



Appointment of New Executive Director for Hope Seeds 3/4/19

Hope Seeds, Inc. Board of Directors is most pleased to announce the appointment of David Balsbaugh as the new Executive Director of Hope Seeds. David has spent the past 25 years serving in roles related to missions, agricultural development, and education, including field assignments in Africa and Haiti. Dave and his wife Maxine were invited to join the work of Hope Seeds during the spring of 2018, and along with their 6 daughters have spent most of the past year at the Show-Me Campus in Bertrand, Missouri.

David is succeeding Mike Mueller, co-founder and director for the first 20 years of this ministry. Mike remains with the organization as Director Emeritus, along with his wife and co-founder Jean Mueller in her continued role as Inventory Manager. *

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: Ecclesiastes 3:1

From David Balsbaugh:

- CEO, Hope Seeds, Inc.

I would like to thank Mike and Jean Mueller for their vision, dedication, and heart for serving the poor and sharing the Gospel message around the world. The amount of hard work, passion, and sacrifice they have given over the last 20 years has been inspiring. I am honored that Mike has chosen me to be his successor and I have humbly accepted this position with a strong commitment to our Savior and to those we serve. It is my priority to keep the vision alive. Join us in prayer as we move forward so that Hope Seeds will continue to serve the hungry, sharing Christ's love in action and in truth.

From Mike and Jean Mueller:

- Co-Founders, Hope Seeds, Inc.

It is our prayer and confident hope that Dave will continue the service to our Lord Jesus in and through the work of Hope Seeds. Quality garden seed to a hungry world has always been our daily motivation...while sharing the love of Jesus and the message of hope afforded to all because of that love. May God bless Hope Seeds, and may all of our volunteers and donors continue to lovingly support the ministry of Hope Seeds with confidence and energy for accomplishing much more in the years ahead.

***Please note: some details in the articles and enclosed letter have been slightly altered since the time of writing based on more recent developments.**



Hope Seeds Update on a Season of Change 3/16/19

-Dwight Shackelford, Chair, Hope Seeds, Inc.

We are experiencing a season of change at Hope Seeds, and as Chair of the Board of Directors I wanted to provide our friends and supporters with some perspectives on recent developments and future plans. In this brief note I'd like to touch upon a few key items related to some key milestones. I can confirm that as a Board our desire is to discern together the direction of the Holy Spirit and seek alignment with His direction for the work of relief and development that Hope Seeds is committed to on behalf of hungry neighbors worldwide.

20 Years - One milestone to rejoice over is that Hope Seeds this month is celebrating its 20th anniversary, and we praise God for all He has accomplished. We are so very thankful for the hard work of co-founders Mike and Jean Mueller over these many years and the thousands of lives that have been touched with seed and education. We are also thankful for all those who have joined us in this work including staff, volunteers, ministry partners, and donors.

1 Year - Another milestone we recognize is that the "Hope Seeds Strategic Plan - 2018" was adopted just a little more than 1 year ago. This strategic plan has guided our efforts in positioning the organization for a new generation of service, and we are thankful for the progress which has already occurred in key areas related to our ministry partnerships, financial practices, leadership transition, and operations. Much has been accomplished but significant steps remain as works in progress, and you'll find more specific details in the appended report regarding actions and future plans related to each of our 5 key strategic objectives.

1 Month – A very recent milestone to recognize with respect to our strategic actions relates to leadership transition and the appointment of David Balsbaugh as the new Executive Director of Hope Seeds just last month. Dave was recruited by Mike Mueller and, along with his wife Maxine, has served alongside Mike and Jean in ministry for most of the past year in MO. We thank God for bringing Dave and Maxine into the Hope Seeds family. Dave is in the early stages of the leadership transition process, but we are already excited by the wealth of experience and wisdom he brings along with the next generation of vision and ideas he has for moving Hope Seeds forward. As Director Emeritus, Mike Mueller will be assisting with the transition.

As with any ministry undergoing change, we have experienced successes as well as growing pains these past months. Some decisions have been painful to members involved and some missteps have occurred. Longtime staff member Bethany Matzke has not felt comfortable with the new practices and leadership structure that implementation of the strategic plan has occasioned, and has resigned. We thank her for her many years of faithful services. We would ask for your patience as we humbly work through these details of transition, and seek Christ's love at all times. And your questions and comments are always appreciated.

Thank you for your faithful partnership, volunteer efforts, financial support, and prayers. I remain optimistic that, after 20 years of service, God has much more in store for Hope Seeds and the work of relief and development we are called to on behalf of hungry neighbors worldwide. We are on a journey of faithful obedience as well as adaptability and change, as we seek to stay aligned with our compassionate and ever adventurous Lord!



Plant A Seed! Feed A Soul!

