

REPORT

2021



VENTURE



REPORT 2021

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Venture is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization registered with the federal government and the state of Minnesota (EIN 41-1720155).



YEAR IN REVIEW

A million little yeses A seismic reversal

Few words are as simple and profound as the word *yes*. Rich with possibility—*yes*, bursts onto the scene, offering infinite hope. *Yes* is an initiator, an activator. *Yes* sets into motion the in-breaking Kingdom. It creates space for the undoing of things gone wayward, even the undoing of self.

2021 was a year of *yes*—a million little *yeses* culminating in a seismic reversal.

When a violent coup resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands in Myanmar, the collective response from the Venture community was: “*Yes. We will help.*” Help would come in the form of over 8.1 million nutrient-rich meals being distributed—despite incredible danger. Roughly 7.5 million of these meals would be distributed to areas acutely impacted by the mass displacement. *Your yes brought nourishment in valleys of despair.*

When borders began to reopen and traffickers pounced on the opportunity to make up for lost profits during lockdowns, the Venture community responded to the invitation to stand in between. *Your yes*, allowed us to fund the ongoing work of border patrol stations, offering preventative counseling at the point of highest vulnerability to 2,320 individuals.

This work resulted in the immediate rescue of 128 individuals and the reunification of 119 individuals to their families. *Your yes brought women and children the type of safety that can only be felt in a stable home.*

And in 2021, your *yes* allowed us to continue partnering with and learning from the global Church, a rapidly expanding movement. We witnessed the birth of 940 new house churches in areas of the world that had never properly been introduced to Jesus. *Your yes brought the Kingdom closer, cementing hope into hearts.*

This report celebrates these stories. With deep and heartfelt gratitude, it seeks to honor the *yeses* that *you* chose to give. Likewise, it seeks to honor the *yeses* of our international partners who have sacrificed greatly—even to the point of death—in hopes of seeing the Kingdom revealed more fully on earth.

