

2023

Annual Report



Get
HOPE
Global

GHG



Learning

- The 9 week Innovate Course from the Chalmers Center was completed with the HOPE leadership team in Ghana.
- The board of directors engaged in a half day strategic planning session.
- The steering team read and discussed A. W. Tozer's Knowledge of the Holy.

Growing

- Our US staff grew with the addition of our new Marketing Coordinator, Cassie Adorney.
- Our presence in Kenya grew with the addition of 11 newly trained Program Leaders.
- Our team in Tanzania welcomed new Program Leaders in preparation for new training groups.

Praying

- A prayer sponsor program, part of Project Connect, was launched to provide meaningful support and connection with leaders in Tanzania.
- Prayer and praise have been, and continue to be, a key part of navigating the passport and visa process with our director in Tanzania visiting the USA.
- All HOPE champions were invited to join us for a guided month of prayer in November.

In 2023

A Look at the Numbers

15

countries with
active HOPE
training

41

average age
of a loan
recipient

11

leaders
trained

1,045

business
plans
written

\$23,200

repaid and
ready to loan
again

\$11,672

HOPE loans
given

427

participants
surveyed

1

new Hindi
translation

45

active
groups

92

HOPE loans
given

25,190

miles travelled
by GHG
team

Training Trainers in Kenya

We are grateful for a new ministry partner in Kenya, Imani Collective, who hosted us for a Train the Trainer conference in late 2023. The new Program Leaders, now ready to launch HOPE business training groups, shared their comments after the conference. Here are a few:

"The interaction with new people at the training conference was very valuable. I have learned much from each of them about business ideas."

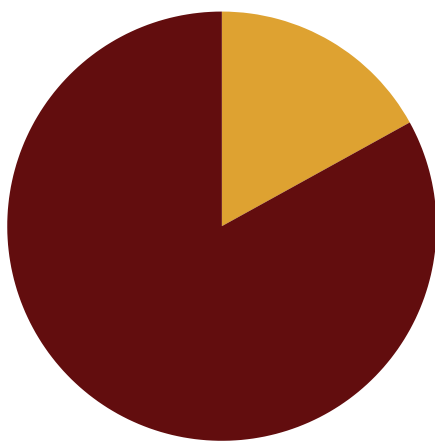
"The curriculum is very comprehensive, yet easily teachable and very simple to understand. The inclusion of the Bible teaching is great!"

"This training provided us with leadership skills. Guided by the word of God, I can be a good leader!"



Survey Results

In 2023, we received new survey results from groups in Ghana, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. When combined with previous surveys from earlier years we are able to see the ongoing impact of HOPE business training. These results represent 44 groups surveyed, a total of 651 women.



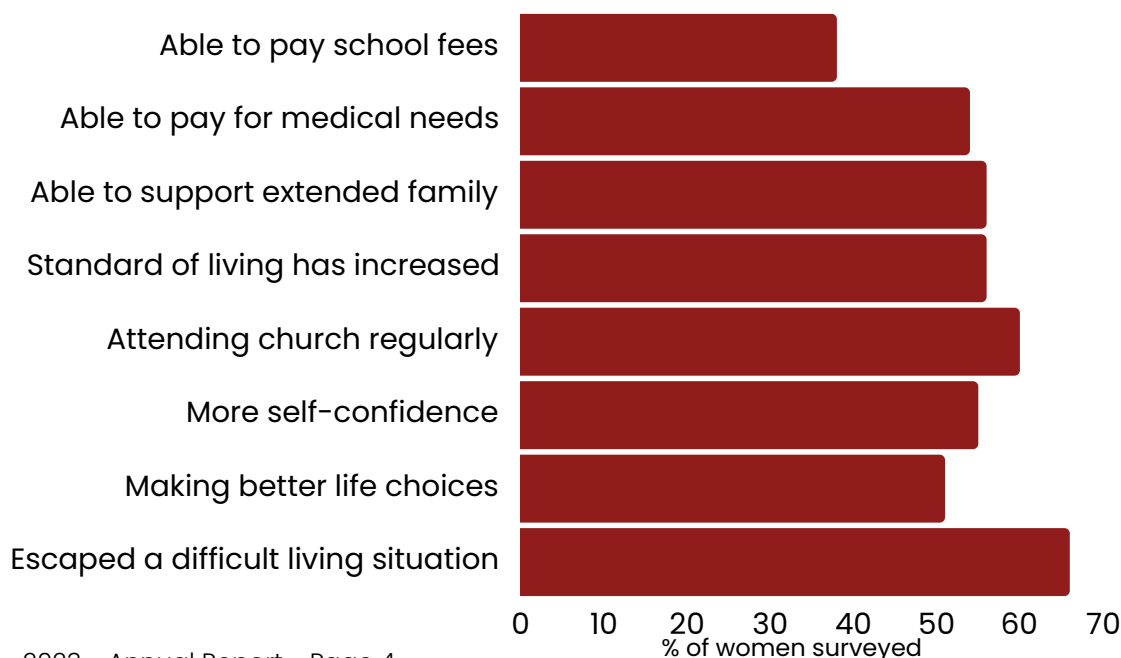
17% of group participants accepted Christ in connection with the training



