



OUTREACH AID TO THE AMERICAS  
ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2019



## THANK YOU

For your contributions, for your ceaseless support, and  
for believing in our mission.

We, at OAA pray for you, thank God for you, and feel  
truly blessed to have you as a partner.



## OUR MISSION

Outreach Aid to the Americas exists to effectively mobilize resources and partners for **relief & preparedness, advocacy, and sustainable development.**



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Thank you for making 2019 yet another remarkable year for Outreach Aid to the Americas! This year marked 25 years of service for our ministry. Our dedicated staff has done an incredible job at expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services. For the fourth consecutive year since 2016, we reached a new milestone in food distribution sending 37 containers of food to 56,290 persons in Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, and Venezuela. That is a testament to the commitment and compassion of our partners, our financial supporters, our volunteers, and our staff. We made the plans and God took care of the results!

Thank you. With your support, we are empowering people to recover from crisis, build better lives, advocate for their freedom of religion, provide them with Biblical tools, and transform their communities for good. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for choosing to show up, speak up and stand up for those determined to build a better future. Thank you also for your support and generosity. Your compassion and commitment are reaching people who wake up each day to challenges most of us cannot imagine.

Teo Babun  
Chief Executive Officer



## 2019 AT A GLANCE



**37 Food Containers** distributed in Cuba, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti and Venezuela



**8,898,920 Pre-Packaged Meals** distributed. Giving food is our stabilizing platform to development



**94 Youths** trained in Leadership Development



**100 People** received equipment, books, and Bibles



**56,290 People** received food and relief aid



**285 Port Staff and Personnel** trained in disaster preparedness



**10 Community Leaders** trained in small business and entrepreneurship programs



**5,000 People** engaged in Human Rights and Freedom of Religion



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: VILLAGE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

Guatemala has one of the highest inequality rates in Latin America, with some of the worst malnutrition, poverty, and maternal-child mortality rates in the region, especially in rural and indigenous areas. Guatemala ranks among the worst in the world for life expectancy. The country has one of the worst rates of malnutrition in the world: **44 percent of all children under five have stunted growth due to malnutrition.** Employment opportunities are scarce and most of the poor depend on subsistence farming to survive. About two-thirds of the country's children live in poverty.

In light of these conditions, Outreach Aid to the Americas collaborated with Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO) on a program that seeks to not only benefit these communities in the short term, but to also create a lasting impact and sustainable change. The Village Transformation Program-Microenterprise builds pathways to the development of microenterprises in communities in Guatemala. The program empowers individuals to provide for their families and learn good savings habits over the short and long term.

The Program assists poor families by **donating chicken coops to 10 families in a group of Guatemalan rural communities.** Over the course of the production cycle of the hens, the families benefit by being able to consume some of the eggs and selling the remainder in local markets. Income derived from the sale of eggs is used for operations or is reinvested to launch another small business. Through these microbusinesses, these Guatemalan families have increased their self-sufficiency and raised their nutrition standards.



## STORY HIGHLIGHT: HAVANA TORNADO RELIEF

Early in 2019, five municipalities across Havana, Cuba, were struck by a tornado with winds up to 190 miles per hour. These five densely populated municipalities, Guanabacoa, Cerro, 10 de octubre, Regla, and East Havana, have a combined population of 532,000 inhabitants. The tornado caused damages to more than 7,800 houses, of which 730 collapsed.

In this time of such great need for the community to stand together, the local Cuban churches, key partners of OAA, provided critical relief and reconstruction assistance. The churches sheltered 9,916 people in 16 protection centers and in the homes of church members and their families. These facilities were equipped with “MannaPacks,” used to cook rice and vegetable meals, provided by Feed My Starving Children. OAA helped various churches that were still standing after the tornado by providing funds and aid to operate community kitchens, each serving more than 150 people .

Another clear example of community mobilization was the call to action of Passion for Cuba (P4C), an OAA partner group of young community leaders, to help during the tornado aftermath. The P4C group was in the front line for several weeks helping those who were tornado victims. They worked to distribute the aid that OAA provided to around 260 families, who were blessed with warm meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner, hygiene supplies, medicine and other supplies.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: FOOD FOR PEACE EL SALVADOR

A significant number of areas of El Salvador continue to be plagued by criminal gangs, extreme poverty, and food insecurity, which have been drivers of internal and outward migration. These communities suffer from malnutrition and hunger, and are in great need of food to meet their daily caloric needs.

