



# **Strategic Expansion Report for Sub-Saharan Africa**

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# Overview

Embrace Relief believes that investing in sustainable solutions that prioritize the needs of local communities is the key to bringing about a lasting impact in the region. **By engaging with various communities and understanding their struggle for basic necessities, we are able to create meaningful change and help lift communities out of poverty.** The responsibility to tackle poverty, and the many issues that arise from it, are often left to impoverished communities with no outlet for assistance.

**Embrace Relief gives hope to communities by providing necessary resources and components that create positive socio-economic changes.**

This report encompasses areas of focus where Embrace Relief has been a successful leader in providing sustainable solutions as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. **Our programs target a wide range of sectors and have been successful in alleviating poverty throughout the sub-Saharan region.** In addition to humanitarian efforts, Embrace Relief combines actions with multiple governmental and non-governmental partners that represent a compelling argument for practical program expansion. Successful programs highlighted for the purpose of this Strategic Expansion Report for Sub-Saharan Africa are: Raise the Children, clean water programs, quality education, preventive and corrective healthcare, hunger relief, and women’s empowerment initiatives.

# Goals

1. **Clearly state the comprehensive planning of Embrace Relief’s sustainable models** that address insufficiencies in food availability, access to clean water, childcare, quality education, gender equality, and healthcare services
2. **Highlight and justify the needs for the expansion of benefit programs** concentrating on accomplished, ongoing, and prospective efforts in sub-Saharan Africa





## Embrace Relief promotes:

**inclusivity** **dignity** **independence** **impartiality**

**and we value volunteer services, sustainability, transparency, partnership, and innovation.**

### Core Principles and Values

Worldviews are shaped by what people experience and by how well they are able to connect with basic necessities. **Embrace Relief addresses global humanitarian and development challenges while enhancing platforms to achieve sustainable solutions that deliver lasting improvements.** The features surrounding advancement must entail comprehensive planning to address insufficiencies in food availability, access to clean water, reliable sources of energy, quality education, childcare, and healthcare services.

Embrace Relief has accomplished many milestones in various countries by preserving core values and humanitarian principles. **We promote**

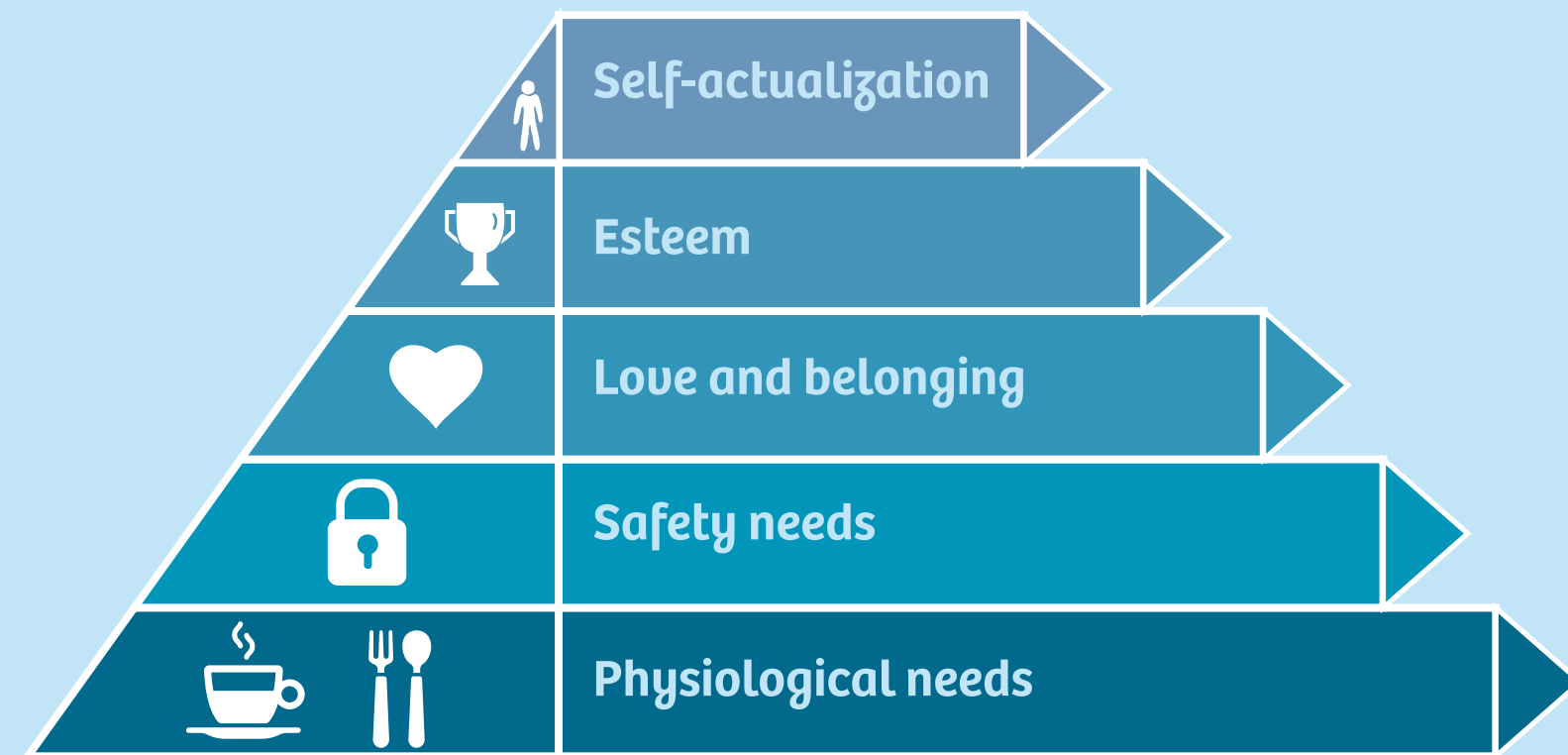
**inclusivity, dignity, independence, impartiality, and we value volunteer services, sustainability, transparency, partnership, and innovation.**

