While the order may vary depending on program availability, the goal is the same: helping each young person grow in character, confidence, and independence.

For graduates pursuing further education, post-secondary studies are funded through our Education Sponsorship Program.

Students receive guidance in choosing programs that align with their abilities and interests. Some pursue careers in healthcare, business administration, hospitality, teaching, or skilled trades. For those who are less academically inclined, support may include vocational training or assistance in starting a small business.

Dr. Agness Kotati

This investment is critical. Most of our young people do not have parents to guide them, financial resources to rely on, or access to student loans. By providing education and ongoing mentorship, we help break the cycle of poverty and create opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach.

After completing their studies, graduates continue to receive living support through child sponsorship as they transition into the workforce. Once they have secured steady employment, they are asked to repay 50% of their educational costs. This not only encourages personal investment in their future but also helps make educational opportunities available for the next generation of graduates.

This model has been highly successful for our Grace Academy graduates in Zambia. We are working toward implementing similar programs for children in our care in Thailand and at Upendo Home in Tanzania. In Myanmar, where ongoing political instability presents unique challenges, we continue to support post-secondary education whenever possible.

Thanks to your faithful support, our children do not simply age out of care—they graduate into adulthood with the skills, education, and encouragement needed to build independent and productive lives.

Scan the QR code or go to <https://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/education-sponsorship/> to learn more about our education sponsorship program



Corporate Partners: Transforming Futures Through Opportunity

At Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to grow up safe, healthy, educated, and loved. Many of the children we serve have experienced poverty, abandonment, illness, malnutrition, trafficking, or the loss of parents. Through the support of generous donors and corporate partners, these children are receiving the care and opportunities they need to build brighter futures.

Today, Seeds of Hope impacts the lives of nearly 400 vulnerable children by providing education, food, housing, medical care, and emotional support. Our goal is not only to meet immediate needs but to raise future leaders through education and opportunity while creating lasting hope for children and their communities.

Corporate partnerships are essential to this mission. While child sponsorship provides the foundation for our work, many critical expenses are not fully covered. Corporate support helps fund teachers, transportation, facility maintenance, medical care, counselling services, mentoring programs, and staff development—ensuring children receive the comprehensive support they need to thrive.

The impact is seen every day in classrooms filled with learning, children receiving life-saving care, and young people overcoming trauma and discovering their potential. Since 2005, Seeds of Hope has provided antiretroviral therapy for every HIV-positive child in our care, reflecting our commitment to long-term health and well-being.

Corporate partners can give with confidence. Seeds of Hope receives no government funding, is a certified member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities, and directs 93% of donations to programs that benefit vulnerable children through food, education, housing, care, and support services.

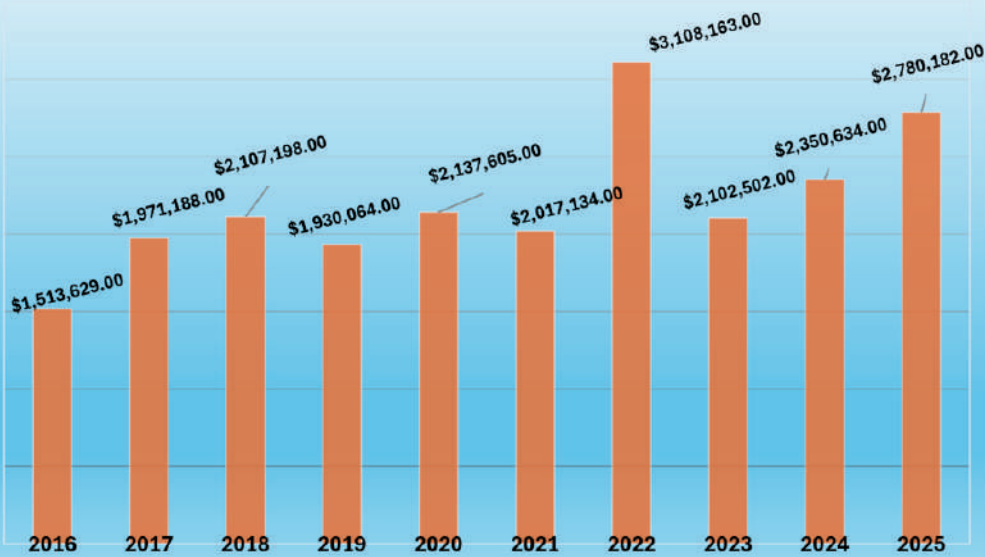
Corporate sponsorship is more than a charitable contribution—it is an investment in transformed lives. Together, we are helping children move from vulnerability to opportunity and from uncertainty to hope. We are deeply grateful for the businesses that stand alongside us in this mission, helping create lasting change for children, families, and communities around the world.

