

12  
YEARS!



# REMEMBER NHU

## ANNUAL REPORT

Over **100** homes | Stories of **HOPE** | An exciting update from **CARL RALSTON**



## A Letter from our Founder...

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Dear Friends,

I hope you are well and that you are ready for some good news, because we have exciting things to share with you this time around.

First, this past year we were thrilled to launch our first nonprofit partner, *Kingdom Home*—founded by longtime Remember Nhu champions Matthew and Ashley Boyd. Matthew is a starting pitcher for the Detroit Tigers and Ashley used to work for Remember Nhu. They are an amazing young couple and Kingdom Home is already helping 146 children in Uganda after their first year! To put this in perspective—Remember Nhu only helped 15 children in its first year. Matthew and Ashley are doing a terrific job.

We have a vision to launch many more of these nonprofits in the upcoming years to accelerate and multiply the efforts of Remember Nhu's mission: *Ending Child Sex Slavery Through Prevention*. I believe God is wanting to raise up an army of leaders and nonprofits around the world who can have a huge impact and even end child sex slavery within our lifetime. Will you join us in praying for this exciting accelerated vision?

Three years ago, I stood in front of our global staff to share a vision I believed to be from God: that Remember Nhu would have 100 homes by its 12th year as an organization. This was a big vision that was a little scary to share—not only because we had less than 60 homes at the time, but also because I had learned many years ago in my research it takes the average nonprofit 12 years to successfully open and run *just one* children's home in another country. However, I believed that God was wanting to do one-hundred-fold with Remember Nhu, like the parable in The Gospel of Mark..

Well...would you guess what happened? This year, in our 12th year as an organization, we now have 109 homes for children around the world in 16 different countries. I cannot take any credit for this because I know the vision was from God, and He is the one who made it happen—so all the praise, honor, power and glory belongs to God! This also would not have been possible without the incredible people like you who have dared to make personal sacrifices in order to protect at-risk children from falling prey to the sex trade.

You may notice in our impact report that the work of Remember Nhu has been growing more and more. I hope it brings a smile across your face to know you play an important part in what God is doing. Personally, I believe this is only the beginning of what God is going to do. Thank you for stepping into this story with us.

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*



**Celebrating over 100 homes  
& our first nonprofit launch!**

# Impact Numbers

Take a look at the impact you've made through your generosity...

## 2122

Total children prevented from entering sex slavery to date



## 109

Total prevention homes for at-risk children, including Foster Care



## 1

Our first nonprofit launch, serving 146 children in Uganda!

## 16

Countries of operation across 4 continents



## 1786

Number of children currently in prevention homes



## 8

"Mum & Baby" Pairs—a ministry to infants of prostitutes in Eastern Europe



# 500

High Schoolers who received prevention education in Europe



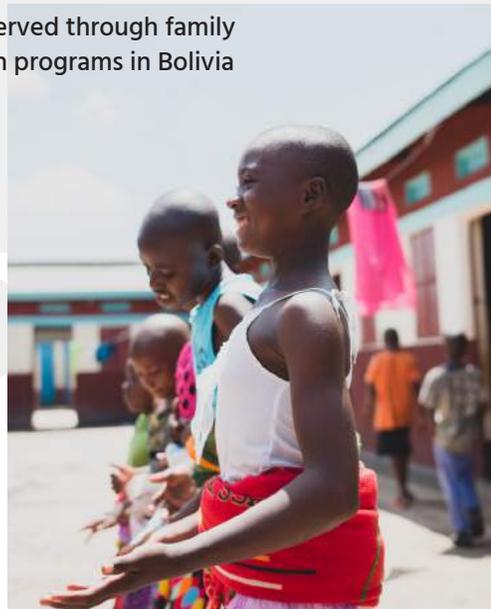
# 22

College students furthering their education after a prevention home



# 8

Children served through family restoration programs in Bolivia



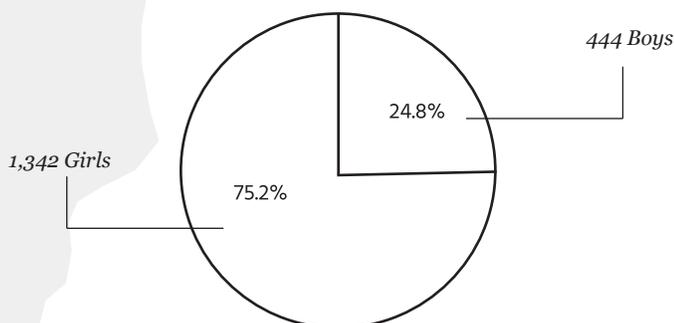
# 142

At-risk children served in village support programs

### Countries of Operation:

- Albania
- Bolivia
- Cambodia
- The Gambia
- Guinea-Bissau
- India
- Kenya
- Moldova
- Myanmar
- Philippines
- Romania
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- 1 Undisclosed Country\*