All of Embrace Relief's programs are critical, and most importantly, they represent the culture and area they pledge to assist and serve. Embrace Relief's extensive portfolio has never overshadowed the need for various programs and our passion for providing aid which is ineradicable in all humanitarian needs. **Partnering with local, governmental, and non-governmental organizations has proven to be one of the most beneficial catalysts for enhancing accountability for and reach of all initiatives.**

### Substantiated Research

Human behavior and collective development are rooted in the need for self-actualization, or the ability to realize and fulfill one's talents and potentialities. Self-actualization is the peak of Abraham Maslow's 'hierarchy of needs' theory of survival. **The theory suggests that other needs, including peak self-actualization and self-esteem, are unattainable unless basic physiological needs of air, food, water, shelter, clothing, and safety are met.** Maslow's base theory of physiological needs institutes the principles that Embrace Relief vigorously pursues.

Embrace Relief has exhibited positive change with lasting and progressive results by utilizing thorough research, innovation, and accountability across the globe and in sub-Saharan Africa. **Each program and initiative pursued by Embrace Relief is unique, as they are dedicated to providing the most sustainable and beneficial services to every area pursued.**



# Clean Water



Access to clean water plays a pivotal role in daily life and is a part of the fundamental theory of needs. Water is necessary for daily survival and quality health rights, and clean water promotes collective development.

## Needs Analysis

Critical access to a clean and reliable source of water is still lacking in many parts of the developing world. **More than 1 billion people do not have access to safe water and over 2 billion lack proper sanitation.**

This lack of access to clean water has many short- and long-term consequences. Every day, an estimated 6,000 children die of water-related diseases. With the availability of clean water, these children can become scientists, doctors, and politicians. The social and economic losses for African's future generations caused by lack of access to clean water is undeniable. **In addition to this improvement, hygienic habits resulting from access to clean water, like handwashing, can reduce water-related deaths by 35 percent.** These consequences



should encourage an increase in sustainable solutions to this increasingly dire situation.

To aid in bringing about the end of this suffering, **Embrace Relief has developed a clean water initiative centered around building water wells throughout the region, bringing a safe and reliable source of water to hundreds of thousands of people.** Our current initiative seeks to bring clean water to communities in Chad and Cameroon through both the construction of new wells and the reconstruction of broken-down wells that are no longer providing clean water.

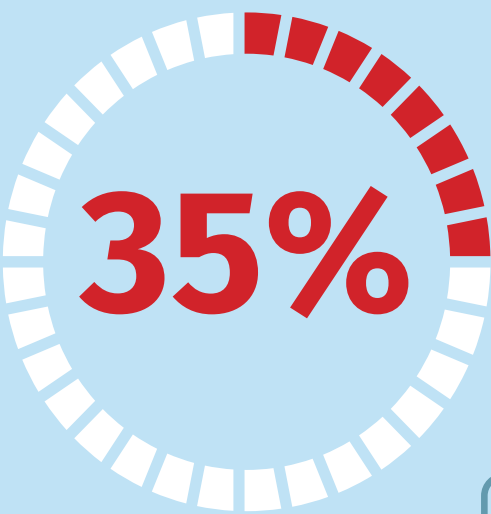
In the Northcentral African country of Chad, the geography mostly consists of desert, a characteristic of sub-Saharan regions. Extreme temperatures in this region can range from  $-12^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$  C ( $10^{\circ}$  to  $122^{\circ}$  F); therefore access to a clean water source is often scarce, and creating sources for clean drinking water becomes vital in order for citizens of these arid regions to survive.

