



# World Impact 2025 Annual Report



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# A NOTE FROM THE President

Dear Friends and Partners in Ministry,

As we look back on the past year, **I want to thank you for your faithful partnership in the gospel.** Your prayers, generosity, and encouragement have sustained our mission and helped us press forward in equipping leaders and strengthening churches in communities affected by poverty.

**2025 was a year of steady growth, wise stewardship, and eternal impact.** We saw encouraging signs of progress across our programs, from expanding access to theological training to deepening our presence in prisons to walking alongside those on a healing journey. In this report, you'll read stories of how your prayers and support have helped train and equip church leaders around the world to live out The Great Commission as they are called.

Looking ahead, we are excited to pursue bold **new missional goals** that will guide our work over the next five years. These goals reflect our commitment to multiplying healthy churches, expanding training access globally, and empowering leaders with tools to serve communities experiencing poverty. You'll find these outlined in the pages that follow.

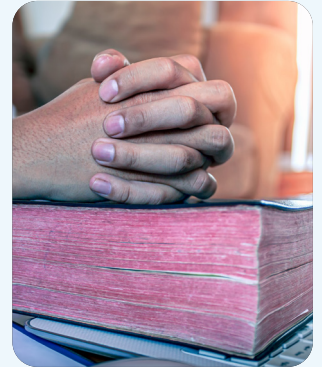
Thank you for standing with us. May the Lord continue to bless you as we labor together for His glory.

In Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Al Sanders".

Rev. Dr. Alvin Sanders  
President & CEO  
World Impact



**We envision a  
world where  
there's a healthy  
church in every  
community  
experiencing  
poverty.**





## CHURCH-BASED SEMINARY

Multiply disciples and develop leaders by starting a training center in your church, nonprofit, or prison as a satellite of The Urban Ministry Institute (TUMI) Church-Based Seminary.



## CHURCH PLANTING

Equip leaders from your movement, denomination, ministry network, or church to train church plant teams to establish new churches in their context by offering Evangel Schools of Urban Church Planting.



## PRISON MINISTRY

Train men and women experiencing incarceration to be powerful agents to advance God's kingdom and spread the gospel behind bars.



## TRAUMA HEALING

Equip churches, ministry networks, and denominations with the mental health and biblical resources needed to lead others to receive healing and freedom from trauma.

# God-Sized Goals by 2030

**World Impact is committing its effort to these five new missional goals for the next five years!**

**For 500 World Impact-trained churches to report increased health in their churches, equipping them to engage their community.**

**To double World Impact's program training presence from 90 to 180 prisons in North America.**

**To provide theological training in 40 countries.**

**For 90% of trauma healing participants to report applying biblical truth in their healing journey.**

**For 10,000 leaders to access World Impact's online offerings, providing them with affordable, accessible biblical training.**



## **Will you partner with us?**

Your support and prayers are key to completing these missional goals together for the sake of God's kingdom. As we continue working to fulfill the Great Commission, we trust in Jesus' promise in Matthew 28:20, *"And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*





## The Great Commission in Action: Join in Fulfilling World Impact's New Missional Goals

The Great Commission, given to all believers in Matthew 28:18-20, is a God-sized mandate to expand his kingdom. Every Christ-follower has a role to play in fulfilling this mandate.

*At World Impact, we are working to ensure that there is a healthy church in every community experiencing poverty.*

We believe the local church is the key to lasting change, so we are prayerfully embarking on an intensive 5-year campaign to measurably train Christian churches and leaders to engage communities in need.

**With God's help and the support of partners and donors, we aspire to make measurable progress in **five key areas** that reflect both the urgency and the opportunity of our mission:**

**1) For 500 World Impact-trained churches to report increased health in their churches, equipping them to engage their community:** We will work to strengthen churches, helping them grow so they can more effectively reach and serve their communities for Christ. These churches are often located in areas facing poverty. Equipping them with tools for sustainable ministry is essential for long-term kingdom impact.

**2) To double World Impact's program training presence from 90 to 180 prisons in North America:** We will expand our presence in correctional facilities to bring hope, discipleship, and leadership development to incarcerated individuals—many of whom will return to their communities as transformed Christian leaders.

**3) To provide theological training in 40 countries:** We will make sound theological training more accessible around the world, addressing the urgent need for Bible-based resources in regions where they are scarce. This growth is about ensuring that pastors and leaders in underserved regions gain the biblical foundation they need to plant and lead healthy churches in their own communities.

