2021 / VOL.1



**2nd Mile Missions** Disrupting the cycle of poverty in the Dominican Republic



#### FIRST ANNUAL 2ND MILE MISSIONS IMPACT REPORT



### A Letter from our Executive Director

Written by Mason McIntyre, Executive Director

As I look back on 2021, and the many changes and challenges we faced, I thank God for his continued provisions. We were able to educate nearly 800 children between our two schools, equip 13 young girls at the House of Hope, and empower 20 women with dignified employment through our Vida Plena ministry arm. We also had the opportunity to hire 25 new staff members at Hope Academy and provide employment to nearly 70 men through the construction of our new campus in the middle of a pandemic when most people were out of work.

Though the numbers are important and impactful, each representing an opportunity to disrupt the cycle of poverty, none of it would be possible without the generosity of our 2nd Mile Missions community of supporters. Your generosity spans over three ministry arms - House of Hope, Vida Plena, and our Education Centers. From training programs, professional workshops to counseling sessions, you allow us to faithfully carry out our mission to the homes of so many. Thank you for partnering with 2nd Mile Missions.

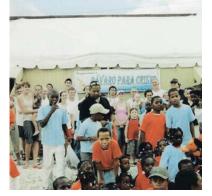
As the new Executive Director of 2nd Mile Missions, I am looking forward to building upon the incredible work of our founders, Rod and Nancy Wildman, who have entrusted me with the day-to-day operations of the organization. As we grow and acclimate to an ever-changing world, we will continue to strive toward organizational sustainability and work to ensure each decision the organization makes aligns with our core values and represents the stakeholders of 2nd Mile Missions in a Christ-like way.

Pema Chodron said, "Compassion is not a relationship between the healer and the wounded. It's a covenant between equals." This is the type of compassion that we seek. As 2nd Mile Missions continues to grow and impact others for Christ, we will not look at ourselves as the healer, but rather as equals to those we serve. It is only then that we will see significant change among the marginalized living in the communities of Monte Verde and El Hoyo and we can begin to disrupt the cycle of poverty, **together**.









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# Year by Numbers

Check out some fast facts and numbers about 2021

### **OPERATIONS**









#### **FINANCES**



FAMILY SPONSORSHIPS



CREATED CAMPAIGNS



#### **EDUCATION**



SPONSORED STUDENTS AT 2ND MILE EDU CENTER



2ND MILE EDU CENTER



SPONSORED STUDENTS AT HOPE ACADEMY



TOTAL STUDENTS AT HOPE ACADEMY



SPONSORS

### **HOUSE OF HOPE**



TEACHERS & ASSISTANTS AT HOPE ACADEMY



ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT STAFF AT HA



HOUSE TIAS (MOMS)







#### HOUSE OF HOPE SPONSORS

#### **VIDA PLENA**









WORKSHOPS PRESENTED

### A Celebration of Radical Faith & Full Life

Celebrating 15 years of Vision and Passion

# 2005





In 2006, the Wildman family visited the Dominican Republic to celebrate the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Rex and Lorabel Wildman. Rex and Lorabel embodied enduring love, fierce loyalty, a sense of adventure, and a heart to care for the poor. And they taught their children the same.

Two family members on that vacation, our Founders Rod and Nancy Wildman, were deeply impacted by what they experienced while on a side trip to a disadvantaged community in Friusa outside the luxurious Punta Cana hotel sector. God's Holy Spirit grabbed their hearts and they committed that very day to serve these communities trapped in a generational cycle of poverty.

From that simple but profound commitment, God has blessed 2nd Mile Missions and everything that has overflowed from that initial vision and passion including 2nd Mile Education Center, House of Hope, Vida Plena, and Hope Academy for Christ school.

TOGETHER we give God all the glory for His goodness, His provision, and His grace over this ministry and say a heartfelt thanks to Rex, Lorabel, Rod, and Nancy for their leadership, persistence, and contagious faith that God will provide.



#### **OUR MISSION**

#### Spread the love of Christ by disrupting the cycle of poverty in impoverished communities.

We do this by providing children and adults with educational resources, spiritual enrichment, and employment and business opportunities. We will also spread our passion by inviting others to observe and participate in this healing process first hand.

