



# Annual Report

2019-20





ACCOMPANY.  
EDUCATE.  
TRANSFORM.

Lumen Vitae is a humanitarian organization, rooted in Catholic values, aimed at tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice in the world.



## OUR MISSION

To accompany young people, especially those who find themselves hindered by poverty in marginalized situations around the world, on a path to abundant life. Through education, practical support and mentorship, we empower young people to realize their dreams and shape the future of their communities.



## OUR VISION

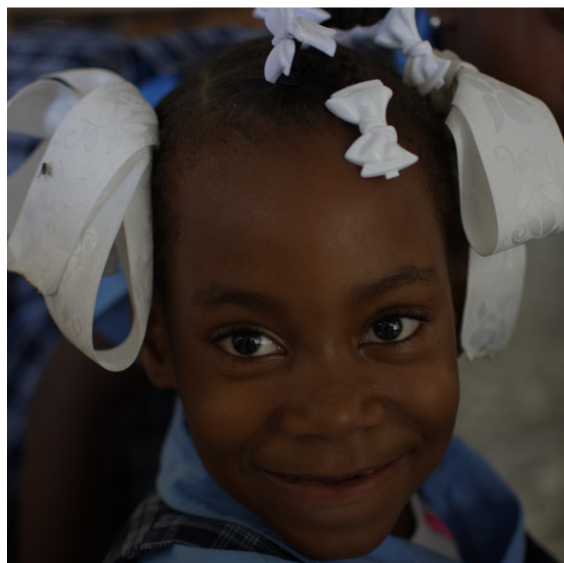


Abundant  
Life  
for  
every  
child



## OUR PROMISE

As part of our commitment to accountability and transparency, we are publishing this annual report to reflect the work of the 2019-20 academic year. A financial summary of the Fiscal Year 2019 is found on page 09.





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## DIRECTOR'S WORDS



**Brian Mundackal**  
**Executive Director**  
**Lumen Vitae**  
*2017 - Present*

It was only a little over three years ago when I would walk in the sunny afternoons from house to house of Camp Corail with Jemps Jean, our school support agent, to check in to see how our students and their families were doing. At that time, our entire operation consisted of our feet, our ears and whatever papers we could fit into our backpacks. When I look at the hard work of our committed board members, our energetic staff in Haiti and the generosity of our volunteers and sponsors in America, I am marveled by the Lord's providence and humbled by His confidence in us. The stories, achievements and statistics which cover this annual report are just glimpses of the many blessings which we experience daily.

Today we have over 560 students enrolled in schools across zones like Croix-des-Bouquets, Mirebalais, Carrefour and Anse-à-Veau in Haiti. The program has also yielded over twenty high school graduates, who have, in turn, volunteered to become mentors to accompany the younger students in the program. This reinforces a key theme which we like to communicate to our young people: "without cost you have received; without cost you are to give" (Mt 10:8). In addition, this past December was extra special for our students because of the efforts of hundreds of children across the United States who "Shared the Light" and sent Christmas gifts to their brothers and sisters in need.

“

*Without cost you have received;  
without cost you are to give.*

”





As we look ahead into the future needs of our project in Haiti, we find that there is a huge scarcity of university seats compared to the growing number of youth who will receive primary and secondary education in the next decade. In addition, many of the graduates of secondary school (high school) are lacking skills, such as English language and computer literacy, which would enable them to be competitive in today's global workforce. To respond to this need, through the support of two corporate partners, we have opened our first 'Learning Center' in Croix-Des-Bouquets.

As a multipurpose space for learning, youth will be able to attend English language & computer literacy classes while having access to a computer lab for personal use. It is also a space where younger children can go after school to receive additional tutoring in particular subject areas from older students.

Equipped with board games and other activities available for their use, the Learning Center provides youth and children a 'home away from home' where they can feel safe.

This past year has not been an easy one for Haiti; marked by political differences, gang violence and rapid inflation of prices. For many of our students who live amidst such darkness, an opportunity to receive an education, a daily meal and have mentors closely accompany their journey, is the light on their path forward. We are proud that so many children in Haiti, regardless of religion, race, or gender, have access to our program. I am so thankful to the many sponsors, staff, volunteers, churches and partner organizations who contribute to making this light shine more brightly. May God bless you for your generosity and love for your brothers and sisters in Haiti.



