


A young child with a serious expression is peering through a vertical wooden slat. The child's face is partially obscured by the slat, and they are looking directly at the camera. The child is wearing a red and white plaid shirt with a red button. The background is a textured wall made of woven reeds or similar material.

2008 Annual Report



FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC.



***“The eyes of all look hopefully to You;
You give them their food in due season.”
(Psalm 145:15)***

A message from the President

Dear Friend in Christ,

Clean water was provided to thirsty villagers. Homeless families were sheltered. Starving children were rescued from death.

Your compassionate generosity made all this, and much more, possible in 2008.

I would personally like to thank you for all you have done to help the poor. Your gifts brought assistance and hope to those in great need. Behind every fact and figure in this report are the grateful smiles of families who benefited from your support.

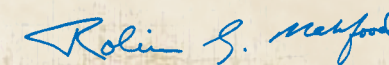
“A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.” (Proverbs 22:9, NIV)

Food For The Poor is only a single candle shining in the darkness of poverty, yet our flame burns fiercely, thanks to your compassionate support. We continue to serve those whose voice often goes unheard. Like you, we hear the cries of the poor — and with your help, we respond with Christ-like love and compassion.

We face many challenges in the coming year, but I am fully confident that with God’s grace and mercy these challenges will be met. With your continued support, we go forth with trust and faith in Christ, knowing that we serve Him when we serve our brothers and sisters in need.

May God bless you always.

A servant of the poor,



Robin G. Mahfood



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2.26%

Lowest Ratio Ever

2008 Summary of Activities*

Total Expenditures.....	\$1,516,189,274
Operating Expenses.....	\$34,216,451
Tractor-Trailers of Aid Distributed.....	4,637

*Subject to final audit.

Providing daily bread

Young and vulnerable, many destitute children across the Caribbean and Latin America suffer from severe hunger that can lead to illness, stunted growth, mental deficiencies and even death.

Desperate mothers in these areas struggle to feed their families and will do anything to ease their young ones' hunger pains. Some place salt on their children's tongues. Some add sugar to their water. But without daily nutrition, there is little hope for poverty-stricken children.

The empty bowl beside the child pictured to the right speaks volumes about hunger in Haiti. "I pray for food from God," this little boy's mother told us. Families who had previously attempted to live off Haiti's meager crop harvests were devastated after four major storms swept through the nation in the span of a month last year.

This is why your support has been so important to those who have nothing to eat. Feeding the hungry is at the heart of Food For The Poor's ministry and continues to be our most basic and crucial function. Every day, our food distribution sites and feeding centers overflow with needy families in search of their daily bread.

These centers act as lifelines to thousands of families who have nowhere else to turn. Because

