



# 2015 Annual Report



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# *Embracing the world!*

## Our Mission

Embrace Relief coordinates and provides the necessities and sustenance to the disadvantaged and disaster-stricken individuals and groups that would otherwise have little to no other means to obtain things such as, food, clothing, housing, education, skill training, counseling and alike. While Embrace Relief dedicates much of its resources to aid efforts, we also make considerable investments in fighting against poverty by relieving hunger and health problems of the people in need. We support stronger cognitive development, increased stimulation, improved health of all individuals especially ones who need but can not afford.

Embrace Relief, its staff and its volunteers believe that every member of society can give back to their communities in any shape or form, within a pleasant and respectful environment that accepts no judgments or discrimination.





# Educational Assistance



## Enes Kanter Education Fund

The purpose of the Enes Kanter Fund is to provide scholarships to a number of hard working high school seniors in the U.S. for their undergraduate studies. To help Embrace Relief's education fund, NBA star Enes Kanter has donated autographed memorabilia to all donors. With his help Embrace Relief was able to raise \$50,000. Embrace Relief has contributed those funds as scholarships to select students at the University of Oklahoma, and DePaul University.



## School Supplies Distribution

Backpacks full of school supplies have been distributed to 450 children of families in need in Paterson, NJ, and 620 orphans in Haiti. In addition to this Embrace Relief partnered with Peace Islands and the UN, and donated 40 computers to Afghanistan, and 30 computers to Haiti.

## Did you know?

124 million children and adolescents across the world have never started school or have dropped out.

## Book Drive

Lumina University of Romania, a fairly new higher education institution in that country, has been implementing more English based courses into its curriculum. Therefore Embrace Relief set out to collect 20,000 English books to fill the school's library. Embrace Relief exceeded its goal, and was able to contribute 22,000 books to Lumina University.



## Vocational Training

This is a marketing program where women are trained to sell items on eBay, and pursue it as a lifelong career. Embrace Relief also provides a start up package and one year of support on their eBay account, so that trainees can get a head start in their new business of online marketing.