73% of businesses surveyed were stable, growing, or doing very well



Personal Impact of HOPE Training



15th Anniversary



The year 2023 marked the 15-year anniversary of Get HOPE Global. In 2008, Ruth Craig, Susan Florentine, Fran Donnithorne, and Cathy Simmonds were approaching the time of life when many people feel they have earned the right to sit back, relish their accomplishments, and allow others to take the initiative. Instead, the founding team of Get HOPE Global was just getting started.

We sat down recently with three of these founders to ask about the origins of HOPE and to learn more from these vibrant, joyful, hope-filled women.

Q: What prepared you to write the HOPE Business Program and launch Get HOPE Global?

Ruth: We weren't really prepared. We had a lot of life experience, but in the beginning, we had a lot to learn about microenterprise. Through my business, I taught leadership to people in high positions. But we had to learn how to teach the basics of business to women who had very few opportunities and were struggling to survive.

Mainly what we did have was a clear sense of calling. I absolutely believe it was God-given. From the time I first heard the seed of the idea from a woman on the team at our parent organization, Thrive, I could not get it out of my mind. We quickly came to the conviction that it all begins with hope.

Q. Have you always had a heart for women and girls in the developing world, or did that concern emerge just before you started Get HOPE Global?

Susan: I have been globally minded for a long time. Poverty bothered me. Merely sending money in response to global poverty felt like an inadequate response. I kept asking myself, "Is there anything else we could do?"

Ruth: A person is not going to hear you talk about the Lord if they are hungry. Our desire was to address the need for business training and at the same time introduce people to the Lord in a way that has a practical application. We wanted them to see the Lord at work as they went through. An important part of that is the safety net; we designed it to be used with small groups of women. As they go through it, they can be advocates for each other.

Q: How did Get HOPE Global Take shape?

Fran: It was interesting that in those early days we didn't know what HOPE was going to look like.

15th Anniversary

Ruth: A group of 18 – 20 met once a week to work. That was very special. Our prayer and worship times were rich. We put in many very late nights. Susan worked on the Bible lessons. I worked on the general concept. Fran and I worked together to flesh it out. Cathy took care of the finances, to the penny.

We were absolutely tested. We had about every challenge known to man in terms of technical issues and we worked incredibly long hours on this.

There was a woman who wanted to take care of our administrative costs and that was a blessing to her. As HOPE grew, we grew. We didn't just come through this process; we grew through it. We could see that in each other.

Susan and Fran: And it was a joy. It was such fun. A wonderful feeling.

Susan: What grew from that first seed of a vision was beyond my dream. Part of that fulfillment was our team. We had healthy differences of opinion, but never any back-biting. There was such perfect unity. This was a part of my experience. I miss it. I probably would jump in even at my age if Ruth said, "Let's do something else."

Fran: Just adding to that a little bit, the bonding of the four of us was such a gift. We could disagree in such love. It didn't hurt anybody's feelings. It was a sisterhood.

Q: I hear you saying that teamwork was primary. Are there any other reasons you feel Get HOPE Global went from vision to reality?

Ruth: We held it loosely from the beginning. At one of our meetings, we dedicated the whole program to the Lord. We decided to say to anyone who wanted to use it, "it's yours." That came back tenfold, maybe because we weren't holding it tightly.

Q: How did you define success?

Ruth: It was never about our success. It was more important to try something, even if it failed at some level, than not do anything at all. We were way out of our comfort zone in terms of our experience, but that was OK. That was part of the joy factor, JOY with capital letters. Also, we didn't define success by how many women were going through the program.

Fran: It wasn't measurable. That added to our ability to let it go.

Susan: I remember the day I first felt that we had succeeded. One day one of our first program leaders and I talked while her group was meeting. I could hear them shouting to Jesus in joy and singing. I couldn't tell you what that meant to me. From then on, to me, it (Get HOPE Global) was a success!



Vision

We envision a world where at-risk women are hopeful, empowered, and free!

Mission

We exist to transform the lives of at-risk women through redemptive, faith-based business training and support.



Our Current Need

We invite you to participate through prayer and finances in Project Connect, our current leadership development initiative.

The prayer partner campaign is already creating meaningful connections between US partners and Program Leaders in Tanzania.

The funding campaign will provide resources for our Program Leaders in east Africa to connect with and learn from one another in 2024. To get more information and to give hope, click on or scan the code!

Project Connect



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