

“Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.”

— Matthew 18:5 (NKJV)



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT: Futures of Hope

10 Stories of Kids Alive International staff and supporters around the world told through their eyes







## Corbey Dukes

Alpharetta | Georgia | USA

2021

I'm overwhelmed by what God has done through you and Kids Alive International's staff worldwide. Together, we continue to focus on our global goals to make life better for the children we serve:

- To enjoy a vibrant, life-changing relationship with God
- To experience emotional and physical well-being
- To equip them for a life of independence and service to others
- To help them live without fear, sowing the seeds of a violent-free family and community environment

### OUR REACH

Dominican Republic

Guatemala

Haiti

Kenya

Lebanon

Peru

Taiwan

Zambia

This year, with your help, we've served over 4,000 children and engaged with many of their families on four continents. While each of our locations serves specific niches, they have one thing in common: they embrace all that enter their doors, providing holistic care. All our children come from situations that put them at risk, and tragically some have experienced terrible trauma. We treat each with dignity. We give them a sense of agency: the ability to take charge of their future. We are delivering futures of hope!

The primary deliverers of this hope are our national staff humbly serving their communities. Paul instructed Titus to ordain local shepherds, acknowledging that locals know their fellow citizens' needs best (Titus 1:5). Kids Alive International follows this Biblical pattern by assigning qualified nationals — God's chosen women and men — to direct and guide the ministry.

Christ-centered passionate people excelling in their areas of specializations are the backbone of Kids Alive International's ministry. Motivated by an all-embracing, unconditional love, they're making a difference in their communities. The most effective way I can convey what they are accomplishing is by letting them tell their stories, for stories connect people, are easy to remember, and the ideas expressed in them change the world. You're reading a page-turner with a global all-star cast.

William Carey, the "Father of Modern Missions," said, "To know the will of God, we need an open Bible and an open map." With Atlanta as our departure point, let's tour our world map, seeing, through stories, how your generosity has equipped our front-line, selfless laborers.

God's peace,

Corbey Dukes, President

 **Begin**  
the journey with  
our global team



## Russia

Marina Kuzmina

We're heading northwest, from our new headquarters in Metro-Atlanta, Georgia, crossing the North Pacific, and then overland to Siberia, Russia, a 5,900-mile pilgrimage. Marina Vladimirovna Kuzmina, Ph.D., LPC, our Global Lead Trauma Care, greets us. Her warm smile and heart can melt the Siberian snow. Marina has served with Kids Alive International for four years. Due to COVID-19 and travel restrictions, for the last two years she has worked from her family's home in Siberia.

Coordinating her efforts from her home base, she trains our global staff remotely and in person. Educated in her home country, Russia, and the United States, she brings years of expertise, applying neuroscience technology to address trauma in the children we serve.



Trust-Based Relational Intervention® is a model of caregiving that sets the stage for children to develop a relationship with God, experience emotional and physical wellbeing, be equipped for a life of independence, and enjoy family and community free of fear and violence.

Marina is called to heal the brokenhearted. Inspired by Isaiah 61:1, she's training Kids Alive International caregivers, equipping them to heal traumatized children's hearts and minds for fruitful relationships with God, themselves, and their neighbors. "We must develop safe and nurturing relationships with our kids so they can experience heart healing," explains Marina. Aiming to mend hearts, she leads the way to deepen our understanding of trauma and facilitate healing. Through her leadership, Kids Alive hit the mark when it adopted Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) as its approach to caregiving. "It's a caregiving model that prepares children to develop a relationship with God, experience emotional and physical wellbeing, equip themselves for a life of independence, and enjoy family and community free of fear and violence: it helps heal hearts," Marina happily declares. It restores a traumatized child's trust, helping them experience, perhaps for the first time, safe relationships. Under Marina's guidance, our caregivers worldwide implement the program successfully, fulfilling the mission of Isaiah 61:1. Including places like...