Cameroon, a country in central Africa bordered by the Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Nigeria, has a very diverse geography and climate.

Average temperatures can vary between  $22^{\circ}$  to  $29^{\circ}$  C ( $72^{\circ}$  to  $84^{\circ}$  F) on the coast and central plateau; however, the northernmost regions can reach temperatures of up to  $50^{\circ}$  C ( $122^{\circ}$  F). **These extreme temperatures represent a stress to the strained water supply and intensify the need to build underground wells that are able to reach aquifers with plentiful water supplies.**

## Program Details

The benefits of clean water have manifested in civilizations for centuries. Water brings communities together and promotes modernization for people to thrive. Plentiful water sources have produced fertile lands for centuries, leading to flourishing societies. **For over 8,000 years, humans have been constructing water wells to bring a reliable source of water to their communities; however, in sub-Saharan Africa, inadequate resources have led communities to suffer from having little to no access to clean water.**



**Hygienic habits resulting from access to clean water, like handwashing, can reduce water-related deaths by 35 percent.**







This has restricted these communities and has led them to become entrapped in a vicious cycle of poverty. Without improved access to clean water, this cycle will continue, and more and more throughout the region will suffer.

Over time, the sub-Saharan region has been impacted not only by the climate, but also by war, genocide, and land availability. In addition to these conditions, there are limited resources for clean water due to water stress and scarcity. **There are heavily populated areas that do not have enough water because of uneven distribution, and less populated areas that have an abundance.**

Deforestation, soil erosion, and desertification also add to these circumstances, leaving large populations without clean water for daily use.

In countries like Chad and Cameroon, completed projects improve access to basic necessities required to sustain human life as expressed in Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Examining the local economies, the population depends largely on farming and livestock for sustenance and income. The increasingly sporadic rain patterns resulting from climate change are making it increasingly difficult to cultivate food and sustain the agricultural economy. **Water wells provide an essential solution that allows local farmers to**

**maintain and irrigate their lands in these times of increasing uncertainty. The countries' lack of clean water availability has also led to an abundance of waterborne illness, which can be resolved by Embrace Relief's water well campaign.**

Embrace Relief's solution provides a broad set of benefits, allowing sub-Saharan Africa to avail from sustainable social and economic development. In some countries, roughly 90 percent of women and girls fetch water daily. **An estimated 40 billion hours are spent annually on water procurement. This inhibits women's and girls' ability to receive adequate education and pursue other economic ventures, reducing their ability to contribute to the economy. Our approach to fulfilling the need for clean water by building water wells will allow women and girls to have more time and thus, increase their ability to contribute to their countries' socio-economic development.** This is just one of the many ways in which water wells can bring about broad positive economic and social progress. It is important to note that not only does Embrace Relief provide sustainable ways to receive water, but we strive to work on multiple physiological needs.

## Sustainability Assessment

Due to a lack of safe drinking water, unsafe drinking water is consumed at an increasing rate across sub-Saharan Africa, and as a result, people are left suffering from waterborne diseases and other conditions restricting them from living a healthy and secure life. **Embrace Relief's Clean Water Initiative aims to reduce the number suffering from a lack of access to clean water by building water wells across the region.** In Africa, there is plenty of surface water; however, it may be unsafe to consume or it requires individuals to travel many miles by foot to access it. With the help of our partners, we have been able to identify areas that lack access to clean water and provide them with a safe and reliable source of water. **Through our rigorous research process, we have identified suitable locations and brought clean water to over 370,000 individuals. We are able to provide this access at a lesser cost and ensure that the communities we serve will have clean water for at least five years. We ensure that the best quality and most safe drinking water is brought to communities in**

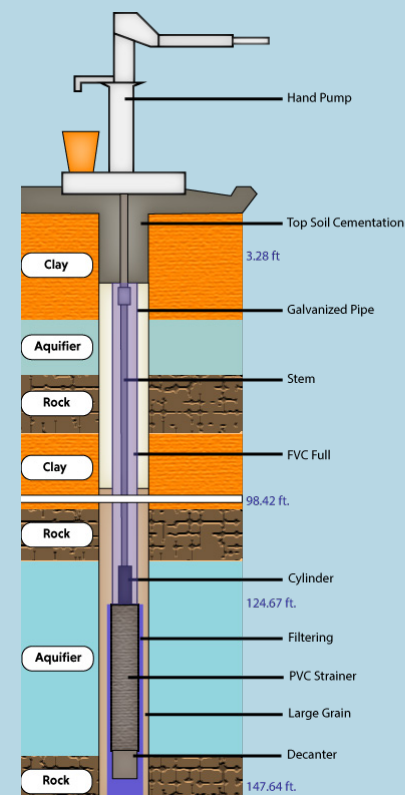


**need by digging our wells to a depth of 45 meters.** In addition to the construction of new wells, Embrace Relief has identified many wells that are no longer providing water to communities in need. Through our Fountains of Hope program, we reconstruct dry wells across the region and restore communities' access to clean water. **Both the construction of new wells as well as the reconstruction of dry wells helps us to bring clean water to communities in need and encourage sustainable development throughout the region.**

Embrace Relief has accepted the challenge and has been successfully working with local authorities, including the National Water Laboratory of the Republic of Chad, to advance the region significantly. **Clean water would be beneficial to other areas like Niger with a population of over 22 million, and Cameroon with a population of over 109 million.** Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa have similar circumstances and do not possess sufficient access to resources. These are areas that

will benefit the most from Embrace Relief's expansion of programs.

