



2020

IMPACT

IT STARTS WITH

REPORT

HOPE.



COVID-19 RELIEF STATISTICS

2020 was a year like no other and presented us with many challenges, but also with more opportunities than ever to present the gospel, share the beautiful hope we have in Jesus and meet the deep needs caused by the pandemic all over the world. As many of our projects were temporarily suspended, we mounted a global effort to equip families with necessary hygiene supplies, food packs and other basic needs. Thanks to our faithful donors we were able to serve more people than ever before, providing much-needed relief for our sponsored children and national leaders (pastors, teachers, etc.), including their families and communities!

COVID Relief

“He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor.” (Proverbs 22:9) In 2020, your support provided food relief for more than 60,000 people, including sponsored children and their families, hundreds of national leaders and many in the communities that we work in around the world. It’s estimated that food insecurity doubled over the course of 2020 and that an additional 130 million will be without sufficient food. Unemployment has risen drastically. Only because of the Lord’s provision and through you could we provide toward the needs faced by so many!

24

countries helped
by your gifts

270

pastors and their
families helped

\$116,490

raised
for COVID Relief
Food Packs



The coronavirus pandemic shifted our ministries drastically in 2020, a theme which you will see throughout this report. We wanted to share a few testimonies of some of the good that came out of quarantine.

From Broken to Beautiful

Evelyn's family belonged to the Roman Catholic Church for a long time until her son, Elexis, entered the AMG child sponsorship program in the **Philippines**. The Labadia family claimed to know the Lord but were not serious in their daily walk with Him at the time. Then, tragedy struck, and Evelyn's husband passed away unexpectedly, leaving them with no place to live after his family shunned them. The AMG center staff encouraged her to buy a small lot available next to the church, and she built a home there.

Evelyn did not have a good relationship with either of her children; the strains of life had severed any connection they may have once had. Then, things went from bad to worse. Her daughter, Eve, had a child at a very young age and moved away.

Not long after, COVID-19 struck. Evelyn and Elexis were quarantined at home together, the most time they had spent with each other in years. Cut off from their everyday lives, Evelyn and Elexis were able to get to know each other again as they started to pursue the Lord truly for the first time in their lives. Elexis began to care for his widowed mother, and for the first time, Evelyn laid hands on her children and interceded for them.

Evelyn and Elexis became involved in the church, serving in any way they could. Eve even returned and dedicated her child to the Lord! While the pandemic caused anxiety, fear, and crisis, it also brought healing for many people like the Labadia family.

Evelyn Labadia with Eve and Elexis at the dedication of Eve's daughter



**IN THE
PHILIPPINES:**

42,885

individuals
ministered
to

8,571

families
ministered
to

Stopping the Cycle of Abuse

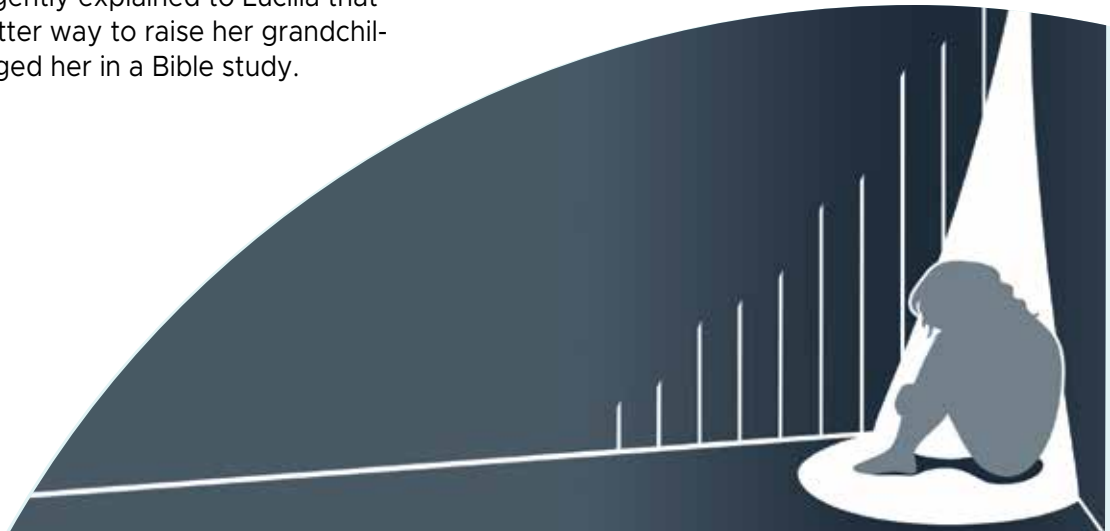
Lucilla has lived in Lima, **Peru**, for nearly 40 years. She was raised outside the city until she ran away from her family at 15. Her father struggled with alcoholism and abused her when he came home after one of his binges. She ran away to Lima, hoping for a better life, but unfortunately, her past followed her there. She had a relationship with a man who also struggled with drinking and was abusive. When she became pregnant, the man left her.