# 2

## Lebanon Denise Dagher

Lebanon. We head 3,200 miles southwest to hear the story of Denise Dagher, the Kids Alive Lebanon Country Director and a national of Lebanon. Tried in the fires of human suffering, Denise lost her father at 13 and later her husband. A single mom with two young children, she would have had a rougher road ahead if not for the support of a Christian friend who, believing God had plans for her, funded her education. Graduating with a B.S. in Sociology and a teaching diploma, Denise paid her friend's generosity forward, becoming a channel of God's love. "Since then," explains Denise, "I decided to stand beside children and families who experienced loss, helping them see God's loving plan for them." On January 1, 2018, Denise joined our team.

Today, Denise and the team provide for the basic needs of around 150 children annually through short-term residential homes, a school, and care center programs. Following our organization's Isaiah 1:17 commission, she advocates for the rights and basic needs of oppressed refugees, regardless of nationality or religion, serving Lebanese, Syrian, Sudanese, and others affected by conflict and adverse financial conditions. Denise mentors the staff and consults with the teachers to ensure the children's success. "We want them to believe in themselves, providing safety, security, emotional healing, education, and the joy of Christ's love," explains Denise. Despite their tremendous hardships, the children flourish, beating the odds daily. Denise and the team labor on, unshaken by the political and economic trials of the region, because they know that their labor in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58).

**"I decided to stand beside children and families who experienced loss..."**  
— D. Dagher

# 3

## Kenya Purity Nyamu



We head 3,400 miles south, where the Country Director of Kids Alive Kenya, Purity Nyamu, warmly greets us with “Jambo!” in the local Swahili language. Purity’s mom, a government worker, successfully overcame many struggles to raise her and her sister, instilling essential principles in a patriarchal culture. “Mom taught us that women are valuable and need to be independent through education and hard work,” Purity recalls. The family attended church regularly. “When I was twelve, I realized that Christ’s precious blood saves me,” Purity declared. With this new revelation, Purity taught Sunday school class, introducing children to a living Savior. She went on to college, earning her MBA in Finance and Business Administration, and became a financial literacy trainer. However, she struggled over the insurmountable cycle of poverty, which can hinder the gospel. Then she discovered Kids Alive Kenya. “In 2011, I applied for the Country Director position knowing that’s where I could translate the gospel to real life.” The prosperity gospel is rampant in Kenya, declaring God will miraculously give you things if you give to the preacher. Conversely, “The gospel we preach does not despise work,” rejoices Purity. “Work is God’s means through which people meet, provide for their families, and understand human dignity.”

Today, Purity leads the work across the country, serving over 800 children in Kenya. About 500 of these are in our K-8 school. “We work in communities where child labor and abuse are rampant,” Purity explains. Many households are child-led, either because the parents are sick with diseases like HIV/AIDS or they’re out of the picture. As a result, children take it upon themselves to work in stone quarries to feed their siblings. “We bring these children to school, provide them meals, and help their families with medical care, emotional support, and career training.” Purity thinks long-term. “In five years, I want everyone to know that Kids Alive does what’s best for the children and creates lasting partnerships with families and communities, breaking the cycle of poverty in the power of Christ’s love.” Purity encourages us: “God calls us to share the gospel by word and deed, and Kids Alive Kenya is a means to meet the needs of children, families, and communities suffering from sickness, poverty, and abuse.”

**“This organization breaks the adverse cycle, preparing kids for the future.”**

— P. Nyamu



# 4

## Zambia Matengu Kalaluka



Our world tour resumes. Let's go 1,500 miles south to Zambia to meet Matengu Kalaluka, Principal at Kids Alive Zambia Academy in Mongu. He's celebrating three years with Kids Alive Zambia and the birth of his first baby. Matengu is passionate about teaching, inspired by his boyhood physics and math teachers. His zeal increased after he discovered Christ. "After accepting Jesus, I became a church leader. I thought about becoming a pastor, but a friend encouraged me to pursue my passion, which I did, receiving my degree in Education and Leadership Management." Empathy led him to Kids Alive. "I grew up an orphan, and when I heard about the organization's work with vulnerable children, I wanted to serve there, knowing how much love-inspired education can improve their lives."

