COMPASSION FIRST 2021 Annual Report

A Gear of Unexpected Blessings



Our Mission

To provide end-to-end, personalized care for those rescued from or at risk of sex trafficking and exploitation.









## Letter from the President

Each year we approach this report with a sense of wonder. This has especially been the case over the last two years, with preparations put in place to weather a storm and no real hope for expansion. Even so, expansion has come to us.

Realizing that we are not completely through the impact of Covid or the broader concerns facing both our supporters and our work, we are humbled that each group has seen that the work be advanced. Our base of support has continued to encourage us and has been the wind at our backs. Knowing they are fully supported, our staff family has continued to dream big and chase down those dreams.

2021 brought provision that we didn't even know to ask for. The gift of a shelter in West Java and the potential of partnership in an additional new shelter, also in West Java, have accelerated our plans to move our National Headquarters to Jakarta this spring. This will open up many more opportunities for both our operations and development within Indonesia.

## ...our staff family has continued to dream big and chase down those dreams.

The gift of workers has also been a sincere blessing. We spent much of 2021 in preparation for the deployment of three incredible expats - each of them in the process of deployment as I write this letter. We cannot wait to see how God uses each of them. When I consider all of the good that has come about during this season of challenge, I'm reminded of the most valuable things. In November of 2021, I was able to visit our field staff and operations for the first time in 20 months. I was so grateful to see all the familiar faces and just as grateful to also see the new ones added to our fold. Each one is a gift as they bring their unique contribution to our work - God is using them! I left refreshed, encouraged, and challenged to do more in support of their efforts.

Whether it is the gift of a donor, the coming alongside of a volunteer, the availability of those who pray, or the fingernails in the dirt of those who work in the carrying out of our operations, we all bring to the table what God has given us. And we are forever grateful. 2021 will go into the books as a year remembered for the sustaining love of God and the receiving of blessings that we didn't even know to ask for.

On behalf of the entire Compassion First family, thank you for being on this journey with us. It is the privilege of a lifetime for all of us. We are so glad to know you and



be a part of your story as you make ours possible.

God bless you, Mike Mercer

Mike Mercer

## A Privilege, Honor & Passion to

- Care for survivors of child sex trafficking
- Partner with authorities and vulnerable communities
- Prevent child exploitation
- Rescue children who are being bought and sold

## Our Program

Aftercare for Survivors

Law Enforcement Partnership

Prevention and Community Building Gives rescued girls an opportunity to rebuild their lives and pursue their dreams.

Creates a sustainable model for rescuing children, arresting traffickers, and disrupting trafficking.

Empowers the vulnerable and breaks cycles of trafficking and exploitation in communities.



#### East Java

Our child and family sponsorship programs support two precious communities in East Java where children are at a high risk for being trafficked. Grace House, our second aftercare shelter, is also in this region.

#### West Java

Aftercare Shelter Opening 2022

## Bali

Bali is an international child sex tourism destination. We partner with other organizations and are establishing our own office in Bali to support law enforcement, caregivers, and partnered rescues.

#### North Sulawesi

Sarah's House is our shelter for trafficking survivors in North Sulawesi. The shelter, combined with law enforcement partnerships, has sustainably reduced trafficking in this region. We also have a Transition Home for survivors preparing for a more independent lifestyle.

# Where We Work

Indonesia is one of the largest child sex tourism destinations in the world and has a population of 258 million. We are one of only a few anti-trafficking organizations operating within the country.

2021 Mission Benchmarks

\$2M Total cash donations 48 Partnered education scholarships in cemetery communities 19 Girls served in aftercare

## Letter from the Director of Operations

What a year! I am continually reminded how heartbreak and celebration live side-by-side in this life and in this work, specifically. In 2021, we grieved loss AND were surprised by new opportunities. What a beautiful, painful world we are privileged to live in and to love.

