



2018

# REMEMBER NHU

*Annual Report*



## A Letter from our Founder...

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Dear Friends,

As I look back on the year, I am grateful for the many people like you who have given of your time, treasure, and talent to end child sex slavery through prevention. It is because of you that today over 2,000 children will no longer be sold into sex slavery through the work of Remember Nhu!

I wanted to provide you an update coming out of yet another fruitful year.

### ***New Territory***

We were able to expand into two new countries this past year. Romania and Albania had been on our radar for quite some time—they are countries in Europe where children are trafficked for prostitution on a daily basis and the risks of recruitment remain high, especially for the poor and less educated. We are happy to now be protecting children in both countries by pairing them with great foster families.

### **New Prevention Homes**

Last year we added 15 prevention homes across six countries: Myanmar, Tanzania, Kenya, Bolivia, Romania, and Albania.

The Bolivia home in particular was very exciting for us. We had waited for several years to get NGO (Non Governmental Organization) approval from the government, and we finally received it, allowing us to open our first official girls home. Thank you to all who have prayed for this!

### ***My First Sabbatical***

As I write this letter, my wife Laura & I are on our first Sabbatical—not just the first in our 11 years since starting Remember Nhu, but the first of our whole lives! It has been great to rest and refresh, but it has been more than that.

As part of my Sabbatical, I started a Doctorate in Leadership at Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack, New York. The purpose of this is to grow as a leader but also to research the next phase of Remember Nhu's work, which I am very excited about. I believe God has been speaking to me about the future of Remember Nhu and where we are headed, and I cannot wait to share more with you in the future.

The Sabbatical has also allowed Laura and I to spend some time with our daughter Nhu and her husband Gabriel—they are doing very well.

I hope you find this year's Annual Report both helpful and encouraging. Thank you for impacting the lives of so many children through your amazing support.

Agape,


Carl

*Carl Ralston*

Carl Ralston  
Founder and President

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."  
John 13:34*



A young woman with dark hair, wearing a light pink V-neck cardigan over a dark top, stands in a rustic wooden structure. She is washing a large metal basin under a water tap. The background features a wall with a woven bamboo pattern and wooden beams. The scene is lit with warm, natural light.

**Your generosity  
is restoring  
dignity and  
dreams to  
those who  
once feared  
the worst.**

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# Our Progress →

Total Prevention Homes: 94\*

Total Children in Our Care: 1,673



## Myanmar

*8 Girls' Homes & 8 Boys' Homes*



## Cambodia

*3 Girls' Homes & 1 Boys' Home*



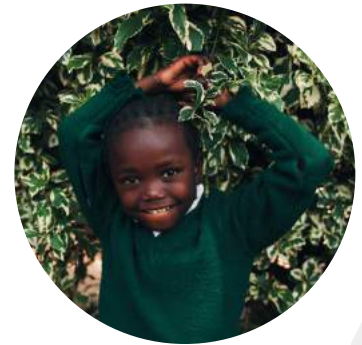
## Philippines

*2 Girls' Homes & 1 Boys' Home*



## Thailand

*11 Girls' Homes & 6 Boys' Homes*



## Tanzania

*4 Girls' Homes*



## Albania

*4 Foster Families with 4 children in our care*



## Kenya

*19 Girls Homes & 5 Boys' Homes*



## Moldova

*4 Foster Families with 11 children in our care*

Total Countries of Operation: 15

Total Children Protected to Date (Including Past Graduates): 2,009



**Uganda**

*1 Girls Home & 1 Boys' Home*



**Romania**

*5 Foster Families with 5 children in our care*



**Gambia**

*3 Girls' Homes & 1 Boys' Home*



**India**

*1 Girls' Home & 1 Boys' Home*



**Guinea Bissau**

*2 Girls' Homes*



**Bolivia**

*1 Girls' Home*



**Undisclosed Country**

*(For their protection) 2 Boys' Homes*

\* This includes both traditional Remember Nhu Children's Homes and homes in which children are cared for through Foster Families.



