



# CRY IN ACTION

Building a better future for children



CARE AND  
RELIEF FOR  
THE YOUNG

CRY SUPPORTS: RURAL SKILLS TRAINING, LAOS

SPRING 2020

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## ZIMBABWE UPDATE

Thank you for taking part in our Christmas campaign! You raised £8,242!

This will change Kio's future as he will have his education funded and can reach his dream job of becoming a teacher.

It will change Toby's future as he will now get the nutrients he needs to grow healthy and strong.

It will change Joy's future who will now have caregivers and a group she can call family. Many other children will be impacted in ways like these thanks to your generosity.

Keep your eyes peeled for our CRY News email in February to hear stories of how your donations have made an impact.

*make it a happy christmas*



# NOTE FROM THE CEO

## DEAR FRIEND,

Welcome to the first CRY in Action newsletter of 2020! We are excited about this coming year because, as you will see later in the newsletter, we have already committed to start supporting four new partners and hope to support more as the year unfolds.

First, a quick look back at 2019. Your partnership has helped us through a tough year when a number of our team really suffered with their health, but nonetheless we were able to start supporting new projects in various countries. Two in poverty stricken Iraq (one feeding children at risk in Baghdad and one educational programme in the troubled region of Kurdistan), a learning project in Nigeria, grants to an educational initiative in Russia and emergency aid to support refugees in Greece after a fire spread through their camp.

Looking forward to 2020, after our Christmas appeal we are excited to be able to make a big impact on the 'Cross Over' educational project in Zimbabwe. We will also be starting to partner with another initiative in that troubled country which helps adoption, fostering and housing of just some of the 1.6 million orphans that live there. During this year you will also be helping to rehouse children from the slums of Freetown in Sierra Leone and support children with additional needs in Armenia and Ukraine. So, a big thank you for standing with us.

As you read this newsletter at the beginning of 2020, can I urge you to consider whether you can increase or even start to financially partner with us so we can both work to build a better future for children.

**CHRIS TAIT**  
CEO



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

1

**Martyn Dunsford**, CRY's founder, was awarded an MBE in recognition of the impact his work through CRY has had on many young lives.



2

Five new projects introduced in 2019. 2,906 children around the world given an education who previously would not have had one. Lonely children given a home, broken families prayed for, and support given to those who need it, 365 days a year.

3

Many of you visit our shops and have signed up for loyalty cards and Gift Aid - and in 2019 there were more sign ups than ever! Thanks for helping us to get more money per donation from the government at no extra cost to you just by signing up!

*giftaid it*

4

Hundreds of you generously gave your money, time and support which enabled us to continue the work taking place around the world through our project partners. We cannot thank you enough; we couldn't do it without you.

4



5

The donations you gave to CRY made a difference: throughout the year when certain situations arose we were able to give individual donations thanks to you. In 2019 we gave to Sierra Leone, Laos, and Uganda, providing vital help to each by building classrooms with good facilities and resources to create a helpful learning environment.



6

Our Head Office team have been working hard to introduce a new fundraising and communications strategy, which will help you get the information you want, and help us raise more funds for children who need it most.

**You will be able to read in more detail about each of these highlights in our '2019 in Review' in a few months time.**

# OUR MISSION

CRY believes in a world where all children and young people are able to fulfil their God-given potential.

We work in 28 nations and with 33 partners, to meet the practical needs of the most vulnerable and marginalised children, to help them grow up in safety and with the support and resources they need to survive and thrive.

We work through church partnerships, training and supporting local leaders who understand the communities they work in and are best placed to deliver care for children at risk, whether it be because of poverty, oppression or abuse.

Our projects focus on the following areas: Education, Healthcare & Nutrition, Community Building, Emotional Support and Homes & Support.



Education



Healthcare & Nutrition



Community Building



Emotional Support



Homes & Support

# NEW PROJECTS

## ZIMBABWE

When children are orphaned, they often lack the physical and emotional support that they need, and they end up in not only material poverty but relational poverty as well.

Zimbabwe has 1.6 million orphans and CRY is stepping in to combat this current reality. We will be supporting three pre-schools (one being for children and mums who are at a maximum security prison), a children's home for 30 children, as well as adoption and foster care programmes and workshops.