Embrace Relief has developed and managed many projects in various regions. Through sustainable research, **Embrace Relief has maintained efficiency and monitored outcomes with surveys and continuous assessments to ensure that communities have the proper tools and training to maintain projects.** The continuous development and innovation of initiatives have proven to positively transform communities.



Embrace Relief has brought clean water to **370,000+** individuals.

## Education

Fundamentally, combating and eradicating poverty is a complicated process. Impoverished regions have to overcome many hurdles to escape the unforgiving cycles of poverty that seek to hinder them. **To achieve sustainable economic and social development in sub-Saharan Africa, there must be increased investment in the region's infrastructure, technology, and education that will support future generations' agency within their own development.**

Reliance on short-term solutions is not feasible. Transforming ways of thinking by implementing innovative and sustainable solutions is the gateway to many positive and transformative possibilities. Embrace Relief relies on the understanding that education is the gateway to addressing communities' essential physiological needs.





# Needs Analysis

In today’s rapidly changing world, technology is becoming increasingly ubiquitous in all facets of our daily lives. However, many people lack access to important resources like a stable internet connection. **To achieve sustainable economic and social development, Embrace Relief believes that investment in infrastructure, technology, and education will allow future generations to increasingly contribute to their countries’ development.**

In 2018, the secondary school enrollment rate across the globe was about 60 percent; however, the secondary school enrollment rate in sub-Saharan Africa was 36 percent. **The secondary school enrollment in the region shows the great disparity among wealthy and developing nations in their education systems. In middle- and low-income countries, an estimated 53 percent of children cannot read proficiently by the age of ten.** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics estimates that more than 617 million children and adolescents of primary and lower secondary school age do not achieve minimum proficiency levels in math and reading. Of those children, more than 80 percent come from low- to lower-middle-income countries. Even though we have seen an increase in primary school enrollment throughout the region, many children in sub-Saharan Africa do not achieve the same reading and math proficiency as their peers in more developed nations, leading communities in the region to suffer from a continuous cycle of poverty. In 2015, the number of people in sub-Saharan Africa who fell below the international poverty line of \$1.90/day totaled over 410 million people. In 2018, that number of people reached 440 million. In seeking to reduce this number, a concerted effort among the development community needs to be made and the investment in education needs to be increased.



The educational outcomes realized in sub-Saharan Africa, combined with an increasing demand for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills in all areas of the economy, led Embrace Relief to develop a solution targeting those two areas. **Without ICT devices, sub-Saharan Africa’s youth will continue to face a disadvantage in today’s world due to lack of access to the internet. ICT device usage can improve both the education and economic sectors in communities without adequate internet access.**

Our unique approach to the education disparity experienced by Africa’s youth allows us to address multiple other challenges gripping the region as well. With a growing population, Africa will need to increase the number of teachers available to educate every child. It is estimated that countries across the world will have to recruit 69 million teachers by 2030 if they hope to provide every child with an education. This burden will be partially alleviated by our program as we look to provide computers with educational applications to students in the region. Increasing educational opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa will also have positive effects on the fight for gender equality. Worldwide, there are 132 million girls who are out of school. **The inclusion of ICT training in the region’s educational programs will provide better outcomes for students and encourage more parents in the region to view education as a positive investment. Thus, educational enrollment will likely increase for both male and**

**In 2018,  
the secondary school  
enrollment rate across  
the globe:**



**and**



**in sub-Saharan  
Africa**

# Program Details

**female students, while increasing women’s and girl’s empowerment as a result.**

Embrace Relief’s Accessible Computer Technology for Underserved Students (ACT-US) Program provides students in sub-Saharan Africa the ability to further their education and gain important (ICT) training. In partnership with the African Union, **Embrace Relief provided 324 computers equipped with Endless OS to local schools in Tanzania and Uganda. Endless OS is an operating system specifically designed to provide educational resources to students with limited access to the internet and technology.** This benefits a large number of students, as internet access is lacking in the region. According to the World Bank, **less than 19 percent of the population in the region uses the internet. The pre-installed applications incorporate general academic subjects such as math, reading, and science, as well as life skills training in areas such as farming and sanitation. The devices also allow the students to develop ICT skills like typing and coding.** The ACT-US program provides students hands-on training with computers in a region that has very limited access to internet services. With this training, students will be positioned to contribute an increasingly valuable set of skills to the economies of Uganda and Tanzania. In order to achieve the

we have partnered with the Nile Humanitarian Development Agency, a Kampala-based NGO to distribute



