



# The Sower's Hands

Newsletter by Hope Seeds International Inc

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## A World of Hurting, Harvest, and Hope

Jesus was surrounded by poverty from day one. He was born into a hungry and hurting world, in the town of Bethlehem whose name, ironically, means "House of Bread." Even in today's world we see pain and suffering all around us. It's so easy to get discouraged and overwhelmed when we think about it. As Christians, we have been blessed abundantly in this great nation that has often been called the breadbasket of the world. So how do we address hunger today? Where do we even start? Well, as we say at **HSI**, it all starts with a seed. A seed planted in the hearts of people and in the ground beneath their feet. God's word tells us that large numbers of poor and disabled people would gather around Jesus. This was very troubling to his disciples, who even tried to persuade Jesus to send them away. It seems that the poor have a way of making us feel uncomfortable; it's easier to send them away than deal with the problem. However, Jesus refused to overlook them. He even told the disciples in response to their complaint, **"You feed them."** (Luke 9:13)

We are privileged to live in these times, no matter how difficult we think these days have become. Sure, we live in a hurting world, but we also live in the days of Harvest and Hope! Jesus has given us a mandate to have compassion for the poor and sow seeds into the hearts of the hurting and oppressed.

**"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."** (Galatians 6:9)

Thank you for your faithful donations and expressions of your love for others. You have not grown weary or given up on God's mandate to help His people, but have continued your faithful obedience to Him and His expectations of us as Christians.



### From KUBATANA, ZIMBABWE!

*Eustina*, one of the **Healing Hands International** participants pictured below during a follow-up training, had this to say about the **HSI** family packs she received: **"Thank you for the seeds. The community is now making their own seed as a way of preserving the original seed donated by Hope Seeds."** What a success! As the community stands in their field of Chinese cabbage and other vegetables, they now have the ability to produce and save their own seeds for a more food secure future. **PLANT A SEED! FEED A SOUL!**





### Cultivate Abundance, Multiplying Seeds!

Pictured below is a group of young volunteers working with Hope Seeds Gumby Okra that was supplied to **Cultivate Abundance** in Immokalee, Florida in 2020. Seeds have been saved and multiplied for 5 years! This is a wonderful ministry that has a huge impact.

Cultivate Abundance was founded to address the needs of low-income migrant farmworkers in Immokalee. Despite growing a significant amount of America's winter tomatoes and other produce, these workers experience food insecurity at a disproportionate rate.

Immokalee is considered a food desert, which makes it difficult for these hardworking individuals to access nutritious and affordable food. Cultivate Abundance increases access to healthy food by growing, collecting, and sharing fresh produce and collaborating with local home gardeners, growing partners, and social service providers to carry out their shared mission in solidarity with those who grow our food. Thank you for being a partner!

### The Bahamas Serving Haiti!

Working with our partners, **Seeds To Sustainability** and **Chances for Children**, our first international seed packing event in The Bahamas was a great success! Seeds and *The Message of Hope* will be shared with the Haitian community living and working in The Bahamas and in Haiti.



**Good Job Pastor Noah!** Another **Mustard Seed Project** completed in Uganda! We are so thrilled HSI was able to participate in helping *Pastor Noah* bring clean water to this community. For a small amount of money, we were able to install a simple water filter so these young children could bring clean water to their families. Thank you, Pastor Noah, for being a light for Jesus!





## Chicks for Widows in Kenya

Partnering with **Jubilee Farms** in Kenya, through the HSI **Mustard Seed Program**, we provided chicks for widows as a sustainable protein source. Not only do the widows get chicks, but they are also provided with education and training to care for their animals, along with connecting them to a local food source and veterinarian. Many widows were helped and provided with Hope!



## Mission Accomplished!

This year's special outreach through **Agape Flights** is complete! Over 220,000 packets of seeds were sent along with educational materials and the gospel message throughout the Caribbean. If you haven't seen our podcast with Agape, you can find it on their Facebook page. We are now working on our next special outreach with **Missionary Flights International** to send even more seeds and God's word to Haiti. A huge "Thanks!" to these two Partners!



## What's new at HSI?

We are now supplying seeds for green manure and cover crops to our partner organizations. Protecting and building the soil is very important for long-term food security. **Love A Child**, in Haiti, is the first ministry we have partnered with to grow even greater Hope for the future in supplying these new seeds.

*"Trying something old that will be "new" for us... Wilner, Director of the Agricultural Training Center (ATC), for Love A Child and Miracle Village gardens in Haiti wants to try something "new" for their gardens and remote villages. Even though this "new" method Wilner wants to try is a centuries-old method, they have not yet used it in Haiti. So, something old that will be "new" for us... After a crop has been fully harvested and the old plants and roots have been pulled out of the ground, instead of leaving the dirt bare and exposed to harsh sun and eroding winds, you plant a quick-growing green manure crop to "cover" the ground to protect it while you wait for the next planting season. The cover crops are called "green manure" crops because the growth is left to nourish the soil instead of removing it at maturity. Green manure cover crops are either left on top of the soil to act like a mulch and decompose into rich soil, or they can be turned into the ground to decompose and add rich organic matter to the soil structure. Love A Child recently received a grant of some green manure cover crop from our friends at Hope Seeds International. We thank HSI, whose important seed donations support all our work, and for their sustainable development programs around the world."*

*Rad Hazelip, Love A Child*





## Memorials & Honorariums

A special thank you to those who have given meaningful gifts to Hope Seeds in Memory and Honor of loved ones since the last issue of *The Sower's Hands*.

### In Memory of:

- Helen Ann Carroll
- Dorothy Koenig
- Dolores Petzoldt
- Gerald Stueve
- Ella Mae Murphy
- Richard Bultemeyer
- Bill & Ardis Luecht
- Jacob Agliata
- Carol Fisher
- Arlene Somann
- Bill Weber
- Ruth Telle
- Jim Kiess
- Ruthann Russel
- Jeanne Kluge
- Buz & Genese Snyder
- Rudy & Gisela Morris
- Dave W Smith Jr
- Len Hardie
- Clinton Luehrs
- Dayton Schreiner
- Loretta Givens
- Marlin Henjum

Direct your  
Thrivent Choice  
Dollars   
Today!

### Proverbs 22:9

**The generous will  
themselves be blessed,  
for they share their food  
with the poor.**

### Acts 10:4b

**The Angel answered,  
Your prayers and gifts to  
the poor have come up  
as a memorial offering  
before God.**

**In loving memory of  
Timothy Shea Casey  
who dedicated his life to relieving  
world hunger.**

### In Honor of:

- Ralph Hoehne
- Bruce & Amy Pabst
- John & Kristin Gilbert
- Bob & Lynn Schroeder
- Hannah Balsbaugh
- Cyndi Marquardt
- Luella Franke
- Ann Quackenbush
- Sue Wertman
- Dave Drury
- Vic & Kathy Engelhardt
- Tim & Barbara Liggett
- Dwight & Arlette Shackelford
- Lynn & Paul Lauber
- Bob Marquardt
- Kristin Gilbert
- John Gilbert
- Art & Karen Pabst
- Chava Balsbaugh
- Dave & Maxine Balsbaugh
- Rad & Sandra Hazelip
- Marlene Stough
- Alice Pfeiffer
- Paul & Elaine Kaempfe
- Nino Spampinato



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

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



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