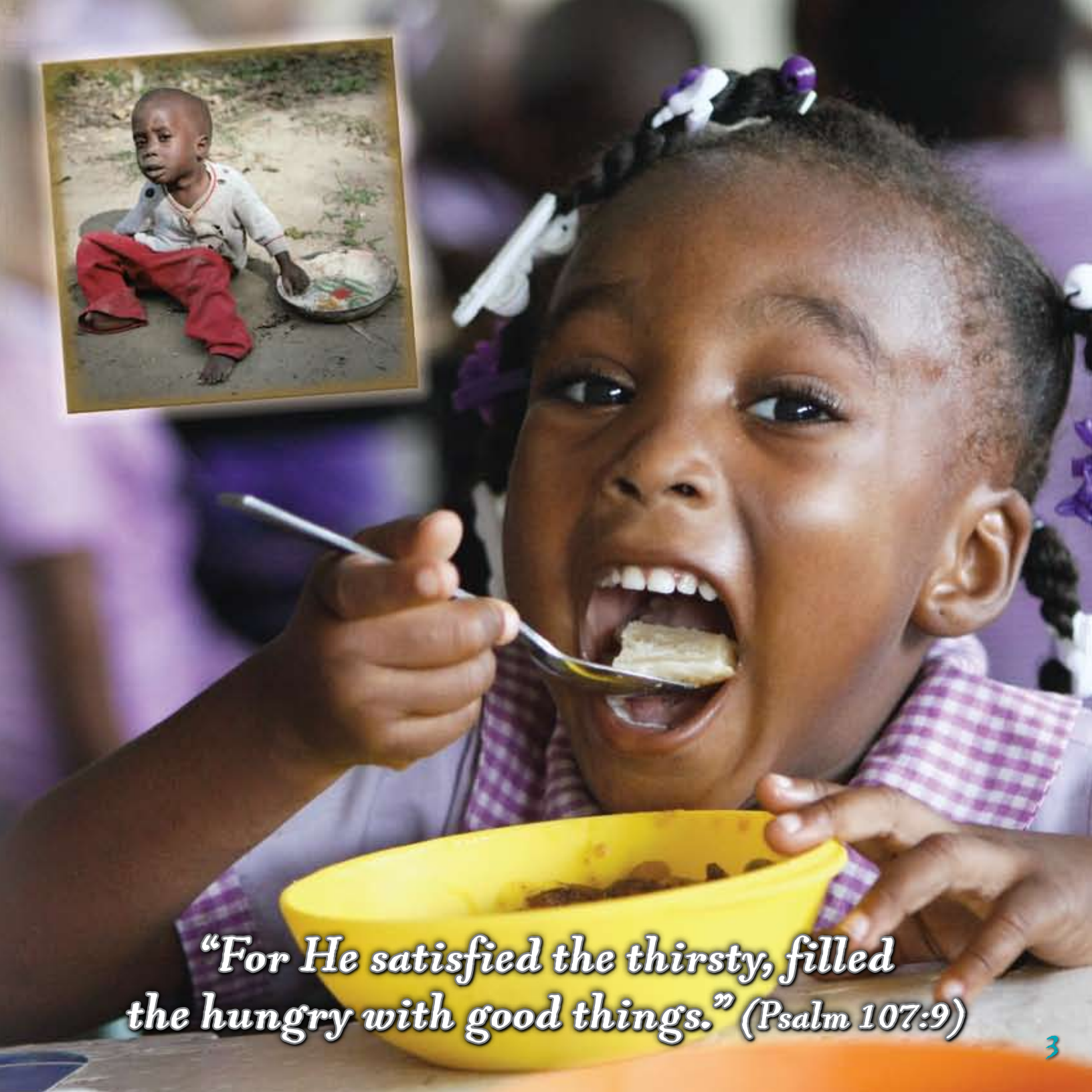
we are able to acquire food in large quantities, we can feed a family of four for a month for just \$12. But we can only operate through the compassion of people like you.

With your ongoing help, Food For The Poor will continue to fight extreme hunger and poverty, one family at a time. May God bless you for helping provide hungry families with something to eat.

Feeding Facts & Figures

In 2008, Food For The Poor distributed approximately 65 million pounds of food, enough to feed millions of malnourished children and their families. This included more than:

- 32.8 million pounds of rice
- 11.1 million pounds of beans
- 5.6 million pounds of various other grains
- 1.6 million pounds of canned foods
- 13.9 million pounds of other assorted foods



"For He satisfied the thirsty, filled the hungry with good things." (Psalm 107:9)

Sheltering the oppressed

Imagine if your house flooded every time it rained... or if the next strong wind threatened to topple your entire home. This is a daily reality for poor families across Latin America and the Caribbean who live in crumbling huts made of flimsy, discarded materials.

The areas served by Food For The Poor are littered with shacks constructed from rotten wood and palm fronds, mud and sticks, rusty metal sheets, cardboard and more. Inside these makeshift hovels, families suffer from intense heat, vermin, leaky roofs and the threat of their homes collapsing.

Through your support, Food For The Poor has been able to replace treacherous shacks with safe homes for vulnerable families.

Living in a dilapidated hut in Guyana, Angela Thomas' children would often become wet and ill. The openings in the family's thatched roof allowed rainfall to seep in, and the children's bedding became soaked.

Through the compassion of people like you, today Angela and her children live in a safe, new Food For The Poor home. Angela's family said a heartfelt prayer of thanks the first night they comfortably slept under their sturdy new roof — Angela marked the floors with the date that God answered her family's prayers for shelter.

Thousands of families received a new Food For The Poor home this past year, and many lives were touched in the building of these houses. Desperate families were given new hope, and children now have the chance for a better future. Local construction workers had the opportunity to earn income, and entire communities were built.

Angela's children are finally enjoying the safety and protection that every child deserves, and their new home offers them the chance to break free from the cycle of poverty. This is the kind of amazing transformation that occurs when people like you share God's love with the unsheltered.

