

ARMENIA
BELARUS
BULGARIA
CAMBODIA
C H I N A
ETHIOPIA
GEORGIA
INDONESIA
L A O S
LITHUANIA
MACEDONIA
MALAYSIA
MOLDOVA
MYANMAR
PHILIPPINES
P O L A N D
ROMANIA
R U S S I A
SERBIA
THAILAND
UKRAINE

Reaching the “Least of These”



REACH A
VILLAGE
2016 Annual Report

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” Matthew 25:35-36



From the President

This parable has both righteous and unrighteous people asking the question: “Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison ...” Matthew 25:44 (NIV) One group didn’t see Jesus because they weren’t helping people at all. They had no care and concern for anyone but themselves, so they missed seeing Jesus in needy people. The other group was so busy helping others that they didn’t recognize the Presence of Jesus they brought into desperate situations.

If you are looking for Jesus, you will see Him in every part of this report! He is leading Christian workers into neglected, unreached villages. He is in the smile of every new believer as they receive their first Scriptures. He is in the tears of those who were set free from abusive relationships when the Gospel finally came to their village and their family.

Those of you who have prayed and given to the ministry of Reach A Village have

“... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40

directly reached the lost, needy, neglected people in villages that had no believers, Bibles or local church. This year, Jesus went into villages for the first time through the ministry of trained Christian workers who are passionate about Jesus and His Gospel. But they are *compassionate* as well.

The Gospel sets individuals, families and villages free from sins that kept them in bondage, pain and misery for decades, even centuries! But now, Jesus has come and established His Church among them! His Church brings healing, deliverance and hope. But it often brings education, orphan care, rehabilitation, sanitation and income generation as well.

When a village finds Christ, villagers find everything they need. At Reach A Village, we seek to serve the *least of these* until we reach the *last of these*.

Serving Christ Together,



Ministry Results

At Reach A Village, we have found that the most efficient and effective way to spread the Gospel to people in remote unreached areas is to train local Christians in these nations, equip them with Scripture and Bible study materials, and send them out to evangelize and start new churches in nearby villages. These indigenous Christians have a heart for the lost, are capable, and already know the language and cultural background, so they can connect on a deep level.

As the stories and ministry results in this report show, we are seeing a tremendous response to the Gospel! The Holy Spirit is using our international partners, and hearts and communities are being transformed.

An exciting development in 2016 was ministry expansion into Ethiopia through a new partnership! We are thrilled to have the opportunity to help share God's Word and proclaim the Good News in Africa.

New leaders trained:	89,950
People who heard the Gospel:	866,057
New people in Bible studies:	420,357
New believers:	124,097
Scripture materials provided:	3,090,050
Churches started:	1,355
Most churches were started in villages that previously had no local church!	

I was hungry

ARMENIA A family with five children was struggling financially and moved from a remote region to the city to find work and a better life. The parents had to leave the children on their own as they worked day and night as there was no money for food. The mother, who is a believer, was overjoyed when she learned that the children could go to a local church for summer camp for the whole day, and most importantly, they would be fed!

At the end of camp, the children received the Bible In Pictures and started to regularly attend Bible study. In addition, the oldest daughter reads Bible stories for the whole family and they discuss what they read. Even the father, who is not a believer, joins in sometimes. The older children volunteered to serve at the next camp because they want to share the hope they have found with other children.



I was thirsty

UKRAINE Families in the war zone are thirsting to hear the Bible's words of hope, love and forgiveness. No one slept on the night before a "Children's Protection Day" celebration was to take place, as the uninterrupted sounds of shooting and bombs exploding could be heard on all sides. The power was knocked out, and homes on several streets were completely destroyed. In such conditions, volunteers were holding evangelistic meetings for children. Parents came with their kids to listen to Bible stories and temporarily forget the problems of the war surrounding them. Children and adults are opening their hearts and drinking in God's Word as they pray for peace to return once again.



I was a stranger

BULGARIA Ivo and his wife Antonia are working to establish churches in a desolate area where people live isolated from the rest of the world. Every weekend they travel to the area with their daughter and some volunteers. They build a camp next to a small river, and from there they visit the surrounding villages, sharing God's Word with those who are strangers to the Gospel and inviting them into the Kingdom. They have already started a church and five small groups in different villages!



