



2019

Annual Report

S E T ✝ F R E E

PROVIDING FREEDOM THROUGH CHRIST



2019 was an incredible year of growth and change. Set Free Alliance and Water of Life strategically merged to become Set Free. New staff joined the team, and we moved into a new office. But despite all the changes we saw, our mission remains steadfast. Set Free exists in this world to provide freedom through Christ.

It was said almost 20 years ago that we aren't a humanitarian organization — we're an evangelical organization that happens to do humanitarian work. And what incredible work we have accomplished! Over the last 18 years, Set Free has given over 2 million people clean water; rescued over 30,000 children; baptized millions; and planted thousands of churches. Last year was no exception. We are excited to share the stories of the pastor who transformed an entire village, and the mother who is now able to give her child clean water, and the child who is no longer held in the bondage of slavery. They are incredible testaments to the power of the Holy Spirit — made possible by your generosity and support.

While we are excited for all that has been done, we are even more excited for all that is to come. You'll see at the end of this report — God is calling us to serve in big ways, and we need you now more than ever before. Together, we will go forth into the world in which He called us.



SARAH KELLEY
Executive Director



ROLAND BERGERON
Founder & President



IF THE SON THEREFORE SHALL MAKE YOU FREE,
YE SHALL BE FREE INDEED.

John 8:36



OUR STORY BEGINS SIMPLY —

a mission trip, a call from God, & the willingness to follow.

From those humble beginnings almost 20 years ago, Water of Life was born to share both physical and the living water of Jesus Christ with thirsty villages around the world. But God wasn't through with us yet. As a part of our work in India, thousands of children held in slavery were discovered. God called us forward again, and Set Free Alliance was created. On July 1, 2019 Water of Life and Set Free Alliance joined forces to become Set Free. We realized we could do more together than we could ever accomplish separately. While the official merger date was in July — reflected in this report are the combined efforts of Water of Life, Set Free Alliance, and now Set Free to provide freedom through Christ in 2019.



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SINCE OUR FOUNDATION, FAITH HAS SET US APART.

In everything we do —
each well we drill,
medical clinic we conduct,
and child we rescue —
Set Free seeks to provide
freedom through Christ.

Meeting the humanitarian needs is our method, but making disciples is our mission. We accomplish this mission through our four Areas of Focus:



CHILD REDEMPTION MISSION

Children are rescued from slavery and reunited with their families whenever possible. In cases where reuniting is not possible, they are cared for and prepared for a bright future.



HEALTH RESTORATION CLINICS

Countless men, women, and children suffer from treatable illnesses in the villages we serve in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and India so we provide mobile medical clinics to treat those who otherwise wouldn't have access.



CHURCH PLANTING & DISCIPLESHIP

Our pastor partners permanently establish churches in villages and lead Bible studies to nurture and foster spiritual growth and expand the reach of the gospel.



WATER OF LIFE INITIATIVE

Entire villages are transformed by drilling a water well. The simple act of giving clean water changes a community's health forever.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Child Redemption Mission



My name is Aditi and when I was 7 years old my parents both died suddenly of Dengue Fever. When they died, I went to live with my aunt and uncle in their village. My uncle protested my arrival because he was fearful he could not afford to care for a child. Four months after my arrival, my uncle's fear became reality.

One day a man came to my aunt and uncle's house. I tried to listen as they whispered together. Then the man grabbed my arm and took me away. I cried out to my aunt and uncle, and they told me that they were sorry and that I would be well taken care of. The man took me to a mine where I saw many other children. Their clothes were torn, and they were very skinny. The man told me he was my supervisor and I was to do everything he said. If I worked less than 15 hours a day chopping rocks and carrying large buckets of rock shards, I would be killed. I was only given one meal of bread and rice a day. I slept on the ground among both men and women. On many occasions during the night, I was molested.

My suffering lasted for two years. I felt so hopeless that I did not wish to live any longer. At last, when I was 9 years old, Set Free's pastor partners came to rescue me and 32 other children. They nursed me back to health, both physically and mentally. They tell me that it is not him that saved me but Jesus.

I now live in a church home with other children. I go to school with my friends. I make crafts and play games. I learn about Jesus and how He loves me so much that He died for me. I pray to Him every day now, thanking Him for saving me. I feel safe and I feel loved. I am forever thankful to Set Free's partner pastors for rescuing me and teaching me about Jesus!