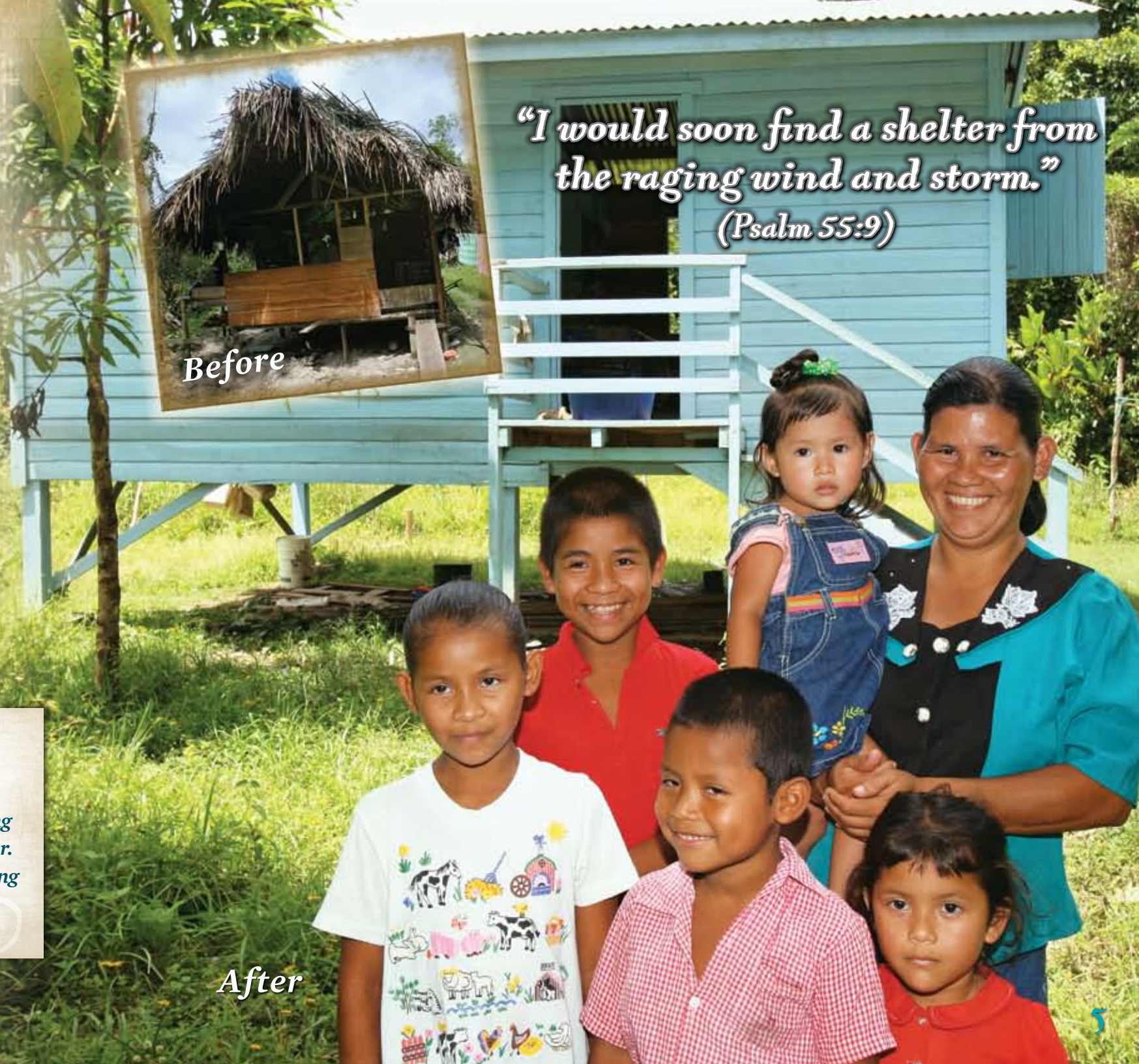
Housing Facts & Figures

In 2008, Food For The Poor built 8,417 housing units for families in need of adequate shelter. Since 1982, we have constructed 54,836 housing units for the poor.



Before

*"I would soon find a shelter from the raging wind and storm."
(Psalm 55:9)*



After

Providing a better future

Helping others help themselves is an important part of Food For The Poor's ministry. Sustainable development projects that benefit individuals and communities are essential to breaking the cycle of poverty.

To help families provide their own food, Food For The Poor has established animal husbandry projects that enable families to raise chickens, goats and pigs. These families receive training on how to maintain their animals and market the food that is produced.

Protein deficiency is widespread throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. Meat, poultry and fish are very costly for families who typically earn the equivalent of less than \$2 a day.

Chicken farming is an inexpensive and economical way to increase a family's protein intake. Food For The Poor helps families with the construction of a chicken coop, provides baby chicks that are vaccinated to ensure healthy growth, and supplies chicken feed. After 18 weeks, the chickens are able to lay eggs. These eggs provide a valuable source of protein, and extra eggs can be sold to provide the family with income. As the flock multiplies, older chickens become a source of food and income for the family.

