

# 2018 ANNUAL YEAR IN REVIEW

PO BOX 959 CHESTERTOWN MD 21620

DECEMBER 2018, ISSUE 11



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! We hope that this letter finds you able to take moments for rest and reflection in this busy season as we celebrate all Jesus has done for us and through us this year. As an organization, we're big believers in *Luke 16:10* "Whoever is faithful with very little will also be faithful with much", with that in mind, read on and pray for us in this journey!

## BREAKING BONDS OF ADDICTION ABROAD & AT HOME

**ZAMBIA:** We were funded through a Rotary International Foundation Global Grant to do a large scale training in our "*Literacy-Free 12 Step Expressive Arts Therapy*" curriculum across Zambia, Central Africa! *Thank you* Chestertown Rotary, District 7630 and Rotary of Lusaka Central.

Melissa, David, Jason, Ally, Hjordis, Chip and Mike made up our training team and together we trained 36 organizations and 100 people during the month of June! It was so wonderful all being there together.

This curriculum was developed as a method of engaging addicted youth in drug and alcohol treatment without requiring literacy, using expressive art medium already present in the culture as a metaphor for addiction recovery. We have previously done 4 clinical studies when Rotary approached us about it. The Ministry of Health for the country of Zambia endorsed it for use across the country.



Previously drug and alcohol treatment was not widely available or accessible, but that is changing now and it is being taken into communities across the country. Hjordis and Melissa are conducting a follow-up study with the

organizations trained over the next year. It is already encouraging to hear how it is already changing lives and breaking stigma!

*Special Thanks* to Global Outreach Church of Virginia Beach, VA and Hope Fellowship of Chestertown, MD for their giving!

**MARYLAND:** We have trained 10 organizations in Maryland so far in the "*Literacy-Free 12 Step Expressive Arts Therapy*" curriculum. Although originally written for Zambia, we made a US version. Trainings in this curriculum are available and are endorsed by the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists for 6 continuing education units. If you are interested in being trained, sign up here - [www.CoLaborers.com/ExpressiveArts](http://www.CoLaborers.com/ExpressiveArts)

## INDIA MOBILE SCHOOLS & CHILD SPONSORSHIP

In 2015, while walking through the slums we had an idea to start mobile schools to teach open-air style in slums areas without access to education. This year, that idea became a reality.



In July 2018, American and Indian education volunteers provided interactive math, literacy and bible lessons to children in the slum areas surrounding Tenali, AP India. The education leader for the American elementary education students was Sarah Pinard who has her MA in education. The elementary education volunteers under her were Carly and Nicole. The education leader for the Indian volunteers was Karuna Annavarapu who has her BA in education. The volunteers under her were Raju, Kiran, Mariamma and Moshey. We are working to make this a sustained effort throughout the year.

*Praise Report!* All of the children in the Hope for India sponsorship program are sponsored! It is amazing all how God speaks through the relationships between sponsors and children. *Special Thanks* to First Presbyterian Church of Pottstown, PA for their giving!

We will be sending another elementary education team July 20 - August 4 2019 to India's slums. Apply online here - [www.CoLaborers.com/Hope-for-India](http://www.CoLaborers.com/Hope-for-India)

## WOMEN & YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN ZAMBIA

For the 3rd year in a row, Bob and Tori Neales have served with us in Zambia. Bob does mentoring and carpentry work with the older boys who were living on the streets formally and Tori works alongside Josephine to teach sewing lessons at Chisomo Centers. Women in Chisomo's Mothers' Programme are taught seamstress skills to supplement their income so they can care for their families and the street children they take into their homes. The women make and dye cloth and then learn to make products to either sell on the local market place, reduce their costs by them making their own clothing or sell in the US through our Etsy shop. This year, Tori and Josephine taught a total of 50 women. Their projects included how to make stuffed animals - elephant, giraffe, or a zebra. They learned to design and create their own over the shoulder bags, made skirts, aprons, and men's shirts. Through the generosity of donors, they received an additional five sewing machines this year.

*Special Thanks* to the Neales, the Wiedners & Carol Davis for their giving. **Shop here** - [www.Etsy.com/CoLaborersIntl](http://www.Etsy.com/CoLaborersIntl)



## EXCITING UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS!



### HYNSONS HEAD FOR COSTA RICA

It's official, Brittany, Frank and baby Eden are preparing for the mission field! Their goal is to move to Costa Rica in 2020, where they will study at the Spanish Language Institute. With afternoons free after classes, they will be seeking to build relationships with local ministries that serve at-risk children. Youth comprise two-thirds of Costa Rica's population! After their year of schooling is over, they will plan to begin co-laboring alongside locally-led ministries in the area. Please pray for their family as they plan to move with their little one into a new culture and environment. To give and learn more - [www.CoLaborers.com/Hynsons](http://www.CoLaborers.com/Hynsons)

### ZAMBIA FIELD OFFICE

In 2020, we will be sending 5 missionaries to Zambia for long term service to set up a field office in Zambia by 2021.

Back in 2012, we began assisting Chisomo Centers in reaching street children & empowering women.

We soon brought interns, missionaries, trainings, scholarship programs for street kids and has been valuable to training this year, God additional organizations interested in receiving volunteers. At the same expanding and God had planted a vision for this field office in our heart. Planning for this field office will enable us to assist a network of indigenous-led agencies across the country caring for street children and women. Jason will serve as the outreach director, Jess as the member care director and Janae as the office manager. We are looking now for someone to fill the treasurer position and the marketing position. If



and trainings. This relationship is us. With our recent country wide has opened the door where across the country are now our services, trainings and time, our work was already

### TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIVING!

Please make out to CoLaborers International, specify giving area memo & send in return envelope to PO Box 959 Chestertown MD 21620 OR give online - [CoLaborers.com/Donate](http://CoLaborers.com/Donate)

**Interested in serving** in India, Zambia, US, or booking a speaker? Email

[Melissa@CoLaborersInternational.com](mailto:Melissa@CoLaborersInternational.com)

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[CoLaborers.com](http://CoLaborers.com)

### *Thank you to our US interns!*

Andrea Rodriguez (Liberty Uni.) & Rediate Hailemeskel (Towson)

you are interested in being a part of this dynamic mission team, email [Melissa@CoLaborersInternational.com](mailto:Melissa@CoLaborersInternational.com) Please keep us in prayer through this process, both as individual missionaries and an organization as God leads us. To give and learn more - [www.CoLaborers.com/Zambia](http://www.CoLaborers.com/Zambia)