*Brian Mundackal*

**Brian Mundackal**  
**Executive Director**





# OUR IMPACT

In 2015, we began our project in Camp Corail, Haiti, sponsoring 25 children of families devastated by the earthquake. As the need for education in this community grew, we responded by helping nearly 350 students to attend school. As we continued our work, we found that other rural communities were also in dire need of support. Today, we support over 560 students in 45 schools across 4 states. This year we launched our 'Learning Center' in Haiti to offer English and computer courses as well as tutoring for our primary school students.

- \* Bahaie Aniz Sunuzi
- \* Colrev
- \* Foyer Divin De Rigaud
- \* Institution Hendrick Etika
- \* Ecole Congreganiste Immaculee Conception
- \* Ecole Saint Marc
- \* Ecole Communautaire Source Du Savoir
- \* Collège Voltaire D'Haiti
- \* Ecole Mixte Chretienne De Cesselesse
- \* Ecole Notre Dame De L'Espoir
- \* College Marie Reine Immaculee
- \* Les Freres Unis
- \* Institution Mixte De La Reference D'Haiti
- \* Ecole Saint Martin De Pores
- \* Collège Modernes Des Ressources Intellectuelles
- \* Centre D'Etude D'Haiti
- \* Institution Chretienne Frere Wilguens
- \* Onaville Christian School
- \* Ascention
- \* Institution Mixte Le Progres D'Haiti
- \* Institution Mixte Divine Providence
- \* Saint Joseph
- \* College Jacques Stephen Alexis
- \* Frere Dumay College
- \* Ecole Mixte Sainte Therese De L'Enfant Jesus
- \* Saint Gerard
- \* Marie Poussepin
- \* Institution Mixte Notre Dame De Lourde
- \* College Univeselle
- \* College Educatif Louis Joseph Janvier
- \* Le Semancier
- \* Academie Juvenile De Montfort
- \* Institution Foyer De L'Education
- \* Ecole Congreganiste Notre Dame Du Rosaire
- \* Collège Cœur Divin
- \* ICS
- \* Ecole Mixte Lumiere De Sarthe
- \* Institution Mixte Albert Dorelien
- \* Ecole Presbiterale Saint Pierre
- \* Ecole Mixte Saint Charles Borromee, Lilavois
- \* Ecole Nationale Marie Jeanne D'Onaville
- \* Ecole Mixte La Fierté De Marre Bleue
- \* Ecole Du Sacre Coeur
- \* College Sainte Anne De L'Anse A Veau
- \* Ecole Mixte Saint Charles Borromee, Corrail

45 SCHOOLS  
served in 2019-20







564

STUDENTS

currently sponsored  
under our programs

21

students graduated  
during the academic year  
2019-2020



68%

increase in the number of students  
with 230 students joining our  
program in 2019-2020



20

students entered our  
english and computer  
courses at our  
learning center

20

students became  
mentors for  
younger students

18

staff and volunteers  
supporting our  
programs in Haiti



# TESTIMONIALS

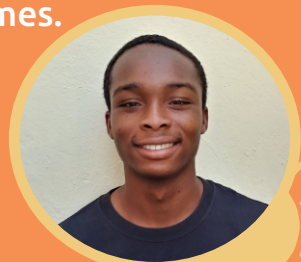


**Antoine Fayette**  
*Grade 11*  
*Institution Hendrick*  
*ETIKA*

“ This program is a blessing for my family because my parents cannot afford to pay for my education. Now, everything is taken care of for me and my parents can save money to buy the other basic things we need. It means so much to my father and my mother that I can receive an education and become successful in life. ”



“ I have witnessed my parents struggle a lot to pay for my little brother’s school fees. In some schools in Haiti, if you do not pay your school fees, they don’t let you come to the school. This has happened to my brother before. My parents and I are lucky that my education is supported by my sponsor in Lumen Vitae. I sometimes wonder how difficult it would be for our family without this program, since my fees are much higher than my brother. Thanks be to God that I do not need to worry. What you do for us, God will give back to you. ”



**Saint Surin Larsen**  
*Grade 12 | Ecole Mixte Saint Charles Borromeo*





# RAYS OF HOPE



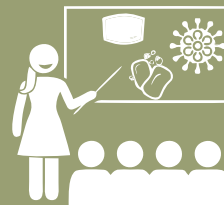
## SHARE THE LIGHT

Every year, Lumen Vitae facilitates a Christmas gift ministry called Share The Light. Four cities: Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, and Miami hosted packing events where many donated gifts that were packed and sent to Haiti. Through a simple act of kindness of giving a gift, hundreds of families in America were able to participate in the joy of Christmas with children in Haiti. On Christmas, over 600 children in Haiti were blessed with gifts packed and shipped with love.