Food For The Poor supports several other self-sustaining projects, including fruit tree nurseries,

tilapia ponds and fishing villages. By installing water wells and pumps, communities have a source of clean water and a means of irrigation. Once established, these projects provide communities with a sense of self-sufficiency and restore hope and human dignity. With hard work and determination, families are able to feed themselves, send their children to school and earn a living.

Your gifts to Food For The Poor can meet immediate needs — but they also have the potential to benefit families for generations to come.



2008 Projects Summary

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Housing/housing villages	\$21,884,200
Construction and repairs	1,266,829
<i>(for schools, clinics and multipurpose centers)</i>	
Project support.....	624,818
<i>(for clinics, nursing homes, schools, feeding programs and orphanages)</i>	
Water/sanitation	1,330,923
Development and self-help projects	1,341,270
<i>(for tilapia ponds, fishing villages, fruit tree nurseries and animal husbandry)</i>	
Total Projects.....	\$26,448,040

“The LORD loves justice and right and fills the earth with goodness.” (Psalm 33:5)

Aiding disaster victims

Sadly, the poorest of the poor are most vulnerable when a natural disaster strikes. In 2008, four major storms swept through impoverished Haiti in the span of a month, claiming lives, wiping out homes and destroying crops.

Mothers mourned their children who drowned in the raging floodwaters. Decrepit huts were engulfed by water or demolished by strong winds. Meager crop supplies were quickly obliterated. Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna, Ike and Tropical Storm Fay left nations like Haiti reeling and in desperate need of relief.

As the storms subsided, Food For The Poor quickly sprang into action, thanks to your support. We shipped more than 360 tractor-trailer loads of relief supplies — including essential items such as food and drinking water — to countries in the affected areas.

But for poverty-stricken families, the effects of a natural disaster can linger for years. Months after the storms passed, desperate Haitian families could still be found living on the rooftops of abandoned buildings. They simply had nowhere to go.

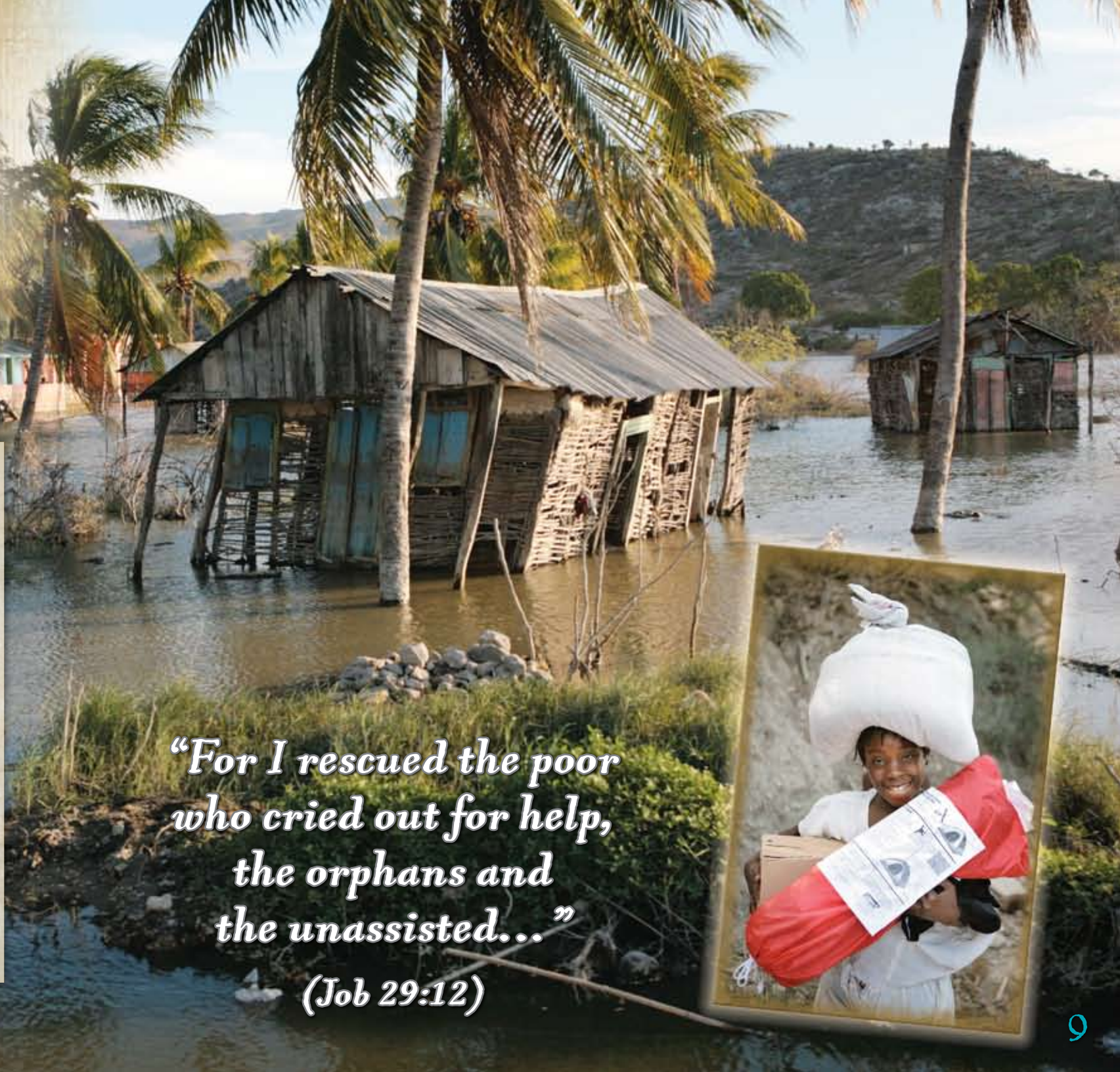
Food For The Poor has initiated long-term relief projects to help rebuild communities that were devastated by the storms. These include the building of homes and the development of crops and clean water sources.