**4) For 90% of trauma healing participants to report applying biblical truth in their healing journey:** We will deepen our trauma healing efforts so participants can actively apply biblical truth in both their personal healing journey, and in those of the people they serve. In communities marked by violence, loss, and generational trauma, this Bible-based transformation is foundational to spiritual and emotional restoration.

**5) For 10,000 leaders to access World Impact's online offerings, providing them with affordable, accessible biblical training:** We will provide biblical training to leaders around the world, both through our traditional training models and our new online platform. This initiative breaks down barriers of geography and cost, allowing leaders from all walks of life to be equipped for ministry—right where they are.





# How One Pastor is Planting Churches Across Continents

Sepa Nashale still remembers stepping off the plane from the Democratic Republic of Congo with more hope than plans.

***“I already had the DNA for church planting,” he says. “But I needed a way to shape it—a strategy, a vision I could teach to others.”***



He found that framework with World Impact. After completing Church Planting School in 2023, Sepa advanced through Dean Training and was commissioned as a Dean Catalyst in 2025. In just three years, he has trained more than 20 church-planting teams across Africa, the U.S., and Canada—and he's only getting started.

Church planting is more than starting new congregations—it's about bringing lasting transformation to communities. In places marked by poverty, displacement, or spiritual isolation, a healthy church can become a hub of hope, healing, and empowerment. Churches rooted in the gospel and equipped with a clear vision can address both spiritual and practical needs, offering discipleship, leadership development, and community support. Church plants are not just gatherings—they are catalysts for change.

Sepa has already helped lead church planting schools in Congo, Malawi, Ethiopia, and the U.S., and is preparing to expand into Canada and several U.S. states, including Ohio, Arizona, and Colorado. "People want to learn; they want to know more," he says. "These materials are easy to grasp, adaptable, and they help you understand why you are planting—not just how."

Sepa serves where his own story gives him a bridge: among refugees and new Americans, often in communities experiencing poverty. "As someone from Congo, I'm serving the diaspora. I'm planting churches among my people," he explains. "You don't plant churches because other people have planted churches. No. You need a good reason, a clear vision, and core values. That's what makes us different from those who just gather people without purpose."

World Impact's Church Planting program equips leaders with exactly that: a sound, reproducible strategy. Each team builds a 12-month plan and walks with a coach; graduates join a network and gain ongoing training through World Impact. Sepa has seen how that ecosystem sustains leaders who might otherwise be overlooked. "The resources helped me learn to strategize, write a vision, and then teach others to do the same," he says.

He is a tri-vocational pastor—working full-time, shepherding a congregation, and training planters. Time is tight, but his calling is clear. "I would love to do this full-time—serve the Lord," he admits. The next stop is Zambia for Dean Trainings, then Kenya, then several U.S. states.

Sepa's ministry stretches beyond Sunday. Each month he hosts workshops on faith, finances, mental health, and education to help new Americans integrate. "One of my core values is to help people thrive," he says. "I bring in experts to teach stewardship and wellness—because everything is in the Bible, and God wants us to be good stewards."

If you ask what keeps him grounded amid so much need, Sepa smiles. "Comparison is the thief of joy. You do what God called you to do," he says. "There is a lot to be done."

To donors and friends who make this work possible, he offers simple thanks: **"These materials are changing lives. They help us reach people who would otherwise be overlooked. Your support makes this possible."** And with every church planted and every leader trained, the impact multiplies—one community at a time.



# An Answered Prayer: Michael's Story of Transformation

When Michael first entered the Arkansas Department of Corrections, he was 19 years old, broken, and angry.

"I grew up in a dysfunctional home," he recalls. "My parents were trapped in addiction, and I was raised by my grandparents, who couldn't help me with the hurt I was carrying. By my teens, crime and drugs were my way of life."



At just 19, Michael was sentenced to 22½ years. “I was lost, broken, and hopeless,” he says. “My belief system was shaped by the streets. I thought that was what it meant to be a man.”

In 2021, everything changed. Michael was transferred to Pathway to Freedom, a Christ-centered program inside the Wrightsville–Hawkins Unit in Arkansas. It was there he first encountered World Impact’s Cornerstone curriculum.