Sadly, Lucilla repeated this pattern three more times, leaving her alone with four children. The children have grown, and Lucilla now raises her three grandchildren in the city, but they have struggled to make ends meet despite her daughters' hard work in other cities.

Lucilla started raising her grandchildren in the same harsh environment she was raised in. She would yell and beat them when they misbehaved, showing no compassion for them. But when her grandchildren started attending a local AMG child development center, some of their teachers gently explained to Lucilla that there was a better way to raise her grandchildren and engaged her in a Bible study.

Lucilla says, ***“My life changed once I heard that Jesus had been beaten, hit, and tortured before He died, and when he was raised back to life, showed compassion on those who mistreated him. I realized that I went through a similar situation, and I didn’t want that for my grandchildren. I want the generational curse to stop with me. I haven’t changed 100%, but I have changed and am continuing to grow in the Father’s love for me.”***

Lucilla was quarantined in her home with her family for five months, and even during this stressful time, she says her family grew deeper in their relationships with the Lord. When they received their first **COVID-19 Food Relief** box from AMG national leaders, they told her it was a gift from God. When she shared that with her grandchildren, their immediate response was, ***“Then let’s give thanks to God, grandma!”*** It was the first time they had all prayed together as a family!





While child sponsorship changes the lives of children cared for through AMG, they aren't the only ones impacted eternally

Helen's Perspective

I was four years old when a tropical storm destroyed my home. My family moved into my grandmother's tiny living room, unsure of what would happen next. It didn't feel like it at the time, but this moment changed my life for the better.

AMG International stepped in and provided a new house for my family. The following year I was enrolled in the **AMG Las Vistas Evangelical School** in our neighborhood. AMG provided for my family and helped foster relationships with teachers who have had a lasting impact on my life.

When I was five, two young women sponsored me. It was a tremendous blessing in my life and my family's life! I had food, clothes, medical care, and I loved getting to know them through letters and visits! Most importantly, the sponsorship allowed me to attend the AMG school, where I was safe and loved while my parents worked hard to make ends meet.

In 2001, a team from the United States visited our center, and that is where I met Mr. Pete Johnston. During that trip, they shared the gospel in a way I could understand, and I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior that day! The Lord gave me two of the best gifts that day, but I didn't know what the second one was yet.

Four years later, my sponsors were unable to continue sponsoring me. I was heartbroken, but now I see that God was in control even at that moment.

That's where my story reconnects with Mr. Johnston. He was back on another **AMG Mission Adventures** trip to **Guatemala**, where he saw I was without a sponsor. He and his wife immediately started sponsoring me, and they have been such a significant part of my life since!

The Johnstons sponsored me through college, giving me the opportunity for a better job to provide for my family. My first job was at the airport, but my heart desired to give back to my community. God answered, and I was offered a position in the AMG sponsorship department in Guatemala! I now invest in these children daily who are in the same situations I was once in, and I can inspire hope through Christ.

**Pete with Helen
in her classroom**



**L-R: Pete's wife Inger, Pete
and Helen**



by this special relationship. Here's a beautiful story that is still ongoing between a former sponsored child and a sponsor.

Pete's Perspective



I participated in my first short-term mission trip in 2001 to Guatemala to help build a typing room at an AMG school in a rural town called **Oratorio**. That trip changed my life forever. Since then, I have returned, again and again, to the “*Land of Eternal Spring*” and have worked on several building projects, but the most important thing built on all of those trips has been relationships.