Although the burden of destitute families across the Caribbean and Latin America was intensified by the unforeseen disasters last year, hope was renewed through the compassion of people like you. Your generosity helped provide relief for today and hope for tomorrow.

2008 Hurricane and Flood Relief

The 2008 hurricane season devastated thousands of poor families. Food For The Poor responded by shipping 363 tractor-trailer loads of relief supplies.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Emergency</u>	<u>Tractor-Trailers</u>
Haiti	Hurricane Relief	271
Jamaica.....	Hurricane Relief	61
Dominican Republic	Hurricane Relief	21
Turks & Caicos.....	Hurricane Relief	6
Mexico	Flood Relief	2
Belize	Hurricane Relief	1
Guatemala.....	Hurricane Relief	1



“For I rescued the poor who cried out for help, the orphans and the unassisted...”

(Job 29:12)

Caring for the sick

When Esteban Cubas was first admitted to a hospital in Honduras, the staff wasn't sure the little boy would make it. Esteban had a severe case of pneumonia. Malnourished and dehydrated, his frail chest swelled deeply with every gasp for air.

The hospital's staff responded quickly. After initial treatment, Esteban began to make strides. His breathing became less labored and his vital signs improved. The young boy even mustered up enough strength to request a cup of water from the nurse.

God's saving grace flows throughout the hallways of hospitals and clinics supported by Food For The Poor — and your gifts are the foundation of that support.

For the poorest of the poor, medical care is rarely accessible. But thanks to your compassion, Food For The Poor helps maintain clinics, hospitals and nutritional centers throughout the countries we serve. Care is given at little or no cost, saving countless innocent lives daily. Within our supported facilities, doctors and nurses work tirelessly to assist those who have nowhere else to turn.

The task of caring for sick children in an impoverished country can be daunting; this is why your generous support has been such a godsend. In 2008, Food For The Poor shipped 625.5 tractor-trailer loads of critically needed

medicines and medical supplies to help endangered children like Esteban.

On behalf of those brought back to health through your compassionate gifts, thank you.

Medical Facts & Figures

To help care for the sick who could not afford medical care, Food For The Poor shipped 625.5 tractor-trailer loads of medicines and medical supplies in 2008.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Tractor-Trailers</u>
Jamaica.....	144.0
Haiti	122.0
Guatemala.....	117.5
Nicaragua.....	73.5
Honduras	52.0
Dominican Republic.....	51.5
El Salvador.....	27.0
Guyana.....	19.0
Trinidad	6.0
Dominica.....	3.0
Other	10.0



“For I will restore you to health; of your wounds I will heal you, says the LORD.” (Jeremiah 30:17a)

Teaching the children

Education Facts & Figures

In 2008, Food For The Poor provided 508 tractor-trailer loads of educational supplies to schools, giving children from destitute families valuable tools for learning. This included 198 tractor-trailer loads of books.

Junette, 2009



*"Guide me in Your truth and teach me,
for You are God my Savior."
(Psalm 25:5a)*

"Many things can be accomplished when opportunity is given to a small child. God, who creates everything, knows what He wants us to do."