*“I came to Pathway to Freedom needing spiritual surgery,” Michael says. “The staff counseled and guided me daily, drawing me closer to the Lord. Cornerstone was an answered prayer—it equipped me for ministry, deepened my intimacy with God, and gave me hope for the future.”*

Through long hours of study in theology, ethics, urban missions, and redemptive poverty work, Michael discovered a new calling. “This curriculum didn’t just give me knowledge,” he says. “It changed the way I see myself, my community, and my purpose. It prepared me to serve.”

Michael is one of nine men who graduated from the first Cornerstone cohort at Wrightsville–Hawkins last year.

Another graduate, Zachary, has also experienced remarkable transformation. After his release, Zachary quickly found honest work in construction, then secured steady employment through a company that partners with Pathway to Freedom.

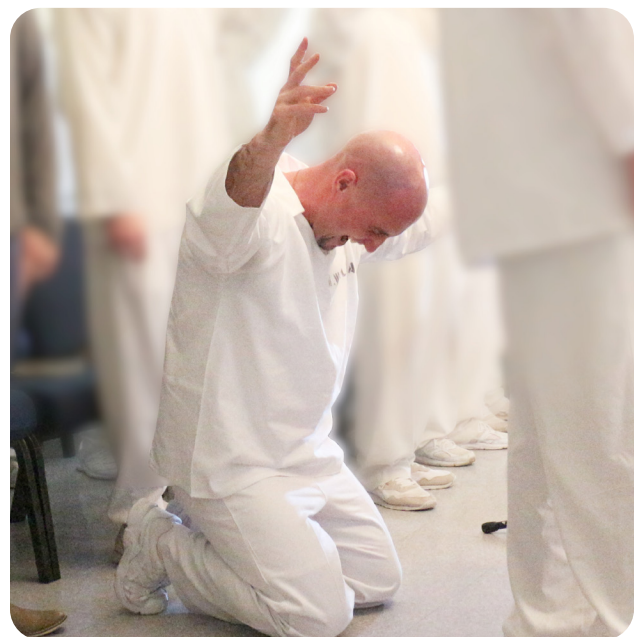
Today, he is faithfully involved in his church and speaks publicly about the change Christ has made in his life.

“Cornerstone lays a foundation, so these men don’t just sit behind church walls,” says Scott McLean, founder of Pathway to Freedom. “They go out and serve beyond them. We see men like Michael and Zachary, who now work steadily, attend church, and share their testimony. Lives are being transformed.”

World Impact’s goal is to double the reach of our training presence from 90 to 180 prisons across North America—so that more women and men, like Michael, can discover the hope of Christ and be equipped to lead.

Scott emphasizes that World Impact supporters make this work possible: Prayers and donations help deliver Cornerstone and other transformative programming, equipping more incarcerated individuals to study God’s Word deeply, grow in Christlikeness, and step into ministry with confidence.

Michael sums it up simply: **“God used Cornerstone to equip me for the calling He placed on my life.** It gave me a future filled with hope.”





# God's Timing at Work in Rural India to Grow His Church



In a quiet village in rural India, a story of divine timing and faithful obedience is unfolding—one that powerfully illustrates how World Impact makes things possible.

Mike Dicke, a long-time World Impact partner, recently traveled to India to explore opportunities for expanding church-based seminaries. What he encountered was nothing short of a sovereign setup. “There are so many moments in ministry where you just happen to meet the right person at the right time,” Dicke shared. “But we know it’s not coincidence—it’s God’s orchestration.”

One such moment came when Dicke visited a village church at the request of a friend. The pastor wasn’t interested in starting a seminary. But the interpreter, Philemon, was. That moment would become the catalyst for a growing movement of theological training in India.

Philemon’s journey to faith began with a miracle. As a child, he watched his father—once mentally unstable and lost in despair—be miraculously healed after a Christian pastor prayed for him. Though skeptical at first, Philemon eventually encountered Christ personally and committed his life to ministry.

***“When I chose to follow Jesus, we were completely cut off by our village,” he recalled. “For five years, we lived in isolation.”***

Despite the rejection, Philemon and his parents planted a church in 2009. Today, that church ministers to 35 Hindu families and 10 Muslim families. Yet Philemon’s vision extended beyond his village.

***“I began praying for a way to train pastors from impoverished villages. When I saw the TUMI curriculum, I knew it was the answer”***  
***Philemon said.***

Through World Impact, Philemon launched a training center in his village. One class has already graduated, and two more are underway—each equipping local leaders with the theological foundation to shepherd their communities.