Together, we are building brighter futures—one child at a time

Scan the QR code or go to
<https://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/corporate-sponsorship-program>
to learn more about our corporate sponsorship program



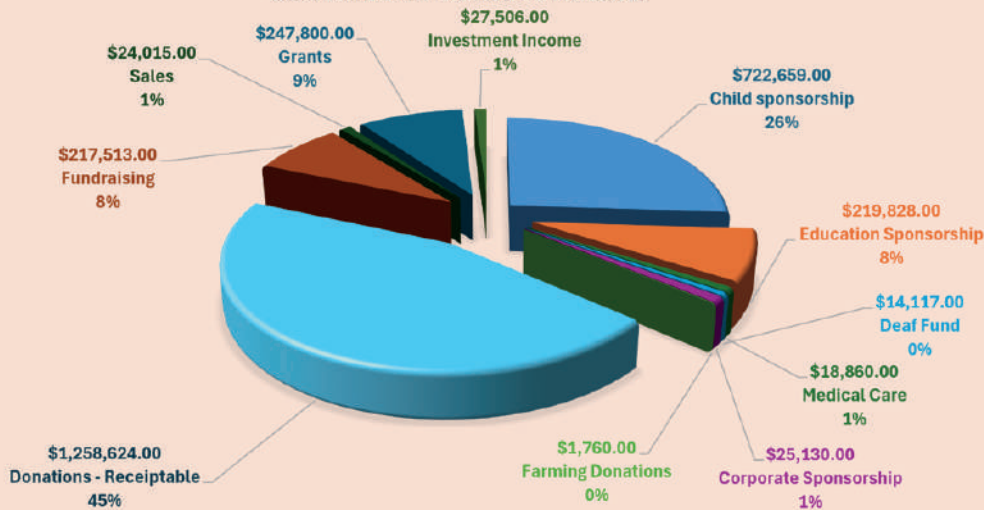
Ten Years of Growth



Please scan the QR code or go to <https://seedsofhopecm.com/annual-reports/> to view our full financial audit.



SOURCES OF INCOME IN 2025

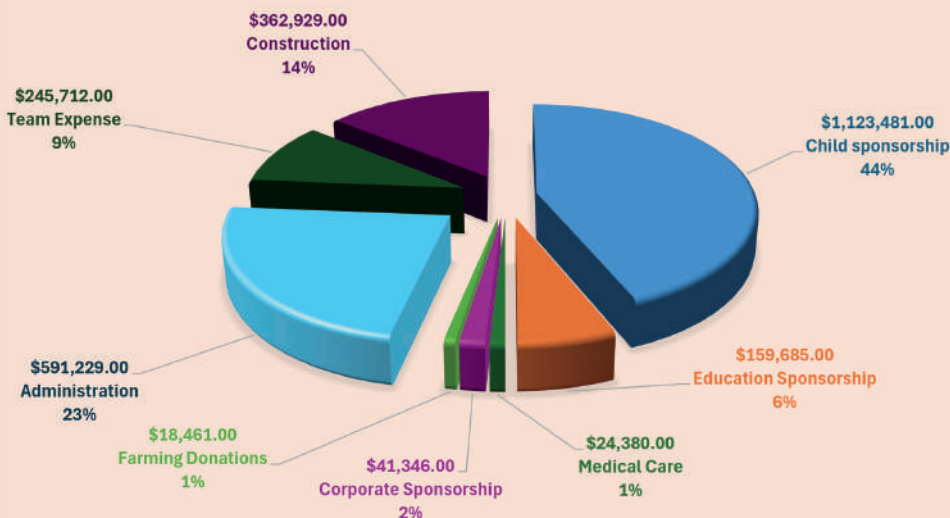


Canadian Centre for
Christian Charities

ACCREDITED MEMBER

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is a certified member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities and abides by all its strict ethical and financial standards, including annual audits by an independent accounting firm. Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by the organization. Each restricted contribution is designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the organization, the remaining restricted contributions will be used where needed most.

HOW WE SPENT OUR FUNDS IN 2025



*Note: we apply a 7% administrative fee to all designated funds. The remaining administrative costs are fundraised to keep fees low, ensuring that 93% of funds are used as designated

Grace Academy Ndola, Zambia 2025



SEEDS of HOPE
helping orphans around the world