The once-orphaned family man lives his vision, overseeing 10 teachers and 525 students. They use standard government curricula, and teachers

apply advanced teaching methodologies to connect with a child's unique learning needs. Staff utilize trauma-responsive methodologies, provide meals for the malnourished, and teach Bible lessons during weekly worship gatherings, teaching them their value in God's eyes. The children's communities have expressed admiration for the school's superior results. "I know how to care for vulnerable children because I was one," Matengu declares. "They think they're hated; their minds need healing." Time at the Academy removes the negative thoughts troubling them, replacing hate with loving acceptance. Matengu is incredibly grateful to God for our donors because "To appreciate Kids Alive Academy, imagine a vulnerable child's life without it," Matengu explains. "They'd be without free education, trauma care, food, and exposure to God's love."

**"I know how to care for vulnerable children because I was one."**

— M. Kalaluka

# Our History

Facts & Stats



An American missionary couple, Leslie and Ava Anglin, with a heart for the poor, prayed about the best way to physically and spiritually help the people in Taian (Shantung Province), China. Their prayers resulted in the Home of Onesiphorus. It began operations in 1916, raising young Chinese men and women who would spread kindness and faith among their people.

From these humble beginnings, Leslie and Ava’s work now spans the globe through Kids Alive International, caring for thousands of children through education, health care, discipleship, community outreach, counseling, emergency services, and other programs meeting various needs.



## Behind Every Number is a Story

These numbers do not do justice to the sum of our work. Kids Alive International goes beyond serving meals to hungry children: we provide for their immediate and long-term needs. We give them a sense of agency: the ability to define their future, regardless of circumstances, living creative lives, thriving instead of surviving. Our teams influence the children, their families, communities, local and national governments, and public agencies.

Our mission is the call of Isaiah 1:17, to serve these children by constantly learning better ways to meet their needs, earnestly seeking justice for them, empowering them for a healthy future, and advocating for community change.

**4,187**  
Children served

**204**  
Number of children reintegrated with families

**845**  
Staff and missionaries



You can learn more about Kids Alive’s work in these countries by going to [www.kidsalive.org/where-we-work](http://www.kidsalive.org/where-we-work) or scanning the QR code.





# Our Reach and Our Impact

Kids Alive International is on the ground in eight countries. Because needs vary from region to region, Kids Alive offers strategic programs to meet individual needs. For over 100 years, our mission is Isaiah 1:17: to provide Christian care for vulnerable children. Our founder, Leslie Anglin, when he began this work nearly a century ago, said, “God will see us safely to our destination.” He’s never failed.

“God will see us safely to our destination.”  
— Leslie Anglin, Founder



All figures above are based on 2021 stats.

5

Peru  
Analu Cornejo

We travel west about 6,900 miles, crossing the Atlantic Ocean and arriving in Peru, and Analu Lucía Cecilia Cornejo Fudinaga, Kids Alive Peru Therapeutic Team Lead, warmly greets us. Analu studied psychology in Arequipa, Peru, at the Universidad Nacaional San Augustin and received her master’s degree in Clinical Psychology from Wheaton College. Her family and Scripture inspire her work. “God gave me a family, and they created a haven where I could empathize with the pains and losses of others,” Analu explains. Analu branches out from the bosom of her loving family to share Paul’s message of reconciliation through her work. Analu joyfully declares, “Although we see so much brokenness in the world, we have the incredible privilege of being God’s partners, serving the broken as ministers of reconciliation, imparting the same gift we enjoy.”

Analu brings that empathy and joy to Kids Alive, serving on a team of psychologists and ministering to children and their families. “We provide a safe space for them to learn about themselves and how trauma affects but does not determine their lives,” says Analu. Once the children learn these valuable lessons, they start their healing journey with Analu and with the team by her side. Through the latest evidence-based practices, the children discover something circumstances deprived them of: trust. “My greatest joy is watching Kids Alive staff living godly lives that breed trust. They conduct themselves in such a way that barely requires words, for the children and families intuitively know that they love them.”