**Names have been changed for safety*



2019 Results



6,930
children rescued
in India



10,359
children reunited
with their families



114
graduates now
employed



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Water of Life Initiative



For as long as I can remember, my village has collected our drinking water from hand-dug wells that are used for making mud bricks, drinking, and everything in between. In my village, we have heard of Jesus through a man named Pastor Harikiran who comes regularly to read scripture and teach about Jesus. We began to pray that God would provide us with water that would not make our children so desperately ill.

Pastor Harikiran works with an organization called Set Free, who said they would drill a well in my village! Just a few weeks later, the drill team showed up as promised. We couldn't believe it. The Lord had answered our prayers! We never thought we would see the day come that we did not have to worry about our hand-dug well drying up, or walking 3 miles to the closest water source. Pastor Harikiran taught us about Jesus and told us that God had provided for us. The drill team told us that this well was not a gift from them, but from God. They called the pure water that pumped out from it, the Water of Life. They told us that this water would satisfy us for all of our days, living inside of us as the Holy Spirit.

Before Set Free came, many of us had heard of Jesus, but now hundreds of us are gathering in His name to rejoice! Pastor Harikiran is now working with Set Free to have a church built in our village so that we can gather day or night, rain or shine. Our neighboring villages have heard about this blessing and have seen us rejoice in the name of Jesus – and now many of them walk several miles to come gather with us to learn more about this faith. I did not know of a love like this before I began my relationship with Jesus. His love is sufficient for us and we will rejoice for all of our days to come for His gifts to us!

**Names have been changed for safety*

2019 Results



87

wells drilled in
India serving
76,994 people



293

water projects completed
in Liberia serving
150,583 people



120

wells drilled in
Sierra Leone serving
68,683 people



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Health Restoration Clinics



When Set Free brought a medical clinic to my village,

I was skeptical at first. I thought, "Well they kept their promise and are here, but surely they won't be able to help me, no one else ever has." You see, I have suffered for many years from severe stomach pains. These pains are often so bad that I cannot go to work to earn money for my family. My wife must work in the fields when I can't, leaving our daughter as the only one to walk miles each day to fetch water for our family. Because of this she has stopped going to school. I feel like I have been letting them all down for so long. I watch nearby as the nurses, doctors and pastors set up the tent and their equipment. I didn't want to get my hopes up, but I took my chances and got in line.

The doctors and nurses assured me that they would see each and every one of us that were waiting. Sure enough, it became my turn and they gave me fluids, medicine, and assured me that my stomach pains should improve greatly with the drilling of the new well in our village.

This well pumps out clean water. I have never seen clean water before. Until now, my family and I have only had swamp water available to us. Everyone in my village used the same swamp water to bathe, wash clothes, and drink. Quickly after visiting the medical clinic and the completion of the new well, my stomach pains went away! I have not suffered since. I can go back to work now, allowing my wife to care for our children and the home, and my daughter free to get an education.

While the team was treating me, they also told me about the healing power of Jesus Christ. They told me that it was with Him that I would be healed of my illness. When they were right, I rejoiced in the name of Jesus. Since then I have decided to learn more about Him by attending church and Bible studies along with many others in my village. I am eternally thankful that Set Free brought Jesus' healing to my village and me.



2019 Results



8

medical clinics were held



12,792

people were served



1,767

people followed-up with prayer

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Church Planting & Discipleship



My name is Pastor Pratyush. I was assigned to a village, and when I found out which village it was, I wondered how I would get through to them. This village was 98% Hindu. When I first arrived, the villagers shunned me, refusing to provide shelter for me. Even so, I began preaching the gospel each day under the trees where I slept. No one would come and listen. I kept my faith, remembering that God does not call us to an easy path in following Him. I called my supervisor and told him of my struggles. He sent along two other pastors to work with me, so that we could encourage each other and spread the gospel in different ways. Each of us began praying for the villagers from the roadside. Through the laughing and taunting, we never felt ashamed of our faith. After two years, the village leader fell extremely ill. Many priests and idol worshippers came to his home to offer appeasements and prayers to their gods. None of their efforts worked as each day the village leader's pain grew worse. My fellow pastors and I approached the man's son, asking him if he would give us a chance to pray for his father's healing. At first, the son got mad at us, wondering why we thought we could heal his father when all his other efforts had failed.

Finally, he agreed to let us pray for his father. He told us, "If after your prayers, our village leader is healed, we will all believe that your God is the real God and all other gods are imposters. However, if the village leader is not healed then all three of you will have to work as slaves in the village." We called our supervisor and told him of this situation, and he advised us to move forward with faith in God's power. He passed this information to all other pastors working with the network and Set Free. They all began to pray diligently. The three of us knelt down and prayed until the village leader woke up saying, "My pain is gone!" Many gathered around us wondering how we managed to heal him. We told them, "It was not us, but Jesus that has healed him."