# Something to Talk About

*A South America Story*

Stories

Outside the city, a young Bolivian girl named Kamila has just walked through the front door of her Remember Nhu home after a six-hour day at school. She's chatting non-stop with two of her house sisters and doesn't take a break from talking to shrug her backpack down to her side, routinely tossing it into her cubby. It's a voice from the kitchen greeting the girls that causes Kamila to twist around and run over to be enveloped by a hug. Kamila's house mother, a tiny woman in stature yet boasting a larger-than-life smile, claims the prize of a giant embrace.

During this whole exchange, Kamila has not stopped talking.

She is a happy, outgoing, and energetic girl...but it hasn't always been this way. In fact, this is all very new for Kamila's personality. "Before coming into the home, she was always very quiet with us," says our Bolivian country director, Rick Methvin. "She has always interacted and at times has given us some hint of a smile, but she has always been guarded. She wanted to come to the home, but there was no emotion when she spoke about it and there was some concern on our behalf if she would adjust well."

It's not easy being a female in Bolivian culture. More than 53 percent of Bolivian women have suffered violence at the hands of a male (the international rate, according to the United Nations, is 35 percent). In Bolivia, the tradition of machismo—an exaggerated, aggressive form of masculinity—is deeply embedded in family relationships and social interactions. It's one of the reasons for a higher rate of violence against females in a country where many girls are forced into prostitution around the age of 15 or 16.

As if that isn't enough of a cultural hurdle, Kamila also comes from the Ayoreo tribe, who are amongst the most oppressed of Bolivia's indigenous people. Kamila's home village was a clustered slum where running water and sanitation are scarce and electricity is

spotty at best. Her future seemed bound toward one of the two most popular options for young females: begging or sex work.

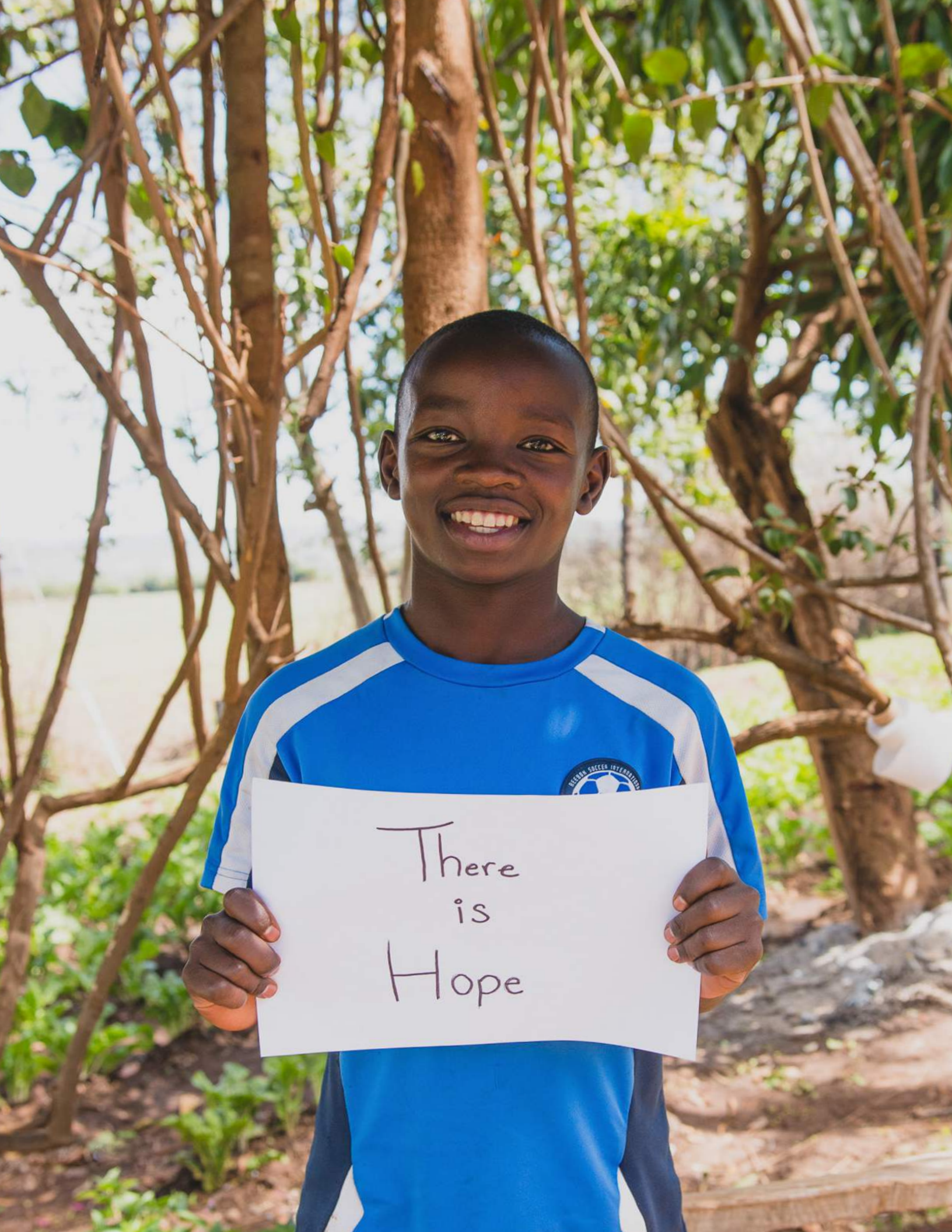
However, Kamila's story is a miracle within a miracle. For many years Remember Nhu had been trying to open a home in Bolivia to no avail, denied time and time again by the government. It seemed at one point as if we may never be able to prevent girls like Kamila in Bolivia from being trafficked through the solution of 24-7 housing.