"Your road led through the sea, your pathway through the mighty waters - a pathway no one knew was there!" Psalm 77:19

In 2021 we gained invitations into new places: a new cemetery community in East Java, aftercare shelters in West Java, and the legal establishment of our office in Bali. We have seen new paths unfold that we didn't know were possible. Even more than the operational expansion, the growth we've witnessed in our Indonesian staff and leadership has been profound. Despite the personal challenges that came with the pandemic, they supported each other and provided uncompromised and creative care to the girls and communities we are privileged to serve.



We've all grown up a bit this year.

In it all, God has been faithful! Surely, He is up to something beautiful... again.

All our hope is in Him, Valerie Bellamy

Valerie Bellamy

## Aftercare Update

A Year of Purquing Dreams

We were approached by an Indonesian pastor offering the use of his new housing complex as a Compassion First aftercare shelter in West Java. Our Indonesian leadership began the journey of making this longtime dream of serving girls from this region a reality. Meanwhile, one girl completed her college theology degree, three girls from Sarah's House enrolled in college in pursuit of dreams of their own, and another continued her studies at medical school. Their fellow residents also worked hard at their own high school courses with focuses ranging from IT to the culinary arts to science.



Celebrating Regilience

This year, we had 3 high school graduations to celebrate! Caroline, Manda, and Nadia demonstrated incredible resilience by completing their high school education in the midst of a global pandemic. In the fall of 2021, they continued their academic journeys, with Caroline in Bible college and Manda and Nadia in law school!

Meanwhile, Samantha passed a tough entrance exam to a local private school, and Cindy entered a vocational school to major in culinary arts. Their determination is wondrous to us.

# Community Development Update

A Gear of Re-imagining

2021 was a year of re-imagining community development in East Java. Covid provided a brilliant backdrop to assess and pivot where we could to fine tune our care. The process was uncomfortable at times as staff re-examined every aspect of outreach into the community, prayed together, asked hard questions, clarified their vision, and received an invitation into another, even more vulnerable, cemetery community. We moved forward with food distribution and partnering with families to send children to school. And through it all, we learned more about walking daily with our friends in the cemeteries.



Loss. Legacy. and Light

Our friend Minar died. She was the brightest light in the cemetery. She was the first to partner with us in enrolling her daughter in school. The first to ask about Jesus. The first to successfully support her family by creating her own clothing line. And our staff was there for all of it.

They were entrusted with planning her memorial service, providing a burial plot, and, most importantly, with the care of her three young children. They wrapped their arms around a heartbroken community even as their own hearts ached. This is what love looks like. It hurts, and it is the privilege of our lives.

## Law Enforcement Partnership Update

A year of Partnerships

While Covid slowed our law enforcement partnership development, we have expanded into a new area of work with our partner Love Justice International specializing in border and transit monitoring. We are honored that Love Justice would partner with us in their specific area of expertise, bringing training, leadership, legal acumen, and data specific work to our field. Much of 2021 was spent training and hiring toward a 2022 launch of a pilot project monitoring ferry lanes that many of the girls who have come into our care have been trafficked along.

We are encouraged by this project and partnership as it provides the earliest possible intervention for girls being trafficked, and we look to expand it across Indonesia. We are further encouraged by the enthusiastic support of the Port Authority as they have embraced our workers as their own.

# Donor Highlights



#### **Church Events**

In October, three Washington churches - Marysville Foursquare Church, Arlington Lifeway Church, and Living Word Oak Harbor - joined us for immersive Indonesian banquets that brought Indonesia to our friends since Covid prevented us from going there.

Although these banquets were our first in-person events in two years, we were blown away by the outpouring of support from everyone who volunteered and attended. Together, they raised \$25,000!



#### Harvest Crossfit Event

In May, our friends at Harvest CrossFit in Dallas, Oregon, ran over 183 miles in a relay marathon, ate a lot of tacos, and purchased cool t-shirts - all to raise over \$1,800 for Compassion First!

