2020 Mission Report

Transform Children to Transform Their World
Dear Friends,

Though this unexpected year has been filled with changes and challenges, God has continued His amazing work around the globe through the David Caleb Cook Foundation. Even as church buildings all over the world remained closed, He continued to open new doors to ministry.

These new opportunities brought growth and transition, as God inspired innovative ways to serve our global partners, including more digital outreach, strategic partnerships, and new areas of ministry. Thanks to God's great faithfulness and yours, thousands of new ministry leaders have been equipped and encouraged and hundreds of thousands of children have learned what it means to love and follow Jesus—even while church buildings stood empty.

This has been a year of transition for me as well, as I've been moving toward a new phase in my own life—one that will involve less time spent traveling and more time spent with some of my very favorite people...my grandkids. And though I will miss having the opportunity to see firsthand the impact your gifts are making around the world, I know God has great things planned for DCCF in the future.

As I end my time as DCCF’s executive director, I want you to know how grateful I am for you. I’ve been inspired by your generosity and humbled by your faithfulness. Thank you for the impact you’ve made on my life and on the lives of so many children and ministry leaders around the world!

With heartfelt thanks,

Kerry Krycho
Executive Director
David Caleb Cook Foundation

Dear Friends,

As I take on the role of executive director of the David Caleb Cook Foundation, I would like to thank Gary for his faithful service. Gary has served the David Caleb Cook Foundation with passion, wisdom, and creativity, and we are grateful for his leadership. His commitment to caring for our donors and staff, and his trust in God’s direction and provision have allowed our global ministry to deepen and grow. His heart for the global church has forever shaped DCCF, and he will truly be missed.

This time of transition also offers great opportunity. As churches around the world begin to reopen and children’s ministry resumes, we are excited to see how God will use your generosity to equip the global church. In my ten years with DCCF’s global ministry, I have seen how God’s faithfulness combined with the generosity of our donors has brought hope into the lives of children all over the globe. Nothing moves my heart more than hearing those stories. As I step into this new role, I look forward to sharing many of those stories with you as we watch God at work—transforming children to transform their world.

With gratefulness,

Kerry Krycho
Executive Director
David Caleb Cook Foundation

We are thankful for all God has made possible through your gifts to the David Caleb Cook Foundation this year. Please join us in praising Him for what He has done in 2020 and looking forward to all He will do in 2021.
In a shantytown on the side of a ravine in a remote part of Argentina, hope can be difficult to find. This small village, known as Las Margaritas, is home to more than 200 families who live in houses built with cardboard, sheets, scrap wood, and plastic tarps. These families do not have access to basic services, such as clean water and electricity, and during the rainy season, when the dirt path to the settlement often washes away, they are even more vulnerable and isolated.

The remote location and difficult conditions don’t keep Paola away. She has been sharing milk, small sweets, and God’s love with the children of Las Margaritas every Saturday. At first the work was discouraging—how could this little ministry make a difference in the lives of children with such need? But soon she began to see a spark of hope in the eyes of the children she served, and she asked God to show her how to share that life-changing hope with even more children.

God provided the answer through a training webinar hosted by the David Caleb Cook Foundation. Using what she learned, Paola recruited and equipped some of the teens in the village to work alongside her. Not only did this allow Paola to reach even more children, but it also provided an opportunity to pour God’s love into the lives of the teens, who needed hope just as desperately.

“The webinar from David C Cook changed my heart!” Paola said. “I was feeling like I could not go on. But now my passion is renewed—and I know that God will give me the strength to continue the work He has called me to do.”

Your gifts in 2020 are making an eternal difference in the lives of thousands of teachers like Paola and even more children, including those in Las Margaritas.
When COVID-19 brought in-person children's ministry to a halt, DCCF’s ministry partners sought ways to continue guiding and caring for the children they serve. Many struggled to connect with teachers, children, and families. They recognize that caring relationships were a significant part of meaningful children's ministry, and they began looking for ways to create those connections while churches were closed.