That is until earlier this year, when everything changed in a flash: we finally received notification of NGO approval, an act of God allowing us to open our first-ever official girl's home in Bolivia. One of the first girl's invited to join the home was the then-quiet Ayoreo girl named Kamila. It didn't take very long for her to blossom in her new environment.

"It's amazing what the love of Christ and the security of a home can do," our Country Director writes. "In just a short time (Kamila) has changed completely. She is so full of joy, affection and love. She is laughing, playing, and loving in ways we could never have imagined. She has taken charge in the home and is helping and supporting the other girls as well. The transformation is overwhelming for us. She loves the local church and is excited to learn more. We are praising the Lord for the encouragement she brings to all of us."

The first home in Bolivia is off to a great start, providing safety and nurturing to six young girls (with more on the way). With the newly acquired NGO status, a future of multiple homes in Bolivia is imminent, which would allow more young and "guarded" girls the opportunity to no longer fear sexual exploitation in Bolivia.

In the mean time, Kamila is still laughing and of course, talking. Though she never seems to let up these days, we have yet to ask her to stop talking quite so much. And we may never.



There  
is  
Hope



## Keeping Up With

*Nhu* ♡

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**A**s Remember Nhu approaches its twelfth year as an organization, we marvel at how one girl's bravery many years ago has been used by God to spark a movement of hope for at-risk children throughout the world. It is an understatement to say that Nhu has come a long way since being trafficked in Cambodia as a little girl. Her joyful smile and powerful story of redemption continue to inspire us each day.

Recently we sat down to catch up with the namesake of Remember Nhu and her husband over a little Q&A in Portland, Oregon:

**Q:** Congrats on being married for two years now! How is married life?

**NHU:** *Thank you! Marriage is great, Gabriel is a great husband and we have fun together. We are living in Portland, working a lot, and building a life together. God has been so good to us.*

**Q:** Gabriel, it is a joy to see the kind and loving husband you are to Nhu. What is it about Nhu's story that inspires you as her husband?

