

globalfingerprints
sponsorship program

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Meet Lily

She lives in Brazil.



On any Sunday, you will find her in church. Her smile is contagious and her joy apparent as she enters into worship of our Lord. The church staff greet her by name, her care worker encircling her with a loving embrace. As the pastor preaches, Lily takes careful notes, seeking to grow in her faith.

If you had met Lily a year ago, you would have met a very different child. Challenges at home, lack of role models and urban temptations threatened to steal her childhood. At eleven, she was being pushed toward a life from which there would be no escape.

But God intervened and a concerned family member removed her from the difficult situation. She was brought to church, taught God's word, and enrolled in GlobalFingerprints. With the guidance of the believers around her, her life was transformed.

Because God is at work through Global-Fingerprints, Lily's story is not unique. Every day we hear stories of God transforming children's lives in amazing ways. Children begin to excel at school as they benefit from tutoring classes. A young man has begun attending seminary, the first person in his area to do so in a wheelchair. A young girl now has the energy to participate in play, thanks to receiving vital medication.

And most importantly, children like Lily are hearing about Jesus and coming to faith, impacting entire families with the Gospel. All because of your choice to sponsor a child.

We rejoice at all that God has done this year in hard places around the world. Thank you for your part in His work.

*names changed for security

GLOBALFINGERPRINTS BY THE NUMBERS

12
countries

3
Churches
Revitalized

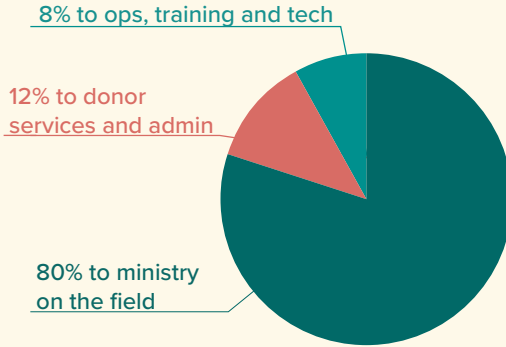
17
Churches
Planted

150+
Churches
Strengthened

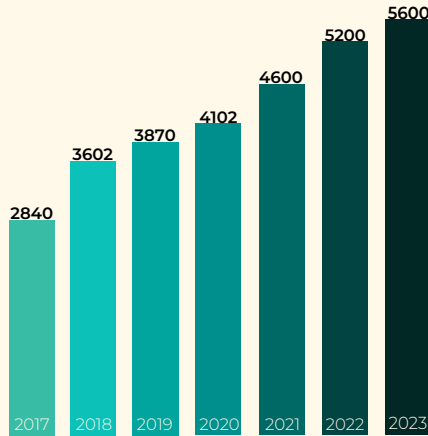
100
Partner Churches
in USA

4607
sponsors 1.2 children per sponsor

5600*
children sponsored
*approximate



How is my sponsorship used?



Historical Sponsorship Numbers

The Power of Your Sponsorship

Elikya Center is a unique place for older children, young adults and widows to learn a trade that will allow them to transition well into adulthood. Options for vocational training include: agriculture, carpentry, hairdressing, mechanics, sewing, and soap-making. Along with learning a trade, students are taught basic life skills, literacy, and participate in Bible study. Below are a few stories from some recent graduates of Elikya.

Mbiayaka graduated just last year. His sewing business allows him the flexibility to work in the afternoon while spending his morning in school, continuing his education.

Micheline also learned sewing during her time at Elikya. Since graduating, she has built a great connection with her local church and recently married a fellow Elikya graduate. Her ability to sew helps to provide for her family.



An Unlikely Pastor

When Henry announced that he wanted to become a pastor, many people said he couldn't. Wheelchair-bound because of polio, Henry didn't look like any of the other pastors his community had seen. Having grown up in GlobalFingerprints' Promise Home for disabled youth in Congo, Henry had developed a love for God, His word, and His people. He is now entering his first year of seminary and would love your prayers! **"Man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7b).**

Ruth studied soap-making at Elikya. She recently became the leader of the widow support group at her church. Her soap-making profits have allowed her to buy goats and chickens and help her to be self-sufficient.

Thanks to your support, God has used the Elikya Center to play a pivotal role in helping children and young adults graduate from the GlobalFingerprints program with skills to support themselves in the future.

*names changed for security



A Girl Named Success

Several years ago, we met this happy little girl in the GlobalFingerprints program named Success. Although she and her siblings lived with their widowed mother in a poor and dangerous neighborhood, she always had a smile on her face. Soon after we met her, her older siblings started acting strangely and her mother sent them to live with relatives. Success began to act withdrawn and her sunny disposition and smile were gone. Then, her mother took her and moved away, and we had to remove her from the program.

