



**LUMEN
VITAE** 



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-22



WE ARE LUMEN VITAE



Our Board of Directors

- ☀️ Bijo Thomas, *President*
- ☀️ Brian Mundackal, *Executive Director*
- ☀️ Siju George
- ☀️ Jenny Chacko
- ☀️ Dr. Abraham Mathew
- ☀️ Sunil Nadarajan
- ☀️ Dr. Anup Kudakkasseril
- ☀️ Sebin Alexander

We at Lumen Vitae continue to accompany, educate and empower the marginalized through education. We strongly believe in bringing abundant life to the children in Haiti through education.

Ever since our official inception in 2017, Lumen Vitae has come a long way. Thanks to the generosity of many like you, we have grown from sponsoring the education of 25 students to 1200 students! It is indeed a great accomplishment in such little time.



1,186

Students sponsored



96

Partner schools



659

Sponsors

OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE



53

Volunteers

- 30 ambassadors
- 6 board members
- 6 digital media
- 5 operations
- 4 learning center tutors
- 1 human resources
- 1 accounting



17

Graduates



11

Learning center students



19

Team members in Haiti



5

Out of 9 states in Haiti have our presence



INFINITE HOPE

Child Sponsorship Program

This past year (2021-22) saw tremendous growth in our Child Sponsorship program. From sponsoring the education of 574 students, we were able to increase the number of students sponsored to 1,186. With high inflation, soaring prices, fuel shortages, political unrest, and frequent gang violence which made the streets unsafe, our operations came close to a standstill. But, it was the resilience of our staff and volunteers that supported our students to successfully complete this academic year.

612

number of students added to our program in the academic year 2021-22



1,186

Total number of students currently in the program



17

students graduated from our program last year

“I am happy to be a part of Lumen Vitae’s Child Sponsorship program, which is very helpful for us. Through it, I can go to school. My mother is the only one supporting my younger sister and me; but with this program, our education is taken care of. Thank you for all the help you are providing for our families.”

Jeff Kerry Cadet

9AF at Institution Foyer de l'Education



Looking Ahead

In the next academic year, we plan to increase the number of students in our program to 1315, including 25 students from a new region, Cap-Haitien.

CONNECT

Mentorship Works

Our Mentorship program is an example of how young people in a community can come together, get out of their shells and raise themselves to give back to their society.

Each mentor works with a few students whom they visit every month. The mentor meets their families, makes sure they are in a safe environment, reports about their health and even issues at home, and tracks their grades. The mentor encourages, guides and accompanies these students in their academic journey. Some of them have to walk miles to reach these students and even though it has been unsafe to travel with all the gang violence, they diligently follow up with the kids.

Every Friday, they get together in our office in Croix-des-Bouquets for a time of evaluation and learning. They update on the status of their students, discuss and receive formation on what should be done. The mentors are truly our bridge between our students and staff.



“Mentorship is not just about accompanying the kids or giving them training, it is much more than that. Being a mentor allows me to discover myself, to get to know my mental or physical abilities, and helps me improve my leadership skills. And what I love the most is that, you feel that you are accompanied, you feel the presence of the managers despite their distances. Being a mentor is the best thing that could happen to me. Thank you!”

Junior Guerrier, Mentor



MEET BEDJINE

Ever wondered what school life in Haiti looks like? Our mentor, Jean Baptiste Kendalie, speaks with Bedjine Brice, an 8th grade student at St Therese school, Lilavois, and gives you a sneak peek into the life of a Haitian student. Bedjine was abandoned as a baby and was later adopted. Mrs. Esther Brice, her adopted mother, has been suffering from various illnesses. But these challenges don't keep them from loving and supporting each other in every way they can.

My dream is to become a doctor so that I can take care of my mother and anyone else suffering in society. And I know that I can't realize this dream without going to school.

I use public transportation to go to school. Generally, I take a "tap-tap" (a taxi pickup truck), but my

parents pay for a motorcycle ride when I am running late and if they can afford it. Sometimes, when there is no transportation money, my older brother takes me to school on foot. I am not always happy about it, but I do it because I don't want to miss a school day. Usually, I eat something before I go to school. It helps me stay strong.

My favorite subjects are Mathematics and Biology. I also love all my teachers, but my favorite is Eddy. He always likes to tell jokes to help us with the class, and is very good at giving explanations. He is patient with every student, even the ones that have difficulty understanding and respects all of us.

During break time, I like to hangout with my classmates and play games. The one I like the most is tic-tac-toe; it's my favorite! I even used to play it on my mom's phone, but she doesn't allow me to do that anymore.

I am a fourteen-year-old girl, and I am very happy because I know that I will achieve my dream and be that doctor who will take care of many sick people.