A group of middle school students from Port-au-Prince, Haiti



# Hunger Relief



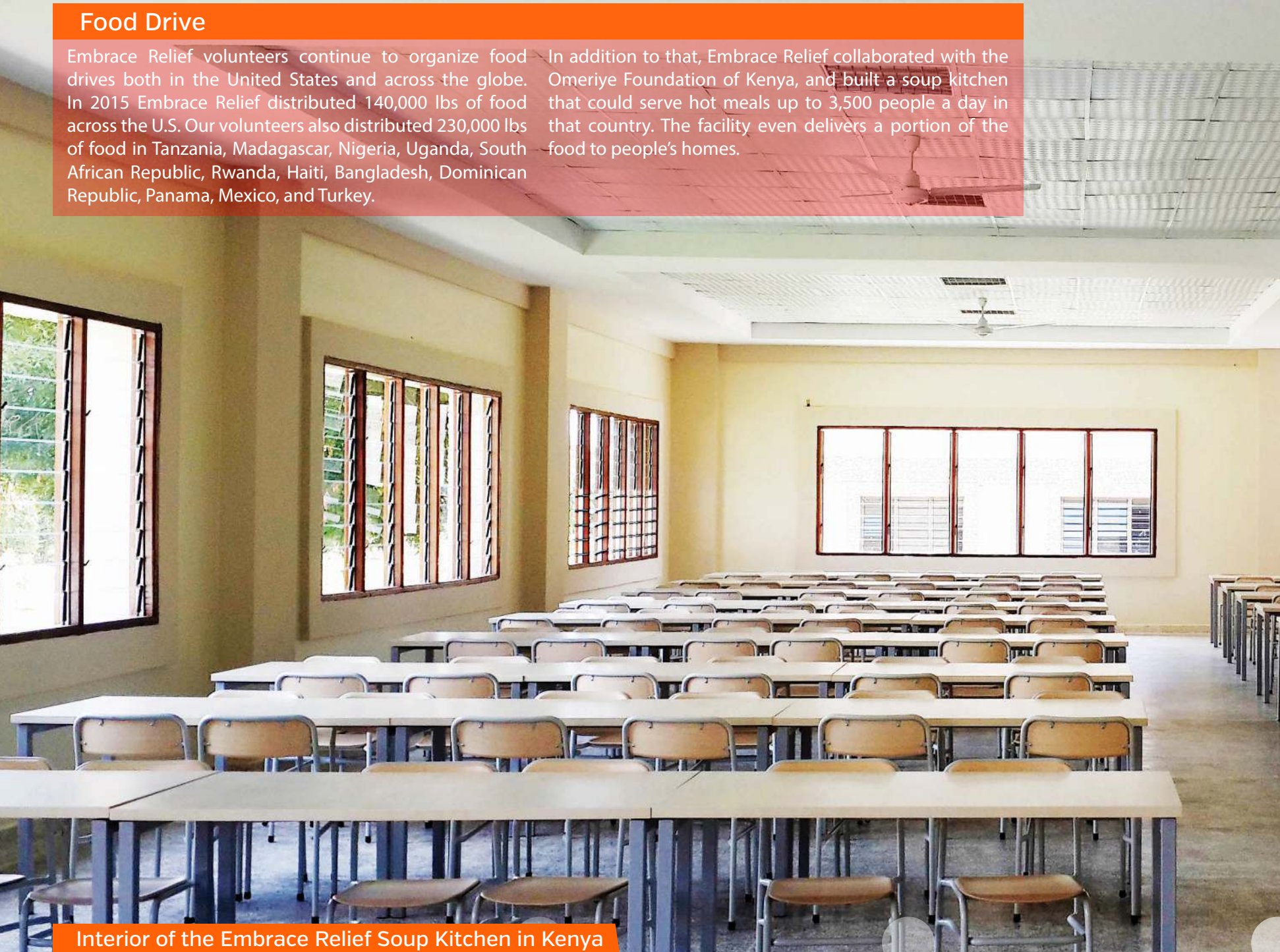
## Food Drive

Embrace Relief volunteers continue to organize food drives both in the United States and across the globe. In 2015 Embrace Relief distributed 140,000 lbs of food across the U.S. Our volunteers also distributed 230,000 lbs of food in Tanzania, Madagascar, Nigeria, Uganda, South African Republic, Rwanda, Haiti, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Panama, Mexico, and Turkey.

In addition to that, Embrace Relief collaborated with the Omeriye Foundation of Kenya, and built a soup kitchen that could serve hot meals up to 3,500 people a day in that country. The facility even delivers a portion of the food to people's homes.



Embrace Relief Soup Kitchen in Kenya



Interior of the Embrace Relief Soup Kitchen in Kenya



Food Drive in New Jersey



Food Distribution in North Carolina

## Did you know?

66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone.



# Clean Water



## Water Well

Embrace Relief's "Clean Water" campaign is providing drinkable, clean water to thousands of people throughout Africa and Haiti. With help from its volunteers and sponsors, 101 wells have been built in 2015 in

regions with little or no access to drinking water. These wells are currently providing the residents of those regions healthier and cleaner living conditions.

180  
water wells  
Serving

144,000  
people  
to this day



Kenya



Uganda



## Did you know?

1 in 9 people  
worldwide do not  
have access to safe  
and clean drinking  
water.

Villagers fetching rain water from pits in Kenya

8

One water well costs \$4,500

9



## Water Wells in Memory of Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos

Embrace Relief teamed up with Peace Islands, and constructed two water wells in memory of Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, two NYPD officers who were killed on duty. The two officers were partners and were gunned down in Brooklyn. Officer Wenjian Liu's honorary well has been

opened in Kayunga Village, Uganda. It serves a population of 450 residents. Officer Rafael Ramos' honorary well has been opened in Luwunga Village, Uganda, and serves a population of 550 residents.



Water Well in memory of Wenjian Liu



Water Well in memory of Rafael Ramos

### Did you know?

Girls under the age of 15 are twice as likely as boys to be the family member responsible for fetching water.



The Infinite Light Water Well in Port-au-Prince, Haiti



## Orphan Sponsorship Program

Embrace Relief is helping orphans in Haiti and Africa. We have reached out to people and asked them to sponsor the living expenses of an orphan for a year. Currently there are 350 orphans being sponsored. The sponsorship provides orphans with essential needs like clean water, food and shelter.

In addition to the Orphan Sponsorship Program, Embrace Relief has raised enough funds to send a container full of bunk beds with mattresses, sheets, pull out couches, and rugs to Haiti in 2015.