Uganda

we have partnered with Feza Schools and the Time to Help Foundation Tanzania to distribute



Tanzania

intended outcomes of the program, we have enlisted the support of local grassroots organizations in both Uganda and Tanzania who will provide oversight for the program. **In Uganda, we have partnered with the Nile Humanitarian Development Agency, a Kampala-based NGO that will help us distribute 156 computers to schools in the Wakiso District of Uganda. In Tanzania, we have partnered with Feza Schools and the Time to Help Foundation Tanzania to distribute 168 computers to local K-12 schools.** Embrace Relief has the support of the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and National Guidance in Uganda. Both Ministries will provide strategic guidance for the ACT-US program in Uganda. Due to their familiarity with the local region, **the Ministry of Education and Sports has selected the schools that will benefit from the program in Uganda. In Tanzania, Embrace Relief will work with the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology. This partnership will provide Embrace Relief and our local partners with the necessary support and guidance for the program.**

The diversified forms of education Embrace Relief seeks to expand will ensure that the students are able to contribute to the increasingly technological economy that they will enter upon completion of their studies. **The expansion of access to ICTs, like computers, will supplement the development of equitable quality education for students in sub-Saharan Africa.**

Less than



of the population in the region uses the internet.

Embrace Relief provided



computers equipped with Endless OS to local schools in Tanzania and Uganda.



Programs like the ACT-US program are necessary for positive growth and rewarding relief in the areas where countries may not have the important resources for increasing education and technology. Digital literacy is increasingly becoming an obligation on a modernized scale and as countries in sub-Saharan Africa continue to grow in population, they will fall further behind technologically due to critical underinvestment.

## Sustainability Assessment

In collaboration with local and international partners, **Embrace Relief distributed educational supplies worldwide to over 47,450 students. Over 7,000 students have been given access to ICT computer technology through the ACT-US program, 37,000 books have been donated to schools and public libraries, and 1,450 backpacks with school supplies have been donated.** With educational assistance projects, Embrace Relief has distributed thousands of dollars worth of merit-based scholarships and supplies.

Embrace Relief’s education program has conceptualized, generated, and implemented education initiatives. The programs continue to be monitored for their outcomes in relation to their long and short term goals. **In Tanzania and Uganda, computers were installed at local schools to deliver the training necessary for over 12,000 students and teachers. The goal of the education program expansion is to provide an additional 500 computers in other areas of the sub-Saharan region that will find the program advantageous.**

We have distributed educational supplies worldwide to over

**47,450**  
students



**7,000+**



**37,000**



**1,450**



## Health

### Needs Analysis

**In sub-Saharan Africa, the average poverty rate across the region stands at around 41 percent, and of the poorest 28 countries in the world, 27 of them are in sub-Saharan Africa.** Education, access to food, availability of water and sanitation are all interrelated difficulties affecting the region’s ability to achieve sustainable economic advancement. All of these difficulties compound and lead many in the region to suffer from different types of otherwise preventable illnesses. Due to inadequate healthcare, people in the sub-Saharan region often struggle to lead a healthy life. Access to healthcare is a basic necessity that directly correlates to one’s quality of life. **Lack of access to proper healthcare often leaves many communities undiagnosed with fatal illnesses that may spread and cause even greater harm.**

In Mali, Vitamin A deficiency is the country’s 3rd most extreme health issue related to disabilities. **In sub-Saharan Africa, the eye disease known as cataracts is directly linked to vitamin A deficiency and affects over 3 million people. The causes for the disease suggest poor nutrition and deficiencies of vitamins like A, C, and E.** These are vitamins that are readily available in developed countries but are difficult to come by in other nations. Reducing sun exposure can also help reduce the risk of developing cataracts, but daily outdoor activity does not permit this. On a mass scale, achieving a reduction in sun exposure and directly increasing vitamin A intake is unfeasible. Why is this important? **Cataracts can potentially lead to blindness, restricting one’s ability to function normally without assistance. Studies have shown that people with healthy eyesight experience a vision-related quality of life 3 times better than those suffering from cataracts.** Through our Mali Medical Center project, Embrace Relief has been providing a better quality of life for thousands with cataracts.