The village leader thanked us and asked if we could teach him more about Jesus! Because he wanted to know more, so did everyone else. One by one people began to join together to learn more about Jesus. We went to every house in the village to tell of Jesus' miracle. Three years after our arrival, everyone in this village has heard about Christ. During this process my supervisor sent a drill team to drill a well here. The villagers came to know Christ even more through this because they saw Jesus' faithfulness. Now the majority of those living here have accepted Christ as their savior. 327 people have been baptized and have begun sharing the word of God with neighboring villages. We are so proud that God chose us to be used by Him for His kingdom!

2019 Results



122

Gospel presentations
in Liberia



2.1 million

dedications in India



51

churches planted in
Sierra Leone





SET FREE

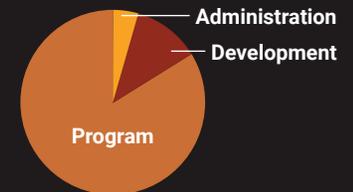
2019 Financials

2019 Overview

Total Donations	\$3,856,699.84
Total Expenses	\$3,849,139.03
Net	\$7,560.81

Expense Breakdown

Administration	\$149,746.41	(4%)
Development	\$423,344.92	(11%)
Program	\$3,276,057.70	(85%)



Program Breakdown

Liberia Total
\$486,896.¹⁰
 Towards Water of Life Initiative
 and Church Planting & Discipleship

Sierra Leone Total
\$305,318.³⁹
 Towards Water of Life Initiative
 and Church Planting & Discipleship

India Total
\$2,483,843.²¹
 Towards all four areas of focus

Breakdown of India's Total

\$639,482.¹⁸
 Towards Water of Life
 Initiative, Health Restoration
 Clinics and Church Planting
 & Discipleship

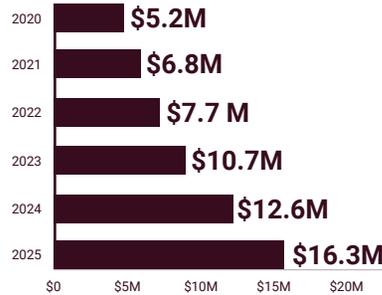
\$1,844,361.⁰³
 Towards Child
 Redemption Mission

Please note: financials reflect the combined ministry of Set Free. Set Free Alliance and Water of Life operated as separate ministries until July 1, 2019.

SET FREE'S 5 YEAR PLAN:

Strive to 2025!

We have big dreams to reach even more people for Christ over the next five years. As our budgets increase each year, so does our ability to plant churches, rescue children, and reach villages.



What we can accomplish when fully funded:



CONTINUING WORK IN LIBERIA

100% of Liberians will have clean water in 2020

Does this mean our ministry in Liberia is finished? Hardly. The wells need routine maintenance, and the churches we planted need leadership. Additionally, as village populations grow, new wells will also be needed.

CONTINUING WORK IN SIERRA LEONE

10 wells drilled every month

In Sierra Leone, we partnered with Burlington Graphics to fund our work and Pastor Alphonso Barry with Africa for Jesus for evangelism. Since our partnership, Pastor Barry's ministry has grown from six churches to over 60!

2020 GOALS: INDIA

Rescued, Reunited, & Remaining



We have heeded the call to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation," (MARK 6:15) and we've chosen to do that through our various ministries. We are pleased to announce that we've continuously reached more children in India every year since we first began our work there. But we're not through. We keep a close eye on our three R's: Rescued, Reunited, and Remaining children.

We are actively caring for about 9,000 children in India — giving them food, shelter, clothing, and education. With our current support, we provide one to two meals per day to these children, but we want to give them three.

While our goal is to rescue more children, we know not all will be reunited with their families. Meaning, by 2025, we'll be caring for approximately 15,000 children. We can do a lot with a little — think five loaves and two fish! For roughly the price of a grandé cup of coffee per day (\$58 a month), we can adequately meet their physical needs and teach them their true identities as beloved children of God.

AS OF JANUARY 2020:

30,000 children rescued

50% have been reunited with their families

18K children remaining in 169 active mines in our current district

18.4M est. number of slaves in India

CLEARLY, OUR WORK HERE IS FAR FROM FINISHED.

LONG TERM FORECAST:

