



ONE TRACK INTERNATIONAL

It takes a global village.

2018
Impact Report



A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD

Executive Director Shaun Bamforth
Director Of Operations Todd Finklestone

2018 was an exciting year as we formally kicked off our global project,

ONETrack International, a child advocacy group dedicated to *Fighting for Family!* Although we still have much work to do in Cameroon, where we have been fighting for orphans and at-risk children for the last ten years, we understand the Orphan Crisis is not unique to any one country or continent. According to UNICEF, there are over 150-million orphans around the world and ONETrack International has committed to utilizing our knowledge and experience in alternative orphan-care to be a leader in the global fight to ensure every child grows up with a family. Last year we successfully expanded into four new countries – Zimbabwe, Liberia, Honduras and The Gambia – while continuing our work in Cameroon. This expansion has allowed us to have a maximum impact in the lives of a total of 137 children along with hundreds of their family members. Although each child's situation is unique, the outcome is the same – a safe, stable, loving environment where each child has the support and resources needed to thrive.

One new project this board is particularly proud of is our work in Honduras, where a lack of economic opportunity has led to thousands of men, women, and children leaving the country as part of the "Migrant Caravan" we've been hearing about in the news. While the media has placed a lot of attention toward the children being detained and separated from their families, and the many more waiting at ports of entry, there has been much less discussion about how to tackle the fundamental reasons that cause people to uproot from their homes and leave their communities behind. Our team has identified a situation where our brand of orphan-care could be part of an alternative pathway for young Hondurans. Since then, our Operations team has managed to pinpoint the most vulnerable of Honduran society and those communities most affected by the crisis, recognize the particular circumstances that make Central American life susceptible to these hardships, isolate how those issues harm the parentless children involved, partner with dedicated locals, and launch a program that will be a force for change in the lives of the students under our care throughout their childhood! The ability for our team to mobilize so rapidly is truly a testament to our over ten years working to create innovative orphan-care solutions and we are proud to have facilitated a connection between these most vulnerable children and a loving family.

We are also creating positive change in:

Zimbabwe, where the AIDS epidemic has left millions of children without parents and disastrous Mugabe-era policies have destroyed the country from within and impoverished its people; Liberia, where, even though the Ebola epidemic is no longer in our headlines, scores of children remain orphaned by the disease and will be forever without parents; Cameroon, where we have faced many challenges over the past few years, as our projects have been affected by the Anglophone Crisis which has created conflict along regional lines - however, we continue to care for 84 children and their host families and monitor their wellbeing closer than ever; and, The Gambia, where poverty has prevented families from assuming the role of caretaker over their own nieces and nephews.

As we reflect on this past year we are encouraged by the progress we have made through our global projects and we are optimistic and excited about the opportunity to be a leader in fighting to transform the way in which the world combats the *Global Orphan Crisis*. None of the work we have done, and will do moving forward, would be possible without the work of our volunteer staff and the generosity of our amazing donors- some of whom have supported our vision for years! We cannot thank you enough for your continued assistance, engagement, and trust in our work.

As we look towards 2019 we will be introducing our approach to even more communities and families around the world. It is important for us to share our knowledge and expertise to as many regions as possible because our goal is to promote our methods with the hopes that they take root in surrounding neighborhoods and villages as their successes are admired and then emulated. We have begun talks in South and Southeast Asia for the early parts of the year, with a particular eye on Cambodia where we will work to reverse trends of orphan exploitation that have harmed children and were brought to light after a culture of orphanage corruption had been exposed. While many contributors of the region are withdrawing support in fear of a misuse of resources, we see an opportunity to overturn the bad practices and work with committed groups with dependable programs who were never part of the abuse.

Again, thank you all for your support and generosity, and most of all, for playing such a massive role in our recent successes and growth and for doing your part in *Fighting for Family!*

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O rphan-Care done right

N ecessities for growth

E ducation for all.

“Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the world for one person.”





Our Vision

A world in which all orphaned children have the opportunity to grow as a member of a family, receive proper educations and healthcare, as well as one in which orphanages and international adoption are reserved as an important function for those cases without other options.

Our Mission

ONETrack International promotes proper orphan-care solutions by encouraging our [Transition to Home](#) approach to [family reunification](#). We work to uphold, introduce and train globally-recognized international laws and standards that protect an orphaned child's rights to be raised by biological relatives, or other suitable providers, within their communities of birth in situations where it is practical and appropriate.

We advocate and practice these principles at both the [community](#) and [global levels](#) by supporting and advising organizations that work with parentless and vulnerable children around the world.

2018 GuideStar Gold Seal of Transparency

OTI takes honesty, seriously. In 2018, we received the Gold Seal of transparency from GuideStar, placing us alongside the top 2% of US-registered charities in regards to our transparency! This means we have provided in-depth information about our goals, strategies, capabilities, and progress straight to our supporters.



