



Grain of Wheat
INTERNATIONAL
- SINCE 1948 -

“Bringing hope
to children”

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



From Seed
to Fruit

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a pink floral t-shirt, has her hands pressed against her face, looking down. She is in a crowd of other people, some of whom are also looking down or have their hands near their faces. The background is slightly blurred, showing other children and adults in various clothing.

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EDITORIAL



Dear Friends,

It is my great privilege to share with you the mighty things God has done through the ministry of Grain of Wheat in 2019. What a true blessing it has been to see so many children's lives change

as a result of the hope in Jesus they have received through our programs. Many of these close to **2 million children** in 2019 would not have been reached without you! Your encouragement and support by prayer and financial donations, has made all this possible!

We also realize we are living in a time of Christian persecution within many of the countries we serve which effects makes our work difficult and, for some, dangerous. Now, more than ever before, we are committed to coming alongside them by following Jesus' words regarding the weak, the hungry and those in prison, *"Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* Matt. 25:40.

By your partnership in 2019, the Good News was clearly shared, and needy families were cared for with food and clothing. Through this, children's lives have been changed and they are now becoming ambassadors of hope to their families and even their communities. With you beside us, we are looking forward to seeing the good works the Lord has done in 2019 continue to flourish and grow.

For His Glory!

Rob Hondsmark
CEO

A white handwritten signature of Rob Hondsmark, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a cursive 'Hondsmark'.



Dear Friends,

Children have been precious to my heart since I was a young girl. So, when my husband and I welcomed our first child in December 2019, I was filled with joy. In addition to this,

it has been my distinct pleasure to join Grain of Wheat International as a board member this year.

I was deeply impacted from the moment I heard about Grain of Wheat's work in so many different countries. What greater gift is there than presenting children with the Gospel and walking beside them on their journey of faith in Christ.

In this beautiful ministry, some work directly with children, while others pray and provide support for both leaders and children. In the end, all are united as God's kingdom grows in the lives of children, empowering them to become ambassadors of hope in their homes and communities. What a tremendous privilege it is to play a part in building up the lives of children through Grain of Wheat!

May you be deeply encouraged as you read these stories of God at work through your support during this past year. Thank you so much for walking with us in this ministry.

Shalom,

Myriam Schaffter
International Board Member

A white handwritten signature of Myriam Schaffter, consisting of a stylized 'MS'.

WHO WE ARE AND HOW IT ALL BEGAN



Grain of Wheat International empowers thousands of children in almost 25 countries through a variety of programs uniquely designed to meet their specific needs.

Vision

We see each child becoming an **ambassador of hope** through Jesus Christ.

Mission

Encourage needy children with the message of God's love, develop their potential and equip them to

become **agents of transformation** within their community.

Strategy

- **Connect with children year-round** through camps, events and weekly clubs.
- **Equip and nurture children's growth morally, socially and spiritually** through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Train leaders** in partnership with local churches.

How it all Began

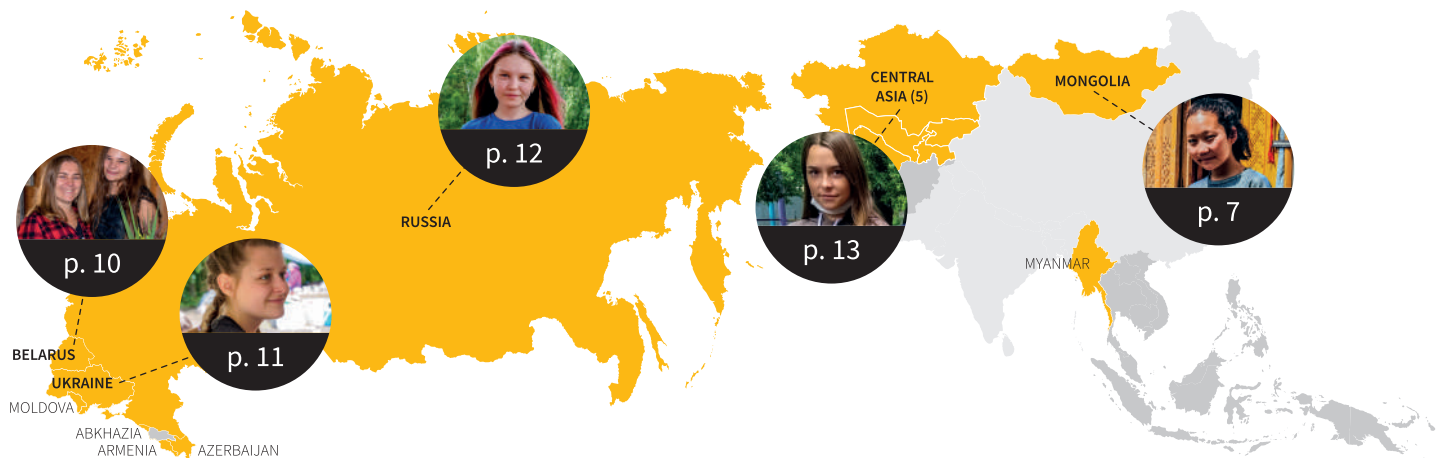
To understand the mission of GWI, we must go back to 1948 when a