A warm “embrace” can mean the world to them



Orphan fun day in Haiti

Wesley, one of thousands of orphans from Haitian orphanages



### Did you know?

According to UNICEF, it is estimated that 132 million children worldwide are orphans.



## Cataract Surgeries in Africa

Hot weather, malnutrition, and climate conditions in Africa cause many people to lose their sight to cataracts at a young age. It is estimated that two million Africans experience vision problems stemming from cataracts. An insufficient number of doctors as well as a lack of financial resources translate to thousands with cataracts living in

darkness despite the availability of a cure for a small cost.

With a fully equipped mobile clinic, Embrace Relief regularly administers health screenings throughout Africa, and can conduct up to 30 cataract surgeries a day.



Cataract Screening in Villages



A group of patients after the surgery

An almost blind mom who's dependent on her young son due to cataracts in Mali



## Did you know?

Globally, uncorrected refractive errors are the main cause of moderate and severe visual impairment; cataracts remain the leading cause of blindness in middle- and low-income countries.



## Cataract Surgeries in Africa

In 2015 Embrace Relief was able to conduct over 500 cataract surgeries in Africa and continues to do so today.



Cataract Screening in Mali



Embrace Relief Mobile Clinic



Cataract Screening in Villages

### Did you know?

80% of all visual impairment can be prevented or cured.

Our doctors during an operation in Mali





Volunteers from Washington, DC



Middle School Students from Hudson, NY

## Syrian Refugees Blanket & Coat Drive '15

Over the past two years, Embrace Relief was able to send blankets and winter clothes amounting to four and six containers respectively, together with its partner organizations to aid displaced Syrians in Turkey, the host country to the greatest number of Syrian refugees in the world (approximately 3 million people). As the unfortunate situation in the region doesn't seem to improve soon, Embrace Relief decided to repeat its initiative again this year, with a goal of ten containers of goods in mind.

But the response of our volunteers has far exceeded our expectations this year, and sixteen containers of blankets, winter coats, and various winter clothing have been contributed in "Help Syrian Refugees 2015" campaign. Approximately 40,000 blankets, 33,000 coats and 7,500 pieces of various clothing have been collected in over 100 drop-off locations across the US by our volunteers from all walks of life.



Fifth Graders from California



Broadway Community joining the Effort

### Did you know?

More than 50% of Syria's population is currently displaced.





Food Packs



Blankets and Coats

## Did you know?

According to Human Rights Watch, more than 400,000 Syrian refugee children living in Turkey are not attending school.



## Syrian Refugees Aid Distribution

A delegation of the Embrace Relief team and local government officials from DC area spent a week in Turkey afterwards in February to observe and to participate in the distribution process directly.

They have visited Syrian families who fled their country after the war and took refuge in Istanbul's working class neighborhoods, allowing them to see the effects of the disaster in Syria on families and children, and distributed a portion of the collected goods themselves.

**40,000**  
BLANKETS

**33,000**  
COATS

**7,500**  
PIECES OF VARIOUS CLOTHING

Falls Church, VA Mayor David Tester with Syrian refugee children in Istanbul, Turkey





Students of Al-Rahma Education Center in Istanbul, Turkey



Soup Kitchen serving Syrian refugees in Kilis, Turkey

## Refugee School and Soup Kitchen

Embrace Relief has initiated a project to the benefit of the Syrian refugees currently residing in Turkey by providing them with quality education.

In order to facilitate this project, Embrace Relief has committed to sponsoring the costs of a private school run by Syrian refugees

in Istanbul for a whole year, which provides education to 250 students in total (from grade 1 to 12).

We've also sponsored a soup kitchen serving up to 4,000 refugees in the border town of Kilis, Turkey for 6 months.



Kimse Yok Mu mobile soup kitchen serving Syrian refugees in Kilis, Turkey



## Nepal Earthquake & Bastrop County Wildfire

On April 25, 2015 a devastating earthquake struck Nepal, killing over 8,000 people. Embrace Relief was able to raise \$45,000 to help alleviate the wounds of the earthquake.

On October 15, 2015 a wildfire rushed through Bastrop County Texas, burning up over 4,400 acres, and many homes. In efforts to help ease the devastation Embrace Relief raised \$51,000.