#### OUR VISION

Everyone we serve leads a productive, healthy, self-sustaining, independent life – and, most importantly, develops a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Through this impact we hope to perpetuate a culture of love and care in the areas we serve, in which community members take care of their fellow citizens out of love, and the effects of poverty no longer exist.

#### OUR CORE VALUES

Christ-Centered Action Impact Understanding Empowerment Connection Responsiveness

### A New Chapter for Our Ministry

2Million

#### Written by Rod Wildman, Co-Founder

Almost 15 years ago Nancy and I followed a calling to start a small school in a Haitian village in the Dominican Republic, never expecting what God would do in the years to follow. The vision of just educating a few kids far exceeded our expectations and through the years many people have joined the team to help increase the impact God has provided. Today, 2nd Mile Missions has three ministry arms: Education, House of Hope and Vida Plena and there are even more hopes and dreams for the future as 2nd Mile Missions continues to follow God's leading.

As we pursue the next chapter for 2nd Mile Missions, Nancy and I have felt it is God's timing to take a step back from the daily responsibilities of the ministry. We have been praying for some time for the right person to provide leadership and direction while having a heart for the people and work in the DR. We are extremely excited to announce Mason McIntyre as the Executive Director of 2nd Mile Missions. Since June, Mason has led the overall ministry's vision and mission in the US and in the DR. Mason previously served as the Chairman of 2nd Mile Missions' Board. For more than 8 years he has been a volunteer and supporter of 2nd Mile Missions, traveling to the DR several times to partner with us in serving our communities.

Nancy and I have full confidence in Mason's leadership ability, his passion for the ministry and his huge heart for God. We have known him for many years and have admired his servant leadership and compassion for people. Nancy and I will continue to be involved in 2nd Mile Missions as Founders and encouragers of an amazing staff both here in the US and in the DR for as long as God leads.

We cannot thank you, our supporters, enough for your prayers, financial investments and encouragement for the past 15 years. We hope you have witnessed God working in mighty ways as we have both in the US and in the DR. His miracles have been extravagant, and we pray HIS work will continue to change lives for many more years to come.





#### **U.S. BASED STAFF**



**ROD WILDMAN** 

Co-Founder



NANCY WILDMAN

Co-Founder





MASON MCINTYRESUE VERCAUTERENExecutive DirectorDirector of Operations

E

LISA HARSTINE

Director of Sponsorship



SARA GUILLARD Sales & Marketing Assistant of Vida Plena

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC BASED STAFF As of December 2021