Thank you so much for everything!

- As told to Jean Baptiste Kendalie



Pic : Bedjine (center) with her mother and father

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In June, Haiti saw a sudden surge in gang violence. The streets were unsafe, our employees couldn't come to the office, and people fled their homes to safer places. It was around the same time we were in the final phase of planning for a leader's training. Even though there was clear uncertainty, we decided to go ahead with it. People in Haiti needed it then more than ever, since they had been traumatized by the violence happening so close to their homes.

Around 26 people came together to a city named Cap Haitien, in the Northern region of the country, to participate in this week-long formation program. It was led by a six-member team from the US.



“We were looking forward to participating, but weren't sure if it would be possible because of the security situation in Haiti. Thanks to God, everything went without any major issues.

It was an excellent opportunity to get to know our colleagues on another level. I could see them as members of the family that we are all part of. It reminded me that we need one another, and we need to support each other. The topics covered included the characteristics of a good leader, trust, forgiveness, and communication. The workshops and activities helped us to have a better understanding of these topics. It was fun, and everyone was eager to participate.

Overall, the training positively impacted us, and we look forward to the next training.”

Obed Giles,
Learning Center Program Manager



THE GIFT OF TIME & TALENT

Doubling the number of students under our Child Sponsorship Program within a single year was no easy feat. It was possible because of the incredible collaboration between our team members in Haiti and our volunteers in America.

In Haiti, we have a team of 19 young Haitian professionals, many of whom graduated from our program, working on the ground to help keep the program running. On the US side of operations, we have 53 volunteers (and growing) who are contributing their talents in a wide variety of ways - ambassadorship, tutoring English, human resources, accounting, digital media, and the list goes on.

With daily collaboration through Zoom, team members on both sides of the ocean are motivated to continue building the future of their communities through the work of Lumen Vitae. Without the hard work and commitment of these volunteers, increasing our impact in Haiti would have been impossible!



**We are
immensely
proud to have:**

**A workforce of 19 young
Haitians on the ground**

**53 cross functional
volunteers in the US**

**A team of 30 ambassadors
who help increase the
impact through fundraising**

**Daily virtual connects to
work towards a common
goal**

FACTS & FIGURES

Relief Work \$ 35,292.71

Total Revenue

Child Sponsorship Program
\$ 443,212.16



Race for the Light
\$ 9,324.90[†]

Learning Center \$ 13,433.81
Awareness & Education \$ 10,304.20



\$ 511,567.78

**Total Revenue
in FY 2021***



\$ 203,747.79

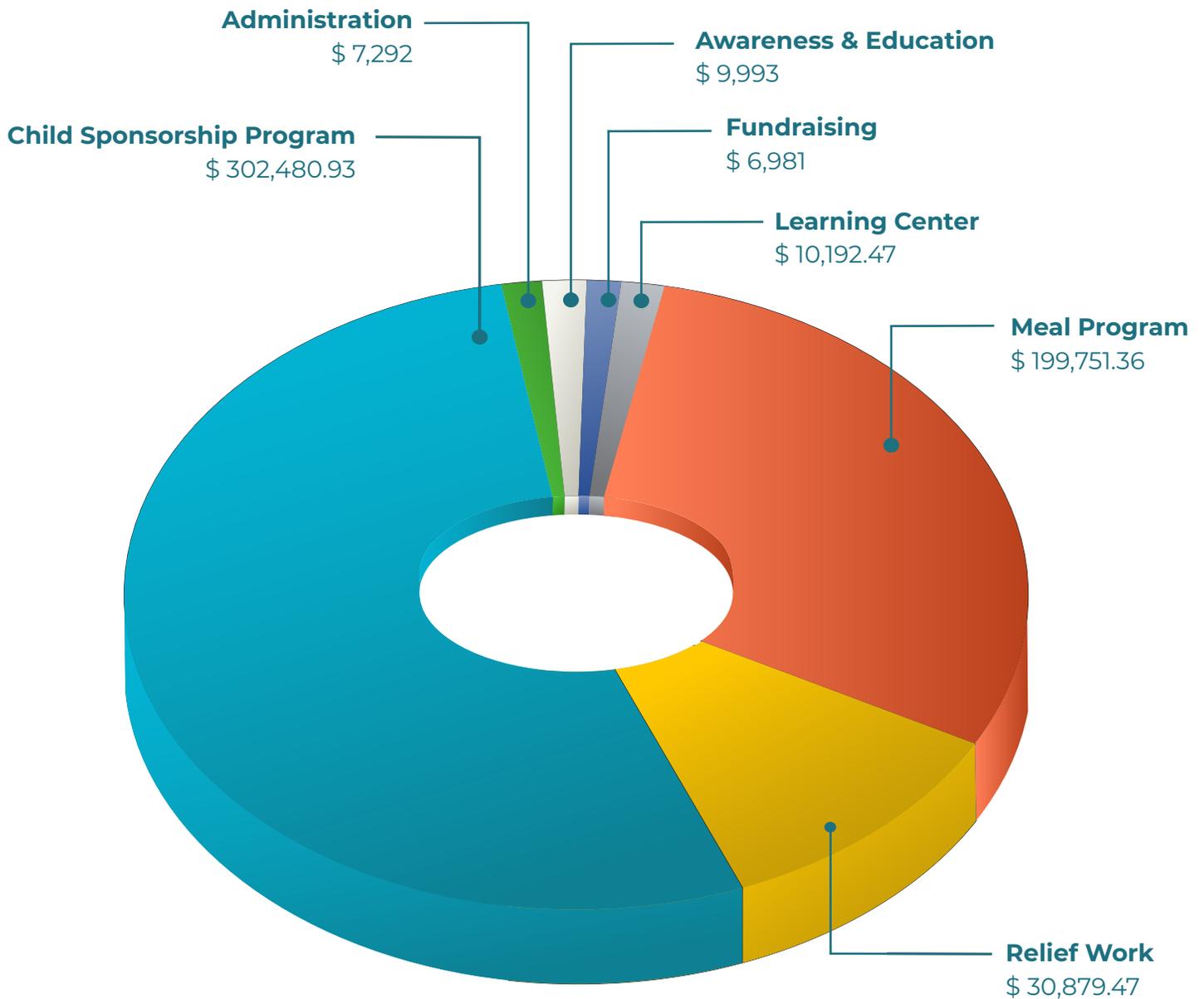
**Carryover from
Race for the Light
2020**