This is the heart of World Impact’s Church-Based Seminary (CBS) program: to multiply disciples and develop leaders by equipping churches, ministries, and even prisons to become training centers. Using seminary-level curriculum, CBS provides affordable, accessible, and high-quality theological education that empowers leaders in under-resourced communities around the world.

This story is a powerful testament to World Impact’s missional goal: to provide theological training in 40 countries. It’s also a reminder that God is already at work in the places we’re called to serve. Our role is to show up, listen, and equip.

And through your support, World Impact is ready to meet those moments with the tools, training, and trust that make transformation possible.

**Thank you for making stories like Philemon’s possible.**



# Healed Hearts Heal Others

The morning after a World Impact Trauma Healing session on forgiveness, a Kenyan ministry leader woke up with tears streaming down her face—but this time, they were tears of joy.

***“I woke up healed and fresh and happy,” she said. “There were things I ignored in the past, and now I’ve realized they were traumatizing me. Yesterday’s session helped me so much.”***



Though the sun rose like any other day in May, for her—and for scores of others who had attended the sessions—life had already begun to change. Earlier that week, the World Impact Trauma Healing team had arrived in Kenya and Tanzania carrying more than curriculum: They carried a mission to restore wounded hearts and equip local leaders to bring that same healing to their communities.

Within two weeks, 130 pastors and ministry leaders had been trained and certified to apply biblical principles alongside practical mental health tools—ready to help people leave their trauma at the foot of the cross and walk into renewal. Because healed hearts heal others, and the impact multiplies.

Senior Ministry Developer David Estrada described the experience: “It was a sacred exchange—where wounds met the Word, and healing began. World Impact makes this possible by not just sending resources, but by walking with leaders, listening deeply, and equipping them to lead healing in their own communities.”

Rev. Samson Muana, a pastor from Kenya, put it plainly: “In all my years of ministry, this was the missing link. We’ve been preaching, praying, casting out demons—yet we didn’t see the trauma people carry in their hearts. Now we have the tools to help them heal.”

For Jane, a prison ministry leader, the training was deeply personal. She had been behind bars for six years, unable to pay the fine that would set her free.

*“I prayed from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. for God to send me an angel,” she remembers. “And God sent a priest from China—Father John—who paid my fine. He rescued my life.”*

Today, Jane ministers in prisons, guiding women through trauma with the biblical tools she gained from World Impact.

Others echoed that transformation. One pastor admitted, “I can no longer pretend I’m not hurting. Healing is a process, one step at a time. Through my healing, I can heal other people.” Douglas, another participant, said, “Each of us might have been wounded, but we can take our hearts, our wounds, to the cross of Jesus. I’m now trained to lead a healing group. It’s going to be a good journey for the people around me.”

Across Africa, the need is urgent. Though Africa is home to more Christians than any other continent, many leaders lack biblical training to address deep wounds from grief, abuse, and violence—leaving churches vulnerable to false teaching.

**Your partnership makes this possible.** Together, we are multiplying the hope and healing of the gospel—one leader, one church, one community at a time.





# Honoring Dr. Edith Robinson-Davis, Our Longest Serving Ministry Partner



Rev. Dr. Edith Robinson-Davis has been ministering in one capacity or another since she was a teenager in rural Virginia.

***"I didn't know what God wanted to do with me," she recalls. "But I knew I loved the Bible, I loved the church, and I loved teaching."***

That love has carried her through decades of ministry. It wasn't always easy being an African American female in church leadership, but her calling was stronger than any obstacle. As a child, she often felt "different"—set apart in her seriousness about the gospel and her devotion to Jesus. "I didn't have anyone tell me it was okay to be different," she says.

Today, she's determined to be that mentor for others. "It bothers me when a grown-up cannot defend their faith biblically. That is painful. Because I know God is not getting the glory He deserves from their life, and they're not fulfilling their calling—often because they've never had someone walk alongside them. We need mentors."

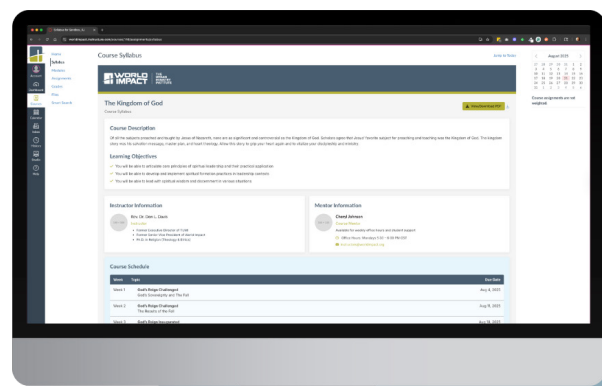
About 30 years ago, Edith's path crossed with World Impact's Rev. Dr. Don Davis (no relation) at a gathering for Christians committed to community restoration. She remembers their first conversation as a meeting of kindred spirits: he, a biblical scholar who had just developed the 16-module Capstone curriculum, and she, an educated, impassioned minister "serious about the gospel and a love of Jesus."

