

SPRING 2019



# CRY IN ACTION

RESCUING AND RESTORING YOUNG LIVES BROKEN BY POVERTY



CRY SUPPORTS: PROJECTO CORNELIUS, PERU

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I'm so excited to bring you the first CRY In Action of 2019. There are so many great things happening and we can't wait to share it all with you! We have some great stories from all around the world on how your kindness and generosity are changing the futures of young lives for the better.



**Patrick Vinuya**  
Designer

**As** I look back on 2018 and all that was achieved through CRY I am reminded again of God's kindness and goodness to us. With your help, we have achieved more than in any of our previous years. Our work around the world continues to grow and we now run 35 projects in 28 different countries. God's provision to us has been astounding as we have served more children in poverty, giving them hope and a future.

As we start a new year we bring our focus back to what CRY exists to do, for those we have been entrusted to serve and how we continue to increase the impact CRY has on children's lives internationally.

One of our key focuses this year is to increase fundraising, we started the year by taking on a Community Fundraiser, Allison Banks. We are delighted to welcome Allison to the team and we are excited to see all that will develop through this post.

For 2019 we have the privilege of starting work in Somalia and Kurdistan, as well as increasing and expanding our ongoing work in Iraq to help families with care packages. Our projects are increasingly looking to bring development and positive change to communities, though in some circumstances it is more important to meet the immediate need of food, shelter and clothing.

It continues to be our privilege to be a part of this life changing work and we are so very grateful for your ongoing support. Thank you.



**Keziah Brennan**  
Charity Operations Manager

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# VISITING AFRICA



all kinds of backgrounds, for example there is Lydia; a shy, hard working 14-year-old whose parents are both alcoholics. When school based social workers visited their shack, they found her two parents passed out on a single mattress.

**Chris, CRY's CEO, visited various CRY projects in Africa at the end of 2018. Here is his travel diary.**

I have heard from so many of our partners about the difference CRY makes to their work, so this Autumn I took the opportunity to visit four of our African partners to see for myself the change that CRY is making to young people's lives.

First, I visited the Kenyan school that we support in a Nairobi slum called Kibera; it's the largest slum in Africa which has about 700,000 people living in it. Just to put that in perspective that is 150% of the population of Manchester in an area of less than 4%. There are 150 children in the school who come from

I was part of a team that took the school teachers away for a weekend to inspire and energise them. I ran some "wide games" played across a large field. Such space is not found in Kibera so for many of the teachers who live there and do not have the chance to get away, this was a real treat.

I then visited South Africa. CRY supports a centre located in Vrygrond, one of the townships around Cape Town. The SOZO Educentre project brings a future and dignity to the children, providing a place to study after school instead of the distractions of



works to build good character by using local mentors who model this. I was impressed by this truly holistic philosophy and proud on CRY's behalf to be a part of it.

Mozambique, by some reckonings, is the world's seventh poorest country with many orphans in danger of serious abuse. The Iris Zimpeto Children's Centre near the capital, Maputo is home to 300 of the poorest children in this impoverished country. CRY supports the youngest of these - supplementing their diet to give them the best chance at the outset of their lives. Boy could I see the impact: seeing children enter chronically underfed but move to their primary education with zest and a chance for a future!

So what did I bring back from Africa? A realisation of how blessed we are and a desire to work with CRY to make a difference there and elsewhere. "To whom much is given much will be required". Luke 12 v48

the street. In addition, this centre offers vocational support to young people in areas like beauty therapy, building and gardening as well operating an artisan bakery which supplies some of the local hotels and shops. The impact on the local community is noticeable: the month before I was there, about 850 were made homeless after a township fire and the SOZO Educentre was able to offer vital assistance.