**“We have the incredible privilege of being God’s partners, serving the broken as ministers of reconciliation, imparting the same gift we enjoy.”**

— A. Cornejo



# 6

## Dominican Republic Vic and Leslie Trautwein

**“In 2002, our staff included 50 Dominican staff and 13 missionaries; today, it’s 325 Dominican staff and 30 missionaries.”**

— V. Trautwein

We now head north about 2,000 miles to the Dominican Republic, where Vic and Leslie Trautwein eagerly await us. The couple met in college, held prestigious jobs, served at their local church, and enjoyed a comfortable lifestyle. However, something was stirring. “I sensed a deep desire to serve the underserved and under-resourced,” Vic declared. After hearing about Kids Alive at a Church Mission Festival, Vic and Leslie answered the call in 2001. So, with earnestness and speed that left their neighbors breathless, they packed

up. Then, with one-way tickets in their hands and Romans 8:28 in their hearts, Vic, Leslie, and their four young children left their familiar and secure Chicagoland lifestyle for the unknown and exciting Dominican Republic.

Today, Vic is the Country Co-Director, and Leslie is the Director of Medical Services, overseeing seven schools and three residential campuses, serving 2,000 kids daily. “The community loves us,” says Vic, “because we deliver holistic care, meeting the nutritional, emotional, and educational needs of kids from challenging circumstances.” The school enjoys exceptional graduation rates, and its children are less prone to pregnancies than other schools. National staff members inspire the future. “In 2002, our staff included 50 Dominican staff and 13 missionaries,” explains Vic. “Today, it’s 325 Dominican staff and 30 missionaries.” Vic and Leslie are raising local heroes who become the primary agents of change. The team wears t-shirts with Christ’s words in Matthew 20:28 written on them. “Christ came to serve and to give, and that’s our motto,” Leslie avows. They pray God will provide more Dominican staff, North American student champions, and campus partners for the efficient Kids Alive Dominican Republic programs.



## Haiti

Verlanda Alexandre

Remaining on Hispaniola Island, let's head around 250 miles west to Haiti and visit Verlanda Alexandre, the Safeguarding Officer at Kids Alive International's Cap Haitien facilities. Verlanda was born into a Christian family and graduated from the University of Notre Dame in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, receiving her clinical and social psychology degree. Her passion for children came early. "I saw many underaged friends become pregnant, and helping them care for their children inspired me," Verlanda explains. She applies that passion as a Sunday school teacher and with Kids Alive Haiti.

Today, Verlanda brings her experience to our children's village and school, serving over 220 kids on a single campus. "Our kids are poverty-stricken," says Verlanda, "and my job is to ensure they live in a safe environment where they learn

to believe in and express themselves." Safeguarding Officers pursue the safety and welfare of children and staff; the position is essential to organizational health. In an environment where she and her students face the daily threat of kidnapping, soaring gas prices of up to twenty-five dollars per gallon, an entrenched culture of voodoo, and living with the uncertainty of steady water and electricity, Verlanda gets the job done. You wouldn't know she was surrounded by adversity judging by her engaging smile, infectious laugh, and visible joy. She rejoices in God's precious promises, "The key to success is Joshua 1:8, which I read daily." Success is measured by feeding, clothing, encouraging, and educating kids who become confident adults basking in God's love despite challenging circumstances.

**"Study this Book of Instruction continually... Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."**

— Joshua 1:8 (NLT)



## Guatemala

Matt and Nora Vos

Our final excursion is 1,200 miles west across the Caribbean Sea to Guatemala. Meet American missionary Matt Vos, Team Visits Coordinator and Communications Specialist with a degree in special education. His late grandfather’s advice motivates him. “Grandpa, the most positive, present, fun, and encouraging person I knew, encouraged me to make the most of every moment,” Matt fondly remembers. He evoked grandpa’s words as he grew in faith, “redeeming the time” (Ephesians 5:16). In 2014, while serving as his church’s Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry, he volunteered for a Kids Alive Service Missions trip to Guatemala, and his life forever changed. His team’s coordinator was Nora. They fell in love and married in 2016. Matt joined Nora at Kids Alive, relocating to Guatemala, and they welcomed their first child in 2018. Now that’s a great love story!