With The Urban Ministry Institute (TUMI) curriculum in hand, her adult ministry took flight. Over the years, she has trained nearly 60 pastors and lay leaders—many without formal theological degrees—who have gone on to lead churches, lead ministries, and teach others. Most of her earliest students are now ordained and lead congregations.

Her favorite curriculum? "Fight the Good Fight of Faith." It's the one she recommends for both new and seasoned believers. "Once you step into Christ, you automatically become a target for Satan," she explains. "The sooner we learn that, the better. I haven't found a better systematic, effective, reverent, immediately applicable curriculum to help believers understand the war we're in." She says it's the best tool she knows for grounding people in their identity in Christ—something God forges, not something we create for ourselves. "As long as my ministry continues, I'm going to stay with that."

With no signs of slowing down, Edith's impact has rippled through countless churches and communities. She's living proof of what's possible **when leaders are equipped with the right tools—and why World Impact's goal to train 10,000 more pastors and leaders over the next five years** matters so deeply.

***"I don't want to leave the earth until God has gotten His glory out of my life," she says. And through her ministry, that glory is multiplying—leader by leader, church by church, community by community."***



Learn more about  
TUMI's online classes.

# Announcing World Impact's The Urban Ministry Institute New Online Classes: Expanding Access to Biblical Training



World Impact is thrilled to announce the launch of our new online learning platform for The Urban Ministry Institute (TUMI)! This digital expansion makes our affordable, accessible, and theologically sound training available to leaders no matter where they live or serve.

With this new platform, we are accelerating progress toward our missional goal: equipping 10,000 leaders with biblical training. Now, pastors, lay leaders, and ministry teams can engage in transformative learning without leaving their communities.

As we move from soft launch this fall to a full launch in early 2026, we invite you to pray, share, and partner with us in this exciting new chapter.

**Together, we are empowering leaders to fulfill the Great Commission—one class, one community, one disciple at a time.**





**THE URBAN  
MINISTRY INSTITUTE**

## LAUNCHING WINTER 2026

**Top-tier biblically sound training in the  
hands of thousands around the world—  
helping so many communities  
wherever they lead!**



**Now  
students can  
learn from  
anywhere!**



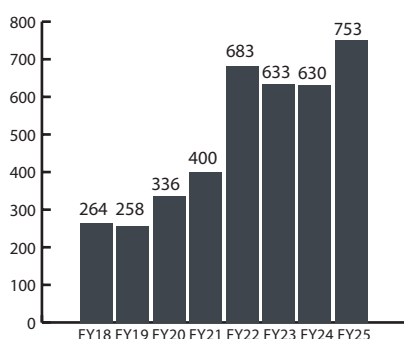
# World Impact by the Numbers

World Impact empowers urban church leaders around the world to reach their communities with the Gospel. Our core programs: **Church-Based Seminary, Church Planting, Prison Ministry, and Trauma Healing** are vital to building and maintaining healthy churches in any community experiencing poverty.

## PARTNERS

A ministry engaging in a World Impact program with its costs covered

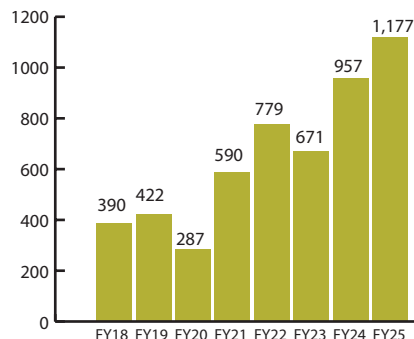
**FY25 753**



## TRAINERS

A worker equipped to provide a World Impact program to other workers

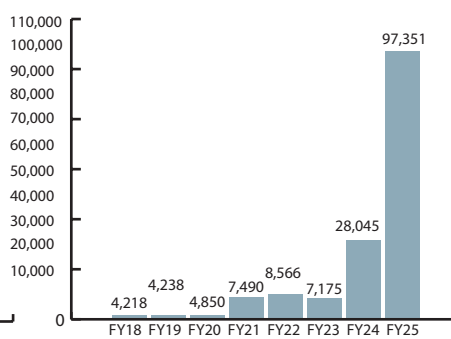
**FY25 1,177**



## WORKERS

A person who has participated in a World Impact program

**FY25 97,351\***



\*The incredible spike in the number of workers served this year is from an amazing effort in a closed access country, where over 80,000 workers were trained on our curriculum, *Fight the Good Fight of Faith!*