Swiss businessman, Jean André, visited Germany after World War II. His heart was broken at the sight of so many homeless children wandering the streets.

In response, he brought a group of 120 German orphans to Switzerland for the summer.

They were well fed, cared for and learned how deeply God loved and valued them.

This first group of children returned to their homeland refreshed and better equipped to become all God intended.



Values

GWI's message and actions are centered on God's love for all children among the nations without distinction of any kind.

Our values and our teachings are based solely on the Holy Bible.

Every child is given the opportunity to accept God's saving grace through Jesus Christ.

Context

In most of the countries GWI serves, children are deeply scarred by war, poverty, addiction, divorce, violence and poor education.

In some cases, parents move elsewhere to find work leaving their children to fend for themselves.

GWI also cares for children in stable countries such as France, Spain, Switzerland, etc.

Activities

Our activities are enjoyed in a peaceful environment and designed to nurture each child spiritually, emotionally and physically.

This atmosphere of Christ-like love, fosters healthy relationships and opens children to faith in God.

2020-2023 Strategy

GWI's goal is to reach 5 million children in 2023. In view of this, we are professionalizing our ministry in every country.

By training volunteers, developing new educational strategies and building partnerships with various Christian organizations, our desire is to **help children become active disciples in families, churches and communities.**

See how and where we interact with children



Number of Children reached

By all our activities

1,883,258



CLUBS

Weekly meetings to strengthen children's faith and to disciple them

1,107
CLUBS

34,012
CHILDREN
ATTENDING



CAMPS

Encourage children as they discover the Word of God

987
CAMPS

43,248
CHILDREN
ATTENDING



SPORTS & ARTS

Experience the Gospel through sports and arts

49,117
PARTICIPANTS



TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Equip and encourage leaders

12,975
DIRECT
FOR THE MINISTRY

30,432
INDIRECT
IN CHURCHES, ETC.



HUMANITARIAN AID

Provide relief in a holistic way

84,470
RECIPIENTS

MONGOLIA 

Grain of Wheat started its activities in Mongolia in 2008

Fertile Ground

"My name is Amra and I'm 14. I have never been to a camp like this before, because no one in my family except for my Uncle Toba*, believe in God. Two years ago, he invited my cousin to this camp and she really liked it. I was inspired by her story and decided to come to camp as well and am so glad and grateful for the opportunity to be here. It has been fun to practice my Russian and English with the leaders who came from Russia to help us!*

I have also learned a lot about Jesus Christ and what He has done for me through the Bible lessons. My heart is so impressed by such a great story of love that I prayed to Him for the first time in my life. Now I understand the stories my uncle tells me and have lots of questions for him. I can't wait to visit his church when my parents agree to let me go with him!"

** Names changed for privacy reasons.*



“ I have also learned a lot about Jesus Christ and what He has done for me through the Bible lessons. ”



FRANCE 

Grain of Wheat France started its activities with GWI in 1960

Good Growing Conditions

Chloé*, age 16, has been completely deaf in her left ear since childhood. The hearing in her right ear is severely impaired but has been significantly improved through the use of a special hearing aid.

"Since childhood, my family and I have gone to Christian camps together and they helped me make friends. This summer is only the second time I've gone to a youth camp on my own.

At the beginning, it was very difficult for me to be around so many young people by myself, because I'm very shy. But after sharing my testimony at one of our meetings, I felt a lot more comfortable and outgoing. This encouraged me so much!

I have been blessed by all I learned about Jesus and am committed to living my life for Him. I still have a long way to go, but I know I am on the right path and want to be baptized.



Because of my great experience at camp, I have a lot more confidence in my ability to make friends and I am already looking forward to next year, so I can be in the camp musical!"

* Name changed for privacy reasons.