Junette, 2001

Junette Maxis speaks these words with heartfelt passion and experience. When she was only 12, Junette was brought to Food For The Poor's orphanage in Haiti by parents who desperately wanted their daughter to break free from the crushing poverty that grips many Haitian families. Now age 19, she is the first of the girls from the home to attend college in the U.S. Two years ago, Junette was awarded a prestigious International Baccalaureate scholarship and attended school in Norway. Now she's studying at a college in the Midwest.

"All that I could offer was my hard work at school and the ambition to remain at the top of my class," she said.

Giving hardworking young people the opportunity to further their studies is an essential part of our mission. Your generosity helps students like Junette achieve their full potential. In addition to funding for scholarships, your gifts help us provide schools with furniture, food, books, teaching materials and other items essential to learning. Through your support for education, we give children hope for a brighter future.

Partnering with others

Food For The Poor partners with many other organizations to bring help where it's most needed. Our partnerships are both domestic and foreign, allowing us to efficiently obtain and distribute aid in the countries we serve.

For several years, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has selected Food For The Poor to supply much-needed food to the poorest of the poor in Guatemala. One of our partner organizations in Guatemala, Caritas, has established a program to feed poor mothers and their children,

as well as instruct them in basic nutrition and hygiene. Another partner, the Order of Malta, helps schools establish and maintain tilapia ponds, which provide a sustainable source of food and income.

The government of Taiwan is another valued partner. With their technology support and donated rice, we are able to support hundreds of feeding programs throughout Haiti. This rice was a tremendous blessing after Haiti was ravaged by a particularly devastating hurricane season in 2008.

Many other groups also partner with Food For The Poor to bring lifesaving food and supplies to destitute families in the Caribbean and Latin America.



*"Share with God's people who are in need."
(Romans 12:13a, NIV)*

The USDA and Taiwanese Government

In 2008, with your help, we distributed more than 22.6 million pounds of food from USDA grants. We also distributed more than 21.1 million pounds of rice from the Taiwanese government.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Pounds of Food</u>
Guatemala.....	20,755,000
Jamaica.....	1,890,000
<u>Country</u>	<u>Pounds of Rice</u>
Haiti.....	21,164,352

2008 Financial Statement *

Distributed in 2008

Officers and Directors

Statement of Activities

Support & Revenue:

Contributions – Cash	\$ 91,928,594
Contributions – Donated Goods	1,417,357,345
Contributions – Pledges	4,580,574
Other Income	219,898
Total Support	\$1,514,086,411

Expenses:

Program – Education	\$ 220,342,458
Program – Healthcare	1,006,548,685
Program – Basic Needs	184,492,768
Program – Community Support & Development	39,055,862
Program – Intra-program Costs	31,533,050
Fundraising	25,214,820
Management	9,001,631
Total Expenses	\$1,516,189,274

Excess (Def) Revenue:

\$ (2,102,863)

Statement of Financial Position

Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 8,674,840
Contributions Receivable	1,647,312
Property & Equipment	17,293,017
Goods in Transit	3,992,240
Other Assets	447,215
Total Assets	\$ 32,054,624

Liabilities & Net Assets:

Accounts Payable	\$ 4,569,564
Mortgage	5,249,647
Accrued Liabilities	259,802
Total Liabilities	\$ 10,079,013

Net Assets:

Unrestricted	\$ 21,859,799
Restricted	115,812
Total Net Assets	\$ 21,975,611
Total Liabilities & Net Assets:	\$ 32,054,624

* Year ending December 31, 2008. Subject to final audit.

4,637 tractor-trailers worth \$1,444,467,285

Antigua.....	\$167,373
Belize.....	\$1,650,006
Dominica.....	\$8,385,965
Dominican Republic.....	\$127,126,543
Ecuador	\$286,336
El Salvador	\$40,128,306
Grenada.....	\$1,448,204
Guatemala	\$273,944,453
Guyana	\$95,224,556
Haiti.....	\$223,832,266
Honduras	\$173,462,939
Jamaica	\$270,548,032
Mexico	\$28,943,424
Nicaragua	\$180,852,163
Panama.....	\$420,408
Paraguay	\$4,145,234
Peru.....	\$5,895,583
St. Lucia.....	\$695,635
St. Vincent.....	\$122,871
Trinidad	\$5,089,686
Turks & Caicos	\$194,052
Uruguay.....	\$1,721,002
USA	\$178,149
Other.....	\$4,099