That same year, I was attending a church service at the newly-dedicated **Iglesia de Luz y Verdad** (*Church of Light & Truth*) in **Las Vistas**. There I met a little girl named Helen – she sat with me and responded to the gospel, accepting Jesus as her Savior, and her parents and I were overjoyed! With my very limited Spanish and an AMG translator’s help, I told them that I would be praying for Helen, for her spiritual growth, and that her newfound faith would be her guiding light. I wanted to sponsor Helen, however she was already sponsored by someone else, but I continued to pray regularly for this precious little girl. I shared this story with my family when I got home, and she became a part of our prayer lives.



Fast forward to 2005, I was again in Guatemala, this time with my wife, Inger. We were visiting the main office and childcare center in Verbena. The team members and I had been given several sponsorship sheets representing kids whose sponsorships had ceased for various reasons – and among them was Helen’s. I quickly took that sheet and signed up as her new sponsor, looking forward to the potential of seeing her again on that or a future trip. I had the great privilege of introducing my wife to this girl for whom we had been praying for years.

We recently were allowed to sponsor Helen as a national leader, and our story will continue. We have been blessed abundantly through child and national leader sponsorship with AMG. Still, this particular story is significant for my family and me, and we’re grateful for the opportunities for connection that the Lord has provided through AMG International.

FAQs for Child Sponsorship during the COVID-19 Pandemic



Education:

Did my child continue his/her education in 2020?

While most of the children in AMG's Child Sponsorship program could not continue with traditional schooling, they all received educational support during 2020 despite COVID-19-related restrictions. Some children in Thailand, Haiti, Uganda, and other countries continued with their regular schooling with little interruption. Others used technology and worksheets provided by AMG child and youth development centers to continue learning while schools were closed.



Discipleship:

Did my child have access to the gospel and discipleship while the centers were closed?

AMG child and youth development centers prioritized spiritual growth in 2020 and developed creative ways to continue discipleship. Some of these methods included conversations via smartphones, small gatherings at the center for Bible study, video calls, Bible lessons distributed to each family, and Christian books offered to children and their guardians. Members of the center's staff also visited many children's families for encouragement, discipleship, and prayer.



Money usage:

How was my financial gift used during 2020 while the centers were closed?

Because of your giving, AMG provided more urgently needed resources than ever before. Our national leaders reallocated money that typically paid for school fees, uniforms, and center resources to COVID-19 relief efforts for the children, their families, and others in the communities. While the sponsored children still received educational support, meals, Bible lessons, and medical care, AMG also provided these resources for entire families! The community's deepest needs shifted, and AMG continued to meet those needs at a greater capacity by providing more extensive food and hygiene packages for families, hosting classes for uneducated parents to develop reading skills, and leading individuals from multiple generations to Jesus Christ.

10,121

children
accepted Christ
as their Savior

51,283

children
benefited from
AMG programs

3,244

children
graduated

A photograph of Brian Dennett and Miriam at an outdoor event. Brian is on the left, wearing a white button-down shirt and sunglasses on his head. Miriam is on the right, wearing a light-colored button-down shirt with a 'CIV' logo and sunglasses. They are standing under a white canopy tent. In the background, there are parked cars, including a red pickup truck, and a sign that says 'CIVIL MOVIL'.

Brian Dennett,
AMG President
of Engagement,
with Miriam at
TAVA dedication

The impact sponsorship had on my life is indescribable. I'm blessed I can share God's love and my testimony of His provision with those who are struggling in the same way I did growing up.

— Miriam Aguierre, former Secretary of Housing for Guatemala

Miriam Aguierre is an attorney and legal advisor to the Office of Urban Legalization within the Municipality of Guatemala City, which she established to help urban citizens legalize formally illegal properties. She is also an alumnus of our AMG Guatemala program! We are so proud of Miriam and the impact on her family and community to this day.

Meet Miriam — A Chat with an AMG Alumnus

- *What was it like growing up in Guatemala? What were some challenges or obstacles that you encountered on your way?*
- Thank the Lord, I had a relatively normal childhood for a young Guatemalan girl, despite my mother living in the USA for work. I thank God every day for the sacrifices she made and for the support and training that I received from **AMG's Rays of Light School** in **Guatemala City**. Having the opportunity to study at AMG was a tremendous gift. This gift not only helped us economically by providing our family with food, medical care, school supplies, uniforms, shoes, Christmas gifts, and so much more but most important was the love and affection I found there. The high-quality education allowed my mother to have peace of mind that her children were safely cared for and treated with love in her absence.
- *What are your fondest memories of your time at AMG? Is there such a special moment that you remember?*
- Undoubtedly, **Camp Canaan** in



I remember one year I went to sleep fully dressed, clutching my backpack on top of me, all ready to leave for camp in the morning!



