



HEALING HANDS

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Issue 2, Summer 2021



On the Cover:

Be a Change Maker

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Making CHANGE Happen

To families who walk miles for dirty water, it's a well close to home with sparkling clean water. To parents who are putting their children to bed hungry, it's tools and training to grow life sustaining food. To a widow raising orphans, it's the chance to start a business that will provide a reliable income. To a preacher in a remote village, it's a MAGI box that develops a relationship between the family and the local church. **The team at Healing Hands International is thrilled to introduce you to The Change Makers Community!** Change Makers are a determined and driven community of monthly donors who are committed to bringing physical and spiritual transformation to communities in need. Through programs like clean water, sustainable farming, business development and resources for local evangelists—we believe that real change is possible. Join us in being a part of that change today! **For more information on becoming a Change Maker, visit our website at changemakers.hhi.org.**

Be a Change Maker:



Stan and Georgia are a part of the Change Makers community. They shared, "Monthly donors are translating into human lives. We trust HHI, and we are thankful for this opportunity to partner with them."



After Hurricanes Iota and Eta hit Honduras, HHI was able to respond with Disaster Relief support, while delivering the regular shipment of MAGI boxes.



Through clean water wells, agriculture training, micro-lending, and MAGI gift boxes—the community of Oyaro has made a complete transformation. This group of people has played a pivotal role in HHI's decision to launch the Change Makers program.



Thanks to a trusted partnership with our HHI trainer in Nigeria, clean water is becoming a reality for hundreds around the country.



In partnership with preacher training schools, HHI empowers local evangelists in India to be the hands and feet of Jesus to their communities with life-saving resources like clean water and food production.



In Chigadora, Zimbabwe, clean water has been provided and Hunger to Harvest training workshops have taken place. Women have been empowered to start businesses. This flourishing community has come together to start a church.



THE MAGI PROJECT



Sponsor a Box

Keep MAGI in mind as your church makes plans for serving together this fall! Many of our nearly 200 MAGI churches will collect supplies and pack boxes over the coming weeks. However, in 2020, we saw a huge spike in individuals and churches choosing to go the route of donating \$30 for the Sponsor A MAGI Box program. This means that with your gift, we will simply purchase and pack the box full of supplies for you! Your generosity will impact kids and their families in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay, Zambia and the Texas-Mexico border. If you would like more information on MAGI for your church or if you would like to get involved personally, please contact our office at 615.832.2000.

Order your boxes **HERE:**



MAGI in Oyaro

The MAGI Project has finally made its way to Africa! MAGI took on a Kenyan flavor this spring when our Women of Hope Coordinator, Jannette, facilitated a distribution of MAGI bags packed and given by members of the Winyo Church of Christ in western Kenya. Jannette told us, "The children could not wait to try their shoes on!" With products bought locally to support the local economy and save on shipping costs, over 250 kids and their families received bags that were full of the same contents that would have been in a regular MAGI box. Thanks to MAGI Sponsorships, we're excited to incorporate this new style of MAGI outreach that empowers local churches, businesses, and kids!



HUNGER TO

HARVEST



Dream Big

Last year, the Christian Leadership Development program in Southern Zambia hosted our team for a Survival Gardening workshop. The Christian Leadership Development program is a one year pre-college study program at George Benson Christian College. The goal of this particular workshop was to provide hunger-fighting knowledge and skills that the students will then use as teachers and preachers to empower people to reduce hunger and malnutrition within their communities. During the seven day training, students learned to make compost piles and manure tea. They also constructed drip irrigated raised planting beds. The students expressed excitement about using what they learned to make a difference by training others.

Several months later, there was a follow-up visit and garden maintenance training with the

Christian Leadership Development program. During this visit, 18-year-old trainee and student, Pawel Sitimeli (pictured above), said, “In the workshop, we were taught that the most important job of a farmer is to feed the soil using compost. From the first crop that we have planted here at school on the raised beds —if replicated in every village — I am convinced that Africa can eradicate hunger in less than ten years’ time.”

This story reminds us of why we do what we do. Sometimes aid comes in first to get past a crisis, but the main goal of HHI’s mission is to aid, equip and empower. Thank you for instilling confidence and determination in the minds of men, women and children around the world. This is what makes change possible for generations to come!



Nashville Workshop

Thank you to everyone that made this year’s annual Hunger to Harvest workshop a great success! We are grateful for the beautiful weather that allowed this hardworking group to apply the skills they learned in the classroom. Through your generosity, training workshops just like these are equipping and empowering people around the world to provide for their families and communities.