Our Story

The ONETrack International team has ten years of experience in [alternative orphan-care](#) techniques, having initially proven our approach a success with our ground-breaking CameroonONE In-Home Sponsorship projects. Through ONETrack International, our new global child advocacy project, we are able to share the CameroonONE-solution to parentless children in different communities around the globe by creating new programs and supporting the ongoing operations of organizations that already practice the [Transition to Home](#) methods of family-preservation and reintegration.

The ONETrack International team has also begun advising community-based organizations on international laws and standards as well as on contemporary and innovative orphan-care methods.

At the village-level, ONETrack will continue to provide for orphaned children by removing them from their [overcrowded](#) and [under-resourced](#) orphanages and placing them in the households of biological family members (and providing for all their education, health needs and caretaker support) and in a conflict context, we will be providing for separated children by keeping the remaining family members together and removing them from collective institutions (such as refugee camps) to private homes.

What We Do

The Challenge

It is important to realize what the true problem of the Global Orphan Crisis is: It is not orphans- it is the mishandling of the response by the global community and the negligence in finding real solutions to appropriately serve orphaned children! There are currently over 150-Million children worldwide who have been orphaned by a variety of tragic circumstances. This is a sad statistic, but sadder still is that most of these children have been harmed by a second injustice- the overall response to the Global Orphan Crisis. The response has been mismanaged and many of these children are unnecessarily suffering in overcrowded and under-resourced institutions, but fortunately there is a better way. By international laws and standards, orphaned children are supposed to be reunited with family members. If there are no family members capable of raising them, then they should be placed within willing homes within their community of birth. In the event that all these options are exhausted, then (and only then) should international adoption become an option. That said, these standards are routinely ignored or flouted around the world. Similarly, while we recognize the role that orphanages serve for the parentless children of this world, they should also be reserved for the worst cases- a space for those without other options.

Our Original Project - Transition to Home Orphan-Care in Cameroon

We first developed our Transition to Home solution through collaboration with locals and community leaders in the northern provinces of The Republic of Cameroon. The CameroonONE In-Home Sponsorship program was designed to support both an orphaned child as well as his or her surviving relatives with the goal of keeping families together while relieving the orphan communes of unnecessary cases. The children in our In-Home Sponsorship program were placed in the existing households of their extended family members, who partnered with CameroonONE by taking on the parental responsibilities of a niece or nephew.

Each household receives school fees and supplies, medical assistance and caretaker support in the form of material items for their homes and livelihoods. Host families that accepted this responsibility did so with the full understanding that the children in their care must attend an adequate school and maintain certain expectations of health and wellbeing, including that he or she be fully vaccinated. This endeavour proved a massive success and we became determined to share our initiatives with other regions around the world.*Our

Newest Projects - Transition to Home Wherever it is Needed

As we expand across the planet, ONETrack International realizes that the CameroonONE-model will not be the correct solution for every community; therefore, learning from and working with each individual community is the most important component of our global strategy. ONETrack International is already putting our solutions to action in Cameroon, Zimbabwe, and The Gambia; in Liberia, with orphans affected by Ebola; in Honduras, assisting in strengthening villages so that unaccompanied minors will not have to be put in danger during a future "Migrant Caravan"; and we have a team in Greece working to assist the plight of Yazidi refugees who fled persecution from ISIS in northern Iraq. And, we are excited to be able to introduce our approach to even more regions and communities in 2019 and beyond.

2018 Invest In Others Global Impact Award Finalist

Congratulations to board member, David Shnitzer, for becoming a finalist at this year's Invest In Others Awards. As a financial advisor, David's involvement with CameroonONE and ONETrack lead him to his Invest In Others Awards nomination amongst the top Finance Associates doing good and charitable work outside of their everyday jobs.



The Global ORPHAN CRISIS



What is a Birth Act?

Did you know that all the children in the ONETrack foster system receive identification support? Without a 'Birth Act' (the registration of a certificate at birth), children are effectively stateless and become vulnerable to countless threats. ONETrack funds the acquisition of certificates for all our students.

The Facts:

According to the UNHCR, lack of birth registration can make it difficult for children to prove that they have the relevant links to the State that entitle them to a nationality, and therefore creates a risk of statelessness. This is because birth registration indicates where a person was born and who their parents are- key pieces of information needed to establish which country's nationality a child can acquire.

The Effects:

The effects of being born stateless are severe! Stateless children are born into a world in which they will face a lifetime of discrimination; their status profoundly affects their ability to learn and grow, and to fulfill their ambitions and dreams for the future. Often, children need nationality documentation just to receive medical care, and not being recognized as a national of any country can create insurmountable barriers to education, adequate healthcare, and creates a devastating psychological toll.