Chimaltenango. I would frequently and anxiously await the end of the year — camp week was the best week of the year! I remember one year I went to sleep fully dressed, clutching my backpack on top of me, all ready to leave for camp in the morning! I fondly remember my teachers, especially Professor Edgar, Juan, Doña Orfa, and her husband, José Luís.

- *When you were working for the government, what was your job?*
- I had the opportunity to serve in the Presidential Administration of Jimmy Morales. I was appointed to the position of *Minister of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing*.
- *What were some of the significant challenges you faced while serving in this administration?*
- Without a doubt, the eruption and subsequent emergency of the Fuego Volcano in 2018. We were able to develop an entirely new community through our work following the disaster, and for the first time in history, with 1,000 donated homes in a safer area.



One thousand families who had lost everything, including many of their loved ones, were granted homes. This community was appropriately named “La Dignidad” or Dignity in Esquintla, Guatemala. At the inauguration of AMG’s education project, I met Brian Dennett, then President of AMG Guatemala, and his team. I was reminded of the many memories of my time at AMG, and filled with joy, thinking of how the children in this new project will get to have the same experience, and grow into educated men and women, walking with the Lord and serving Him and their country.

- **What are you doing today?**
- With the recent change of presidential administrations, I now have a new position working in the Municipality of Guatemala, which involves our country’s largest population center in Guatemala City. I have begun by creating the **“Municipal Legalization Office,”** which legalizes neighbors’ homes in dangerous areas of the city that

To my sponsor, I would say, “Thank you for the love that you showed me through your letters and following of my childhood. Thank you for the great investment that you made in me.”



do not have proper titles. I am their legal advisor, and I love my job as it allows me to serve my country with a commitment to improving the city’s services and care.

- **Are there things you wanted to say to our sponsors about the impact they are making with their involvement in many children’s lives in great need?**
- I remember with affection and immense gratitude the dear lady who sponsored me. I could only meet her through photos and letters that she sent me, but regardless she always seemed so present. To this day, I can picture her thin face and beautiful hair. To my sponsor, I would say, **“Thank you for the love that you showed me through your letters and following of my childhood. Thank you for the great investment that you made in me.”**

I am an example of how God uses this ministry for His glory to help break the cycle of poverty many of these children are trapped in. Thank you!



2020 MINISTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Media Evangelism

77,344

responses received

19,160

Bible correspondence participants

1,295,421

spiritual tracts distributed

Disaster Relief

16

disasters responded to

5,423

individuals served

Medical Care

122,612

patients treated

22

salvations through medical ministry

Refugees

2,020

ministered to

God's faithfulness was on full display in 2020. Despite lockdowns and many challenges that caused us to change the "normal" way in which things are done, we continued to see God faithfully meeting the deepest spiritual and physical needs through our dedicated national pastors, teachers, and medical professionals.

– William Passons
Chief Operating Officer,
AMG International

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

– LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

STATS

WE Asked...



1.

1. **You** provided funds for **74 borewells** in India — This will provide more than **80,000** people with clean drinking water in extreme drought areas!

74

80,000

2.

2. **Your support** of our disaster relief program equipped our **AMG Guatemala staff to distribute** more than **50,000 food packs, minister to 1,020 families,** and build two homes for people who lost everything during Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

50,000

1,020

3.