**JOSH PORTER** Director of Vida Plena



KARLY PRICHARD Sponsorship & Comm. Coordinator



EDUARDO CASTILLO Country Director



**ODELICE RAMIREZ** Director of Hope Academy



ROSANGELA MONTILLA Psychologist



ONAXSYLYS SIAM Accounting/Operations Manager



JEANINA MORALES Accounting Assistant

R

**ORLINA BURNETT** Social Worker



**ROBY CASTRO BERNABE** Reception



**GENESIS MATEUS** Assistant at Hope Academy



ROBIN EMIL (KARLIN VILLARSON) Maintenance



**DJENOL FILIS** Security



ALTAGRACIA SANTANA DERAS Office Custodian



LUANNY MONTERO SEDULVEDA School Custodian



ANGELA MUÑEZ REYES School Custodian

### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC BASED STAFF



**YOCASTA LUIS** Education Coordinator



CLAUDIA JIMENEZ Curriculum Coordinator/ Pre-Kinder Teacher



SABRINA LAYOS Pre-First Teacher



**SUZANA FIR** 1st Grade Teacher



**CARMEN DIMAREN** 2nd Grade Teacher



**YORDANA RIVAS** *3rd Grade Teacher* 



**RUTH MUSTAFA** 4th Grade Teacher



YASMIL STACEY SANTANA RAMOS Pre-Kinder Teacher



ANGELA M. HENRIQUEZ GARCIA Kinder Teacher



**ONY CARRASCO** Pre-Primario Teacher



MARITZA NARVAEZ 1st Grade Teacher



ANA BEATRIZ MIRANDA 1st Grade Teacher



**IVONNE HIDALGO** 2nd Grade Teacher



XIOMARA MANAURE 3rd Grade Teacher



RONALD LEMBERT 4th Grade Teacher/ English Professor



MARTHA TRINIDAD Arts Teacher



**PEDRO PEREZ** Sports Teacher



YANIBEL JEAN Teachers Assistant



**TERESA SUAREZ** Special Education Teacher



ALBERTO VARGAS Operations Director of Vida Plena

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

JEREMY RIFFLE Chairman

ROD WILDMAN Member AUDREY RUSSELL Vice Chairman

STEVE SAVAGE

Member

JIM HALLER Treasurer

KELSEY BREEDEN Member JORDAN ICKLES Secretary

JERRY YEAGER Member A Loyal Leader for the Next Generation

2NDMILE

#### Written by Karly Prichard, Supporter of 2nd Mile Missions

2NDMILE

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

If you have visited our campuses in the Dominican Republic you know Cale. He began his academic career at 2nd Mile Education Center in 2010 and has been a part of our family since. Over the past 11 years we have watched him grow and develop into a kind, compassionate, and selfless man. We are proud of the leader he has become for this family and for his community. We are thankful for his loyalty to our vision and his desire to use his abilities, education, and story to help others.

Cale has been loyal to 2nd Mile Missions and has an extensive history with us as a student at 2nd Mile Education Center, a teacher's Assistant at 2nd Mile Education Center, a PE Teacher and Security Guard in the Monte Verde school, and Maintenance at Hope Academy. This fall we proudly added another title to his role at 2nd Mile Missions as the Sponsorship Coordinator. We quickly discovered he was in his element and living out his gifting.

His sister, Yuleisy (10), is now studying at Hope Academy (starting at almost the same age as Cale did 11 years ago). He hopes that she will finish all of her studies so that she can have a professional career, have her own family, and, most importantly, be very happy. (Pictured right)

When we asked Cale about his hope for his community, he shared the following: "There is a famous phrase from Lao Tzu that I love very much, which says the following, 'If you give fish to a hungry man, you feed him for a day. If you teach him to fish, you will nurture him for life." He continued with, "My hope for Monte Verde is that the community has the necessary tools to build a better future for themselves and their children, to change the mentality of poverty that has been instilled in [the community] and that they also have to aspire to learn to fish, not just to receive fish."



"I want to feel like a fulfilled person who has achieved all his dreams. I don't want to be rich, I just want to have economic stability that I can provide for my family, obtain my university degree, and travel to discover new cultures." CALE VILLARSON **HOPE ACADEMY** 

### EXTENDING OUR IMPACT

Written by Odelice Ramirez, Director of Hope Academy

We thank God for the opportunity he is giving us to serve his Kingdom through the vision of 2nd Mile Missions: to partner with families to transform the lives of our students by providing an excellent Christ-centered academic education. Like the 2nd Mile Education Center, our legacy campus, Hope Academy consists of two half-day schools. Our morning classes are bilingual (English and Spanish) and the afternoon classes are taught solely in Spanish.

Hope Academy opened its doors to the Friusa community on September 7th. We were hoping to have at least 70 students registered for the entire school year, however our expectations were far exceeded. The enrollment for the morning classes is 41 students and the afternoon has reached the maximum capacity of 150 students. We have been surprised by the welcome and support we've received from the community. The school day begins each morning with a prayer and recitation of the weekly Bible verse. Then, the students are off to their classrooms and their lessons are taught from a faith-based curriculum. *Our focus is to be a Christ-centered school, not just a Christian school.* 

Our teachers at Hope Academy were recently asked three questions: 1) Do your students know you care about them? 2) Do your students know you love them? and 3) Do your students know that God loves them?

All of the teachers emphatically answered 'YES' to all three questions! When considering the living conditions where many of the students come from, that is the most important thing for students to know.

At Hope Academy, we believe that all children are welcome, regardless of their ability or disability. We offer a special needs classroom, serving students with a wide range of disabilities, one of the very few in the country. Dylan, a 1st grader, is a perfect example. Because he is confined to a wheelchair, many other schools would not accept him. At Hope Academy he has been welcomed with open arms. (Pictured above)

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### Teachers who go the Second Mile

Their willingness to go the extra mile, their commitment to discipline and excellence and their continuous exercise of compassion and respect represents the values of Hope Academy and are an inspiration to us all.