## Program Details

All across sub-Saharan Africa, there is a critical lack of access to healthcare services. Mali, Africa is no exception. According to the World Bank, **there are only about 13 doctors for every 100,000 people living in the country.** We identified the need for greater healthcare access in Mali and, as a result, began our Mali Medical Center project. We provide full funding support to two clinics through the Mali Medical Center project. **Clinic Gaoussou Fofana and Clinic Planet Vision bring healthcare to Bamako's residents. These clinics provide Malians with general health services as well as more specialized care including ophthalmology, dentistry, gynecology, otolaryngology services, urology, and orthopedics. One of the most important services provided by our clinics is cataract surgeries.** A growing problem in sub-Saharan Africa due to

malnourishment and lack of clean water, cataracts afflict many Malian citizens. **With the support of our donors, we are able to restore sight and have already successfully provided over 2,900 individuals the freedom of sight. In addition to our two physical sites, Embrace Relief operates a mobile clinic that allows us to provide care to remote villages around Bamako.** This ensures that those who are not able to travel to the city due to old age, illness, or insufficient financial resources are not forgotten or overlooked. Recently, we identified the need for improved equipment in our clinics. Embrace Relief has partnered with Project CURE, one of the largest nonprofit distributors of medical supplies to developing countries, to fulfill this need. In partnership with Project CURE, Embrace Relief will be providing new medical equipment to our clinics, helping them continue providing safe care and allowing them to expand operations and serve a greater portion of the population.

## Sustainability Assessment

As trailblazers in the field, Embrace Relief created the Embrace Relief Medical Center and participates with certified doctors that travel to remote places via Embrace Relief's Mobile Health Clinic, administering general health checkups and performing cataract surgeries. **Thus far, there have been 33,050 checkups and almost 3,000 (2,985) cataract surgeries. There are currently more than 4,000 people on the cataract surgeries waitlist. The mobile clinics have the ability**

**to perform 30 cataract surgeries and hundreds of health checkups in 2 days.**

With a mobile clinic, Embrace Relief provides health screenings and cataract surgeries to prevent and remove cataracts. In this way, Embrace Relief gives individuals, especially those living in rural areas, the opportunity to prevent blindness and other cataract-related illnesses.



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## Needs Analysis

Our world produces enough food to feed all 7 billion people, yet 11.3 percent of the world's population is still hungry and malnourished. Embrace Relief's various international hunger relief campaigns are designed to combat the international hunger crisis and help as many people as possible around the globe. **With the assistance of various local agencies, our hunger programs tackle undernourishment, starvation, and child death in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Yemen, Greece, and the United States.** The average rate of poverty in Africa stands at 41 percent, translating to roughly 389 million people. **Embrace Relief has partnered with charities in countries like Yemen, where 8.4 million people are at risk of starvation.** These rates coincide with the determination to provide basic necessities to advance self-actualization and local abilities to be self-sufficient and increase the probability of socio-economic development.



## Program Details

**Embrace Relief has distributed over 1.5 million pounds of food both domestically and internationally to people in need in over 40 countries. 1,027,211 families have been given food packages.** A great portion of this food was distributed directly to people through delivery or community events, while the rest were donated to regional food banks and local pantries. **Embrace Relief also built a soup kitchen in Malindi, Kenya that can serve hot meals to up to 3,500 people a day and is regularly supported by our organization.**

The food crisis in Yemen is another focal point of a successful, yet continuous, Embrace Relief hunger program. Multiple environmental factors hinder the prosperity

of the population of Yemen, such as climate impact, a lack of quality healthcare, and a civil war that displaced millions from their homes. In partnership with local Yemini charities, Embrace Relief distributes much-needed food items to various parts of the country.

For our annual hunger relief campaign, **we distributed 17,500 food packages worldwide: 4,320 packages in Uganda, 3,773 packages in the U.S., 2,200 packages in Tanzania, 1,300 packages in Greece, 1,200 packages in Kenya, 1,200 packages in Nigeria, 1,200 packages in Mali, 907 packages in Yemen, 800 packages in Burkina Faso, 600 packages in the Philippines, 350 packages in Greece, and 300 packages in Yemen.**



# Sustainability Assessment

Embrace Relief is responsible for all program stability, and local partners are key factors in helping address the needs of local communities. Without direct contacts and local grassroots organizations, programs like hunger relief would not prevail. Embrace Relief continues to monitor the growth of campaigns as well as ongoing efforts. **Thousands of families benefit from food distribution centers in cities like Taiz, Yemen. Each package eases the burden on families from one aspect of basic necessities for survival. When paired with other branches of humanitarian efforts, Embrace Relief's platform on hunger relief expands and helps bring the population closer to advancement and achievement of base physiological needs.**