### Girls/Boys Receiving Care



\* We do not disclose the identity of this country for the protection of our children and workers on the ground



*An Exciting New Partnership:*



# KINGDOM HOME

A Matthew & Ashley Boyd Nonprofit

It was an ordinary evening in the Winter of 2017, while Remember Nhu founder Carl Ralston was applying online for a doctorate course at Nyack University, that the idea first dawned on him. What if there could be tons of different ‘Remember Nhu’s’ out there in the world, all focused on ending child sex slavery through prevention?

Not one to revel in success, Carl had long been perplexed with the reality that—though Remember Nhu had prevented thousands of children from being sold into sex slavery—the massive problem was still 1.2 million children being sold each year.

“I believe God gave me the idea,” Carl recounts, “just like He did when He originally spoke the words ‘Remember Nhu’ to my heart.” The idea was more of a question at the beginning: What if Remember Nhu recruited, trained, and launched leaders to start their own nonprofits focused on prevention work, in order to multiply prevention efforts around the world and in turn save more children than Remember Nhu could ever save in and of itself?

“If we do this, and God is with it, I believe child sex slavery will be ended in our lifetime,” Carl says with confidence. The God-given idea was like a tiny seed, with the potential to grow and spread.

Enter Matthew and Ashley Boyd. Ashley used to work in child sponsorship with Remember Nhu but stepped away after the birth of her first child, and her husband Matthew is a starting pitcher



for the Detroit Tigers of major league baseball. “We were thinking a lot about our lives and the type of impact we wanted to make,” Ashley recalls.

It was soon after that Matthew & Ashley went to a meeting with Carl. Going into the meeting, the Boyd’s laughingly remember they had thought Carl would maybe ask them for money.

However, things went a different direction when Carl told them about a contact named Dorothy in Uganda, who had been caring for 36 at-risk girls, but was struggling to provide due to the tragic passing of her husband in a car accident. Carl knew that perhaps Remember Nhu could help them, but instead asked the Boyd’s, “What if you guys started your own nonprofit to help these girls? And we could walk through setting it up with you, and teach you how to do it.”

“We said we want to think about it, pray about it,” Ashley told the Detroit Free Press. “We were trying to figure out how to run our own lives, let alone a nonprofit organization. We didn’t immediately jump on it. It was also very daunting. We just brought our first child into the world and now, here, we are going to be responsible for 36 children in Uganda?”

After a time of prayer and consideration, Matthew and Ashley decided to go for it. They founded Kingdom Home, whose mission is identical to that of Remember Nhu: Ending Child Sex Slavery



Through Prevention. “This is what we were supposed to do,” says Ashley. “That was the start of something way bigger than we ever would have known.”

Just over a year into the nonprofit launch, Kingdom Home has already exploded and grown as a result of support from numerous other Detroit Tigers baseball teammates and media exposure from the likes of USA Today, People Magazine, and Fox News. Kingdom Home already houses 146 children in Uganda, and is currently raising funds to buy land and expand its mission in Uganda.

“We can end child sex trafficking in Uganda,” Matthew said to the Detroit Free Press. “The bad guys aren’t smarter than us. We can end this. We can outsmart them. We can beat them to the kids. We can protect them.”

“Matt and Ashley are a great young couple, and they are doing an amazing job,” says Ralston. “We couldn’t have hoped for a better first nonprofit partner launch. I believe they will prevent thousands of children in Uganda from sex slavery, for decades to come.”

With the success of Kingdom Home, Remember Nhu is already looking to identify and help more leaders to launch similar nonprofits. To be clear, Remember Nhu’s mission remains the same, and will continue to provide great care for Remember Nhu children, opening more homes in the future to directly help children in emergency situations. However, there will also be an emphasis moving forward on multiplying prevention efforts through nonprofit launches.