Get involved with the Hunger to Harvest ministry **HERE:**



World Hunger Day 2021

Every day, many men and women across the globe struggle to feed their children a nutritious meal, but on #WorldHungerDay—YOU made a difference. Our team is overjoyed to share that this spring, \$38,995 was raised in just ONE day to fight hunger around the world! While we may never know the full impact of your gifts, we do know that thousands of seeds of hope have been planted from this day. Thank you for your heart for this mission!

Upcoming Walks

AUGUST

- 7 Mobile, AL
- 21 Sioux Falls, SD
- 22 Rochester, NY
- 28 Huntsville, AL
Paducah, KY

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Briensburg, KY
Mt. Juliet, TN
- 18 Lawrenceburg, TN
Parkersburg, WV
- 19 Bowling Green, KY
- 25 Brentwood, TN
Henderson, TN

OCTOBER

- 2 Leitchfield, KY
Mckenzie, TN
- 3 Nashville, TN
- 9 Pleasanton, CA
- 10 Austin, TX

CLEAN WATER

Bridges Built

Victor Oyong is HHI's country coordinator in Nigeria, and he works with both the Hunger to Harvest and Clean Water ministries. Nigeria has a large Muslim population, and Victor's work is continually building bridges between the local Muslim and Christian communities.

Earlier this year, Victor coordinated the drilling of several water wells — one of which is located at the Kabusa Church of Christ. Kabusa is located on the outskirts of the capital city of Abuja, and does not have a consistent water supply. This creates hardship on everyone in the community. The local preacher, Ezekiel, said that with access to water, the church will be able to install a baptistry and plaster the walls of the building. All of these things increase the congregation's ability to evangelize, which is important as the building is located close to a Muslim prayer ground.

Another well was drilled at the local CRD Church of Christ, and this community also consists of both Christians and Muslims. Affiong Donatus (pictured below) lives in the Lugbe community with her husband and two children. She and her family are members of the CRD Church Of Christ and run a laundry business. Affiong says this well is "like a dream" and will greatly impact both her health and business. The lack of water in her community made it difficult to run her business, and right before this well was drilled, she was considering closing her shop. Affiong shared that many of the children in the village were regularly sick from drinking the contaminated water.

The clean water ministry is doing so much more than providing clean water — **it's creating opportunities for Christians to meet their neighbors**, meet a physical need for them, and create an opportunity to meet a spiritual need as well!



Widlord's Story

"I grew up in Haiti, where my family did not have the luxury of turning on a faucet at home to get water. At the age of five, I would walk for miles with my parents to a spring to get water. I had the responsibility of carrying a gallon of water back home. My mom would carry a bucket of five gallons on her head and one gallon in each hand. As I got older, I graduated from one gallon to one gallon in each hand.

I moved to Son-Light Children's home when I was 11, and we had the blessing of running water in our kitchen. This meant that my sisters had to master my mother's skill since they did not get the privilege that I got. However, Healing Hands drilled a well at the Ganthier Church of Christ, which is about 0.25 miles from where my family lived, and it was a blessing to them. (It continues to be a blessing today!) I drank out of that well many times.

Clean water is a need, but many people in Haiti do not have access to it. Kids end up sick, and many die. Growing up, my sisters and I

had worms in our stomachs and rashes on our bodies. At the time, I didn't know any better, but as I got older I learned all of this happened because of the unsafe water we drank and used to shower.

My congregation, Northside Church of Christ, decided to host a Walk4Water because they became more aware of the need. I was able to share with them my story and the work that Healing Hands is doing to provide clean water for people in Haiti and around the world. They became very passionate about it because they heard about it from someone who has experienced drinking dirty water."



Submitted by:
Widlord Thomas
New Albany, Indiana

Walk4Water with us:



WOMEN OF HOPE

On the Road

This fall, we are bringing the Women of Hope experience straight to your door! The tour includes:

- One of our powerful keynote speakers
- A worship leader
- Two breakout sessions of your choice
- Door prizes
- An opportunity to shop unique, handmade products from all over the world

Each event lasts approximately four hours, and we will tailor it to fit your needs. The cost is \$500 and all of the work is done for you! Visit hhi.org/womenofhope/tour for more information or to reserve your date.