Further north in Zimbabwe I heard this story from Aneni:

*"At school I was one of 50 students in a class. The teacher did not notice that I could not keep up. Every year I failed my exams but they still moved me to the next grade. When I was 12 I asked if I could come to Cross Over and I am happy here. The mentors here really teach us things and we can ask questions. Now I can read and write and speak English."*

Cross Over is a school close to Harare which not only provides quality education but also



# GOOD NEWS

**1** Back in the summer, our team in Romania had started negotiations to purchase a new centre. Now, we are excited and thankful to God as it has been purchased and renovations have started! This will be a huge blessing to many more in this community.

**2** We started a feeding programme in our Father's Refuge Philippines project, which now means 21 malnourished children get to have a daily healthy and filling meal.



**3** We are seeing children's lives changed spiritually, as they hear the good news of Jesus. Many in Albania have started to go to the church linked to the project they attend!

**4** We have seen students who attended New Way School in Russia 15 years ago come back to work as teachers! It is amazing to see them having successful careers thanks to the education they received here, and the desire for them to return due to the supportive and caring atmosphere at New Way School.



**5** In Tanzania, work has started on a new boy's dormitory building which will help children to have more space and privacy. Also, because of the education given at the centre, all of the children who took end of primary exams passed and will be attending a secondary school.



6 In Albania, we have prayed for the families of the children to be more involved. We praise God, as the parents are now coming when we hold special meetings and are showing an interest rather than just sending the children.



7 In Laos, we have started supporting the introduction of 'Joseph Project', Harvest Centre. This a really exciting project which aims to help the poorest of the poor families who are forced to plant sweet corn in the mountains as they often have no land. These new corn silos enable them to continue their livelihood in an easier and safer way.

8 Children in Nepal were not going to school as they were either struggling or did not see the importance of it. Thanks to CRY starting it's support, these children are now attending school and enjoying it.

9 Space has always been limited at our Cross Over project in Zimbabwe which is a school offering an education to children in vulnerable communities near Harare. We have now been given some more space to use which will ease the cramped conditions. It needs a lot more renovation but we have made the rooms just about usable so they will be ready soon!



10 In Togo, we had less than 150 students at the school in 2010. Now, in 2019, we have more than 1700 students. This positive growth can be explained by your support, prayers, and encouragements. The team of staff in Togo who do an amazing job in teaching and caring for the children.

# NEW PROJECTS

Sadly, many countries around the world are rife with war, endangering both children and their families, and forcing many to leave their homes and flee to neighbouring countries. Since 2011, it has been estimated that over 16 million people have been displaced from Syria and Iraq due to civil war. Many other countries around the world also experience similar struggles, and CRY works in many dangerous areas to provide both practical and emotional support to children.

## SOMALIA

A couple of years ago, we began supporting a project in Ethiopia for Somali refugees providing homes for orphans and education. Now we have the opportunity to also support a project in Somalia, one of the poorest nations in the world. Less than half of the population are able to finish primary education because of harsh conditions in rural areas. We will be providing education for children from a town in Somaliland, who have to travel a long way for school and don't get enough food for the day. We will be helping 40 children go to school and provide a meal during the day.







## IRAQ

### KURDISTAN

Over 2 million refugees have fled their home towns and countries, and have found refuge in Iraqi Kurdistan. Refugees represent 28% of the Iraqi Kurdistan's total population. We have started to support a community centre providing education for 160 children to aid development and employment opportunities as well as employing teachers to come and teach. We want to offer things that will be fun for the children as well as ensuring they feel valued and loved, which we can do by offering things they really enjoy.

### BAGHDAD

We already run two projects in Baghdad - one for orphans and one for refugees, providing food, clothes and care weekly for 200 children. The need is huge and we will now take on a third project in this area. We will be giving food parcels to 30 families, all of whom have small children, have lost their jobs and homes and currently survive in bad living conditions without any income. The situation worsens day by day, and they are desperate for help. Our support will ensure survival for them.



# ONE-OFF DONATIONS

## PAKISTAN

At our primary school in Pakistan, children were having to sit on the freezing cold floor during their lessons as they did not have enough chairs. This made many of the children poorly. We were able to send an additional £750 to provide 70 new chairs which now enables them to learn happily and comfortably. We also sent a one-off donation earlier in 2018 to provide a generator, fans, water purifying systems and games for the children.