If you are interested in supporting a nonprofit launch, or starting a prevention nonprofit of your own, please contact: [carl@remembernhu.org](mailto:carl@remembernhu.org)



# Happy in God's Presence

*A Myanmar Autobiography*

*The following story is an autobiography written by an older boy in a Remember Nhu home near the city of Mandalay. As is the case for many countries around the world, both boys and girls are at risk of sex slavery in the country of Myanmar. This child entered our care due to immense risk factors compounded with the dangers of the civil war zone in the region which he lived at the time.*

*The following words have been translated from Burmese to English, and the boy's name has been changed for his own safety.*

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**G**reetings, my name is Hlang Htay. I am studying in the 7th grade. I am living in this children's home because of God's grace. I have faced deadly perils in my life—God's grace alone has saved me. In this home, (my house parents) have treated us like their own children, so they have become our parents.

Before I came to this home, I was a jungle boy. I had my father but my mother died when I was little. I got to work with my father for a while at the farm. During that time, I worried about what to eat and drink from day to day. Soon because of the war, my father disappeared—and I became very afraid.

I can find no words to thank my house parents. Day by day we are taught to walk in love and many important disciplines. Each day we get closer to God. I have come to understand more of God's love. Our house parents are our father and mother. I am happy seeing that my friends in this home are living and walking in love too.

We have warmth in this home as a good family does. I call this a happy family.

Many students in this home are good in studies. Sometimes in the past I have thought, "Am I discouraging my parents with my bad grades?" I wanted to get 'A' scores as others had received. I tried so hard. No matter how hard I tried, I just could not get an 'A'.

That is why now, I have given this matter over to God's hands.

I felt that I am weak in study, but now I see that He is helping me to improve.

My vision is to become a medical doctor one day. Would you please pray for my vision?

My favorite hobby is soccer. Sometimes at lunch break I play soccer with my friends and I have so much fun that I forget to eat my lunch! One thing that I like about living in this home is that we always live in God's presence. Also sometimes when I feel bored, I get to read. I didn't know how to read before coming to this home. Now I read funny stories and also emotional books—I like them very much.

I promise I will try hard. But I believe that God is in control of my future. What we will become is in His hands. God will draw us to His will. I will praise God in this home and I will always be thankful to my sponsors. May God bless all of you.

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# Financials: Fiscal Year 2019

Fiscal year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



## Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets

Sources of Income	
Contributions, general	773,173
Child sponsorship donations	1,286,602
Donations for workers*	807,691
Service projects	531,604
Vision trips	72,997
Vocational program	10,660
Interest income	83
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,482,810</b>

Expenses	
Child support	1,793,359
Expenses for workers	921,088
Service projects	305,220
Vision trips	90,568
Fund raising	188,213
Vocational program	6,000
General & administrative	236,043
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,540,491</b>

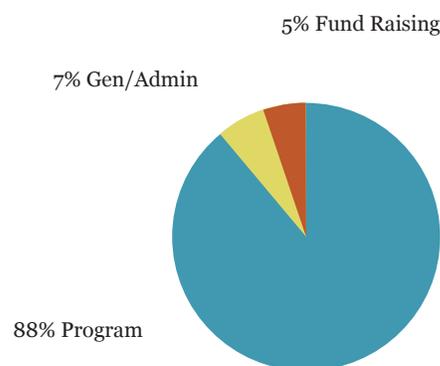
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>-57,681</b>
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## Statement of Position

Assets	
Cash & cash equivalents	118,474
Restricted cash	354,142
Prepaid expenses	9,378
Property and equipment, Net	737,297
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,219,291</b>
Total Liabilities	57,374