# Raise the Children

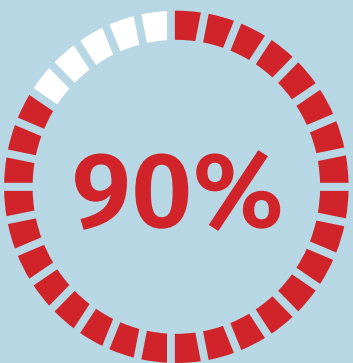
## Needs Analysis

Currently, there are approximately 140 million orphaned children worldwide, and an estimated 52 million reside in Africa alone. This number will likely continue to grow as around 5,700 children are becoming orphans every day. With such a large population and little economic security, sub-Saharan Africa's orphanages need our support. **Embrace Relief's Raise the Children program is dedicated to aiding children in all facets of life, including food, overall health, hygiene, and beyond. Raise the Children will ensure that every child in an orphanage will not only be taken care of but also provided with the tools to reclaim their childhood.**

Sub-Saharan Africa has one of the highest levels of child malnutrition in the world, with 28 million children experiencing stunted growth and other physical and mental development disorders due to malnutrition. In the last 30 years, an estimated 17 million children lost one or both parents to AIDS, and 90 percent of those children live in sub-Saharan Africa. **In 2018 alone, 6.2 million children under the age of 15 died, mostly from preventable causes. Of these deaths, 5.3 million occurred in the first five years of life and half within the first month.**

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and



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sub-Saharan Africa





## Program Details

Embrace Relief's Raise the Children program provides support to orphanages including the Hiari Orphanage in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and the Foundation Galaxie Orphanage in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. Here, the children receive food, clothing, hygiene products, school supplies, and healthcare. **Embrace Relief also covers costs incurred by the running of the orphanages such as gas, water, electricity, and more.** In addition to orphanages and assisting communities with care for orphaned children in sub-Saharan Africa, Embrace Relief's programs go beyond the status quo, working with local partners to provide.

**Raise the Children works to ensure that all children we serve receive health insurance, have transportation to school, have study time, and are offered extra classes that allow them to continue their education. Through Embrace Relief funding and resources, the program reaches and has been successful in the lives of 2,336 children. In 2020 alone, 120 children were supported with food, hygienic products, health insurance, and Embrace Relief covered three orphanages' bills.**

## Sustainability Assessment

In addition to questionnaires as a method of assessment, Embrace Relief also maintains short-medium- and long-term performance goals. The short-term time span reviews access to the basic needs and gives children their first steps to vastly improve their standards of living. Orphans are provided with food, water, shelter, clothing, and school supplies. The medium-term performance evaluation assesses how time is spent once the basic necessities have been met. The sustainability promotion focuses on how students prioritize studies and how the environment improves their cognitive development. The middle term is relative to areas and programs, but typically ranges from 6 months to 2 years. Finally, there is the long-term goal assessment that accounts for 2 years and onward.

**The ultimate desired result of this program is to create a virtuous cycle where these children are given the resources to have a happy and healthy childhood. Success is measured by participants' increased options for careers and potential financial stability. Success is shown as growth in careers, or their increased options for successful career paths, along with their ability to reinvest in their communities. These steps will help to prevent malnutrition and its long-term effects, premature death, or extreme sickness from treatable illnesses, and provide an opportunity to begin focusing more on school and their future.**

For many orphaned children, life doesn't come easy. Every day is a struggle due to the lack of funding and resources orphanages have access to. Children deserve to be children, innocent, and not having to worry about fighting for survival.





# Women's Empowerment

At Embrace Relief, we believe that education is one of the most crucial investments we can make in people and their communities. Education plays a key role in eliminating gender inequalities, promoting peace, and ensuring sustainable economic development around the world. It is becoming increasingly evident that gender equality and women's empowerment are necessary precursors for widespread sustainable economic development. As a result, the United Nations has made achieving gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment a Sustainable Development Goal.

## Needs Analysis

**Worldwide, there are 132 million girls who are out of school. Of the 132 million girls, 34.3 million are primary school-aged, 30 million are lower secondary school-aged, and 67.4 million are upper secondary school-aged.** These worrying statistics force us to realize that there has not been enough investment in tackling gender inequality in education. Many girls who are enrolled in school face greater challenges in obtaining a quality education and performing well due to their responsibilities at home. In developing nations, a

significant amount of a young girl's time is often spent helping with household chores. **On average, women and girls in developing countries walk about three and a half miles and carry five gallons of water to their families. This responsibility causes girls' educational outcomes to be bleaker than their male peers.** Although there have been positive movements in increasing gender equality and ensuring equal educational opportunities, the promise of a world without gender inequality remains unfulfilled.

The benefits of increasing women's and girl's empowerment should

encourage the continued investment in their education. Each additional year of schooling in a woman or girl's life can increase their earnings by 10 percent to 20 percent. This positive impact of education will not only have an impact on the economic status of themselves and their families, but provide economic advancement to the region as a whole.