* Each fiscal year (FY) is from January 1st to December 31st of the respective year

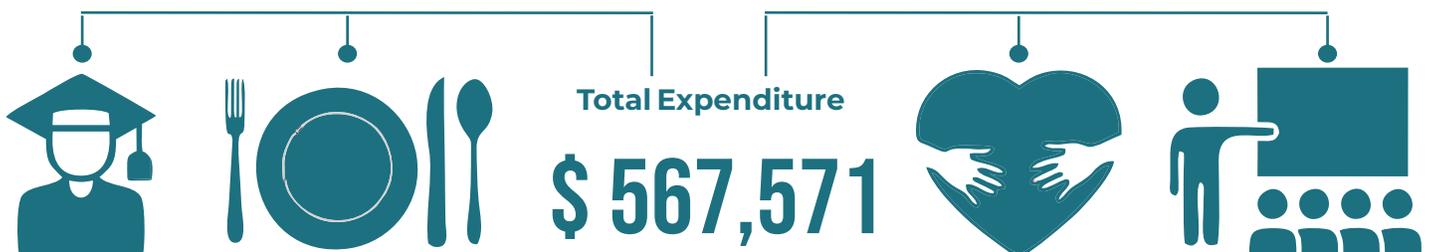
[†] This figure only includes the amount collected in the FY 2021. Total revenue for Race for the Light in FY 2021 including the carryover from the FY 2020 (illustrated above) is \$213,072.69.

FACTS & FIGURES

Total Expenditure



Thanks to the generosity of our many volunteers, we are able to reduce our fundraising and administrative expenses, keeping our promise of spending **96%** directly towards program expenses



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

This past academic year, we have had to face challenges and persevere more than ever, in order to pursue 'abundant life for every child in Haiti.' This motto has transformed the way we try to conduct our operations in both Haiti and America. We want to become a world class humanitarian organization, while always keeping in mind the call we have been given, to uplift the dignity of the most marginalized members of our world through education.

Recognizing our desire to increase our impact in Haiti, this past academic year we took on the challenge of doubling the number of students we support from 600 to 1,200 students, with 450 students belonging to the earthquake struck state of Nippes in the southern zone of Haiti. Thanks to the involvement of countless individuals, families, volunteers, team members, Churches, and corporations, we have been able to be a light in the midst of darkness for so many families.

The darkness in Haiti seems too big at times, especially when we reflect on the volatile political instability, the growing inflation and the fear of gangs



that many of our students deal with on a daily basis. But it is in the midst of this darkness where we find the conviction that darkness cannot cast out darkness, only light. It may be the smallest of flames, but thank you for being part of this light which helps guide our children on their path to abundant life.



Brian Mundackal

Brian Mundackal
Executive Director
Lumen Vitae



LUMEN VITAE



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