## GOOD NEIGHBOR PROJECT

# *Pwojè* BON VWAZEN

TRAIN



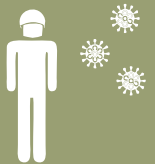
FÓMASYON

EQUIP



EKIPE

PROTECT



PWOTEJE

While the recent past in Haiti has been marked by political divisions, gang violence and rapid inflation, the Coronavirus pandemic has left the communities which we serve in a highly vulnerable position. In an effort to respond to the need of the time and to continue being a beacon of hope, we launched our Pwoje Bon Vwazen (Good Neighbor Project) to train and equip teams of young people to become Community Health Workers (CHW's).

These CHW's are trained by officials from the Ministry of Health to combat the threat of COVID-19. The CHW's not only provide correct information about the virus, but establish a relationship with each family and conduct follow up visits to ensure their mental and physical well being. They also work to distribute masks, cleaning supplies and hand sanitizers to the most at risk populations. At this most difficult time, we are committed to continuing to journey with our families to find the light amidst the dark path.





# OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



Total Income  
\$141,353.03

Total amount Lumen Vitae received in FY 2019 thanks to the generous support from our sponsors. This funding allowed us to deepen our impact in many rural communities.



Total Expenses  
\$124,991.95

Total expense incurred by Lumen Vitae during FY 2019. The majority of our expenses was to support our child sponsorships.



Our entire income was received through charitable contributions from individual donors. Unlike many other organizations, Lumen Vitae does not receive any income through grants or government.