“ *I have been blessed by all I learned about Jesus and am committed to living my life for Him.* **”**

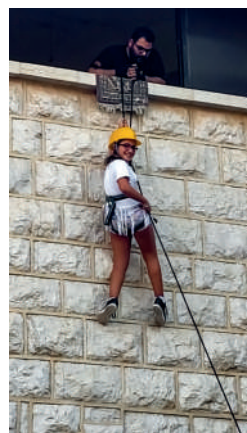
LEBANON  

Grain of Wheat Lebanon started its activities with GWI in 1985

Growing Roots of Love

Samar*, age 10, Paralyzed

Samar is a 10-year-old girl, who is paralyzed and in a wheelchair. At the beginning of camp, none of the kids helped Samar come to the meetings, so the team members carried her in every day. Imagine our surprise when we arrived one day and saw the kids rushing to bring her to the program. They even made sure we didn't begin without her. We were so deeply moved to see first-hand how God's love changed the hearts of these precious children.



Zella*, age 15,

The Good Samaritan

We were so surprised, when right in the middle of our Bible story about the Good Samaritan, a 14-year-old girl got really angry. She said, *"People don't help or love each other!"*. After the meeting, two of our team members came alongside Zella

to tell her about God's indescribable love for her and how He's always there to help her.

What a big smile we had on our faces when we saw her whole demeanor change and she began to cheerfully care about others.

** Names changed for privacy reasons.*

"We were so deeply moved to see first-hand how God's love changed the hearts of these precious children"

BELARUS 

Grain of Wheat Belarus started its activities with GWI in 1991

Receiving Power to Live

Anastassiya*, age 14

From the first time we saw Anastassiya it was obvious that she was struggling. Even though she was already extremely thin, she couldn't finish even the smallest portion of food and was nauseated afterward. The camp director and counselors recognized Anastassiya's problem and reached out to help her.

Anastassiya remembers, "They didn't just want to educate me, but also tried to understand what was behind my eating disorder. I told them it was because my older brothers used to call me a 'fat lady', so I decided to lose weight and then I couldn't stop. After long conversations and prayer, I began to eat and take part in the games.

Two days later, I accepted Christ into my heart, because I realized that God loves me no matter what other people say. God not only saved my life physically at this camp, but even more importantly, He saved my soul. Now my heart's desire is to go to church and grow in my faith."

** Name changed for privacy reasons.*



“ God not only saved my life physically at this camp, but even more importantly, He saved my soul. ”

UKRAINE

Grain of Wheat Ukraine started its activities with GWI in 2002

Blossoming New Life

"My name is Maria and I'm 12 years old. My teachers and parents always tell me I won't ever amount to anything in this world, because I don't like to study at school.*

This made me feel bad about myself and I believed I could never measure up. But you can't imagine how surprised I was when right here at camp, I became interested in learning for the first time.

Like never before, I wanted to know more and more about Jesus. I was curious about everything from the Bible lessons and games, to the

different crafts and even the trampoline! When I got my first 'stickers' award for dedication to learning and active participation in various activities, I was so proud.

One of the best things I've learned, is that Jesus made each of us unique and that my life is especially important to Him. I asked Jesus to help me study well and most of all, when I go back to school in September, I am going to take my studies very seriously."

** Name changed for privacy reasons.*



"I've learned that Jesus made each of us unique and that my life is especially important to Him"

RUSSIA 

Grain of Wheat Russia started its activities with GWI in 1991

Ripening Fruit

Nina*, age 11, came to camp with her best friend. At first, she was cheerful and loved taking part in the camp activities, but it quickly became apparent that she was jealous when her friend paid attention to the other girls. Nina's cheerfulness soon turned to anger, and conflicts arose.

When we realized her envy was motivated by a need for love, we gently shared the truth of how deeply God loves and cherishes her. As Nina listened to the Bible lesson that evening, she was drawn to invite Jesus into her life. Now with God's help, she is learning how to develop healthy relationships.

** Name changed for privacy reasons.*



"As Nina listened to the Bible lesson that evening, she was drawn to invite Jesus into her life."

CENTRAL ASIA 

Grain of Wheat Central Asia started its activities with GWI in 1996

Fruits of Faith



Madina*, age 10

"I have been to many camps and can confidently say that this is the best camp I've ever been to! We Played the most exciting games, ate the most delicious food, and had the greatest counselors ever. I especially enjoyed listening to the Bible stories that

helped me know who God is and understand His deep love for me. The best part was that I sincerely repented of my sins and gave my life to Jesus. Now when I sing Christian songs, my heart is truly filled with praise to my great God!"

** Names changed for privacy reasons.*



Evnika*, age 12

"When I was very young, my father left our family. My mother was there for us, but his fatherly love and care was missing. So, when I came to camp, my heart was filled with anger toward him. At one of our Bible lessons, I learned that I have a Heav-

enly Father whose love and care is always there for me. As I thought about this, I realized that I have a heavenly Dad and His name is God! Now my heart has changed, and I'm so thankful that I have been able to let go of my anger and forgive my earthly father."

"I learned that I have a Heavenly Father whose love and care is always there for me."

GWFI FINANCIAL OVERVIEW - 2019

TOTAL REVENUES 2019
\$ 4,716,238 (CHF 4,686,316)

MINISTRY & OTHER REVENUES

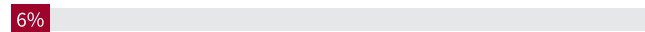


DONATIONS

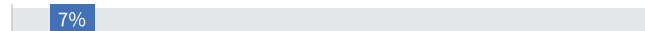


PROJECT CATEGORIES

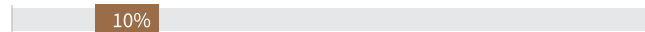
HUMANITARIAN AID



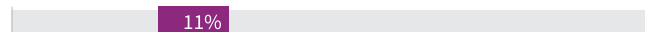
CREATIVE SUPPLIES



TRAINING



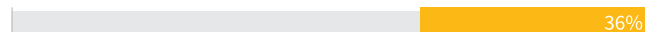
CLUBS



RETREAT CENTERS



CAMPS

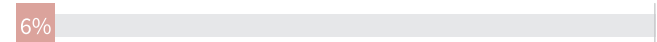


Comments

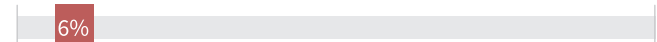
This overview gives insight into how we spend the donations we receive. We are privileged to have so many faithful donors who help us reach out to hopeless kids worldwide. We have also seen hearts

TOTAL EXPENSES 2019
\$ 4,675,359 (CHF 4,645,696)

FUNDRAISING & COMMUNICATIONS



MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENDITURES

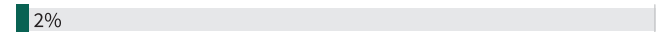


PROJECTS

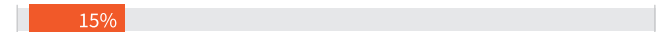


RESOURCES USED

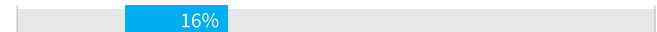
CENTRAL & SOUTH-EAST ASIA



AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST



RUSSIA - CIS - CAUCASUS



SOUTH AMERICA



EUROPE



and lives change because of the love we bring them through hope in Jesus Christ. **God sees and values your caring support of His children and we thank you for your generous contribution this past year!**

Partners

Alliance Presse

Association of Young Intercessors

AWANA

Barnabas Fund

Bible Mission

Biblica

Big Ministries

BRF

Central Asia Conference

Child Evangelism Fellowship

Children Matter

Christian Bikers

Christian Camping Intl.

Christian Men's Association

Climber CA for Alpinist

Equipping the Next Generation

Global Children's Forum

Good News to Children Mission

Guitar's Camp Ministries

Hope for Armenia

International Sport Coalition

Lausanne Movement

Licht im Osten

LSESD

Mission of Mercy

Near East Initiatives

Near East Organization

New Hope

New Life

One Hope

OCC-Samaritan's Purse

Operation Mobilization

Orda Funds

Reaching Europe's Children

RHEMA

Schools Without Walls

Scripture Union

Slavic Gospel Association

Torchbearers

UNICEF

World Alliance Association

World Vision

Yocontigo Association

Youth for Christ

Thanks

What would we do without YOU? Even as the kids we serve come from different and diverse nations, so do you, our supporters.

Your interest, your prayers and your financial support make more of a difference in the lives of untold kids than we can even put into words.

By standing with the world's children, you have enabled them to become messengers of Christ's hope to their corner of the world and beyond.

“

*From the Bottom
of Our Heart,
the Grain of Wheat
Team Thanks You!*

”



Grain of Wheat
INTERNATIONAL

- SINCE 1948 -

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Do you dream of seeing children become messengers of Christ's hope across the world? You can make it happen through your prayers and by your donations.

Donations: www.grainofwheat.org/donate or

IBAN: CH72 0900 0000 1748 7675 5

... or send your cheque made out to Grain of Wheat International to the address in your country.