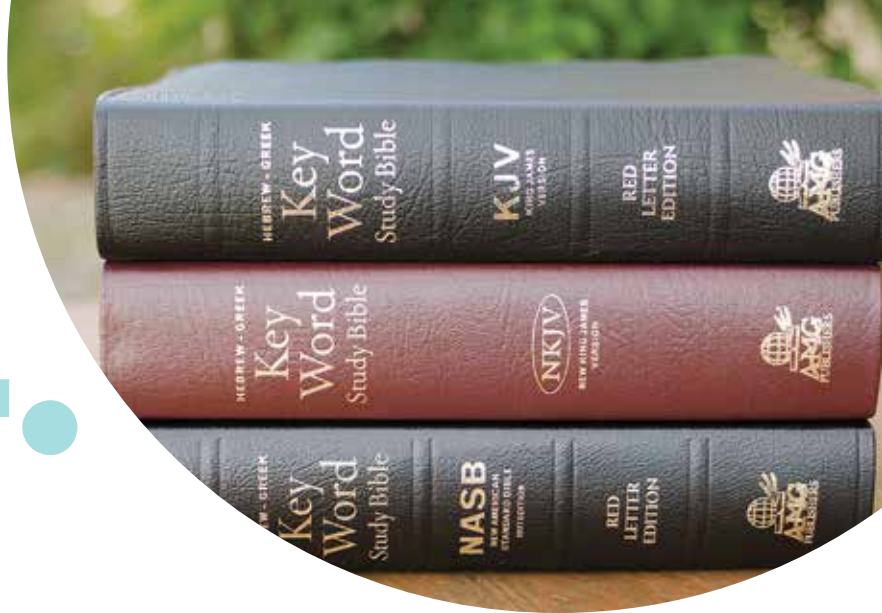
3. **60 pastors and church planters** were **fully supported** in 2020 through the **National Leader's Fund,** a new effort introduced in 2020 to further the gospel in the unreached corners of the earth.

60

...YOU Answered!

4. You provided Bibles and resources for **608** of our national pastors in Uganda, Kenya, Guatemala and other countries!

608



5.

5. **27,000** children received Bible lessons, and **3,042** more children will receive a Bible through our school ministries in Ghana, Togo, Liberia and Nigeria!

27,000

3,042

6.

6. **\$113,212** was donated to our *Bundles of Love* program, providing **5,660** Christmas gifts and necessities to each child and national leader in our program!

\$113,212

5,660





Do You Have Any Enemies?



If 2020 taught us anything, it's how blessed we are as a society to have the technology we do have. While we have been socially distancing and forgoing traditional human interaction, this hasn't slowed down the gospel.

Daphne is a young girl living in **Turkey**. Until a few months ago, she was a devout follower of Islam, the main religion in her country. This all changed one night when Jesus appeared to her in a dream. She kept trying to explain it away after she woke up, but this was just the first in a series of "coincidences" that God used to get her attention. Daphne started to read the Bible, and each time she opened it, the Holy Spirit would lead her to a passage that was perfectly correlating with what she needed to read. It wasn't long before she decided that this "narrow path" was the path she wanted to take.

Daphne found a church and started attending as soon as she could. On many occasions, Daphne suffered severe pain in her chest, as if a knife was piercing through her heart, and she felt like she couldn't breathe. Another church member suggested it might be the enemy attacking Daphne in her early faith, encouraging Daphne to pray against the spirit attacking her.

As soon as Daphne prayed, the pain stopped and never came back! Now, every time she recounts the story, she says, **"I have an enemy!"**

"This must mean I've found the right path! For

more than 20 years, I was on another path, and I never once had an enemy; my only enemy was myself! Now, after only a short time on this path, I already have an enemy! If someone is trying so hard to keep me from going down this path, there must be something there!"

Daphne reached out to our AMG partners through our **online media evangelism platform** in Turkey and connected with one of the national leaders who is discipling her in the next steps in her faith. Thanks to your faithful gifts to our media evangelism ministry, she is now reaching out to her community about the new life she has found, all while being supported in her walk with Christ.

Daphne is one of many precious souls we have connected with through media evangelism, and because of the pandemic, Our partners in Turkey have been able to reach triple the number of people this year! More than 5,000 people have started an online discipleship series that ends with a prompt to meet and discuss their questions further.

Media evangelism is more important than ever because of reach. There simply aren't enough warm bodies who believe in Jesus in Turkey to personally speak with 80 million people. We can, in effect, multiply ourselves by implementing chatbots, messaging conversations, and opportunities for millions of people to ask questions.

IN TURKEY:

5,000

people
started online
Bible program

X3!

tripled digital
traffic!

A Family Legacy — Alex Orellana's Story

Alex Orellana serves **AMG Guatemala** as President of the organization. While he was never a sponsored child, AMG helped to support his family most of his life. He is a living testimony of how impactful your generous support of this organization is.

At five years old, I'll never forget the afternoon I arrived home from elementary school, to find my mother curled up on her bed crying uncontrollably. My father had abandoned us – my mother and 7-month-old sister, taking with him many of our only possessions, even our kitchen appliances! He left us without any warning, without a plan, or even a stove. More importantly, he left my sister and me without a father to love or protect us.