We want to see children settled into loving environments, free from vulnerabilities.



# UKRAINE

700,000 refugees from the east of Ukraine are currently residing in Kiev, the capital city. Refugee families in Kiev who have children with additional needs are marginalised from society. Single parents struggle to stay afloat financially.

In these circumstances, many of the children are not getting an education. CRY will be supporting 20 children in these situations to have access to schooling.



Lightschool provides high quality learning with Christian principles, and will be vital for these children to have an opportunity for a better future. We look forward to playing a part in ensuring children can succeed no matter what their circumstance.

# ARMENIA

In Armenia, disability is more often viewed as a disease than a life condition and there is little understanding of how to live with disabilities and how to support children with them.

CRY has started supporting a project called Young Life which works with children with additional needs. It works to provide support for the children and parents by providing physiotherapy and health care along with taking the children out on day trips, visiting them at home and helping parents find jobs.

One of the objectives is to help mums cry less and laugh more...we'll be enabling this project to increase its support from 25 families to 40 families.

# SIERRA LEONE

We've now started regular support to Home Leone, a project near Freetown which is enabling 2000 people to leave the horrific slums of the city. The team are delivering a strategy that covers low cost homes, education, healthcare, business, power and water. CRY specifically supports Destiny Grace Academy, a school running from nursery to year 5.



The children have relocated from the slums and have never had any education before. The plan is to move 750 children from the slums to this new village that is being built and to give these children a much better future than they would have had.

The school opened on 9 September 2019 with the first 92 pupils across 4 classes. This will develop over the next few years to reach around 400 children in primary education, 360 young people in senior education and 100 young people in vocational training.



# LAOS TRIP

For staff members of CRY, it is a privilege to visit projects.

Building relationships is such an important part of what we do so that we can ensure we give the best advice, care and support to our partners around the world. Out of a desire to see and engage with our projects, a team of four visiting this project self funded themselves to go; they came back with renewed passion and drive to see more lives changed through the work CRY does day-to-day.

In November they visited Laos, and saw how your money is helping families develop skills they already have, by buying machinery and tools necessary to make processes more efficient and therefore enabling them to sell more, earning more money to provide for their needs.



“We met Dizzy, who was rescued by CRY after she was sold by her family for a bag of rice because they were so desperate. She has now been adopted into a family along with her brother and is happy and settled. She has such a fun personality! It was delightful to see, considering what her situation could have been.”

*(Rachel Faulkner - team member of CRY).*



# SHOPS

This is Alison. She is our Shop Manager in Eastleigh.



## How long have you been working for CRY?

I first started working for CRY as a volunteer in the Woolston shop over fifteen years ago, learning the ropes and what was involved in the day to day running of a charity shop. I worked my way up to Deputy Manager which I did for two years, before the position of Shop Manager became available and was offered to me. I had the privilege of fulfilling that role for another five years. I then left CRY for three years to pursue a new goal but very quickly realised that working for CRY is where I am meant to be, so when the position of Shop Manager in the Eastleigh shop became available I was only too glad to pick up where I left off! I have been here for four years now and love it.

## What does your role involve?

Every day is different; dealing with donations, sorting, tagging, pricing, checking things out on eBay. You never know what is going to come through the door which is exciting but also challenging. The work is very hard and the hours can be long, but along with myself, my Deputy Manager and Shop Assistant, we also have a fantastic team of volunteers who dedicate their time to come and help.

## What has inspired you recently in your work?

The office team regularly send us updates on the projects that CRY supports. This is shared with the volunteers and is a real boost knowing that all our hard work is making a big difference. A member of the office team and I recently had the privilege of taking part in a radio show which was broadcast live around the world. We were able to talk about the work of CRY, the shops, and the projects. Hopefully this inspired listeners to get involved by supporting a project, visiting their local CRY shop (to donate goods or to shop), or ask to volunteer! Every day is varied, challenging and wonderful, and everyone who comes in our shop to support CRY is making a huge difference to children's lives around the world, so thank you.

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## NEW WEBSITE!

 [cry.org.uk](https://cry.org.uk)

Feel free to visit and find out more about where we work and how you can help.



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