**GABRIEL:** *I'm so happy and grateful to God because He gave me the blessing of an amazing wife like Nhu. Her story makes me want to become the best husband possible for her because she has suffered so much. I always remember the bible verse, "He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord" (Prov.18:22). I believe God is using me to be that spiritual leader in our home because for us men, that's what we are called to do. I give God the glory everyday for our marriage.*





**Q:** So Nhu, what types of things have been filling your time these days? What are you up to?

**NHU:** *Life has been busy but good. I am working full time at a nail salon close to our home in Hillsboro (a suburb of Portland). Gabriel works close to our home too in banking. I am also going to school now for hair styling to get my license and become a hair stylist! We of course also do as much as we can for Remember Nhu. Outside of work, Gabriel and I spend time together either relaxing at home, going out to dinner, or going to the movies together. I am just feeling blessed by our life.*

**Q:** Nhu, people always wonder—going through such difficult things as a child, how is it that you have found healing in your life?

**NHU:** *I know that God has healed me and that He was with me all along. Throughout any of the bad things I went through, God was there to love me and give me hope. Choosing to think about the positives in life has really helped me to heal. Also being a “normal married girl” has helped me.*

**Q:** What sort of things are you doing for Remember Nhu these days?

**GABRIEL:** *Nhu speaks at churches that partner with Remember Nhu and she also calls sponsors for the children of Remember Nhu to say “Thank You.” We try to serve in whatever ways we can as a couple by being at banquets, churches, or helping with booths at conferences.*

**Q:** Gabriel, we know that you are a fan of soccer (or better put, “fútbol”). Who is your favorite team?

**GABRIEL:** *My family and I have always been big fans of soccer. My favorite teams are my hometown Portland Timbers, who also donated some uniforms to the Remember Nhu children in Thailand! And my favorite international team is Real Madrid Club in Spain... since I was a little kid I have watched my favorite players play for that team.*

**Q:** What are your dreams for the future as a couple?

**NHU:** *Our goal as a couple is to always keep God first in our marriage, and to be a good example for other couples. We dream of having children in the future and raising a family. We also would like to own our own business one day.*

**Q:** Nhu, what would you want to say to the supporters and donors of Remember Nhu?

**NHU:** *I would say “Thank You” for everyone who gives, spreads the word, and works hard to keep the children safe in our homes around the world. Thank you for your generous spirit to help the children. When you help the children, I believe God blesses your soul.*



# New Country Spotlights: Albania & Romania

*A Europe Story*

Stories

Last year we entered the country of Moldova in Eastern Europe, where we have been working with the local church to place at-risk children in loving Christian foster homes. This has been going so well that when we learned of similar opportunities in other European countries where children were at-risk, we were happy to follow God's lead.

Through great contacts, we were able to assist in the placement of children into foster families in the nation of Albania. Located on Europe's Balkan Peninsula, Albania is a country with a strange history when compared to that of its Mediterranean neighbors. Due to nearly five centuries of Ottoman rule, Albania is a predominantly Muslim country, although it came under Communist rule that oppressed religion for 45 years ending very recently in the 1990's.

The end of communism combined with a collapse of the economy in 1997 tragically gave rise to human trafficking in Albania. The country quickly became a primary source country for women and children trafficked for sex across countries such as Kosovo, Greece, Italy and the United Kingdom. In fact according to the Department of State—of the 140,000 victims of human trafficking in Europe, a staggering 12.5% - 40% of victims trafficked to their jurisdiction were of Albanian origin.

By working with locals to get at-risk children off the streets and into foster families where their physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs can be met—Remember Nhu hopes to be a part of change in a country that needs it badly.

Another new country we set up operation in this past year was Ro-

mania. This is a country that had been on our radar for a very long time, often rated by Eurostat in the top five countries of origin for victims of human trafficking in the European Union. One-third



of trafficking victims in Romania are under aged girls. Over the years, the capital of Bucharest in particular has emerged as a top sex-industry destination in Europe.