Over two years later, Success moved back into a community where GlobalFingerprints serves and the staff immediately got her reenrolled in our program. Today she is once again a smiling, happy girl. Pray that Success continues to experience success and feel God's love and care for her.

Recently, she wrote this message to her sponsor expressing her gratitude and excitement for life: **Dear sponsor, I don't have enough words to express to you. I extend my thanks to you very much. I was promoted to grade six. Thank you very much, sponsor. Let God's continued blessings be upon you and your family. My prayers for you. Thanks, Success**

Damayyan

Damayyan means **"to empathize with the other, helping each other."** The name of this new church plant in the Philippines is reflective of this strong value within the culture. This church plant brings wholistic help to the community where it is located. The young church planter explained that association with GlobalFingerprints is God's means of allowing them to reach the broken and the lost in this community.

Seeking to provide nourishment for both body and soul, the church hosts classes several times a week, offering a healthy meal and vibrant worship to the children in this neighborhood. The word of God is shared and children and families are being impacted. In the words of Pastor Ariel, who has served in this area for decades, "when the whole family is touched - transformed - you are affecting the whole community, to the point that a church is actually born or an existing church is strengthened and revitalized. That is how powerful your gift to this child is. It helps not only the single person but the whole household and whole community." Pastor Ariel goes on to say that child sponsorship impacts lives for eternity and, **"it changes, sometimes entire nations."**

A Place to Thrive

Before Sarah encountered GlobalFingerprints, she lived on the streets with her grandmother. She and her grandmother would go from house to house, begging for food as a means to survive. The challenges of this lifestyle led to ill-mannered and disrespectful behavior. When care workers met Sarah and saw the conditions in which she lived, she was quickly enrolled in the GlobalFingerprints program.

The local church realized Sarah's need for stability and a Sunday school teacher welcomed her into her home. Soon Sarah began attending church activities and developed a strong connection with her care workers.

As she learned about Jesus, He began to change her heart and attitudes and she committed her life to Him. Sarah now attends school regularly and her behaviors have improved. She has even shared the Gospel with her grandmother! Pray with us that Sarah would continue to grow in Christ and that her grandmother would come to faith in Him.

*names changed for security



Dear Sponsor,

Our vision is for every GlobalFingerprints child to know Christ and sustain themselves when they bridge out of our program. Recently, our team had the opportunity to celebrate sponsored youth fulfilling that vision.

There is Nina. Her parents have very little education, but she is now in her second year of college to be a teacher.

And there's Philip who grew up in a Muslim slum. Now, he is in Bible school and wants to serve the Lord in ministry.

And we're so thankful for Sebastien. Even with the chaos from a collapsed government in Haiti, he recently graduated with a vocational degree to be an electrician.

As I rejoice in God's work in the lives of these young people, I am struck by their common desire - or drive - to pursue education beyond high school.

Post secondary education is critical for GlobalFingerprints children to escape poverty and reach their God-given potential. And though it only costs about \$1,000 per year, it is out of reach for families of children in our program.

That's why we hope to raise \$50,000 for university and vocational training assistance this Christmas season. Your contribution of any amount will help more young people like Nina, Philip and Sebastien escape poverty and impact their generation for Christ.

Blessings to you and your loved ones this Christmas,

Greg Norwine, GlobalFingerprints Director

Did you know you can hear from your or about your child?

Stay in touch by following the three steps below:

Step 1: Visit our website and log into your sponsor account using the email and password you created during the signup process.

Step 2: Click "View Sponsorship and Correspondence" Located just below "Sponsor Information," the "Active Sponsorships" section includes information such as when you started sponsoring a child and your payment details (tip: you can also update your payment information here at any time).

Step 3: Click "View Your Child's Messages" Just below your child's photo, you'll see a feed of messages from your child. Click the button under this feed to see them all. To write back, type your message in the "Send a Message" text box on the Sponsorship and Correspondence page, and then hit "send message." Your child loves to hear from you!

Need help accessing your account? Please don't hesitate to contact us.

*names changed for security

Year End Giving

Check:

Made out to EFCA

Memo line: GlobalFingerprints-3868

Enclose check in included envelope and return to:

Donor Services

901 East 78th Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420

Online:

<https://give.efca.org>

Note *GlobalFingerprints-3868* in the designation



Scan the QR Code for online giving




Scan the QR Code for sponsorship increase

Increase Sponsorship:

Scan the QR to authorize us to increase your sponsorship to \$39 a month

Contact Us

 (952) 853-8419

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