Reserve your date
and learn more:



Not Too Far

The women from Bikita South believed they were too far away. They live in an extremely rural part of Zimbabwe and said they never dreamed they would be seen by a partner who could help them get their hopes off the ground.

But God brought us close.

Thanks to our Zimbabwe field team, John and Ngonidzashe, two groups of women were able to organize, construct business plans, build budgets, and start saving.

We first partnered with 11 people in the Rudo Peanut Butter Group, which means the Love Group. The Rudo Group saved a portion of their operating costs, then went through training on how to shell, roast, grind, and sell peanut butter. They were encouraged by the training and excited to launch their business, which is already generating enough income to steadily progress.

We then partnered with 15 people in the

Kupfumaishungu Bakery, which means “you must persevere to succeed.” After they too saved a portion of their operating costs, we partnered with them to provide an oven and training for the women involved. The training drew quite a crowd including several government officials and community leaders who expressed gratitude for the partnership with Healing Hands. At the training, the women learned how to make different breads and pastries, how to handle conflict, how to encourage one another, and how to glorify God in their work. This group is already profiting from their work selling hundreds of buns each day, and they are motivated to continue blessing their community.

We are so thankful that neither height nor depth, nor distance nor culture, nor anything else in all creation can separate us from the love of God that connects us to these remarkable women who are bringing hope to their communities around the world.



The Women of Hope Library

We are thrilled to introduce a six part video series on Spiritual Transformation led by Tiffany Malone to the HHI Women of Hope library!

What is the Women of Hope library? This is a year round resource with monthly devotional videos from some of your favorite Women of Hope speakers. Each lesson includes a discussion guide for groups. If you are a leader of a women’s ministry or Bible study group, you do not want to miss out on this opportunity! You can subscribe for \$25/a month with no commitment or save \$50 when you purchase a year long subscription.

We hope you will join us at hhi.org/womenofhope/library.

The Women of
Hope Library:



VOLUNTEERS



Sewing Ladies Can't Be Stopped

Last month, 40+ women from four different states and 15 different churches came together in Nashville to Make A Godly Impact! “When sewing ladies come together, there’s no stopping them! We just get out of the way and watch them work!” says Cindy Herring, Volunteer Coordinator at HHI. The ladies made beautiful headbands and skirts that will be included in MAGI boxes to kids around the world. We were blessed to have Debby Fronabarger, Melissa Burka, and Vicki Williams leading the classes. We are grateful for our volunteer instructors that make these workshops a great success!



We are always looking for new volunteers! To learn how to get involved, visit us at hhi.org/volunteer.

Volunteer **HERE:**



1,000 New Dresses

Somewhere around the world, 1,000 little girls will have a new dress, thanks to Ruth Mitchell of Mineola, TX! Ruth started sewing dresses almost two years ago and recently passed the 1,000 dress mark — and she’s not stopping there! Ruth recalls when she was a little girl going to visit her aunt in the summers and how excited she would get over having new dresses made from flour and feed sacks. She said, “I know what it is to be excited about something new.” Her mother was widowed and raised her children alone. “We grew up poor,” she said. “We saved everything.” All 1,200 dresses hand-made by Ruth will have come from her own fabric collection! These dresses are distributed to countries around the world, and many of them end up in HHI MAGI boxes. HHI could not do the work that it does without the support of our amazing volunteers!

Meet Peter Menza

When Peter was just an infant, he contracted Polio. As a result, he has never been able to walk, run, jump, or play like other children. He had no choice but to drop out of school when his parents could no longer afford to pay the fees, but the government provided tailoring training for Peter. For his entire life, Peter has either crawled or used his 3-wheel hand pedal cart to get around.

One day, Peter attended an HHI Survival Gardening workshop, and he proved to those at the workshop that his disability was not an inability. Peter went home and completed a raised planting bed! HHI Trainer, Augustus Kimanzi, recognized Peter’s determination and shared his needs for a sewing machine and a 3-wheel motorcycle with the HHI Director of Hunger to Harvest.

Through partnerships with Central Illinois Rotary clubs, Peter received a new sewing machine with hand controls and a 3-wheel motorcycle. His response: “Kindness is the language that deaf can hear, the blind can see and the disabled can feel. I am a firm believer that God created us with two hands, one to help ourselves and the other for helping others.”

HHI is thankful for the opportunity to connect generous hearts with those in need around the world.





Healing Hands International

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**HAVE YOU
ORDERED
YOUR
BOXES?**