Matt applies grandpa’s wisdom in Guatemala, redeeming every opportunity to help the staff and the children they serve reach their full potential. He wants everyone involved to grasp the ministry’s vision. “Something special happens when new people experience our life-changing work firsthand,” Matt explains. “I love watching them enjoy that satisfying wow-moment.” The work touches everyone involved. Nora agrees, “I love this work because I see hearts transformed, resulting in changes in behavior, attitude, and spiritual understanding, and through it, I met Matt.” The couple is incredibly proud that Guatemalan professionals do the heart of the work while missionaries have their backs. Matt says to potential supporters or support team volunteers, “Seek to know and obey your Heavenly Father’s heart and just go; be flexible, humble, and don’t take yourself too seriously.”

**“Something special happens when new people experience our life-changing work firsthand.”**  
— M. Vos

# 9

## California, USA

David Peterson

We've circled the globe covering over 25,000 miles and now return to America to meet people, like you, who make our work possible.

David Peterson, surrounded by baseball memorabilia, revels in his childhood. A lifelong resident of Southern California, he grew up in a close-knit Christian family with involved parents, grandparents, and sisters. "I went to church, played sports, especially baseball, and I have fond holiday memories," remembers David. His favorite ballplayer is retired Colorado Rockies star Todd Helton, "who always got the job done without fanfare," a quality he admires. David gets it done, too. He earned his business degree with an emphasis in sports management from Concordia University Irvine. After graduation, he worked in sports memorabilia. After many adventures, David changed course, becoming a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones. "God put me in a career that was perfect for me," David explains. "I am part of every major decision in my clients' lives, from birth to retirement, and I love guiding them to their goals."

An Edward Jones colleague introduced David to Kids Alive International. Together they took a trip to the Dominican Republic, where they built a playground and gifted baseball equipment. "I saw kids happily playing, and my eyes were opened," David affirms. He sponsored a child, and in less than two years, he received startling news: a letter stating Kids Alive reunited the child with his family. "What amazes me is that Kids Alive is changing the country's culture; they help kids and bring their oppressors to justice," says David. "Speaking as a numbers guy, I've never seen a dollar go further. This organization gets things done, and I want to be part of it."



**" Kids Alive is changing the country's culture; they help kids and bring their oppressors to justice."**

— D. Peterson



# 10

## Georgia, USA Steve and Nancy Ike



Steve and Nancy Ike are getting ready to celebrate their thirtieth wedding anniversary. Each came to a life-changing realization. “Although I grew up Christian, it wasn’t until later that I understood God’s love and who I am in Christ,” Nancy explains. Steve said he “went from knowing about Him to knowing Him and learning my identity in Him.” That mindset enlarged their hearts, disposing them to serve others. “We see people as God’s valuable children,” Steve explained. As a result, Steve, a management consultant, and Nancy, a pediatric nurse, make time for local and international mission opportunities.



The Ikes are actively involved in their church’s mission activities, through which they discovered Kids Alive International.

**“This organization breaks the adverse cycle, preparing kids for the future.”**

— S. and N. Ike

Steve previously joined service teams in Guatemala. This year, it was Nancy’s turn to experience the adventure. “As a partner, I wanted to see my gifts in action firsthand,” Nancy explains. She was overwhelmed by her discovery. “Kids Alive is meticulous: rescuing kids, setting them up for success, working with families, providing outstanding legal services, and employing a staff that goes way beyond a forty-hour work week.” Steve observes that the “Kids Alive staff are passionate, bringing transformation, restoration, and integration, and the work has a reciprocal effect on the kids and staff.” Mutual love and respect govern the atmosphere. “The trip changed my life,” Nancy proclaims. “We witnessed responsible stewardship verified by measurable outcomes: convicted criminals and restored girls,” Steve said. Today, the couple, through their church community, inspire others to witness what Kids Alive International is accomplishing. The Ikes summarize: “This organization breaks the adverse cycle, preparing kids for the future.”