It is CRY Jersey's 20th anniversary this year, and to mark the occasion they are aiming to support 1000 children in Laos with care packs. The packs contain mosquito nets, school supplies, school uniforms, winter coats, toothpaste and many more items, and costs £20 per child. CRY Jersey are aiming to raise £20,000 by July 2019 to ensure 1000 children can receive these vital packs. Through auctions and other events throughout the year, they have already raised half of the amount needed! If you would like to donate towards this, please go to page 6.

## LAOS

We support income-generating projects in Laos, which have grown from running a fish farm to mushroom farming, sewing skills and even motorbike training. Now, they will be running a 'Piggy Bank Project' helping families to rear pigs and sell them. For this, they need corn silos to feed the pigs so we sent a donation to build a silo and get the project started. It will change many lives by allowing them to purchase food for their children through the income they now receive.



# SHOPS

What an interesting and challenging year 2018 turned out to be for retail. It seems there was melt-down everywhere because of economic factors: Brexit, the online revolution etc.

We are delighted to advise our supporters that CRY shops in the UK and Jersey managed to increase sales by 8%. The combined retail sales exceeded £1 million for the first time. Celebration time and thanks to God for His guidance through such stormy times and to our supporters for the quantity and quality of donations which have made us so successful in generating funds for our projects.

We were also busy preparing the shops for future challenges, we:

- Refitted our shops in Taunton and Eastleigh
- Carried out redecoration and required repairs in all shops
- Introduced Sales Assistants.

None of this could have been achieved without the commitment of all our staff and volunteers who really go the extra mile, especially when the going gets tough.

2019, a new year and new challenges. We know we can't stand still and will be:

- refitting Woolson and Southsea shops
- completing outstanding compliance works
- starting up an "online" sales operation
- increasing our sales revenues from high-value products

Once these development projects are completed, we will increase our contribution to projects for many more years. In a sense, we will have finished this stage of CRY Trading's renewal and now look to God as to where He wants us to go next.

God bless you all for all your support - we couldn't do it without you.

**Clive Wyatt**  
Retail Operations Manager



# FUNDRAISING

Hi! I'm Allison and it's my pleasure to join the CRY team in the role of Community Fundraiser.

In recent years I've learned a bit of a secret paradox (perhaps you already know this secret!)... that there is more to life than what you own and can hold on to. So many of us lead very busy lives acquiring more, better & new 'stuff'. But for some of us, it just feels wrong, as though something integral is still missing. I've learned to trust that feeling, and through that feeling, I've learned the secret paradox. Here it is: the meaning of life... is a life of meaning. It's true, isn't it? The best things in life cannot be purchased. They can only be discovered through kindness and generosity. The more generous you are, the happier you may become. What a paradox!

So what are you waiting for? I dare you to be generous! And guess what, it feels fantastic to know that you are helping a great cause like the children supported by CRY!

Can you suggest a fundraising idea that I could help you make happen? Does your place of work sometimes throw away usable/sellable 'stuff'? Would you like to donate some time to help run a group or ongoing fundraiser in aid of CRY?

- Do you (or your place of work) have a raffle prize that you could donate?
- Do you have a talent you could share to raise money?
- Could you put a coin collection tin or stamp collecting box in your place of work or local community space?
- Could you share a CRY facebook post every so often?



**Allison Banks**  
Community Fundraiser



In my new role, I need your help - I need your fundraising ideas, your contacts, your 'stuff' and your time... I'm not asking for a lot, but a little and together, I know we can achieve a lot!