Stateless children are regularly denied access to the classroom! Having to negotiate one's way through the school system without documentation frequently results in delays in starting school, putting stateless children years behind their peers. Statelessness can also exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, and in extreme cases- lead to exploitation and abuse. Tragically, children living with statelessness are subjected to constant humiliation and often a feeling of worthlessness. Stateless children frequently describe themselves as "invisible" or "living in a shadow" and are likely to be denied the chance to break previous cycles of poverty and marginalization. ONETrack is working hard to break these cycles!

The Problem

There are currently over 150-Million children worldwide who have been orphaned by a variety of tragic circumstances. This is a sad statistic, but sadder still is that most of these children have been harmed by a second injustice- the overall response to the Global Orphan Crisis has been mismanaged and many of these children are unnecessarily suffering in overcrowded and under-resourced institutions and orphanages- and many do not have to.

How We Help

At ONETrack we believe that the responses to this crisis need to be reassessed and better solutions need to be put in place! That is why we work hard to promote our Transition to Home alternative that places parentless children in the homes of biological family members within their villages of birth (in cases where orphaned children still have surviving relatives)! We have proven this system as a successful practice in our projects in West Africa (through our CameroonONE programs) and have now expanded to introduce our approach to other communities across the globe by finding parentless children suitable homes and ensuring that they receive a proper education and appropriate health care.

ONETrack International is already putting our solutions to action in Cameroon, Zimbabwe, and The Gambia; in Liberia, with orphans affected by Ebola; in Greece, where our team is trying to set up projects with Yazidi refugees persecuted by ISIS militants; and we just began a project in Honduras to assist in strengthening villages so that unaccompanied minors will not have to be but in danger during a future "Migrant Caravan".





Lawrence, 19

2018 Success Story

From Orphan To Professional

Children in ONETrack International's programs are members of our family. Any child that becomes part of our family will remain so throughout their childhood. But what happens next?

So What Comes Next For The Children in our Program?

Our children experience the same stages of life as everybody else and as they get older it is important for us to have the systems in place to help them transition into these other exciting stages. The process of transition from care to aftercare is complicated and should take in many considerations. We need to take measures to ensure that every child leaving care is encouraged to take part in the planning of their own aftercare life- do they want to go to university, do they want to pursue religious studies, or is there a trade that they have always been interested in? ONETrack International is now their support system and we will take every effort throughout their rearing to make certain that our kids age-out of our youth programs without an undue reliance or feelings of institutionalization; and, that we can act as a facilitator of independence and individualization.

How do we do that?

We are currently developing special efforts to make sure that our children's futures are prepared for as early as possible! Ongoing educational and vocational training opportunities are possible due to partnerships with programs in the regions that we work that specialize in youth training. Skills education is critical to make our beneficiaries prepared to become financially independent, generate their own incomes, and be able to raise families of their own!

2018 Success Story "From Orphan To Professional"

Lawrence is a recent graduate in our Cameroon program. He had long expressed an interest in going on to become a welder and starting his own shop. The community where he lives and works is in need of welders just like Lawrence. We collaborated with Lawrence and our staff in Cameroon to establish a plan to help support Lawrence as he begins his career as a welder. We are happy to say that Lawrence and a friend of his were able to start a company with the Post-Education Scholarship that ONETrack provided him; he received the backing to help him purchase his equipment and training courses. He hopes to hire other graduates of our program one day! Other options exist across the world- in Honduras, our partners have been providing their students with vocational training in a variety of fields and are even instrumental in formulating a salon and barber school for recent graduates interested in this field. It has proven huge success and is allowing young adults the chance to provide for themselves!



Our Impact

Who benefits?

While the children under the care of ONETrack International are directly impacted by the work we do, the greater community benefits in a variety of ways. Our students are certainly direct beneficiaries and we are able impact their lives by providing a safe family home, an education, and proper healthcare; but, we also have a direct impact within their host families (which are an average family size of 6) by providing caretaker support and reuniting them with their nieces and nephews. We impact the communities' orphanages by alleviating them of unnecessary cases and relaxing their resource strain (which creates a better life for those still in their care). And, we provide funding for schools that would be otherwise unavailable and this impacts both the faculty as well as the other students.

Healthier Communities.

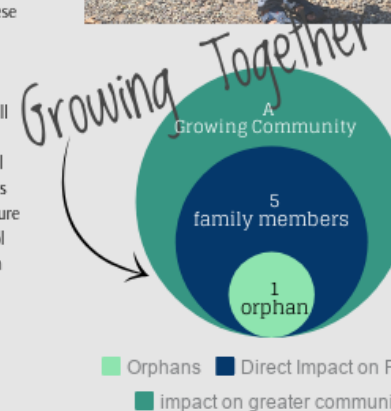
Our health initiatives prohibit outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, promote proper nutrition and hygiene, and we coordinate regular sport and exercise programs. Educating our children about healthy lifestyles is important- studies repeatedly link good nutrition to learning readiness, academic achievement, and a decrease in emotional problems.