Ms. Otano (Claudia) is teaching in a multi-grade classroom, Pre-Kinder and Kinder, and is the Abeka Curriculum Coordinator for the morning bilingual classes. Ms. Otano had been hired to work an 8 hour shift schedule, but even before the school was officially open she had been working 10 to 12 hours without being asked. She is always available to prepare the students to perform songs and choreographed dance routines for special events. Her leadership skills guide the other teachers through the Abeka method of teaching and have been very helpful for the teachers and for the entire school.



Ms. Ivonne is the 2nd grade teacher for the afternoon Spanish classes. Her nurturing and motivational spirit has earned her the title of 'mom' to some of her colleagues. She provides valuable insight to colleagues regarding lesson plans. Ivonne's regular schedule is 12:30-6 pm, but she always arrives at 11 am. She goes the extra mile with her students and coworkers. Empathy and solidarity are two values always present in Ivonne's actions. Her students love her and always want to be near her because of her displays of love and respect.



Ms. Bee (Sabrina) is the Pre-First classroom teacher for the morning bilingual classes. She comes to school everyday at 6:30 am to set up her classroom and the hand washing stations. Ms. Bee's classroom is very organized and she is always available when we ask her to do a project or to collaborate with others. She has a very good relationship with her students as well as their parents.

### A Classroom Learning to go the Second Mile

"Here is what we seek: a compassion that can stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it." FR. GREGORY BOYLE

Ms. Ony, the Pre-First grade teacher for the afternoon Spanish classes, observed one of our sponsored students continually coming to class without snacks. The student would find Ms. Ony during snack time, and share that the family did not have any food. Ms. Ony responded by comforting the child and encouraging her that everything would be okay. Then, she invited the other students to share their food with the child. After some time, one of the other children complained. Ms. Ony patiently explained that the hungry student could not bring food to school because her parents could not afford it. The child who complained listened and was saddened by this situation. A few days later, that same child made sure to bring a juice box specially for the other student. She has since demonstrated extraordinary maturity and compassion, not only towards the other student, but toward others in general. This has brought great joy to Ms. Ony and reminds her of the role she plays in shaping these young children to be the best versions of themselves. (Pictured above: Ms. Ony and her class)



### First Annual Family Day

Written by Odelice Ramirez, Director of Hope Academy

In the Dominican Republic, the month of November has been designated as Family Month. During this time, most educational institutions choose to offer lectures about the importance of family. Inspired by this national initiative, we decided to take it one step further. On the 20th of November we launched Hope Academy's Family Day. On this day, parents and their children played, participated in competitions, laughed out loud and ate as much as they wanted.

This memorable event brought joy to both parents and children as we celebrated not only the concept of family, but the family itself. One of the highlights of the family day was watching parents become like little children when participating in the games with their children.

What made this event successful was teamwork. The administrative staff, the teachers and the Parents and Guardian Association worked together to envision and execute the event. The administrative staff crafted the vision and strategy, while the teachers promoted the event to their students and encouraged their parents to participate. Logistics were handled by the Parents and Guardian Association which coordinated with local suppliers for all items required for the event (chairs, food, entertainment, etc.).

Overall, the event was a great success. Children and their parents enjoyed their favorite meals and played and laughed together. This created a memorable experience that will enhance their connection, not only within their families, but also between the families and our school.

### This will be the first of many events we have the honor of hosting for our community on our campus!



**EDUCATION CENTER** 

### Empowering the Local Community

In mid-August, we welcomed our students back to the 2nd Mile Education Center for the first time since March 2020. This was such an answer to prayer as we know how vital an in-person learning environment is. Similarly to what many students worldwide experienced, last year was a challenging academic year for our students in the Dominican Republic. The transition to online learning was particularly difficult for our students who are in disadvantaged positions without access to devices and an internet connection. So having everyone back at the school this year is a huge blessing.