### Did you know?

Number of people affected by the 2015 Nepal earthquake is 5.8 million



Volunteers from Bastrop County together



The presentation of the donation check to Bastrop County officials



## Impact 2015



## Financials 2015



With your help we've raised

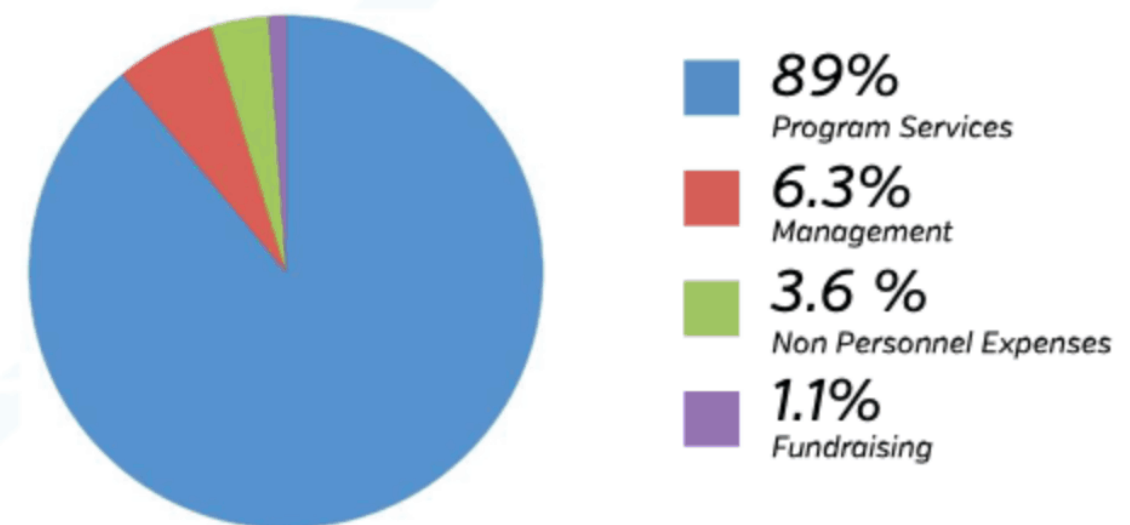
**\$2,993,218**

and

**382,000 people have benefitted this year.**

Embrace relief takes pride in the distribution of funds that we raise for our various projects. Funding the different campaigns has always come before administrative costs because our mission is to make sure that our projects are funded 100%. Our foundation is an open book and we strive to ensure transparency and clarity for the distribution of all money raised. As you thumb through our financial statement for the previous year you will see each project with a full detailed breakdown of the costs, the current status of the project and detailed information of all the people that benefitted from it. As always, this information is updated on our website, [www.embracerelief.org](http://www.embracerelief.org).

Distributions of Funds,







Members of an ER Chapter during a paintwork in an orphanage in Haiti

## Embrace Relief School & Community Chapters

Now it's even easier to be a part of the effort for benevolence. You can start a chapter at your high school / college, in your workplace, or in your community. Existing university clubs can also partner

with Embrace Relief to become the recognized ER chapter in their university. Members of an Embrace Relief local chapter will work closely with the ER representative in their region.

An ER volunteer leaving our mark at an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti



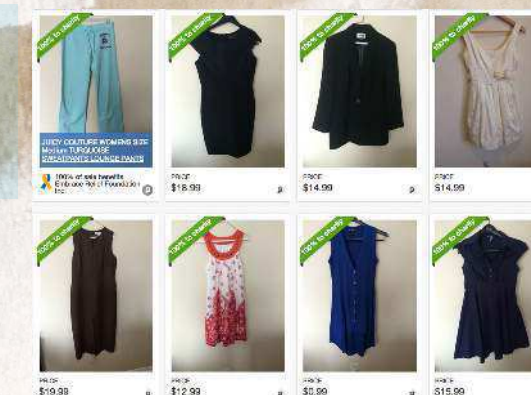
When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

Just visit **smile.amazon.com** and choose Embrace Relief Foundation as your favorite charitable organization, and remember to use Amazon Smile for your future shoppings.



You can also support our programs by buying from Embrace Relief's eBay store:

<http://stores.ebay.com/embrace-relief>







[embracerelief.org](http://embracerelief.org)

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