Building communities with an abundance of educated women will plant the seeds of change for future generations and civilizations. When these changes take root, they will fuel the momentum needed to create a sustainable future. **The Reach Inspire Support Educate (RISE) program's goal is to educate young women in Tanzania in hopes of increasing their opportunities and helping to foster a sustainable future for them and future generations of their communities. Although there are millions of girls in sub-Saharan Africa who desire greater access to education, Embrace Relief has chosen to begin this program in Tanzania because of established partnerships with local organizations in the region that will allow us to ensure this program will be successful.**

## Program Details

The RISE program consists of two separate initiatives. **With the help of our local partner, Time to Help Foundation Tanzania, we are able to provide women and young girls the opportunity to enhance their education through the RISE program. The Educational Leadership and Management Program (ELMP) is one of two initiatives aimed at reducing the barriers to higher education. Under the ELMP, students have the option to enroll in two separate diploma programs: the Diploma in Education Management and Administration (DEMA) program or the Diploma in School Inspection (DSI) program.** Both of these diplomas are offered through the Agency for the Development of Educational Management (ADEM), which is an institution within Tanzania's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST).

**Currently, the RISE program provides 21 women with all of the necessary funding needed to earn their diplomas. Following the completion of the diploma programs, the women supported by the RISE program will be placed in administrative positions throughout school districts in Tanzania. This will allow them to become self-**



sufficient and contribute to their families and communities in many ways.

The second of the two initiatives aim to provide young women with all of the support needed for them to pursue and complete their secondary and higher education. **The Young Women's Higher Education Program (YWHEP) gathers applications from young women seeking financial assistance and provides them with financial assistance. The assistance students receive covers the cost of tuition, meals, health insurance, transportation, and books. Currently, the program provides 14 young women with financial assistance, allowing them to pursue higher education and become active participants in the Tanzanian economy.** Each of these initiatives will ensure that women in Tanzania have better access to education, which will help alleviate poverty and inequality throughout the country.



## Sustainability Assessment

Continuous monitoring and assessment of performance are taken in short-term and long-term. Short term accomplishments are shown within 6 months by providing support for expenses like tuition, books, and transportation. **The short-term goals will allow women to continue their studies and help relieve the burden of obtaining an education. Long-term reports take place at 2 years and onward and consist of funding support provided by Embrace Relief and determine if students will be able to continue their pursuit of higher education.**

The program should offer opportunities to allow them to increase their full potential. Embrace Relief promotes gender equality in education through this program and encourages young students to become self-sufficient.



## Conclusion

Creating a brighter and more sustainable future for every human being is a challenge that Embrace Relief approaches with purpose and dexterity. We are driven by the lasting impact our initiatives produce in communities all over the globe.

**We believe that with extensive research and partnerships with local organizations, we can bring about sustainable, meaningful change in the lives of underserved individuals. Whether through our Clean Water Initiative, our Accessible Computer Technology for Underserved Students (ACT-US) program, or any of our other many programs, partnerships with local community organizations have afforded us the ability to provide targeted relief that has a profound impact.**

Providing assistance and relief on such a large scale is no easy task. For these reasons, Embrace Relief partners with many governmental and non-governmental organizations throughout the region. This allows us greater flexibility and

responsiveness with our programs. It is our responsibility to be completely aware of the dynamics that encompass certain communities, and our local partners are the key to this. As we continue to seek out strategic partnerships with organizations and agencies, we look for ones that provide us with better information and access to the communities we serve. **Our partnership with the African Union and multiple local NGOs and community organizations has allowed us to truly understand the needs of the communities we serve. Our programs and initiatives have had a proven positive impact on the communities we serve due to this understanding. Our partners expect us to deliver projects that promote positive socio-economic transformation through educational advancement, medical assistance, and infrastructure development which is only achievable with group determination.** Using these collaborative efforts, we will continue to strengthen communities and increase access to basic necessities in the region.

As the most impoverished region in the world, sub-Saharan Africa is where Embrace Relief believes its programs can have the largest and most sustainable outcomes. The region is marred by the absence of basic necessities like food, shelter, and clean water, leading to entire communities existing in extreme poverty. Communities are not able to prosper due to the extreme lack of resources across the entire continent. Embrace Relief's strategies prioritize satisfying the basic needs of these communities so that they will be able to sustainably develop and lift the region out of poverty. Only after their basic needs are satisfied can communities in the region realize positive economic development. Time and time again, Embrace Relief has shown the ability to develop, implement, and

adapt to challenges through our projects. The substantiated research and sustainability assessments prove that expansion is not only necessary, but it is an obligation. **As a humanitarian relief organization, we focus on long-term systemic change that maintains innovative improvements and most importantly enhances the lives of vulnerable people. Embrace Relief will continue to address food insecurity, clean water access, quality education, women's and children's empowerment, healthcare, and any essential need that will transform the lives of vulnerable populations, and nothing will suppress our mission.**







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