The 2nd Mile Education Center continues to grow and improve. Through the long-term partnership with a local church, Ciudad de Dios, the 2nd Mile Education Center has grown to become a nearly self-sufficient and self-sustaining school with enrollment reaching more than 700 students. Our sponsorship program provides financial scholarship support to 253 students thanks to the generosity of our Education Sponsors. The day-to-day organizational, operational, and financial management is entrusted to our local administrators and teachers, who continue to provide a positive learning environment for the students. *As we continue to work closely with 2nd Mile Education Center's leadership, we feel confident in their ability to lead the school into the future.* 

Over the summer, the school campus underwent several updates including new administrative offices and larger classrooms for the preschool. In addition, the secondary classrooms swapped places with the primary classrooms in an attempt to better utilize the available space. These updates were completed without the financial help of 2nd Mile Missions, which is something *we can celebrate as they continue to empower the local people to make a difference for the surrounding communities.* 



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### A YEAR OF TRANSITIONS

Written by Nancy Wildman, Co-Founder of 2nd Mile Missions

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Although our main focus in 2021 was on the new building construction and starting a new school, the House of Hope continued to change and grow in a steady, consistent way. Currently, there are 13 girls in the home and one dog named Lily.

We are continually thankful for Maria who has now worked in the House of Hope as a Tia for over 5 years. She is the rock and strength of the home, the glue that holds it all together. This summer a social worker was hired to work with Conani when new girls enter the home and others transition out. Luisa is a sweet woman who is a wonderful compliment to the staff. Our team is completed by Doraine, who oversees tutoring and schoolwork, Aura, the psychologist, and of course Gabby, the current Director of the House of Hope.

It was a year of transitions as new girls joined the HOH family and others were reunited with their birth families. Early in the year, three sisters came to live in the home – Dania (15), Belkis (8) and little Yanika (2). Then, in the fall, Cynthia (15) and Zoe (9) arrived. All five girls are enrolled at the 2nd Mile Education Center. Their status is temporary, as is typical with the social services system, however the girls have had positive adjustments to their new home and school. (Note: Zoe was reunited with her family in early 2022.)

Jatna and Aileem, twin sisters and granddaughters of Maria, were reunited with their mother and siblings. When they moved to HOH they were being raised by Maria because their mother had been unfit to care for them at the time. However, the girls' mother now has a steady job and is able to care for her children with Maria's help. This summer the girls moved to an apartment shared with their mother, two other siblings, and Maria when she has time off. Jatna and Aileem continue to attend school at the 2nd Mile Education Center and both have jobs in the local church's administration office. Their siblings are enrolled at 2MEC as well. We are always thrilled when the girls are reunited with their birth family.



### An Unlikely Place for a Reunion

Written by Nancy Wildman, Co-Founder of 2nd Mile Missions

Mariana (pictured left) is a beautiful 15-year old young lady who has been living in the House of Hope for over five years. About two years ago, through a chance meeting at a family funeral, Mariana met her birth mother. Neither one had any idea where the other had been since Mariana's birth. It was quite a reunion and the resemblance between Mariana and her mother was amazing. Immediately, her mom began the long process of gaining custody of Mariana.

Despite being slowed down by the pandemic and the constraints of the social services system in the DR, her mother was determined to bring Mariana home. Just before Christmas, the final custody papers were signed, and Mariana was able to spend Christmas with her new family. While she left behind 12 wonderful foster sisters, she gained a birth sister and, of course, a mother who was more than ready to welcome Mariana into her arms and home. It was a bittersweet time for Mariana; tears of joy for joining her birth family, yet tears of sadness knowing she would not be with the girls who wept with her at night, struggled with her through her deepest fears and darkest moments and laughed with her in the happiest of times during her formative years.

Although she now lives about two hours away from the House of Hope, she will be back to visit when she can and as she said in her own words, "The people I lived with in the House of Hope were like sisters and parents to me. I am so thankful for all the help I have received, for teaching me values and morals and showering me with love every day." She will be greatly missed, but we are thrilled to know she has been reunited with her family, just as it should be. **POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER** EMPOWER **POWER EMPOWER** EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER EMPOWER EMPOWER POWER EMPOWER P<sub>26</sub>WER EMPOWER EMPOWER



### **RIGHT ON TARGET**

Written by Josh Porter, Director of Vida Plena

It's grounding for me (Josh) to periodically return to and review the vision that God gave us for Vida Plena in 2016, almost 6 years ago. While we've certainly learned a lot and had to adjust our strategy along the journey, I'm humbled and grateful to say that our mission and purpose, our definition of success, has remained substantially unchanged over the years. Our goal, our white-hot "WHY" is to support, equip, and empower women in Monte Verde on the margins to see them flourish spiritually, emotionally, and economically.