Garden Tools, Hope Seeds, and Chapin Drip Irrigation Kits Change Lives for Families in Haiti

- Rad Hazelip, Love a Child, Inc. 3/01/19

The following stories and others like them are strong testimony to the life-changing work that Hope Seeds is doing around the world. You will recall, that because of the strong partnership we have together, we are able to provide training and demonstration to hundreds of Haitian families each year about gardening and the benefits of the Hope Seeds. Your recent donation of more than 2700 family packs is a very important part of our sustainable development outreach. We expect to distribute many of those family packs to our sustainable agriculture students this year, as we send them home with enough family packs to get their community established with life-saving gardens. Thank you to everyone involved with the Hope Seeds Ministry.

A generous and thoughtful donor sponsored a set of gardening tools, Hope Seeds family packs of garden seed, and Chapin drip irrigation kits for four families. Madame Sherry and Wilner, Director of the ATC (center of photo) selected four families to receive these gifts based upon the need and the ability of the recipients to maximize their benefits because the recipients had the space and training to improve their gardens. Below are the 4 recipients:



Abel Cimond, (far left) is from the mountain village of Peyi Pouri. He is a farmer and father of 7 children. He says these tools and seeds will allow him to work better and have better harvests so he can provide more food for his family, and he expects to now be able to have enough to sell some produce in the market so he can send his kids to school. He says, “thank you” to the person who made him get these tools, seed from Hope Seeds, and (Chapin) irrigation kits.

Ms. Jocelyn Sainfelux (2nd from left) is from Miracle Village and is a mother of 7 children. She says she works the land and is a widow, 48 years old. She has 6 garden little spaces scattered around but she could only work in 4 of them because she had no tools. Now she is happy that she can work all 6 gardens because she has these tools, these seeds from Hope Seeds and the irrigation kits. Thank you to Love A child and to the person and everyone who gave a way for me to have these tools, garden seeds from Hope Seeds, and the (Chapin) irrigation kits.

Mr. Valmy Fleuranvill (far right) is from the village area of Damien. Valmy was a recent student at our 3 week agriculture school and loved the big gardens he saw at the ATC, but he had no tools. He is very happy to get these tools and seeds and says they will allow him to now do all the work that he learned about in the ATC school, and he will give classes to others from the countryside nearby to teach what he learned. He says that with these tools and garden seeds from Hope Seeds, he can grow enough food for the children who are vulnerable in Damien to now be healthy and even though sometimes we didn’t have rain for 6 months, now with the drip irrigation systems he can continue to grow food even though there is no rain.

Mr. Jean Wilkend (2nd from right) is from the village of Sapate, about 3 hours away. He is a father of 8 children and a gardener. He says “thank you” to Love A Child and the people that permit him to get these tools and seeds from Hope Seeds. These tools will permit him to work his gardens better to take care of his family well. The central plateau, where he lives, used to go 7 months without rain but these tools, garden seeds, and the drip irrigation kits will allow him to have food with catching only a little water, even though they have no rain.



An exciting fund matching opportunity - doubles your donation to Hope Seeds



Donate Today!
 Hope Seeds
\$eed X2



March 19 through April 30, 2019

Through April 30 your donations will be matched \$ for \$ in Honor of Hope Seeds 20th Anniversary!

Gifts of Seed!

Thank you to the individuals who made these meaningful tributes for their loved ones.

Memory of:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ♥ Mildred Dost | ♥ Don Davis |
| ♥ Charles "Buz" Snyder | ♥ Wallace Hadler |
| ♥ Richard Tilley | ♥ William Hadler |
| ♥ Rev. Walter Fehrmann | ♥ Norman Bachmann |
| ♥ Bob Cairns | ♥ Linda Verseman |
| ♥ Genese Snyder | ♥ Charlotte Kasten's Birthday |
| ♥ Jeanette Roth | ♥ Donna and Clifford Trent |
| ♥ Edmund Armbruster | |

Honor of:

- ♥ Vic and Kathy Engelhardt's 61st Anniversary
- ♥ The Balsbaugh Family
- ♥ Kasten and Cline Family Birthdays
- ♥ Steve and Judy Schneider
- ♥ Tyler Botic's 15th Birthday
- ♥ Mrs. Loide Bahr's 90th Birthday
- ♥ Ethel Lindeman's 95th Birthday
- ♥ Laurie Phillips 60th Birthday
- ♥ Art and Karen Pabst
- ♥ Roy Mueller's 80th Birthday
- ♥ Richard and Vera Wroblewski's 47th Anniversary
- ♥ Glenn and Janice Vogel's 80th Birthdays
- ♥ George and Luella Franke's 60th Anniversary
- ♥ George and Luella Franke's Birthdays
- ♥ Rich Wroblewski's 81st Birthday

- **Monthly support** is a great source of encouragement. We can offer envelopes to assist your giving, or we can establish a secure monthly transaction online.
- **Leave a Legacy**- Share your faithful support of Hope Seeds with your children and grandchildren so they can continue following your example. Consider making Hope Seeds a part of your estate planning and include Hope Seeds in your will. *Our tax number is 65-0911582 and should be included on all legal documents.*
- **Income Tax Refunds? Sale of Property? Appreciated Stock?** Consider making a special gift to Hope Seeds so we can help more missionaries with seed and materials.



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



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