Helping Hands International, Inc. Please be sure to add hhands@gmail.com and hhandsstefani@gmail.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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600 Whitman Place, Medford, Oregon 97501 www.helpinghandsinternational.com

July-November 2020 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Let us give thanks! We have ended the year stronger then ever! The Lord did this by (1) allowing Helping Hands International to continue distributing Disaster Relief aid overseas (2) permitting the construction of the new Christian Dream School in Kenya (yeah!) and (3) giving us the perseverance and strength to complete our biggest service projects in our 15+ year history - the Hope Community Park and Disaster Relief for Southern Oregon Fire Victims! We thank God for all He has done, and continues to do, through Helping Hands International's <u>awesome</u> Volunteers! Here is a summary of the last several months.

God bless, <u>Helping Hands International, Inc. Staff</u>

Q3 2020: Highlights - Look what God has done.

June-July 2020: Disaster Relief aid for COVID-19 kicked off this Summer when we were able to bless over 350 families in India and Kenya but, we didn't stop there! We continued to provide assistance to our brothers and sisters in Nepal by sending financial assistance which was used to purchase 2,000 kg of rice, 120 ltr of oil, 120 kg of salt, 120 kg of dal (lentils), 100 kgs of sugar and 80 packets of noodles! This fed more than 130 individuals and families in Nepal who were suffering from the trickle down effects of COVID-19 in their area.

06/20-7/20: Famine Relief in Kenya & Nepal Continues



Pictures Courtesy of: Partners in Kenya

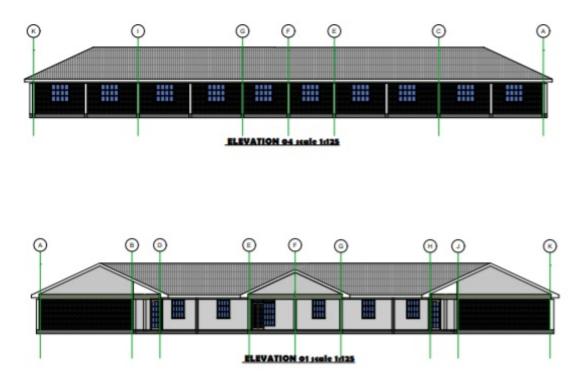


Pictures Courtesy of: Partners in Kenya

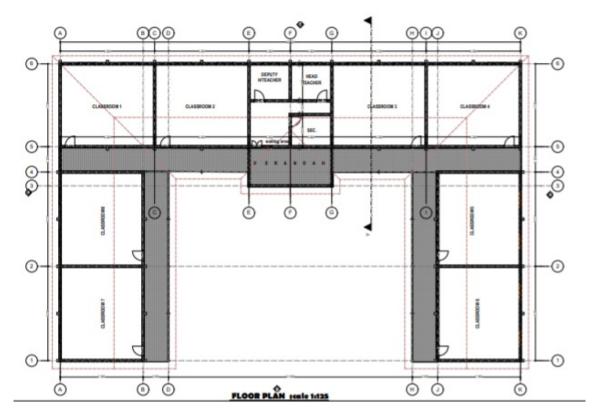


Pictures Courtesy of: Partners in Nepal

July 2020: Helping Hands International was able to break ground on the new Christian Dream School in Kenya! Ditches were dug, stones were formed and walls were started to create the new structure! The finished building will include 8 new classrooms and bathroom facilities. Thank you to those who gave to this project at the end of 2019 as part of our Giving Tuesday campaign. We could not have completed this project without your generous gifts and the partnership formed with Kenya's local Kidshare and Rotary groups!



07/20: New School in Kenya!



Pictures Courtesy of: Partners in Kenya







Pictures Courtesy of: Partners in Kenya

August-September 2020: The Southern Oregon Makeover project this year was our most ambitious yet - build a 3 acre park adjacent to the Salvation Army's Hope House, a transitional living facility for individuals and families facing **homelessness, from scratch!** We are happy to share that we did just that - the Hope Community Park was completed in early September (literally a few days before the fires!) thanks to the more than 200 HHI Volunteers who worked tirelessly to finish the space. We are also happy to report we reached our fundraising goal of \$55k to cover the cost of materials etc.! The Salvation Army is extremely grateful for HHI transforming what was a 60+ year old empty field with overgrown weeds and berry bushes into a new park equipped with a covered eating space, outdoor amphitheater, bandshell, grassy field, splash pad, basketball court, walking path and raised garden beds! The residents of the Hope House are sure to enjoy the space for years to come!

08/20-09/20: Hope Community Park - We did it!





Picture Courtesy of: Tim Plankenhorn & Stefani Khaleel

September-November 2020: We are also grateful to share that we completed our biggest Disaster Relief outreach <u>ever</u> this year for Southern Oregon Fire Victims! Following the unexpected Almeda and Obenchain fires in September, which destroyed nearly 3,000 structures and displaced approximately 11,000 local residents, Helping Hands International quickly reached out to the community to ask Volunteers to help. *We received over 550 Volunteer registration forms* from members of the community who expressed interest in coming alongside Fire Victims who lost their homes, businesses and communities! We took a <u>three pronged approach</u>, namely to organize and deploy (1) <u>65</u> Food Distribution Teams to serve over 12,000 meals between 09/15/20-10/05/20 at the Jackson County Expo. via the Salvation Army's Food Trailer (2) <u>34 Sifting Teams</u> to sift through debris at individual residences between 09/22/20-11/06/20 with the guidance of HHI Team Leaders and (3) multiple financial aid gifts, which were distributed directly to Fire Victims in the form of \$500 Visa gift cards. The outpouring of love from the community and daily examples of God mobilizing people to express His love to others was beautiful to be a part of and witness. We were also able to raise over \$100k in support for our Disaster Relief efforts and Fire Victims - thank you!















Picture Courtesy of: Stefani Khaleel & HHI Volunteers

November 2020: Child Sponsorship. HHI expanded our <u>Child</u> <u>Sponsorship</u> Program in 2020 and now has 152 children in Kenya and India! This includes the addition of 18 new children in India we announced earlier in the year and approximately 6 new children in Kenya announced in November. While we have had a few children sponsored during the second half of 2020, overall, we are still waiting for the remaining 22 students to receive monthly sponsorship. *Would you consider supporting a child for \$38 a month?* Student profiles and sponsorship instructions can be found at: <u>http://helpinghandsinternational.com/child-</u> <u>sponsorship</u>. You can also contact HHI's Child Sponsorship Director Crissy Christian at: hhandschildsponsorship@gmail.com with any questions - thank you!





We've expanded to India!

WWW.HELPINGHANDSINTERNATIONAL.COM/CHILD-SPONSORSHIP



Picture Courtesy of: Stefani Khaleel, Crissy Christian & Global Partners in Kenya

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET YOUR SPONSORED CHILD IN PERSON, we encourage you to register for this trip, scheduled for Spring 2021 in Rakwaro, Kenya. Here you will see how your monthly investment changes the lives of sponsored children and the community!



December 2020 ECFA Accreditation: In progress!

Last newsletter we shared that HHI was <u>recently awarded the</u> <u>Silver Seal of Transparency from GuideStar</u>, the nation's premier nonprofit database, putting HHI in the top 2% of all nonprofit organizations on GuideStar! However, this quarter, we are happy to share that the EFCA has waived their standard \$500 application fee and dropped the size restrictions for membership, which has now allowed HHI to reapply for accreditation. Please be praying for this process to go smoothly as we assemble all of the necessary data, which will give us an additional "seal of transparency" and access to helpful resources!

Volunteer for a Service Project

2021 Service Projects: Draft Calendar Released! Helping Hands International is happy to advise that we have released a draft 2021 calendar of Service Projects! If you are interested in Volunteering for a project, please go to our "<u>Find Your Trip</u>" page (<u>http://helpinghandsinternational.com/findyourtrip/</u>) to learn more about how you can get involved!

Stay Current on HHI Activities

Finally, you can stay current on the latest HHI activities by viewing our "Latest News" page on our website or following us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter!

Helping Hands International, Inc.

600 Whitman PI., Medford, OR 97501 Donate: <u>www.helpinghandsinternational.com/donate/</u> Phone: 541-414-4426 Email: hhandsstefani@gmail.com

P.S. If you are not already supporting Helping Hands International, Inc. financially, we encourage you to donate today by using one of the below payment methods - we appreciate every gift!

Donation Methods

(1) Text "HHI2020" to 44-321 on your mobile phone

(2) Give online via GoFundMe

(3) Sign-up for Fred Meyer Community Rewards

(4) Enroll in employee sponsored matching programs like Bank of America Employee Matching Gifts

(5) Select Helping Hands International on your Amazon Smile Account

(6) Donate on our website:

www.helpinghandsinternational.com/donate/

(7) <u>Donate on Facebook - www.facebook.com/HelpingHandsIntl/</u>

(8) Send a check to our office: Helping Hands International, Inc., 600 Whitman Place, Medford, Or. 97501

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