The Benefits of Educating Our Girls.

GIRLS' EDUCATION is more than just about getting girls into school. It is also about ensuring that girls feel safe and learn while in school, complete all levels of education with the skills and competencies to secure jobs, make decisions about their own lives, and contribute to their communities and the world.

Girls' education is a strategic development priority- better educated women tend to be healthier than uneducated women, participate more in the formal labor market, earn higher incomes, have fewer children, marry at a later age, and enable better healthcare and education for their children. All these factors combined can help lift households out of poverty.

Sixteen million girls between the ages six and 11 will never enter school! Poverty remains the most important factor for determining whether a girl will access an education. ONETrack helps eliminate this barrier by providing the tools necessary to make sure that the girls in our communities can attend school despite financial obstacles, that they are safe both when at home and in school, and that they are included in conversations about their own upbringing!



In 2018, we took crowdfunding to the next level as we joined the GlobalGiving Online Donor Base. By Graduating the GlobalGiving Accelerator program, ONETrack is able to make more out of your donations at no cost to you! GlobalGiving offers additional cash prizes, match donations, grants, additional training and more. We are thankful for the opportunity and to be a part of a community of giving back.



EXPANSION

2018



4 COUNTRIES ADDED

- Zimbabwe
- The Gambia
- Liberia
- Honduras

IN THE PROGRAM

2018



FROM ORPHAN TO FAMILY

The number of children in our program has increased by 53% since 2017. With unique circumstances in every country, we have successfully added a growing number of children with the ability to cater to their own individual needs and by determining how reintegration will function in respect to cultural distinctiveness.

SUSTAINABILITY

2018



7 SUSTAINABILITY PILLARS

Providing more than just a family

- An Education, by reducing educational disparities and barriers to access among school-age children through sustainable interventions.
- Psychosocial Care and Support, by placing our children in stable and affectionate environments.
- Household Economic Strengthening, by reducing the economic vulnerability of families and empowering them to provide for the essential needs of the children in their care.
- Social Protection, by reducing vulnerability and risks.
- Health and Nutrition, by improving children's and families' access to health and nutritional services.
- Child Protection, by developing appropriate strategies for preventing and responding to child abuse, exploitation, violence and family separation.
- Legal Protection, by developing strategies to ensure basic legal rights, and providing birth registrations.

WHATS AHEAD?

2018



THIS YEAR'S VISION



Prevention



Alternative Care



Reintegration



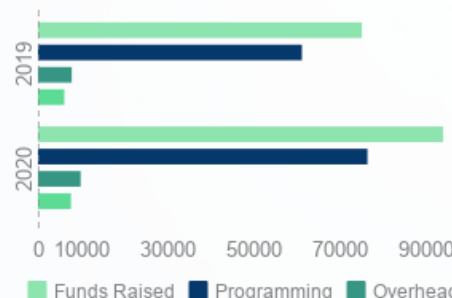
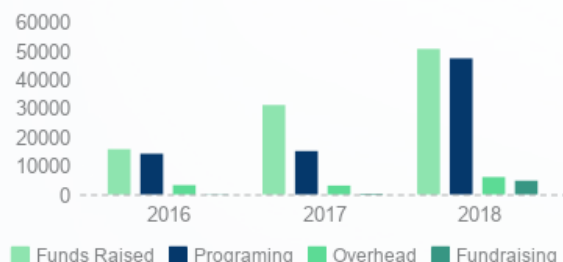
WHAT WILL 2019 LOOK LIKE?

ONETrack International is currently in talks with potential partners in South and Southeast Asia for future expansion. This is important because we are looking at regional and cultural characteristics and how they differ from the Sub-Saharan model. South Asia, for instance, provides a lot of opportunity for us to work on preventive measures and how we can direct energy into preventing cases of economic orphans- children placed into institutions because biological families do not have the means to properly care for them. And, in Southeast Asia, we can help reverse trends in a region that has gained notoriety for having corrupt and exploitative adoption systems. Stay tuned...

AN OVERALL LOOK

2018

ONETrack International has experienced some amazing growth over the past few years and we do not see an end to this upward trajectory! Our projects and techniques have been proven successful and our longtime donors have committed to our mission because they trust our abilities and share a dedication to the parentless children of this world



THE FUTURE FOR FAMILIES

2018

ONETrack International will introduce our orphan-care approach to even more communities in 2019 and 2020 with special consideration to how reintegration would work in each region and culturally within that region. By working alongside each community, we will be able to welcome more children into our programs!

ONETRACK INTERNATIONAL

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