My mother had no formal education, no job, and now she was a single mother. She wondered how on earth she would survive, much less provide for her two children. My mother is a Christian woman with strong principles and character, and she decided that she would do whatever it took to raise us. She was cleaning other people's homes in no time, along with other small daily jobs.

On March the 7th, 1990, AMG International wrapped its arms of love around our family. My mother was hired as a school cook in what became the first and last official job of her life. She served AMG Guatemala with all of her heart for almost thirty years, retiring recently in a small celebration. I witnessed the many children who

21

New
national
leader
sponsors

L-R: **AMG workers Brian Dennett, Nico Kattenberg, Sam Avila, Alex Orellana and Mary Dennett**



**The AMG Guatemala
Leadership Team**



Alex and Brian visiting families in Monjas

Alex with his mom and daughter



Alex takes a selfie with the AMG Guatemala Education Staff

would joyfully greet my mother throughout my childhood, looking to her as an extension of their own families.

AMG became our family. Watching my mother's passion, love, and commitment to serving the sponsored children of AMG, inspired me to serve within AMG as well. Twelve years later, in the very same school where my mom worked, I began my first job as a tutor for children between 10 and 18 years old, assisting them with their homework and mentoring them. I quickly learned that this was the purpose of my life, to serve the Lord, meeting the deepest needs of so many children, sharing Christ, hope, and love with them.

Eight years later, I was promoted to work as the principal of a larger school called *Las Vistas*, a challenging area in the city's periphery. I worked with children and our team of teachers, employees, and even the children's parents! I began to hear their stories and discover together how best to meet their deepest needs through Christ.

Two years later, God had more plans for me. I transitioned to AMG's central office in La Verbeña, a red-zone neighborhood in Guatemala City, as the **Administrative Supervisor**, overseeing the eight urban schools, and then several years later, as **Director of Administration**. During this time, and thanks to AMG's employee scholarship program, I completed my *Bachelor of Science* degree in **Business Administration** and then, in 2018, a master's degree in business!

Today, as President of AMG Guatemala, I am honored to serve our team across this beautiful country. It fills my heart with joy and is the most incredible privilege of my life that the Lord would choose me for this opportunity to be His hands and feet. The mission is clear: Lead people to the only hope we have in this troubled world, Jesus Christ.

A Word from Our CEO

When January 2020 arrived, all of us were so excited about the year. At AMG, we had big plans, including ministry expansion in more countries to proclaim the gospel, equipping and training more pastors, educating and caring for more children, and sending more short-term teams from the United States to various countries.

Less than two months later, the COVID-19 global pandemic struck, and there was not a single country that was unaffected. Lockdowns became the “new normal.” Children were out of school. Businesses closed. The suffering in the places in which we ministered was widespread.

The mind of a man may indeed plan his way, but in the end, it is the Lord who directs his steps (Proverbs 16:9). We had our ministry plans, but our God, in His sovereignty, chose to upend those plans and redirect us. Indeed, I am wholeheartedly grateful for you and our other supporters, who, while dealing with their own challenges because of COVID-19, continued to sustain the ministries of AMG, impacting lives around the world for the glory of God.

Because of you, our local leaders and precious coworkers around the world who could not teach the boys and girls we care for in our centers instead put packages together for distribution to these boys’ and girls’ families to deal with the increasing problem of hunger and poverty. You made it possible to feed pastors and their families when their small village churches were closed. You helped train nurses in Uganda, meeting a desperate need for medical professionals. You allowed us to continue with our evangelistic online messaging for people searching for hope and peace.

But the challenges caused by COVID-19 have not ended, and we need your help to continue to find solutions for those in need. Because of COVID-19, poverty has doubled. Children have fallen behind in their education and may never recover.

Yet, the gospel remains as relevant as ever. And with your help, we will continue to proclaim the Good News and tangibly express Christ’s love. The effects of COVID-19 are still with us, but there is hope. Despite increasing opposition to the gospel in several countries, the Lord is opening doors to us for a new ministries in Africa and the Muslim world, and we are excited to begin pursuing those opportunities.

Together, you and I will continue to make Christ known.

In Him,



Tasos Ioannidis
President & CEO



The mind of a man may indeed plan his way, but in the end, it is the Lord who directs his steps.