P. Todd Kennedy
Tax and Estate Planning
Attorney
Chairman

Robin G. Mahfood
Food For The Poor
President/CEO, Director

David T. Price
Attorney at Law
Secretary & Treasurer

Bill Benson
Certified Public Accountant
Director

Grace Bonina
Business Professional
Director

**Most Reverend
Lawrence A. Burke, S.J.**
Archbishop Emeritus of the
Roman Catholic Archdiocese
of Kingston, Jamaica
Director

**The Right Reverend
Leopold Frade, D.D.**
Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Southeast Florida
Director

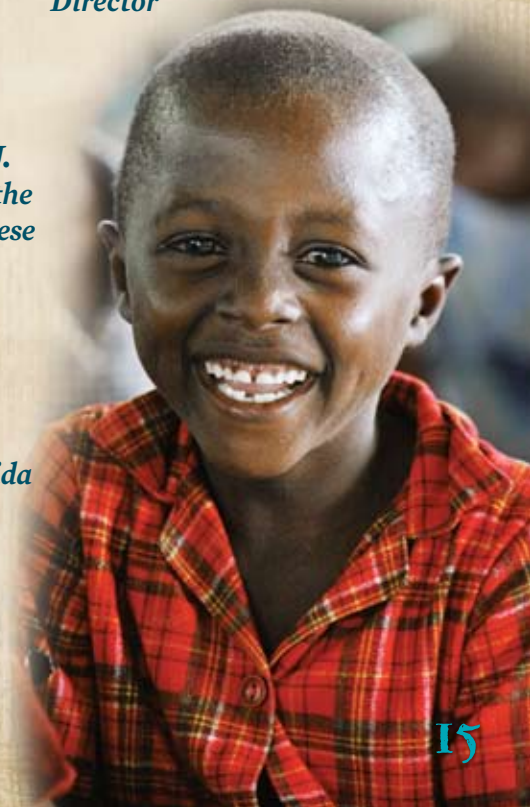
Rhonda Maingot
Missionary
Director

**His Eminence Óscar Andrés
Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga,
S.D.B.**
Archbishop of Tegucigalpa,
Honduras, C.A.
Director

Lynne G. Nasrallah, Ed.D.
Education Leadership/Counselor
Director

Alvaro J. Pereira
Business Professional
Director

Reverend Gregory Ramkissoon
Roman Catholic Priest
Director



Revenue



Expenses



Giving thanks

It's truly amazing to see what happens when people open their hearts to God's love. Miracles take place each day. Starving children lingering on the brink of death are restored to health. Families who had only contaminated water to drink now rejoice in His name as fresh, clean water is pumped from new wells.

Recipients of Food For The Poor's help are deeply grateful to God for sending people like you into their lives. Your compassion and support mean everything to those who are often ignored by the world.

"When I cried out, You answered; You strengthened my spirit." (Psalm 138:3)

We give abundant thanks to God for our donors, who allow Christ's love to shine through them. Our donors are the cornerstone of our organization, and we thank each one of you for making our work possible.

We work with churches, clergy and Christian organizations that play a vital role in bringing together the churches of the First and Third Worlds. These partnerships are essential to hearing and answering the cries of the poor. Through these connections, thousands are helped, and all of us are bonded together as one family in Christ Jesus.

Our corporate and government partners

continue to provide a lifeline of aid to the destitute. Their donated goods and gifts are a blessing to those who truly have nowhere else to turn.