Taking what we have learned from our involvement with foster care in

other European places, we were happy to assist in the pairing of Romanian children with loving homes where they will no longer be at risk of sex slavery.

In both Albania and Romania, the majority of foster children we are helping are Romani (or Gypsy), a people group widely marginalized and oppressed throughout Eastern Europe today, making Romani children even more at risk of sex trafficking.

As long as Remember Nhu's mission is Ending Child Sex Slavery Through Prevention, these are the types of countries and regions of the world that will remain high on our list for establishing prevention work. Thank you for joining with us in believing that God's heart is to save and protect children from sex slavery in the continent of Europe! We are grateful for your support that enables us to help more at-risk children in new and innovative ways throughout the world.



# Grace Upon Grace

*An Africa Story*

**M**ost eight-year-olds around the world find themselves learning, playing, and growing during the carefree prime of child innocence. The greatest worry they face ought to be something like getting 2nd grade homework finished, dealing with unkind words from a classmate, or perhaps at worst a broken arm.

While this may be true for the majority of children in the West, there are many less fortunate around the world. For an eight-year-old named Grace in Uganda, an unthinkable fear became a reality: she was about to be sold in marriage to an older man.

Uganda is a country that Remember Nhu has been active in for a few years now, establishing multiple prevention homes for children amongst a population that is much younger than the world's average and at high risk of human trafficking. The world's youngest nation, 78% of Uganda's population is under the age of 30—and one in every ten children in Uganda are orphans. A source country for child trafficking, Uganda often traffics victims across borders to places like Canada, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia. The Karamojong women and children are sold in cattle markets or by intermediaries and forced into situations of domestic servitude and/or sexual exploitation.

A long-standing cultural tradition in Uganda, similar to other African countries, is arranged marriage. Early marriage (or child marriage) is often a result of poverty, and Uganda is one of the world's poorest countries. Many parents marry their daughters in the hope of securing their financial security. Bride price can also be a motivation for parents: a younger bride means a higher bride price for the family.

Making matters worse for the girl named Grace, her parents weren't in the picture and had died years prior. She was living with her caregiver in desperate poverty amongst a tribe that practiced both female surgical mutilation and early marriage. When a man became interested in the eight-year-old, her caregiver saw an opportunity and was about to force Grace into marriage.

When Grace ran away from her caregiver, God watched over her by placing a stranger in her path who understood the situation and led Grace to a Remember Nhu prevention home. Now Grace no longer needs to worry about being married at the age of eight, nor any other age for the rest of her childhood. She is learning the Bible, making friends and bonding with her House Parents. Having never been to school prior, she has just begun her studies and in particular enjoys "singing the songs" at school.

Perhaps one day Grace will be a singer, or a schoolteacher, or a school principal. Perhaps she will get married and have children of her own. Perhaps she will become a Remember Nhu house parent one day to other children in need. Regardless, it is her decision and she has room to dream. But Grace doesn't have to worry about any of these options any time soon...for now, she is free to do homework, sing songs, and play like an eight-year-old ought to.

# Financials: Fiscal Year 2018

Fiscal year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018



## Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets

Sources of Income	
Contributions, general	1,095,023
Child sponsorship donations	1,169,777
Donations for workers*	976,836
Service projects	408,866
Vision trips	94,089
Vocational program	1,700
Interest income	115
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,746,406</b>

Expenses	
Child support	1,765,539
Expenses for workers	1,081,473
Service projects	338,072
Vision trips	103,173
Fund raising	186,931
Vocational program	2,865
General & administrative	196,136
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,674,189</b>

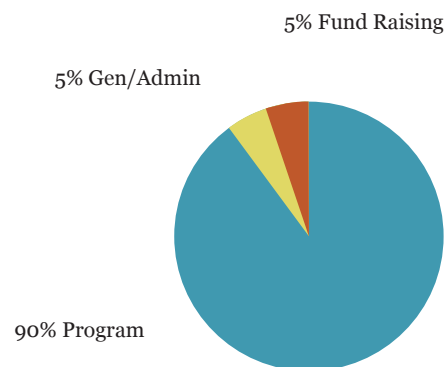
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>72,217</b>
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## Statement of Position

Assets	
Cash & cash equivalents	378,797
Restricted cash	309,996
Prepaid expenses	26,027
Property and equipment, Net	1,473,530
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,188,350</b>
<hr/>	
Total Liabilities	27,458

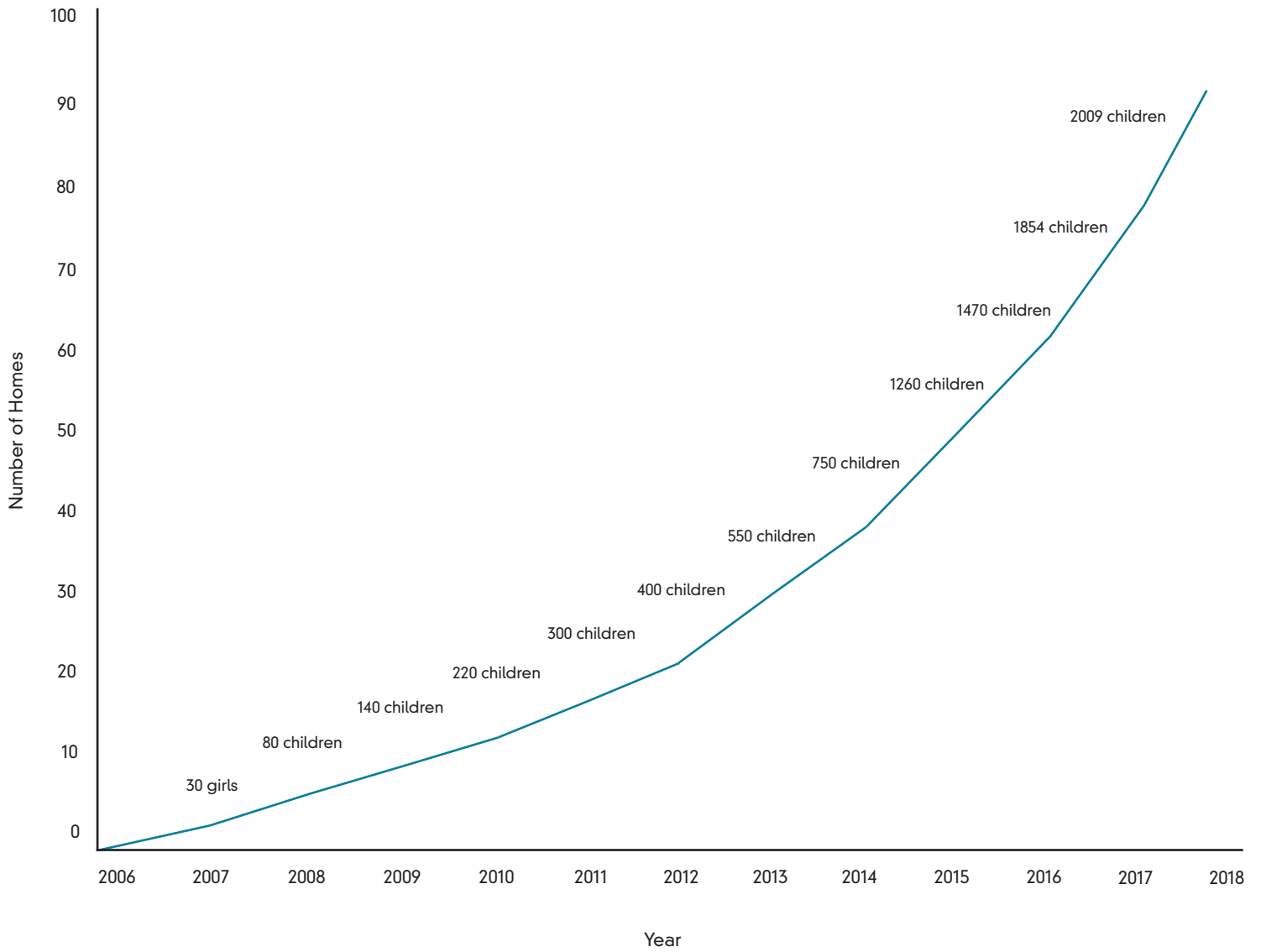
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	309,996
Temporarily restricted	1,850,896
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>2,160,892</b>
<b>Total Net Assets &amp; Liabilities</b>	<b>2,188,350</b>