I needed clothes

MACEDONIA Again this year, our ministry partners have continued to care for the physical needs of hurting Syrian refugees by providing clothing and food. In total, over 20,000 people have received humanitarian aid through their work!

This ministry has also given the evangelical community an opportunity to share the Gospel with the refugees, many of whom are Muslims. The borders are closed, so refugees are stuck in the camp until a decision is made on their request for asylum. In the midst of their desperate, seemingly hopeless plight, many have been responsive to the message of hope in Jesus Christ.



I was sick

LITHUANIA Kevin felt that life was as it should be—he was married, had a good job and began a family. Then, alcoholism robbed him of all of it. Eventually, he became homeless. During a particularly cold winter, he suffered severe frostbite and had to have both legs amputated above the knee. While Kevin was in the hospital, some Reach A Village ministry partners came to visit him. They brought him to church and gave him a New Testament as a gift. As he began to read it, God touched his heart. Today, Kevin is free from alcohol. Despite the loss he has suffered, he gives thanks to God for everything and says, “Life is a process of restoration, and I am trying to live according to the Gospel.”



I was in prison

INDONESIA Indonesian ministry partners are holding Bible studies in prisons regularly. This provides an opportunity to reach many people from different religions. In one case, the Bible study is held in a room where other prisoners are able to over-hear what is discussed with those attending the study. As a result, seeds are being sown not just with those who choose to attend, but with those who overhear as well!



Created With a Purpose

Thanks to the support of Reach A Village partners, Values Education volunteers like Mariel* are having a profound impact on the lives of thousands of schoolchildren like Jasmine* as they teach about Jesus and Christian values in classrooms in the Philippines.

Jasmine, a fifth grader, says, “I want to thank you for sending our volunteer teacher. She is such a blessing to me, personally, for helping me understand God’s love for me. I was born with a disability and hated myself so much. I am always embarrassed to be around people.

“I tried so hard to just accept who I am but I couldn’t, until this month our volunteer teacher explained to us about creation and how wonderfully God created us in His image. At first, I thought maybe I am not created in His own image because I don’t look nice like the others ... but, as our volunteer continued and made clear that whatever we look like we are still precious in God’s sight, she looked straight at me.

“Something pierced my heart and melted the hardness and negative things in it. I started to cry. When our volunteer was

looking at me, it was as if God was looking at me saying, ‘I love you dearly, no matter how you look; I created you with a purpose.’ As I cried and asked God to forgive me for not accepting my situation, the heaviness was lifted out of me. I felt free at last and joy flooded my heart!

“Now, I am thankful to God for each day of my life ... I want to thank you for this program that came to our school.”



**Names and photos changed to protect identity*

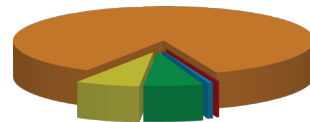
Financials

Serving the *least of these* until we reach the *last of these* requires all of us working together. It takes the prayers and financial support of partners in North America to supply the training and needed materials in addition to the overseas partners who are the flesh and blood representation of Jesus to those who desperately need to hear the message of the Gospel.

In addition to gifts from our faithful donor partners in the United States, funds for overseas ministry are also generously provided through a partnership with the Bible League of Canada. Without each part of the Body of Christ playing their own role, the changed lives that these statistics represent would never have been possible. But, when the Body works together in concert, people and communities are transformed for God's glory!

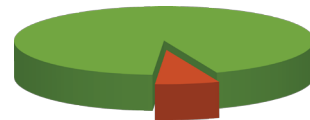
Funding Sources

International Partners	\$ 2,057,766.52
Individuals	\$ 166,943.13
Foundations	\$ 155,495.00
Churches	\$ 8,720.34
Other (Businesses)	\$ 5,283.82
Total	\$ 2,394,208.81



Expenses

Ministry & Programs	\$ 2,233,258.00
Administrative	\$ 160,950.81
Total	\$ 2,394,208.81



Funds sent directly from Canada to overseas ministry partners are not reflected in our IRS Form 990.

**Thank you for ministering to the least of these through Reach A Village in 2016.
What you did for them, you did for Jesus!**

For further information:

Reach A Village

PO Box 577 Park Forest, IL 60466

708-679-0237 • www.reachavillage.org

Reach A Village is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.