– PROVERBS 16:9



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Engagement

noun en-gage-ment | \ in-'gāj-mənt

:the act of engaging; the state of being engaged

:emotional involvement or commitment

One of the many ways we're working on multiplying our outcomes with those we serve is through deep engagement with partners. Like-minded ministries like **Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)**, **International Justice Mission (IJM)** and **YoungLife** contribute and invest in lives alongside AMG. This will be a driving force moving forward and a beautiful way to share the gospel and meet the deepest needs in so many young people's lives.

Brian Dennett, our **President of Engagement**, spent the last ten years forging strong relationships with many various organizations and is already working on expanding those into other countries where AMG works. One of his first efforts in 2020 was traveling to FCA's home office in Kansas City, MO, to meet with their executive team and their regional Vice Presidents, exploring ways to deepen our collaboration. Soon we'll be announcing a formal partnership between our organizations and spelling out all that we want to achieve together. Their heart uses athletics as a platform for sharing the gospel with youth and fits perfectly with our heartbeat at AMG!

Like *International Justice Mission*, other exceptional organizations work tirelessly to stop human trafficking, child abuse and injustice, and already work with AMG in several countries. We hope for that to expand soon as well. With their understanding of the legal side of justice and our work on the restorative side, we are a match made in heaven!



When Christians join hands to work together, our loads are lightened, and our fruit is indeed multiplied! What a joy to serve together, building the Kingdom.

– Brian Dennett
President of Engagement
AMG International

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

– ECCLESIASTES 4:9



**FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN
ATHLETES**
— Est. 1954 —

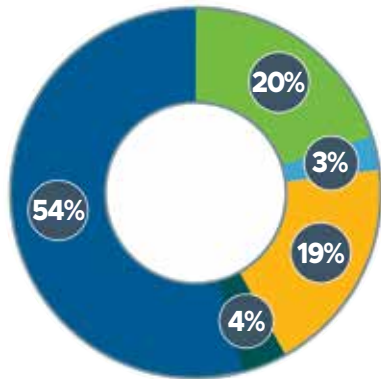
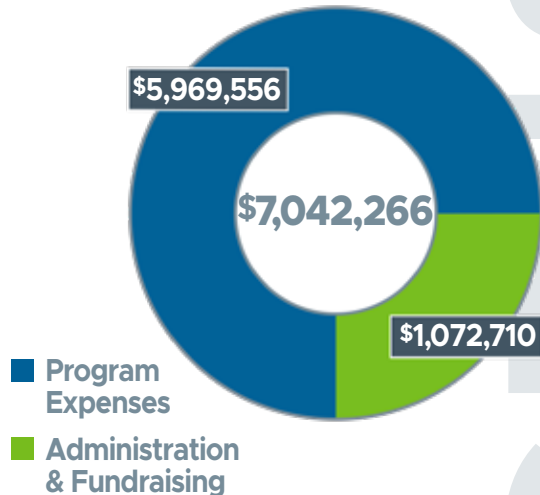


REVENUES & EXPENSES

INCOME

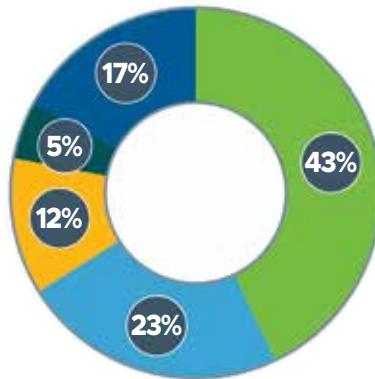


EXPENSES



WHERE DONORS GIVE

- 20% Child/Youth Dev.
- 3% Medical
- 19% Missionary Support
- 4% National Leaders
- 54% Worldwide Ministries
 - Media Evangelism
 - Disaster Relief
 - Mission Adventures
 - Ministry Projects



REVENUES BY DONOR

- Individuals | \$3,783,455 | 43%
- Estates | \$2,008,174 | 23%
- Churches | \$1,093,573 | 12%
- Foundations | \$426,650 | 5%
- Other | \$1,507,333 | 17%

In a year of so much uncertainty and so many obstacles to spreading the gospel, the blessings from building God's ministry on the foundation of the Word were even more abundantly evident.

– Stephen Turner
Chief Financial Officer,
AMG International

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

– ROMANS 12:12

OUR MISSION:
Advance the gospel by
equipping Christ-centered leaders
and local churches around the world
to meet the deepest needs
in their communities.



MEETING THE
DEEPEST NEEDS

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www.amginternational.org