

Lisa's Story:

Saying Yes to God's Bigger Picture

For Lisa Harstine, serving as the Director of Marketing for 2nd Mile Missions is more than a job—it's a deeply personal calling. After nearly five years on staff, Lisa reflects on the journey that brought her to this role and the ways **God has worked through her life to make a difference in the Dominican Republic.**



Lisa and her husband, Joel, first became connected with 2nd Mile Missions through Warsaw Community Church. **Early on, they felt compelled to sponsor a student, knowing they could play a small part in making a big difference.** Their first trip to the Dominican Republic in May 2008 deepened their understanding of the work being done there, and it left a lasting impression.

In 2019, when Lisa's daughter, Katelyn, was a high school senior, Lisa decided to take her on a trip to the DR, to give her a cross cultural experience before heading off to college. What she didn't anticipate was how deeply the trip would change her own life. **During the trip, Lisa heard story after story from people in the DR—staff, students, and Rod and Nancy Wildman, 2nd Mile Missions' founders. In each story, there was a recurring theme: a willingness to say *yes* to God's calling.**

At the time, Lisa was grappling with uncertainty in her own life. She had recently left a job she loved and felt unsure about what God had planned for her next. **"It felt like God had plans for everyone else except me," Lisa recalls.** But when the Sponsorship Administrator position opened at 2nd Mile Missions, Lisa felt a nudge—a stirring she couldn't ignore. After weeks of prayer, she decided to pursue the role, trusting that this was the opportunity God was asking her to step into.

Since then, Lisa has embraced every opportunity to serve, first by leading the sponsorship program for four years and now in her current role as Director of Marketing. Her work involves crafting and sharing the stories of students, staff, and sponsors whose lives are being changed through 2nd Mile Missions. While Lisa only visits the DR once or twice a year, she relies on the team there to share the images and stories that help bring the mission to life.

"I love feeling like I'm part of something bigger than myself," Lisa shares. **"It's so rewarding to know the work I do helps provide children in the DR with access to quality, Christ-centered education."** She also appreciates the creativity her role allows her to explore, crafting compelling messages to inspire others to join in the mission.

Through her time at 2nd Mile Missions, Lisa has discovered new strengths within herself. She's grown into a leadership role she once never imagined for herself, all while leaning on God's unwavering faithfulness. "Even when we don't understand His timing or His ways, He always provides," Lisa says. **"What I love most is that God invites us to be active participants in the work He is doing. It's humbling to know we get to be a part of His greater plan."**

Lisa's Story:

Continued

Lisa's story is one of saying yes to God, even in uncertainty, and finding purpose in being part of something greater. For Lisa, it's about making a difference behind the scenes so that kids in the Dominican Republic have the opportunity to thrive.

Your Yes Matters

Lisa's journey is a reminder that **each of us has an opportunity to say yes to what God is calling us to do.** Maybe it's sponsoring a student, volunteering your time, or using your talents to serve others. **Whatever it is, your *yes* can change lives.**

Are you ready to say yes to God's call? Take the first step today. Give to our campaign. Sponsor a student. Go on a trip. Make a difference. Because **when we say yes, God takes care of the rest.**