Are we hitting the target? The best way to judge our success would be to visit us when a new group of women join the team and then again 6-9 months later and see/feel/experience the difference in the atmosphere. Or maybe you could visit us on an average day and hear our artisans singing all day while they work. A healthy and rejuvenating culture is one of those things that you recognize when you experience it, but it's difficult to define or cement in statistics.

We're perpetually working toward refining our program, which means doing periodic anonymous surveys. Even the blind optimist in me was surprised to review the results of our last survey asking our artisans to evaluate the program in terms of how they felt about learning and working here. 100% of them provided an overwhelmingly positive response. We sat down and praised God as we read comments like:

"With Vida Plena, I've found everything I was looking for in my previous life"

- "Vida Plena is the reason my kids eat good food"  $% \mathcal{A}^{(n)}$
- "I feel adopted here at Vida Plena"
- "I feel companionship and belonging here"  $% \mathcal{A}^{(m)}$

All the numbers in the world cannot compete with hearing this feedback from our artisans.

### "God Has Done a Miracle in my Life"

#### Written by Josh Porter Director of Vida Plena

Alicia, 24, is a single mother of two living in the community of Monte Verde. Like most of our artisans, Alicia has a challenging history shadowed by anger, abuse, and spiritual darkness. If we had known Alicia's full story, I'm not sure we would have been courageous enough to hire her and daily spend all day in the same room with her. However, there's no doubt in my mind God had a special purpose for Alicia at Vida Plena.

Now, after training and learning with us for more than a year, there is a phrase that immediately comes to mind when I see Alicia. It's actually something that she said in her interview when we visited her home: "God has done a miracle in my life." *The transformation is undeniable.* Alicia is a considerate, generous, and kind person who is always happy to serve her fellow artisans, who have become like family.

One of the components of our training program is to guide each woman in creating a Life Project. In collaboration with our psychologist, each woman creates and presents a business plan and goals they have for their life. Then, the women have the opportunity to apply for a loan through our micro-loan program to pursue their business dream. Alicia seized the opportunity and received a loan to open her own colmado (a small convenience store) next to her home. A colmado is an essential business to a community like Monte Verde that is miles from a supermarket. In February 2021 we visited her thriving business and she proudly served us coffee (Pictured right).

This year, Alicia's daughter, Chisni, began her first year of school at Hope Academy where receives a Christcentered, quality education right outside the windows of the Vida Plena workshop. Having her daughter so close to her during the day, knowing that she is being cared for by loving teachers is a gift for which Alicia is overwhelmingly grateful. Chisni is one of seven children of Vida Plena mothers who attend Hope Academy's afternoon Spanish classes, all receiving a scholarship through our sponsorship program.



Alicia watching Chisni from the Vida Plena workshop window.



Alicia proudly showing off a picture of Chisni before enrolling her in Hope Academy.



WATCH ALICIA'S STORY | vidaplena.love/about/meet-the-women/

### Mirtha, A Pillar of Hope & Resilience

Written by Josh Porter, Director of Vida Plena

Everyone who meets Mirtha is impressed. As a 21 yr-old, she's not only the primary breadwinner in her large extended family, but is *transforming into a stable pillar of hope for many young women in Monte Verde.* She's a smart and dedicated young woman who knows what she wants and has been working with Vida Plena for a couple of years now. As we support, encourage, and empower her to achieve her dreams, we love seeing her paying it forward to her family and neighbors. Her growing faith, cheerful disposition, and tenacious dedication to her life goals are an incredible and much needed example to other young women in Monte Verde.

Because of Mirtha's advocacy, her little brother, Jhony (7 yrs old), is now a student at Hope Academy, and together, with the support of 2nd Mile Missions and Vida Plena, *they are bravely making their exit from the generational cycle of poverty.* We love welcoming them both on campus as she tucks his shirt in, makes sure he has his books and a snack to eat before heading over to our workshop.



Mirtha wants to finish her high school diploma, get a visa, and study at a university in the US with hopes to work in the fashion and design industry. It sounds simple, but that road is chock full of difficulty for someone in her circumstances. But with her gritty determination, she's already made huge strides toward her goal and has a clear and defined path to study in the US within two years. Please join us in prayer as we encourage and support her.