## Sheri McCurley



I hope you've enjoyed our world tour and that these stories have offered tangible insight into who we are. Stories are shared experiences, allowing us to talk with you instead of at you.

### We're in this together.

As a volunteer and supporter of Kids Alive International for more than 15 years, I am grateful that all our staff, especially those on the frontlines, have labored tirelessly, as these stories clearly demonstrate. Our global team has transformed the way we communicate since COVID-19 hindered travel. Our field staff learned new technologies to deliver ministry programs and services to families and their communities, including Bible studies, counseling, education, and food deliveries. Plus, we virtually connected our supporters with places they couldn't visit. I believe this development will improve communications and contribute to an informed sensitivity promoting dignified cross-cultural understandings and relations.

Additionally, Kids Alive staff overcame the stresses of relocation while at the same time globally implementing trauma-response intervention as an approach to caregiving, helping Kids Alive better address the deepest needs of the children entrusted to them.

I want to say a special thank you to the faith community. Your consistent support makes the stories we've read possible. Your prayers, fundraising efforts, word-of-mouth sharing, and volunteer services are works that will not go unnoticed (1 Timothy 5:25). We pray that you'll continue doing what you're doing.

Finally, I am proud to serve an organization with impeccable stewardship principles. They let nothing go to waste, ensuring full service to each person in our care.

Let's have their backs for years to come!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheri McCurley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

Sheri McCurley, Board Chair



# Stewardship of Resources

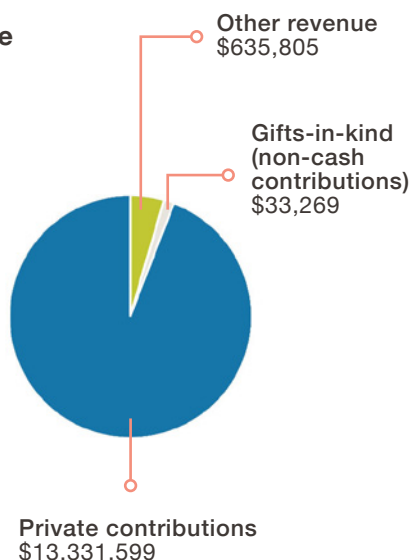
We take the Biblical concept of charitable stewardship seriously. “...avoiding this: that anyone should blame us in this lavish gift which is administered by us — providing honorable things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.”

— 1 Corinthians 4:2 (NJKV)



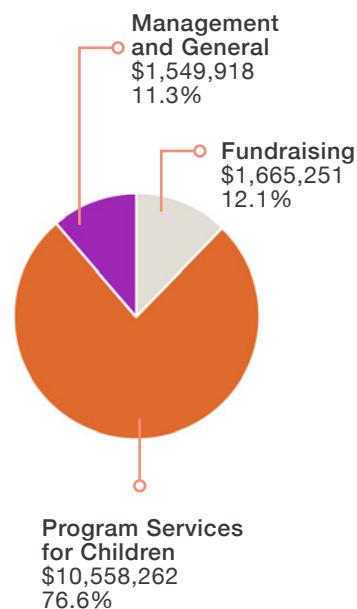
## Revenues

**Total Revenue**  
\$14,000,673



## Operating Expenses

**Total Expenses**  
\$13,773,431



For the complete 2021 Audited Financial Statement, go to [www.kidsalive.org/stewardship-2022](http://www.kidsalive.org/stewardship-2022)

## Board of Directors

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Managing Principal, Senior Wealth Advisor  
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## We Thank

Kids Alive International is grateful for all who played a part in our success through partnership, financial gifts, and prayer. Our impact would not be possible without your generosity.

## Annual Report Team

### **Kids Alive International**

#### **Sanjay Sojwal**

Director of Communications  
and Resource Development

#### **Dan Sheridan**

Donor Communications Manager  
and Writer

#### **Valerie Blohm**

Production Manager

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#### **Jenifer Cooper**

Designer, Cooperworks, Inc.

Learn to do right;  
seek justice.  
Defend the oppressed.  
Take up the cause  
of the fatherless...

— Isaiah 1:17 (NIV)



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