## FY25 TRAINED & COMMISSIONED BY PROGRAM



**CHURCH-BASED  
SEMINARY**

**92 PARTNERS**

**184 TRAINERS**

**91,821 WORKERS**



**CHURCH  
PLANTING**

**232 PARTNERS**

**68 TRAINERS**

**800 WORKERS**



**TRAUMA  
HEALING**

**307 PARTNERS**

**685 TRAINERS**

**866 WORKERS**



**PRISON  
MINISTRY**

**122 PARTNERS**

**240 TRAINERS**

**3,864 WORKERS**



## WHERE WE WORKED IN FY25



A world map with various countries labeled. The labels are arranged in four columns across the map.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Bangladesh	El Salvador	Liberia	Rwanda
Bhutan	Ethiopia	Malawi	Sierra Leone
Canada	Guatemala	Mexico	South Sudan
Closed Access Country	Haiti	Nepal	Tanzania
Colombia	Honduras	Nigeria	Uganda
Congo (Democratic Republic of the)	Hong Kong SAR China	Pakistan	United Kingdom
Costa Rica	India	Papua New Guinea	United States of America
	Kenya	Romania	

## OUR FINANCIALS FY2025

**100% of your donation goes directly to World Impact's ministry programs, not administrative costs.** This provides the critical training and resources needed to create lasting change. **Thank you for your generosity!**

# \$9.3M

**Total operating revenue in the past fiscal year**  
(ending 6/30/2025)

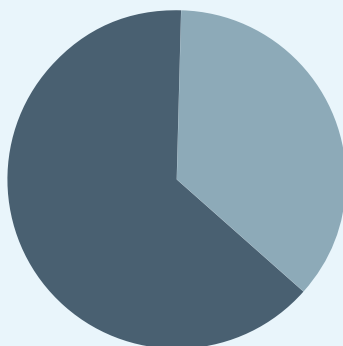
### ALLOCATION OF TOTAL EXPENSES

8%	Administrative Costs
1%	Capital Expenditures
1%	Insurance
8%	Other Ministry Costs
9%	Property Expenses
6%	Public Relations
67%	Staff Pay & Benefits

**In Fiscal Year 2024, we spent:**

# 64%

**Ministry Programs**



# 36%

**Operating Expenses**



# Leave a Legacy

## Planned Giving: A Lasting Impact for Generations to Come

### See how your planned giving can make a difference:

At World Impact, we believe in empowering church leaders to transform communities through the gospel of Jesus Christ. One powerful way to ensure this mission continues for generations is through planned giving—a meaningful opportunity to leave a legacy that reflects your faith and values.

Through planned gifts—such as bequests, charitable trusts, or beneficiary designations—you can create a lasting impact while also supporting your financial and estate planning goals. These gifts help sustain and expand World Impact’s ministry, equipping leaders and planting churches in communities experiencing poverty around the world.







## GIVING THROUGH YOUR DONOR-ADVISED FUND

Another impactful way to support World Impact is through your Donor-Advised Fund (DAF). DAFs offer a flexible and tax-efficient way to contribute to causes you care about. You can recommend a grant to World Impact from your DAF at any time and even designate World Impact as a beneficiary of your fund to continue your legacy of generosity.

**We invite you to explore how you can make a legacy gift by visiting:**



Scan the QR Code to visit  
**[WorldImpact.org/planned-giving](https://WorldImpact.org/planned-giving)**

or contacting us directly at **(323) 735-1137**

**Together, we can build a legacy of hope, transformation,  
and gospel-centered impact.**



## Get Connected to World Impact

Discover Ways to Engage, Get Stories of Your Impact, and Stay Connected to the World Impact Community.

Like and follow us on  
Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram,  
and YouTube for more updates!



Sign up for monthly email updates and resources

[WorldImpact.org/GetConnected](https://WorldImpact.org/GetConnected)