In partnership with USAID/FFP, OAA delivered **150 metric tons** of Harvest Lentils Pro from Breedlove Foods to El Salvador, where Asociación AGAPE and the Baptist Church of Apopa (part of OAA's network of Central American faith-based organizations) are distributing the shelf-stable prepackaged food to the vulnerable communities in Acajutla, Izalco, Sonsonate, San Francisco Mendez, San Juan Opico, and Apopa.

This program has benefited **15,890 Salvadorians**, including children, pregnant and lactating women, elderly and people with disabilities, all from the most vulnerable areas. The distribution takes place in strategic distribution locations, such as schools, health clinics and community kitchens. Beyond meeting the nutritional and caloric needs of these at-risk groups, in-school feeding programs incentivize attendance by students who are otherwise prone to drop out at an early age due to poverty or pressure from criminal gangs seeking recruits.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: THE SOLOMON PROJECT

In 1990, the Cuban government converted from an atheist state to a secular one, changing its posture toward the church from hostile to neutral. Although this event allowed an awakening of the Cuban Church that continues to this day, there has been a dearth of theologically trained leaders that continues to limit the advance of the Gospel on the island.

We strongly believe that key independent evangelical seminaries are critical for the growth of the Cuban Church. Church leaders tell us about the great need for leadership formation among the pastors in their churches and seminaries; and they are eager for opportunities to access technological tools.

This is why for over 25 years, OAA, through EchoCuba's Solomon Project, has equipped churches and seminaries with laptops, e-readers, tablets, LightStreams, messengers—all containing Christian literature. These resources have enhanced educational training programs, and have helped spread the Gospel in more effective and creative ways.

These materials have been distributed to key church and ministry leaders with churches and infrastructure to reach even the smallest congregations in rural Cuba. Some of these local partners include the Evangelical Seminary of Cuba, the Biblical Institute of the Assemblies of God and the Methodist Church. Some of the results of these partnerships have been:

- An estimated **45 pastors/students use the laptops every day** to research the pre-loaded material and complete their homework/studies.
- **85% of the digital Christian materials** loaded in the laptops are retrieved to be shared with other pastors of rural areas in Cuba.





## STORY HIGHLIGHT: SOMOS UNO: THE GIFT OF PHOTOGRAPHY

In November, the group Somos Uno (We Are One) conducted a free outreach workshop in Vedado, Cuba, for low-income and disadvantaged families. The initiative was designed by a group of Cuban artists to develop young people’s self-esteem, creativity, character, and knowledge through photography.”

*Pequeños Tesoros*, an established organization with ties to the community, helped select the children. All came from diverse backgrounds, so the activities taught them how to work together and get along with others who might initially seem different. After having their pictures taken, the artists used engaging exercises and discussions to instill core values and emphasize the power of positivity.

Some parents also joined the workshop, and at the conclusion, they were given sets of the professional portraits of their children – a special gift many could not otherwise afford. Participating in the workshop and receiving the physical portrait of themselves was a profound psychological experience for these children: they learned positive values and, through this gift, they also learned to accept and embrace the individual qualities that make them unique.



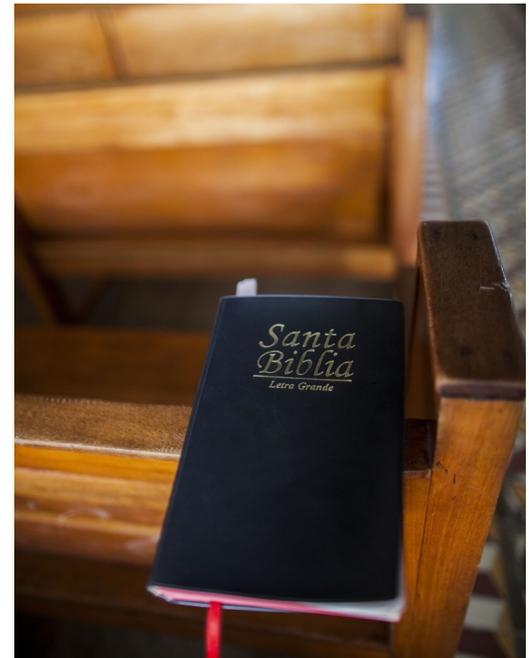
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: ECHOCUBA: DEFENDING THE PERSECUTED

The UK-based nonprofit organization, Christian Solidarity Worldwide has documented many cases where children of different faiths in Cuba were singled out or denied an education in 2019, often branding their parents “counterrevolutionaries.” Pastors were imprisoned in eastern Cuba because they turned to homeschooling when their children were targeted for bullying and assault at a government-run school.