## Expenses by %



\*Funds that have been raised by our workers and are allocated for their support.

# Growth Chart



## Remember Nhu Board of Directors

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Carl Ralston   | Founder & President                    |
| John Pries     | Executive Vice President of Operations |
| Barbara Kisley | Board Member since 2010                |
| Mike McDonald  | Board Member since 2012                |
| Jim McWhinnie  | Board Member since 2009                |
| Debbie Vik     | Board Member since 2007                |
| Corrine Haning | Board Member since 2016                |





# Forward Focused

*A Remember Nhu Update*

Update

**W**e're grateful for another year of partnering with you to keep children safe from sex slavery around the world. As we look ahead to the next season, we wanted to keep you in the loop on some of the things that excite us about the near future:

### ***Travel To Thailand With Us!***

You are invited to join us for a powerful conference called Celebrate 2019. The conference will be held at Horizon Village & Resort October 7-13th in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Staff, house parents, and champions from over 15 countries around the world will gather to celebrate 12 years of fruitful work and rapid growth approaching 100 prevention homes for at-risk children. Conference attendees will get opportunities to visit with Remember Nhu children, attend special cultural activities such as elephant rides and exotic temple sightseeing, and hear the exciting vision for Remember Nhu's future.

We would love for you to come celebrate this significant moment in our history and dream with us about how to prevent thousands of more children from being trafficked. This is by far the best opportunity to meet our team and see the work we are doing around the world. For trip cost and details, please contact Dr. Don Sappington: [don@remembernhu.org](mailto:don@remembernhu.org)

### ***Expansion to Ukraine***

We are currently taking steps to set up foster care for at-risk children in Ukraine, Europe. Once it is established, this would become the 16th country in which we operate. Our desire is to do

something similar to what we are doing in other European countries where we help children through the care of local indigenous church families. Ukraine has long been a source country for the trafficking of children throughout Europe and it seems that doors may be opening for us to help.

### ***Letter Collections for the Children***

We are introducing new opportunities for you to engage with the children of Remember Nhu through writing letters to multiple children. Many of our children either do not have monthly sponsors or do not receive written letters in the mail. The children love to receive letters and are very encouraged when someone writes to them. There is a need for Champions to hand-write letters of encouragement to multiple children and we will coordinate the letter collections on our end. If it is on your heart to be involved in this way, please contact: [breanna@remembernhu.org](mailto:breanna@remembernhu.org)

### ***New Building Projects in Thailand***

Due to shifting government regulations in Thailand, there is an opportunity for churches, companies, and individuals to help the children by assisting us in building smaller and improved housing units for our children. We have quotes for these projects but we are in need of backers who would like to invest in the long-term wellbeing of our children. To receive more information, please contact: [info@remembernhu.org](mailto:info@remembernhu.org)



**Guest Contributions:**

*Journalism*

Page 6: Madison Budge

Page 10: Madison Budge

*Photography*

Page 3: Bob Adams

Page 4: Grace Spencer,  
Mike McDonald

Page 5: Joe Greer,  
Grace Spencer

Page 7: Grace Spencer

Page 11: Grace Spencer

Page 13: Ana Bulanov

Page 14: Joe Greer

Page 15: Jared Whitney



# Remember Nhu

Ending child sex slavery through prevention



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