



The Sower's Hands

Newsletter by Hope Seeds International Inc

Issue 70: Fall 2022

2022 Fall Giving Challenge: See the back to learn how you can bring *Hope to the Hungry!*



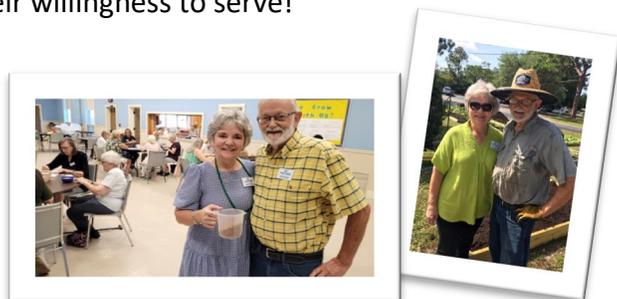
What's Going On At Hope Seeds?

Thank you for your prayers through all of life's storms. Thankfully, HSI facilities did not receive any damage while **Hurricane Ian** ravaged the state of Florida. Our staff and volunteers also came through without harm! Thanks to the hard-working line crews, electricity was restored within a week, and our normal activities and schedules resumed shortly afterwards. Even though many of our volunteers were out assisting others and repairing their own homes, they still found time to help HSI keep the seeds cool and dry by running a generator, and the grounds around HSI were cleared of all debris within a week. As we come together to celebrate Thanksgiving, our hearts are heavy for those who lost so much. However, although this hurricane was devastating, it was inspiring to see so many come together as one community to serve our neighbors in need. I'm truly thankful for all of God's provisions, even **through life's storms**, as they bring us together.



Building and Growing to Serve!

We believe in growth when there is purpose, and when more lives can be served with life saving **knowledge**, **seeds**, and the **Message of Hope** in **Jesus Christ**. With the ever increasing needs, we decided to expand HSI's seed storage facility so more seeds can be sent, and we will be enclosing the back porch to give our volunteers more space to work. On another exciting note, we would like to introduce **Diane and Gareth Olson**, our newest team members! Gareth has committed his gardening talents to serving in our Hope Gardens several days a week. Diane is using her talents in the office as our Operations Coordinator. They both have an extensive background in education and have huge hearts for serving those in need. We are so thankful for this beautiful couple and their willingness to serve!





What An Amazing Journey!

These three men just returned from Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda. Thanks to the support of the Upper Room Foundation, a team was formed whose purpose was to follow-up on existing mission projects and explore more opportunities to serve those in need in these three countries.

Hope Seeds International, along with **Healing River**, **Lion's Heart**, **J-316**, **Liberty Ministries**, and other partners teamed up to have a greater impact on food security and in sharing the greatest story ever told - the message of Jesus Christ! HSI's **HopeCorps volunteer**, **Ben**, teaches and gives sound advice on improved vegetable production and animal husbandry. **David**, with Healing Rivers, helps solve water supply issues with community leaders. **Nino** speaks on behalf of the Upper Room and shares from God's word. **John**, with Liberty Ministries in Kenya, takes the team around to visit families and communities where they work. At the same time, J-316 Ministries shares the gospel through sports, using a soccer ball designed with specific colors to share

Christ while Hope Seeds uses specific colors of vegetables!

We are so much stronger working together!



In Kenya and Uganda, Ben distributed enough seeds and the Message of Hope for 500 families. He also explored ways HSI can offer more help. One way would be by providing additional education opportunities in sustainable gardening, particularly seed-saving techniques. For example, the **Widow's Seed Program**, by which seeds are grown and redistributed within a country, provides food and income for widows. Ben also kept an eye out for additional **Mustard Seed Project** opportunities.



Sharing seeds and



Christ's love in Uganda



Ben Teaching



Sharing the gospel through sports



Nino sharing Christ



Ben gives advice on raising rabbits.