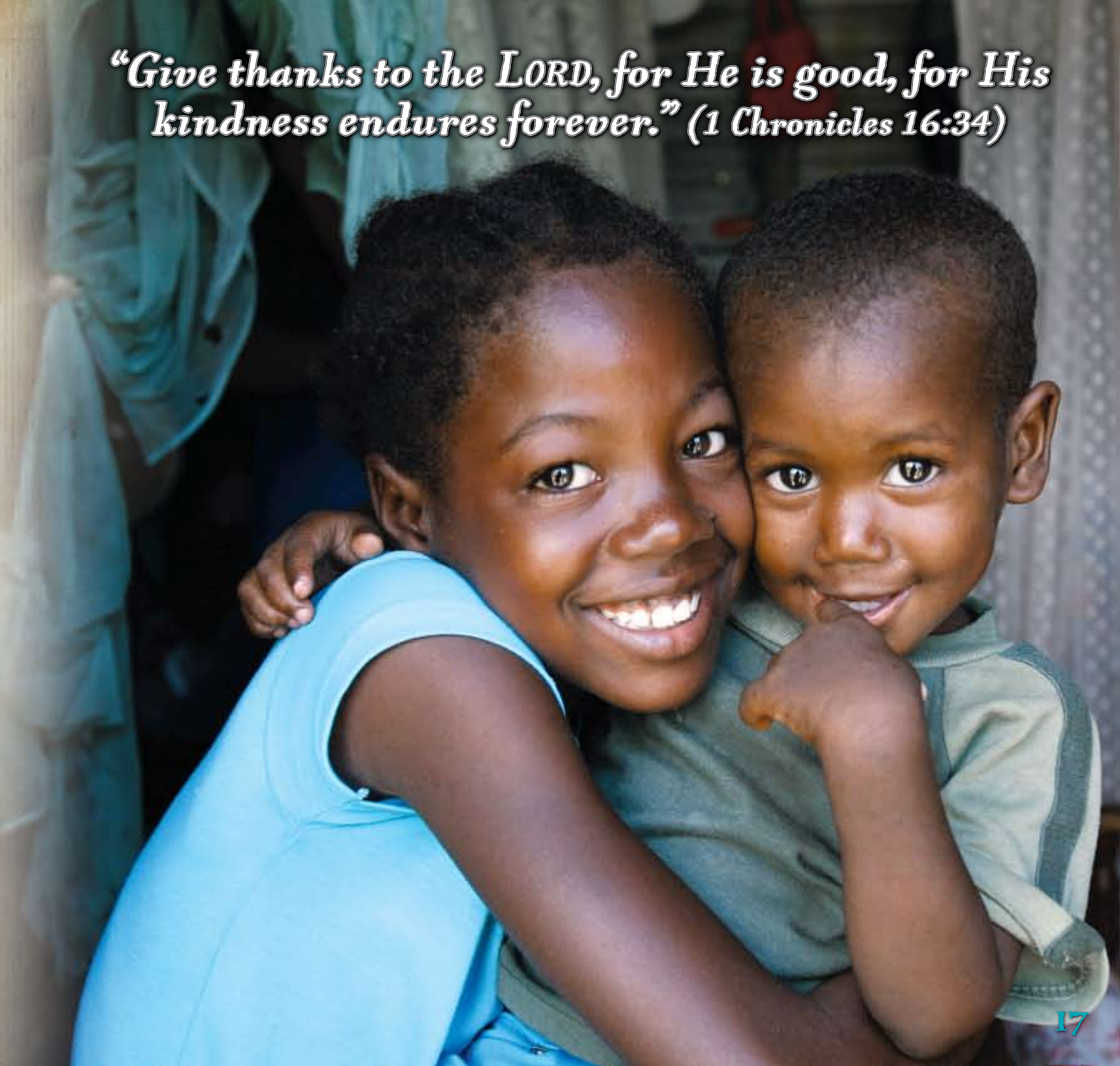
We are grateful to those who visit the poor on mission trips and witness firsthand Christ's love in action for those we serve. Every person transformed by these visits experiences the joy of serving Christ by aiding the poor, and the poor benefit immensely from their presence.

Individuals who help through planned giving are also tremendously important, as they offer a legacy of love for our brothers and sisters in need. Your foresight allows your gift to benefit families for years to come and transcend generations.

We thank all who have made a sacrifice of love through our Operation Starfish program. Your selfless acts of kindness make a crucial difference. Through collective Christian charity, we are able to lift up many who struggle beneath the crushing weight of poverty.

Because of all of you, conditions have been improved, lives have been saved and hope has been restored. You have transformed uncertainty and fear into hope and joy. On behalf of the poor whom we serve, thank you for reaching out to the "least" of our brothers and sisters. We look forward to continued partnership with you in answering our Lord's call to serve those in need.

"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His kindness endures forever." (1 Chronicles 16:34)



Vision Statement

Food For The Poor is God's instrument to help the materially poor and to renew the poor in spirit.

Our ministry is a reflection of our Lord's unconditional love — a love that surrenders all, that inspires trust and faith, and that embraces all people, regardless of race, status or creed.

It is also shaped by our belief that Christ is alive and can be served directly by serving those in greatest need. (Matthew 25:40)

For guidance and to maintain the purity of our mission, we stress the need for regular prayer.

Through surrender, service and prayer, we seek a closer union with our Lord.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit.

The materially poor are served by local churches, clergy and lay leaders who have been empowered and supplied with goods by Food For The Poor.

The poor in spirit are renewed by their relationship with and service to the poor through our direct ministry of teaching, encouragement and prayer.

Ultimately, we seek to bring both benefactors and recipients to a closer union with our Lord.



FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC.

6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073
(954) 427-2222 • Fax: (954) 570-7654 • www.foodforthe poor.org