The DCCF team saw the need and quickly responded. The digital platform that had been in the beginning stages of development moved to the forefront—and Life on Life Digital was born.

Life on Life Digital provides the proven Life on Life discipleship content with some engaging new additions. Shareable audio files, videos, and visual aids, including illustrations from The Action Bible, have been added to the lessons, and new family connection cards better support parents as they guide their children's spiritual growth at home. All of this media-rich content is now available on an easy-to-use, free digital platform, which launched in Spanish in 2020 and will be launching soon in English.

This digital platform has other benefits as well. Life on Life Digital allows many of our partners who are experiencing economic hardships to continue using the curriculum by eliminating the cost of printing. And partners in sensitive areas, where government regulations make it difficult to publish Christian materials, are able to use this resource online.

Your gifts in 2020 provided an engaging new way for ministry leaders to disciple the children in their churches and communities, even while they could not meet in person.
Nelson Morales has been waiting on the Lord. As the field director with one of the David Caleb Cook Foundation's partners in Guatemala, he delivers copies of *The Action Bible* to public schools, where these engaging, comic-style Bible books are used for character education and reading instruction. But with schools closed and children staying home with their families to slow the rate of COVID infections, Nelson has been missing one of his favorite parts of his ministry.

When Nelson received a request to distribute copies of *The Action Bible* to isolated families, he was delighted to respond. Carefully respecting the government’s requirements to wear a mask and remain socially distant, Nelson coordinated his delivery of *The Action Bible* with a local government food distribution to families in need.

Families reported that they believe their children will benefit from reading these captivating Bible stories—and many parents are reading *The Action Bible* with their children, bringing hope to whole families in this dark and difficult time.

Though Nelson longs for the day when he can be back in schools teaching children what it means to be followers of Jesus, he is content to wait on God’s timing.

“'No matter where we live, we are all facing difficult times,' Nelson said. ‘As we navigate our lives during this COVID outbreak, we need to remember that God is still in control of it all. And today, more than ever, *The Action Bible* is reaching so many families with hope in Jesus.’

"Your generosity in 2020 allowed Bible engagement and evangelism ministries to continue all over the world. From Venezuelan refugees to children in Bible camps in Malawi, children around the globe now have hope in Jesus thanks to your gifts."
Caring for Families and Ministry Leaders

Our heavenly Father is the author of creativity—and He inspires those who follow Him to innovate as they advance His kingdom. Ministry leaders around the globe have been relying on God’s creative spirit to find new ways to share His love in this time of unexpected change.

Thanks to your gifts and God’s gift of creativity, our global staff has begun some new projects to equip and encourage ministry leaders in these unusual times. Here are some highlights:

FAMILY PODCASTS
DCCF’s Africa coordinator has begun recording family podcasts to encourage families to worship and study the Bible together at home. These on-demand weekly podcasts, which will be available all over Africa, provide short biblical lessons and activities that will help families to have meaningful conversations all week long. While many of the larger churches in Africa have been able to use social media and radio to continue their ministries during the pandemic, many smaller churches don’t have the resources to encourage at-home worship. These podcasts will equip even small churches with a practical way to meet that need.

SOCIAL MEDIA
In an effort to encourage and connect teachers all over Latin America, DCCF’s Latin America staff has begun building community with a brand-new Facebook page. Even in places where internet connections are unreliable, teachers are able to share ideas, learn useful information, and gain much-needed encouragement. This new platform provides opportunities for cooperation and collaboration across countries and denominations to better serve the Latin American church.

“When we had to stop our ministries because of the pandemic, we were not sure what to do,” said a ministry partner in Uganda. “We’re so excited about these new ways to reach out to our church community.”

Your generosity in 2020 made it possible to explore new options to encourage and equip ministry leaders and families around the globe.
Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in 2020!

Click here to continue your support of DCCF in 2021.

Click here to read more stories of the impact your gifts are having around the world.

Click here to receive regular updates about God's work around the world through DCCF.

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