WATCH MIRTHA'S STORY | vidaplena.love/about/meet-the-women/



## **Financial Report**

2021 REVENUE	\$587,737
Education	\$199,516
General Edu. Giving	\$31,200
Sponsorship	\$168,316
House of Hope	\$49,356.00
General HOH Giving	\$3,049
Sponsorship	\$46,307
Vida Plena	\$130,026
General	\$208,839
Play With a Purpose Golf Outing	\$9,930
Donor Fundraising Campaigns	\$28,475
Employer Matching Programs:	\$14,522
General Giving	\$155,912
2021 EXPENSES	\$647,337
Education	\$285,993
House of Hope	\$49,395
Vida Plena	\$109,726
General	\$202,223

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Representing 38 States and 5 Countries



2

#### COUNTRIES:

- Canada
- Dominican Republic
- Germany
- ItalySwitzerland

### Our Campus

1

#### Christ-Centered, Quality Education and Dignified Employment

What began as a dream in the hearts and minds of 2nd Mile Missions founders, Rod and Nancy Wildman, some 15 years ago, has come to life yet again in another beautiful new campus. This September we opened Hope Academy, our new Elementary School, offering classes for preschool through 4th grade. The expansion also included new staff offices for our growing team in the DR. Vida Plena gained double, if not triple, the space for their offices and workshops which has allowed them to train and hire more artisans and increase their production capacity. We are thankful for the opportunity to employ and support even more people from our community.

Because of our many supporters, 2nd Mile Missions was able to raise \$879,652.59 to construct this new campus. The construction of our new campus was completed in just under a year and employed more than 70 men, some of which were parents of our students. In the middle of the pandemic, when there were not a lot of other job opportunities available, our project kept men employed during a time they needed it most.

We thank God for the opportunity He has given us to serve His Kingdom through the vision of 2nd Mile Missions: to partner with families to transform the lives of our students by providing an excellent Christcentered academic education. Under the guidance and direction of our Director Odelice Ramirez, Hope Academy has already become a beacon of light in the community of Friusa, bringing families together. The parents are happy to have their children in a safe, Christ-centered environment, where they are learning and growing daily. If this does not define success, what else does?

BUILDING FUND REVENUE	\$879,652.59	BUILDING FUND EXPENSES	\$836,284.84
2020	\$715,704.91	Land Purchase	\$148,153.88
2021	\$163,947.68	Construction & Furniture	\$688,130.96



### Together: A Call to Unite

Written by Mason McIntyre, Executive Director

As the new Executive Director for 2nd Mile Missions, I challenged our team to intentionally focus on the word 'TOGETHER' at our staff retreat in July 2021. I provided a short devotional based on a sermon from Pastor Jeremiah Johnson sharing the five acts that disciples who want to make more disciples do TOGETHER. The 2nd Mile Way has always been to go the second mile TOGETHER. We aren't meant to journey alone. TOGETHER we can live out our mission to "spread the love of Christ by disrupting the cycle of poverty in the communities we serve."

In his book, *Tattoos on the Heart: the Power of Boundless Compassion*, Father Gregory Boyle writes, "Only kinship. Inching ourselves closer to creating a community of kinship such that God might recognize it. Soon we imagine, with God, this circle of compassion. Then we imagine no one standing outside of that circle, moving ourselves closer to the margins so that the margins themselves will be erased. We stand there with those whose dignity has been denied. We locate ourselves with the poor and the powerless and the voiceless. At the edges, we join the easily despised and the readily left out. We stand with the demonized so that the demonizing will stop. We situate ourselves right next to the disposable so that the day will come when we stop throwing people away."

**TOGETHER we made a difference in the lives of so many people in the Dominican Republic in 2021.** We went to the margins, seeking kinship with the poor. While the margins haven't yet been erased, we continue to stand with those whose dignity has been denied. We are giving a voice to the poor and the powerless and including those who are left out. We have situated ourselves right between the villages we serve and we pray daily that God will continue to provide.

So while we celebrate this past year, we look expectantly to the future and all that God has in store for us at 2nd Mile Missions. Thank you for walking alongside us with continued love, support, and prayers. **TOGETHER we can, and will, make a difference in 2022!** 







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