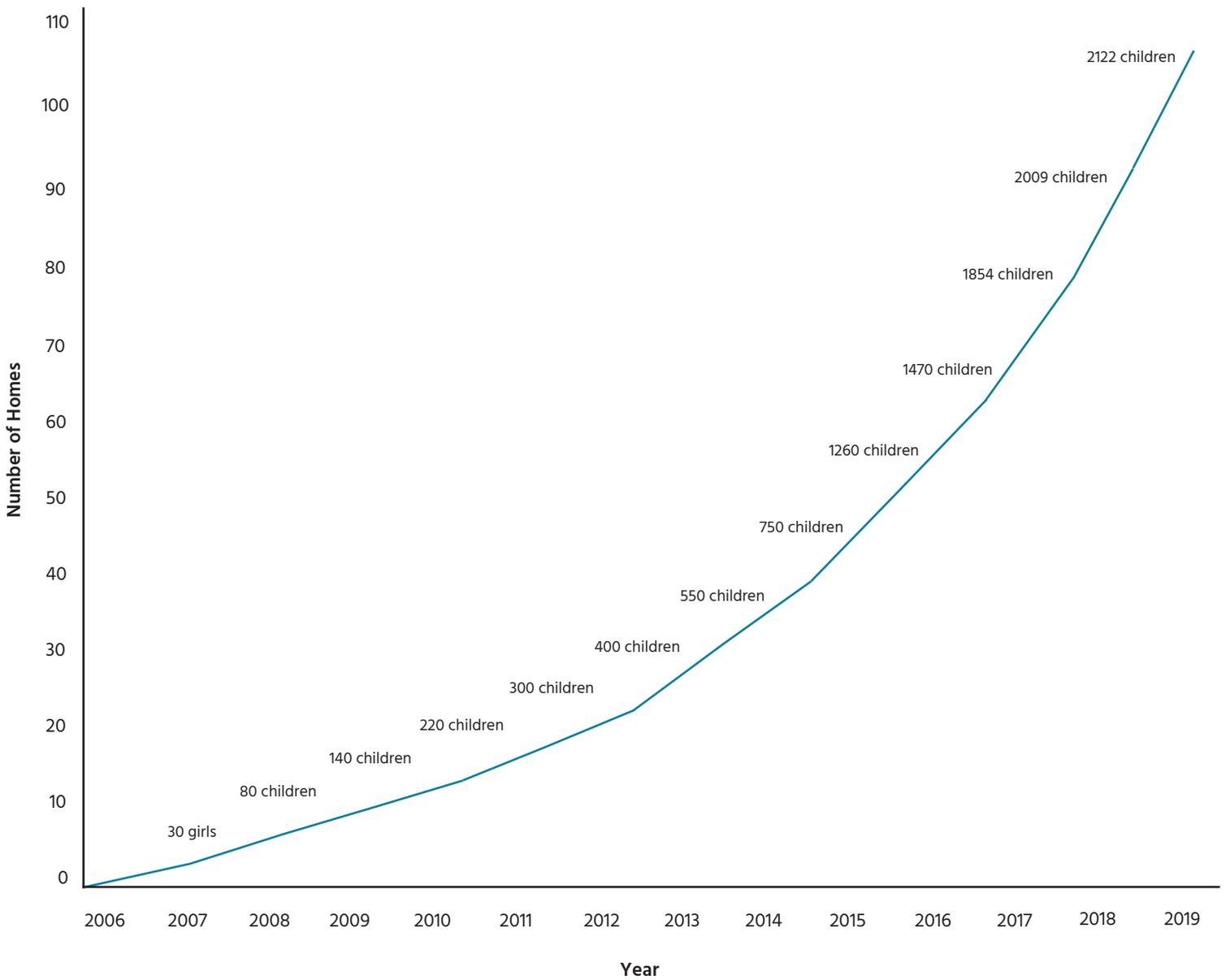
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	807,775
Temporarily restricted	354,142
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>1,161,917</b>
<b>Total Net Assets &amp; Liabilities</b>	<b>1,219,291</b>

## 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
Ian Nelson	Vice President
John Pries	Executive Vice President of Operations
Barbara Kisley	Board Member since 2010
Debbie Vik	Board Member since 2007
Bob Abel	Board Member since 2018
Candice Grant	Board Memeber since 2019
Brad Perron	Board Member since 2019





## Then & Now: A Tear-Filled Reunion

*Celebrating Remember Nhu's First Home*

In a packed-out Cambodian restaurant during lunch hour, one American family is greeted by emotional young women filing through the entrance one by one. The greetings range from giant smiles and laughter, to the Cambodian women breaking down immediately into tears. Some of the women are holding babies on their hips, or introducing young children and a husband.

Strangers sitting in the restaurant that day can tell something meaningful, perhaps extraordinary is taking place.

The family is Carl and Laurie Ralston, Remember Nhu founders, and their daughter Nhu—the namesake of the organization. The Cambodian women are the original “Remember Nhu children,” from Remember Nhu’s very first home, opened in Phnom Penh 12 years ago. The home was named “Haven of Hope.” Today all grown-up, the women reminisce and thank the Ralston’s for the incredible love they received in the home while growing up.