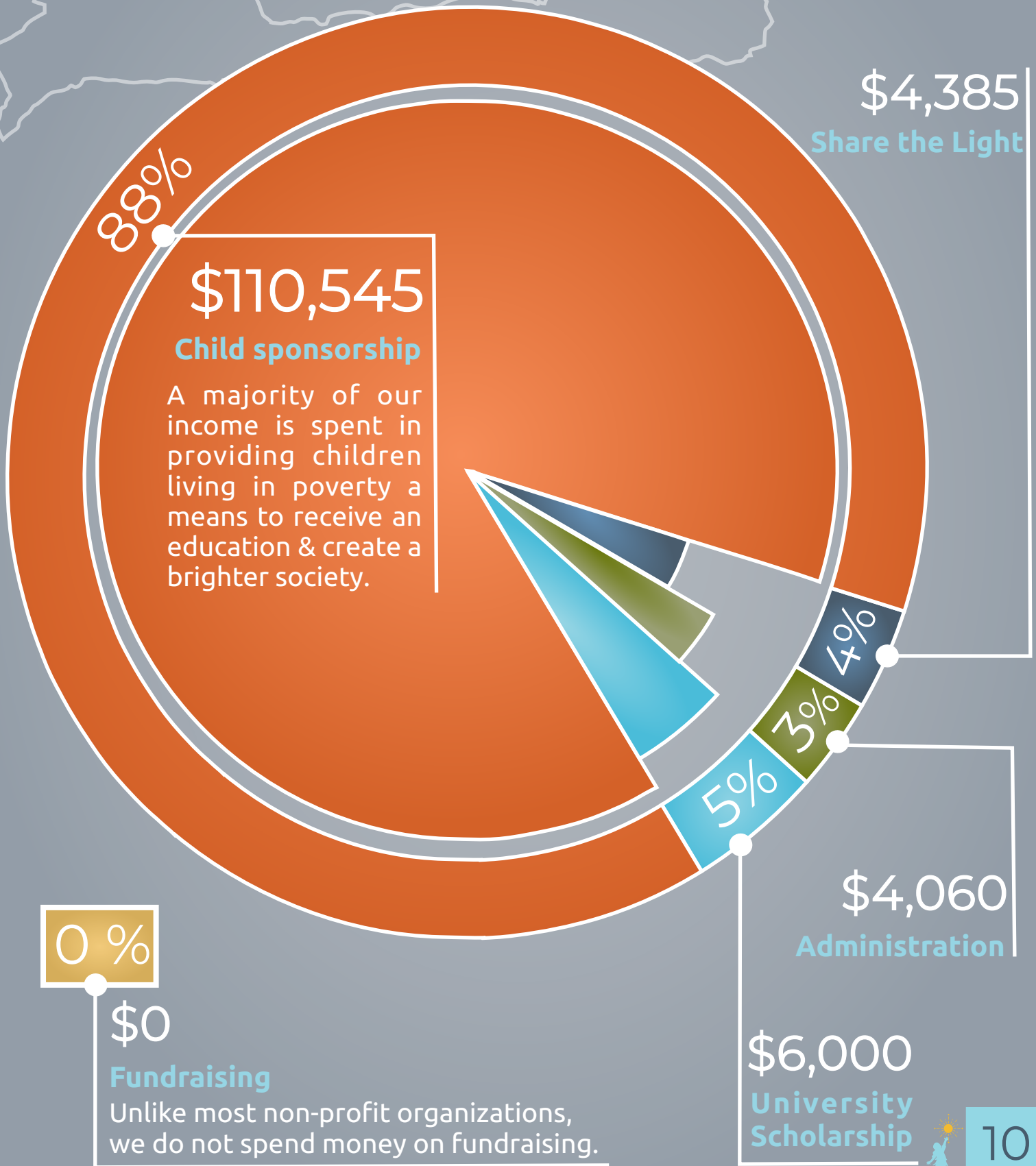


Well under the industry average for non profit administrative costs, only 3% of our expenses was used to fund our administrative expenses, with the remaining 97% left to support the program



# SECTOR EXPENDITURE

of \$141,353,03 during FY2019





# FUTURE PLANS

## Professional School

Our Professional School will give educational opportunities for high school graduates who may not be able to receive a college education but want to support their families through a meaningful career. Using in-classroom and remote learning methods, young people will gain a competitive advantage in two areas: Proficiency in English and Computer Literacy.



## Computer Lab

Thanks to the generous donation by a corporate sponsor in FY2020, we were able to construct a computer lab to provide our students and youth an opportunity to increase their computer literacy as well as providing access to browse the web. The lab is powered by over 40 solar panels, which allows our entire facility to operate on clean energy.



## Tutoring Center

In the afternoon, the youth in our professional school have an opportunity to give back to the younger children in our child sponsorship program, as our learning center becomes a tutoring center for local children. The center provides a space to get help with homework as well as an area for kids to enjoy board games and other activities.







# MESSAGE

*from the President*

There are many reasons to be thankful for all the ways in which God has been working in Haiti through Lumen Vitae since its inception. Behind our nearly 600 students who are attending school, our graduates who have moved onto higher education and our system of local mentors who volunteer their time to tutor the younger students, there are a number of inspirational stories from families who make their own sacrifices to support our mission. Whether it's the young girl from Florida who told her parents that she didn't want a birthday gift and instead sponsored a child with that money, or the young boy from Texas who asked the other children coming to his party to give the gift of education to a student in Haiti rather than for himself, there are many stories which continue to motivate us in the Board of Directors to work harder for Lumen Vitae's cause.

In our oversight role, we clearly see the progress of our program in both quality and quantity over the past few years. This is truly the result of the tremendous work of our energetic staff and generous volunteers who dedicate countless hours to creating a path to 'abundant life'. I would like to emphasize this new theme of 'abundant life' as part of our commitment to journey with our students. This helps us to focus not only on the intellectual formation, but also on moral, social and spiritual formation of students and shape them into well rounded leaders who can brighten their future and the future of the communities around them.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the commitment of our donors and corporate sponsors who make this vision possible. I also would like to acknowledge the great support we continue to receive from the Episcopal Conference of Catholic Bishops of Haiti, various religious communities, the Foundation for the Relief of the Haitian People, the Ministry of Education and all other organizations who work for the common mission of education in Haiti.

*Bijo Thomas*

**Bijo Thomas**  
**President of the Board**



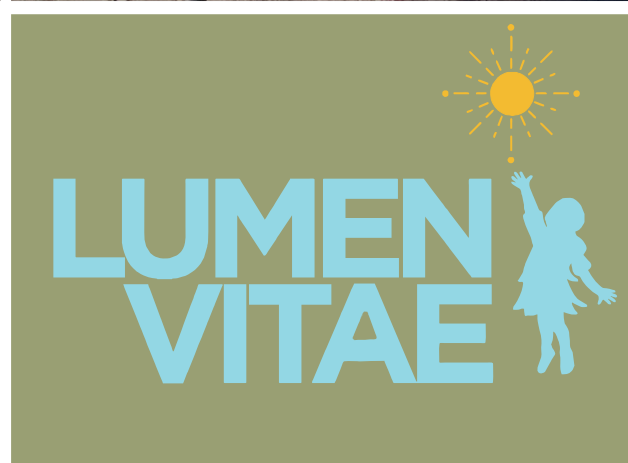


“

*Whoever follows after me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life*

”

John 8:12



[www.lumenvitae.us](http://www.lumenvitae.us)



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