Cubans are routinely denied basic freedoms outlined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, e.g. openly sharing faith with others, giving children a formal and religious education, ministering in prisons and hospitals, accessing radio, TV, and the internet. Last year several pastors were arrested, laptops and literature confiscated, churches shut down and demolished. Evangelical leaders were falsely accused of receiving funding from the CIA. The Cuban government projects a façade of respect for justice and religious freedom while it arbitrarily employs discriminatory and repressive tactics to discourage, frighten, divide, and punish people of faith who seek to gather, worship, educate, and live according to their beliefs.

Last year, Catholic and Protestant activists called for stronger protections for freedom of religion, bravely uniting to expose the government’s attempts to weaken previously guaranteed constitutional rights. Consequently, the five largest evangelical denominations in Cuba formed an independent alliance of religious organizations, which are already facing retaliation.

As unwavering advocates for Cubans marginalized and victimized because of their faith, EchoCuba supports this courageous coalition through the provision of critical equipment, clothing, materials, and humanitarian assistance that serve partner organizations and churches.





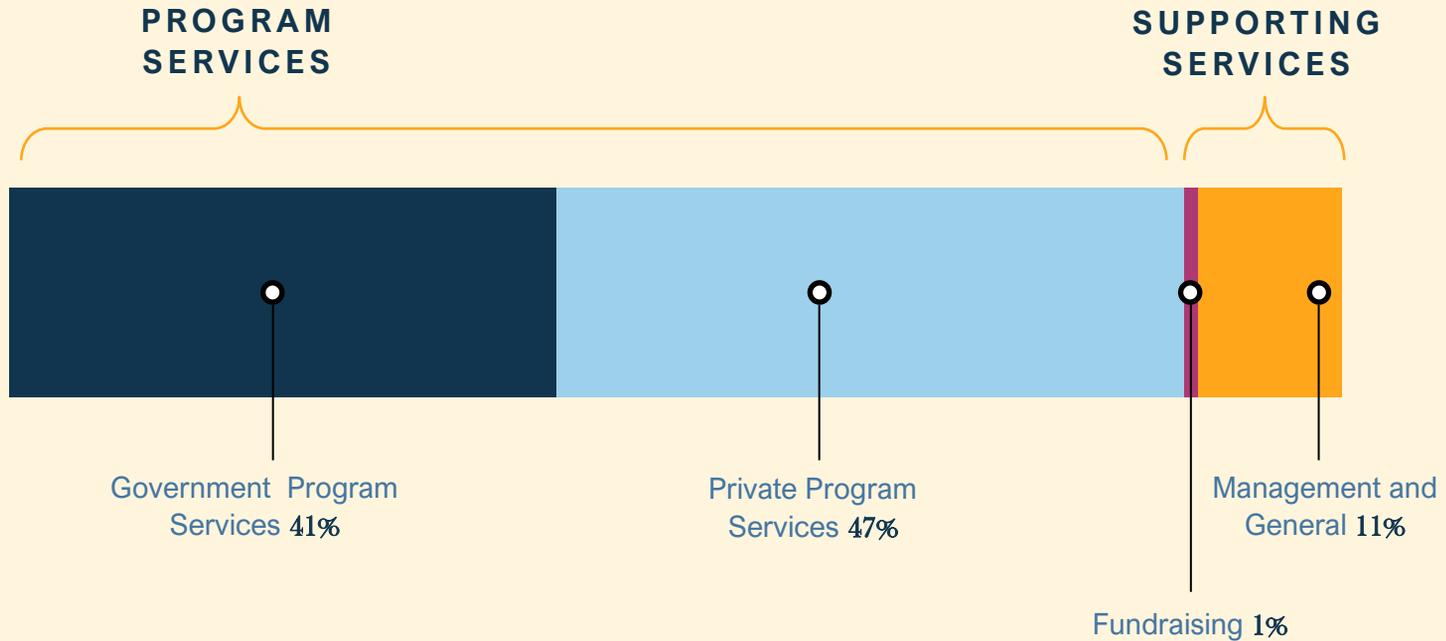
## 2019 FINANCIALS

	2018	2019
<b>Revenues</b>		
Contributions	\$ 98,093	\$ 146,555
Grants	1,001,113	1,025,607
Mission Travel Revenue	6,720	20,022
Private Programs	320,065	162,297
In-kind donations	2,247,862	4,842,425
Other	5,203	56,855
<b><u>Total Revenues</u></b>	<b><u>3,679,056</u></b>	<b><u>6,253,761</u></b>
<b>Operational Expenses</b>		
Program Services	3,181,301	5,762,646
Management and General	392,629	312,801