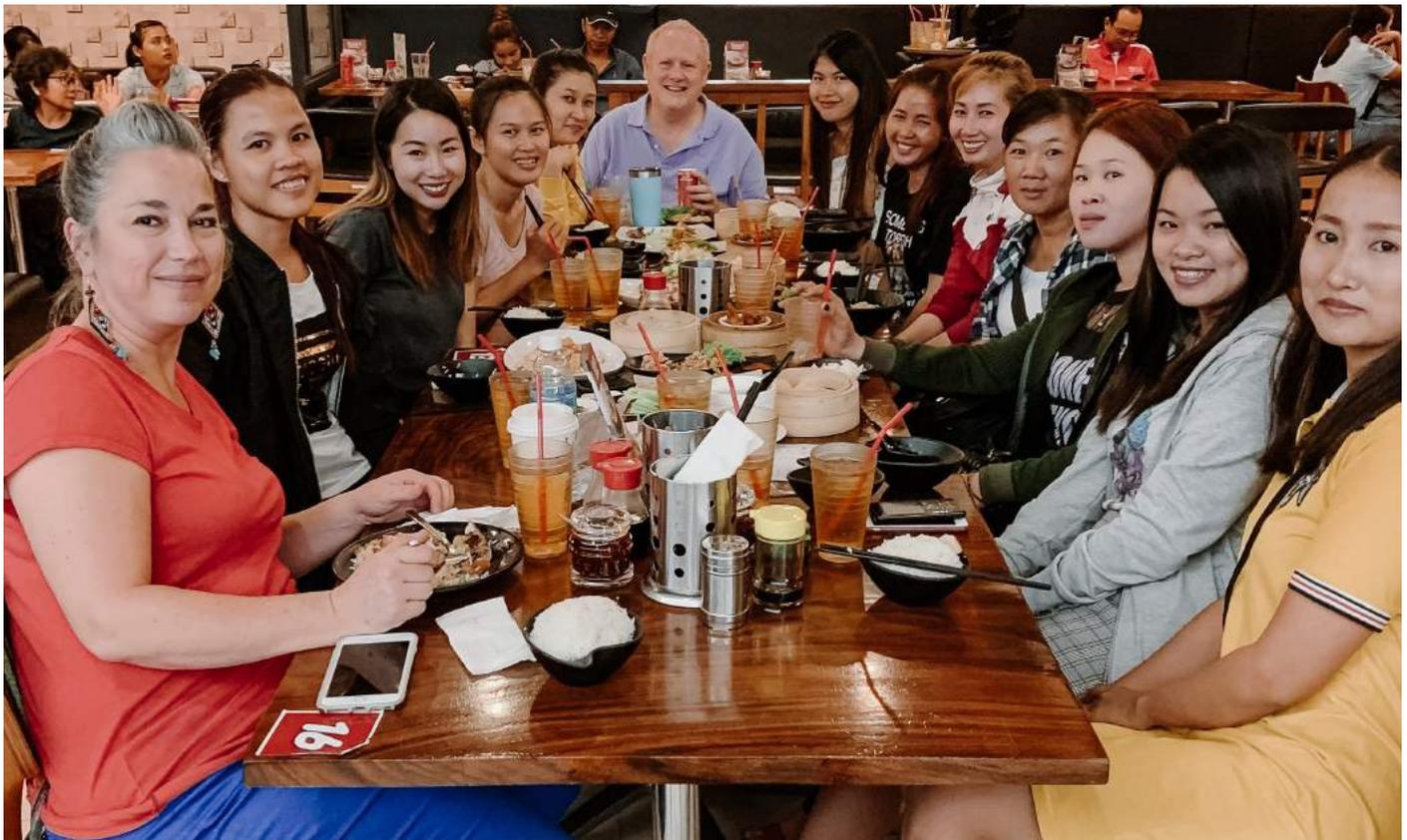
For Carl & Laurie, this was a very special group of girls whom they spent a lot of time with during Remember Nhu's early years. Perhaps all-the-more special for Nhu, who finished her childhood with them as her own "sisters" beginning at age 16, after Carl and Laurie brought her to safety and asked her to help them start the organization.

Known within Remember Nhu as the "Salon Girls," 12 of the 18 girls in the original home were trained by Nhu in cosmetology, and eventually opened a salon called "Agape Beauty Salon" in July of 2008 as a form of vocational training in addition to their schooling.

"The salon girls are now adults," says Laurie Ralston at the closure of the reunion lunch, which took place in February of 2019. "One of the girls still lives and works at a salon, most of the girls are married, and, most of those who are married now have adorable children as well! And...none of them are in the sex trade. Seeing these young ladies now is a clear picture of what Remember Nhu is all about, and what God did through Remember Nhu for them."