Meeting with community Leaders



Hope Gardens Kenya



Cord of Three Partnership

The Bahamas Outreach with **Hope Fleet**, **Convoy of Hope** and **HSI** has been launched. **Bayside Community Church** in Bradenton, Florida hosted a packing event to assemble a "Garden in a Bucket" to be shipped to the Bahamas to help families start backyard gardens as they recover from **Hurricane Dorian**. The bucket contains everything needed to start a garden, including a bar code which, once scanned by a cell phone, provides access to garden lessons and instructions. Around 1,500 families have been identified to receive help through this program. The buckets are scheduled to be delivered by the end of this year through Hope Fleet volunteers who will sail the buckets to each location of this outreach. Pray that hearts will be ready to receive the Message of Hope!



Bible Garden School Haiti

Planting Seeds!



Josias Teaching!



Teaching the Word of God!



Josias Romeus, Hope Seeds Haiti Coordinator, is featured above teaching during this year's Bible Garden School. Kids learned improved gardening skills while learning about God's Word. They also gained many other skills, such as making bracelets. Many of these skills are very important to the Haitian way of life. Cottage businesses can be started at home by children to help earn income for their families. Josias is an amazing father, teacher, and man of God.

From Josias:

2022 Bible Garden School comes to a close in Haiti. There is laughter and tears, joy and sadness during the closing ceremony. It's been a wonderful week. Blessings from Haiti and thank you to all of our supporters who make this possible! Young lives have been changed!



2022 Fall Giving Challenge

Ways to Give:

(\$10, \$25, \$50...) Any amount of monthly giving enables Hope Seeds to operate and carry out the mission reliably.

\$10 - Provides 1 lb. of bulk vegetable seed for volunteers to prepare into approx. 300 packets for distribution.

\$30 - Provides a Hope Garden Family Pack with 12 species of vegetable seeds and the Message of Hope for a family.

\$50 - Covers the cost to print 1,000 copies of the Gospel Message of Hope and Colors of Hope in multiple languages.

\$100 - Provides 10 lbs. of bulk seed for volunteers to prepare into approx. 3,000 packets for distribution.

\$300 - \$500 - Sponsors a Mustard Seed Project with a one time gift that will have long-term impact .

\$500 - Provides Hope Garden support at a school/orphanage.

\$500 - \$2,000 - Sponsors a HopeCorps Volunteer Missionary to provide training, evaluation, evangelism, etc. in a country where HSI is active or hopes to serve.

\$1,000 - Helps support an Agricultural Training Session in sustainable methods or a Bible Garden School for kids to learn about God's word and gardening.

GIVING TUESDAY

Mark you calendars for **Giving Tuesday Nov. 29th!** GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement, unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. On this International Day of Giving, Facebook will be matching a percentage of donations, but be sure to give early. #GivingTuesday

Memorials and Honorariums

Thank you for the numerous gifts given in honor of and in memory of your loved ones in recent months! Due to the vast quantity, we are unable to include a list of all the names of recipients in this newsletter, but know that each and every one is greatly appreciated. These gifts have had an eternal impact!



Prayer and Praise

- * Thanks for hundreds of volunteers who help carry out the mission of Hope Seeds by packing seeds
- * Thanks for our office staff/volunteers without whom we could not serve so many in need
- * Thanks for the Fall Outreach to Haiti through MFI and Agape Flights and Prayer for a bountiful harvest of food and souls
- * Thanks and continued prayer for the outreach to The Bahamas in partnership with Convoy of Hope and Hope Fleet– Bon Voyage!
- * Thanks for the opportunity to evaluate and serve in East Africa
- * Prayer for more Open Doors so we may share the hope of Christ with more hungry people



Hope Seeds, Inc.
Corporate Offices
4501 Manatee Avenue West, #161
Bradenton, Florida 34209 USA
HopeSeeds.org | 941-228-5660



**Plant A Seed!
Feed A Soul!**

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