Fundraising	19,500	22,164
<b><u>Total Functional Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>3,593,430</u></b>	<b><u>6,097,611</u></b>
Changes in Net Assets	85,626	156,150
Net Assets Beginning of Year (After Cumulative Effect Adjustment)	54,229	110,907
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b><u>\$ 139,855</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 267,057</u></b>

OAA's full financial statements can  
be accessed on [www.oaausa.org/accountability](http://www.oaausa.org/accountability)



# ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES:



In fulfilling our commitment to being financially transparent, Outreach Aid to the Americas has been accredited/certified by the following institutions:





## OUR BOARD

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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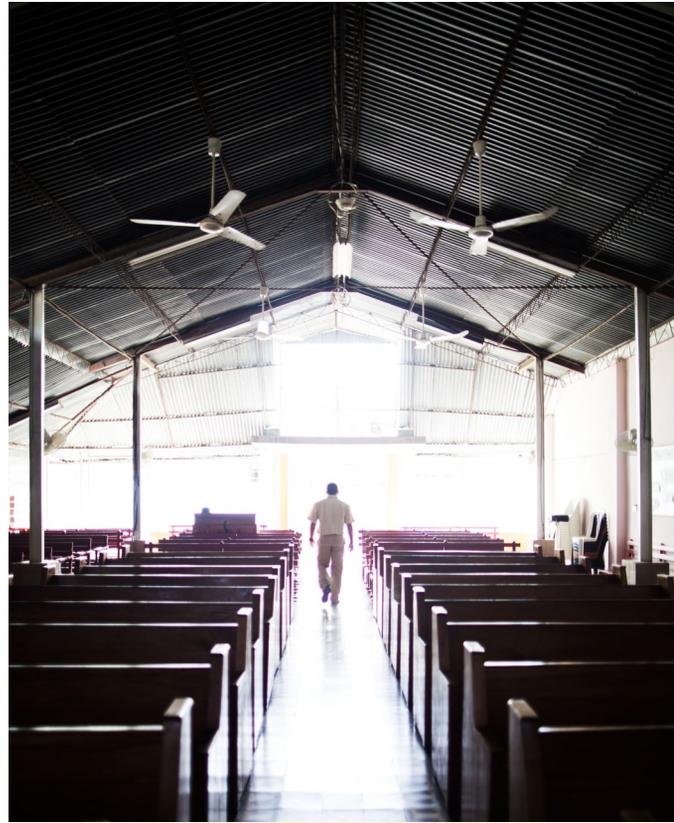
Sandra Ripley Goodman | United Methodist Women Council

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## HOW YOU CAN SAVE AND IMPROVE LIVES TOO

Your support can make a life-changing difference to families in need.

You can learn more by calling [305.884.0441](tel:305.884.0441), via email at [info@oaausa.org](mailto:info@oaausa.org), or by visiting our website [www.oaausa.org](http://www.oaausa.org). You can help us advance our work through your financial support. We are available to assist you and we welcome your contribution.

We also welcome planned giving in the form of bequests and other non-cash estate gifts such as life insurance, annuities, securities, and property. A planned gift is a smart financial investment strategy, and it can reduce or even eliminate taxes on income, capital gains, and any existing or future estates.





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