Owner MacLarin Jones says, "At Harvest, we have an amazingly generous community that celebrates the invitation to help others. Our passion for people aligns with CF's, and that's what makes our community look forward to fundraising every year!"



The Impact

In 2016, a group of girls from Grace Community Church in Dallas, Oregon, began fundraising to support the Yellow Flower Cemetery and to visit Indonesia. After years of work, Covid-19 halted their travel plans. But this team of girls pivoted to donate all their money to a special project.

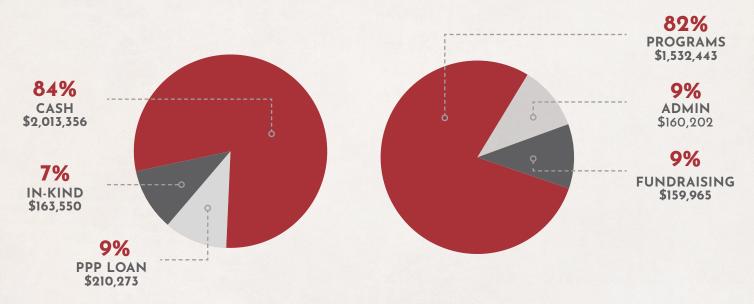
In partnership with the women and teens running the Yellow Flower Collection, a cooperative business in the Yellow Flower Cemetery, the Shine Collection of handmade journals was born.

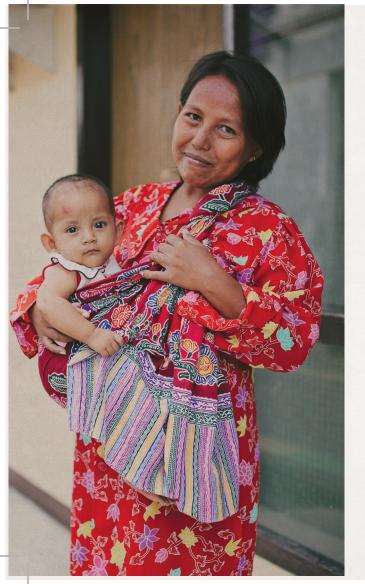
> The Shine Collection will not only generate stable income in Yellow Flower, but will also support the aftercare program's Shine curriculum. Shine is a program Compassion First offers to all the residents in their aftercare homes about building self-worth and confidence.

2021 Financial Report

## INCOME \$2,387,179

# EXPENSES **\$1,852,610**





Where We Are Going IN 2022

2021 has set the stage for an especially active year to come. Together with you and by the grace of God, we are embarking on the following new endeavors in 2022.

- With the arrival of CF missionaries Lee and Michelle Hastie, we will officially open the office in Bali.
- We will move the national office to West Java and open a new shelter there.
- We will continue making new friends and learning life in Rose Cemetery.
- In partnership with Love Justice, we will begin monitoring seaports and airports to intercept potential trafficking victims before they are lured from their home provinces.

Join the Journey

Give ONLINE: CFGIVE.ORG

○ I/WE WANT TO BE PART OF COMPASSIONFIRST.

I/We will give financially in the follow way:



As a monthly contribution:							
○ \$50	◯ \$100	○ \$250	○ \$500				
0							

I/We would like to know more about:

○ CHURCH PARTNERSHIP ○ PRAYER TEAM ○ COFFEE WITH A CF TEAM MEMBER

## CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Give ONLINE: CFGIVE.ORG

TEAR HERE

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Prayer Needy

With so much growth and transition, we need God's peace and provision in all things. Please pray for the continual encouragement of our staff and that we identify the right people needed to fill key roles.

Please also pray for the opening of our new care shelter in West Java, the opening of our case management office in Bali, and for new and strategic relationships due to the move of our National Office to Jakarta.

A YEAR OF Unexpected Blessings

"We are forever grateful. 2021 will go into the books as a year remembered for the sustaining love of God and the receiving of blessings that we didn't even know to ask for."

> Mike Mercer President of Compassion First

## **COMPASSION FIRST**

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