One of the girls was unable to join the reunion day because she now lives in Vietnam with her husband and was only weeks away from giving birth to their third child. However, Laurie points out that they were able to get her live on a facetime call during the lunch. "She was happy and 'normal' as she was face-timing with her fellow salon mates," Laurie recalls. "However, when they handed the facetime call to Carl and I, her tears started to flow."

"This is the first Remember Nhu children's home in Cambodia, 12 years later," Nhu posted to her social media account after the lunch. "(Many of) the girls got married and now have kids. I am so thankful for my dad (Carl) who loves us so much...this is called Agape love."



# New Country Spotlight: Ukraine



Near a suburb of Kiev, Ukraine, a man woke up suddenly in middle of the night. He'd been having a terrible dream about the bloodshed taking place near his country's eastern border, due to Russia's occupation of Crimea and military support for separatists in the Donbas region. As the man wiped away the cold sweat, it was in that very moment, so clearly, he heard God speak to him: "Go and help."

At first he did not know what it meant, or what he was supposed to do, other than to travel to the war zone—the one place on Ukraine's map that most Ukrainians were trying to stay far, far away from. After discussing and praying with his wife and children the next day, and receiving their approval, he sold his vehicle to purchase an armored van. A few days later he loaded every Bible he could find around their house into the vehicle and headed north, alone.

"This was the beginning of many trips I started taking to the war zone," Remember Nhu's contact in Ukraine said. "I wanted to bring Bibles, food, and the hope of the gospel to families and nearby children who were suffering. I heard on the news that soldiers were raping girls, even children, and that the damage being inflicted was devastating to the nearby communities."

During one visit, he met two sisters, the age of high schoolers, whose parents had been killed. They were fending for themselves and fearful of their lives. He knew he had to do something. He talked to an amazing family in another part of the country who would be willing to take the girls in. When Remember Nhu learned of the situation last year, we stepped in to aid in the foster care pairing and funding through child sponsorships.

Shortly after this, Remember Nhu was also introduced to a rural pastor's family who had taken in three at-risk children who had come out of bad situations in orphanages, but the family was

struggling to make ends meet and did not know how they would provide for the children.

The poorest nation in Europe, Ukraine is globally infamous as a source country for human trafficking across the continent—particularly that of orphans. According to the Department of State's 2019 Trafficking In Persons Report, approximately 104,000 Ukrainian children institutionalized in state-run orphanages are especially vulnerable to trafficking. Officials of several state-run homes and orphanages were allegedly complicit or willfully negligent in the sex and labor trafficking of both girls and boys under their care. Upon "graduating" from an orphanage at age 16, sex traffickers are often waiting outside the doors of the orphanage, to coerce their easiest targets.

After stepping in to help pair at-risk children with loving, Christian foster families, Ukraine has now become Remember Nhu's sixteenth country of operation.

"Please pray for the situation and the bloodshed in Ukraine," our contact said. "Pray also for my safety. You can already see three bullet holes on my van, from the snipers. But God has been protecting me!"

When we asked him why he continues to take trips to the war-zone, even under fire, he again said, "How can I stay at home and do nothing when children are suffering?" After hearing his story and meeting the children, the leadership of Remember Nhu knew that we, too, could not sit by and do nothing.

Thank you to all the donors who make our prevention work possible in these countries through foster care. To learn more about how to get involved or to give specifically to the work in Ukraine, contact: [info@remembernhu.org](mailto:info@remembernhu.org)



# Thank You!

## Guest Contributions:

### **Journalism**

Page 9: Madison Budge

Page 14: Madison Budge

### **Special Citations, Pages 6-8**

Halley Netsch, Every Day Mamas, <https://everydaymamas.com/meet-the-couple-working-to-end-sex-trafficking-in-uganda/>

Jeff Seidel, USA Today & Detroit Free Press, <https://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/jeff-sidel/2019/03/09/detroit-tigers-matthew-boyd-sex-slavery-uganda/3067439002/>

### **Photography**

Cover: Todd Biss & Autumn Bland

Page 3: Matt Dietrich

Page 4: Grace Spencer, Joe Greer, Bob Adams

Page 9: Bob Adams

Page 11: Joe Greer

Page 15: Ana Bulanov

Back Cover: Jared Whitney,

Todd Biss, Autumn Bland



# Remember Nhu

Ending child sex slavery through prevention



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