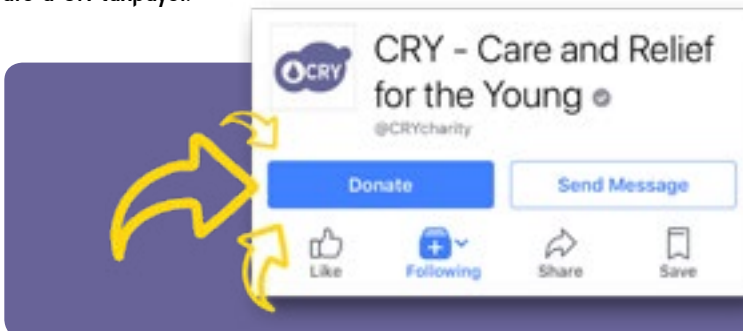
I'd love to chat about any ideas you might have.

Please get in touch at:  
**abanks@cry.org.uk**



## A NEW WAY TO DONATE!

Last year, we rolled out a new way for you to donate. We've just made donating easier! You can now donate directly through Facebook. Just click on the 'Donate Button', fill out the form for either a Debit/Credit Card or Paypal donation and click Donate. It's as simple as that! Plus, there is an option to Gift Aid your donation, if you are a UK taxpayer.



# 2018 NEW PROJECT UPDATES

In 2018, we started working in Kenya, Nepal, Greece and Haiti. We are delighted to share with you how after only a few months, the projects are already changing lives. (See page 4 for an update on how our support is benefiting the children in Kenya.)

## HAITI

The school we have linked with was set up after the earthquake in 2010, and many of the children who attend are malnourished and live in extreme poverty. Most of the children only have one meal a day. CRY provides a breakfast club for the children identified as being the most malnourished in school. Currently, 90 are receiving a nutritious meal every morning which includes things like eggs, bread, peanut butter and milk. The school tell us that they are so happy as they no longer go to bed crying because of hunger.

## GREECE

There are thousands of refugees still situated in Athens where we are working, living in refugee camps or in abandoned buildings, both of which are cramped and dirty. We continue to provide food, health care and other necessities to help children and families. Recently, we provided a dental check-up, treating around 100 children with some fillings and extractions. This is hugely important health care that is currently not being receiving by the majority of refugees. The team were able to hand out toothbrushes and toothpaste and educate them concerning dental hygiene.

## NEPAL

We started supporting this education centre in Nepal in June 2018. In an extremely poor and remote village, CRY ensures 40 children receive nutritious food, free health camps, encouragement for their education, tuition classes, clothes and much more. Since we started supporting, the children's grades have gone up, children who were not attending school are now attending, and they have learnt about the importance of hygiene and physical exercise. It is good to know that children are also sharing what they are learning at the centre, with their parents.



# GOODBYE TO INDIA

CRY started supporting ASHA HIV/AIDS Clinic in Mumbai in 2011. Children and families, both suffering from the disease or close to someone suffering, received emotional support, medical care and nutritional meals. Many people who have HIV/AIDS in this community are rejected by friends and even family. Our support ensured they had someone to talk to who could help them through their situation and to give them hope for a future through prayer. Hundreds of lives have been changed as we've seen restored relationships, life expectancies being extended, rejected women getting new jobs, and the community having a desire to care for each other. This can now continue without the help of CRY, meaning we can move our support to somewhere in greater need. We hope you will continue to pray with us for this project in India, and we know it will continue to change many lives for the better.

*"We want to thank CRY in a very special way for all the support we have received over the years. You have played a major part in seeing so many families blessed, and so many children being given a chance to go to school. So thank you once again"*  
*(Project Partner, India).*





UP CLOSE:

# PERSONAL STORY

"My name is Ley and I am 11 years old. I live next door to the school in my village but my family could never afford for me to go. I was so desperate to learn that I sat outside the school window most evenings to listen, wishing I could be a part of it. With your help, I am now able to attend the school and I am very happy."

- *Bamboo School, Laos*



## DONATE

Stories like Ley's are made possible through your kindness and generosity. You can donate through our website or via our Facebook page. Thank you.



Care and Relief for the Young is a Christian charity dedicated to rescuing and restoring young lives broken by poverty  
UK Registered charity: 1011513

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