Thank you for saying, *yes*. Thank you for



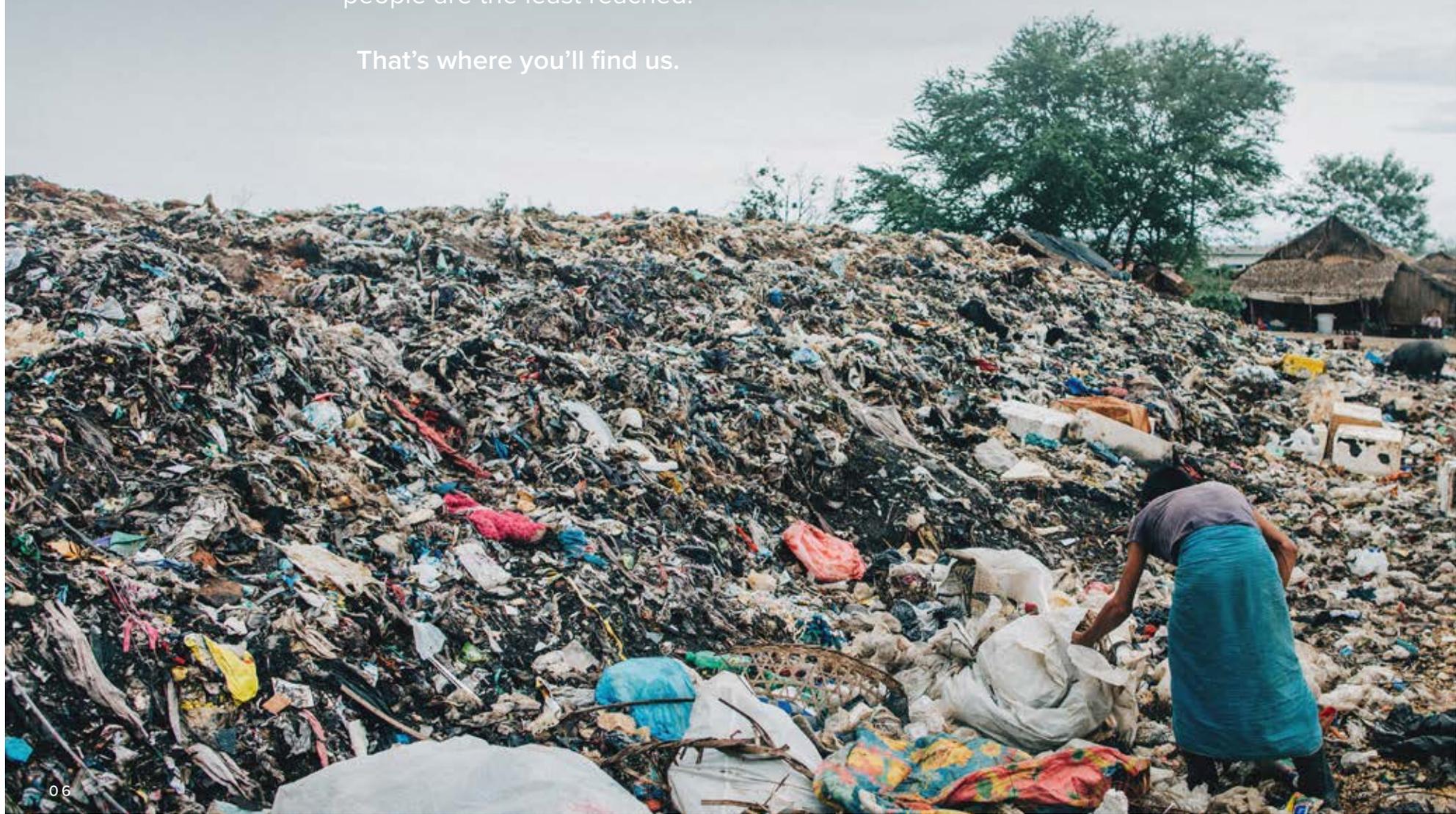
Ryan Skoog
PRESIDENT

VENTURE

TOUGH PLACES

Some of the greatest injustices happen where people are the least reached.

That's where you'll find us.



WHERE WE VENTURE

TOUGH PLACES CHECKLIST ↓

☒ Unreached

Less than 2% of those within our target area have received the message of the Gospel.

☒ Under-Resourced

Less than 1% of all Christian-giving is directed towards the areas that we've targeted.

☒ Unsafe

High rates of some of the world's greatest injustices happen in these areas.



Refugee Crisis



Human Trafficking



Extreme Poverty



Persecution

HOW WE VENTURE

JUSTICE FOR THE UNREACHED ↓

Not a Choice

Community development, and church planting are not mutually exclusive works. Rather, in partnership, they offer a framework for how the Kingdom is fully revealed. This is what drives our work, it's justice from heaven's vantage.

Relief +
Community
Development

Church
Planting +
Discipleship



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Justice for the Unreached



2021 Program Overview

BECAUSE YOU SAID YES

RESCUE + SAFETY

With your support, our local partners identified and intercepted women and children vulnerable to trafficking at borders, while providing holistic care that included counseling and various safe housing solutions.

EDUCATION + DEVELOPMENT

We helped fund educational programs, leadership training centers, and schools while focusing on holistic development that included the installation of recreational equipment and intentional art therapy for those in conflict zones.

FOOD + FARMING

We partnered with local leaders to provide nutrient-rich meals to displaced people groups, while also investing in farmers with tools to grow wealth and create opportunity for future generations.

CHURCH PLANTING

Our local partners were honored to share the Gospel, engaging in a multiplicative disciple making movement (adopted from the global Church) and planting churches amongst unreached people groups.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Our local partners helped to provide health, safety, and vocational skills training to women vulnerable to sexual abuse, creating transformational new opportunities.

2021 Impact Summary

BECAUSE YOU SAID YES



8.1 M
Meals Distributed



122
Farmers Supported



2,320
Received Counseling



128
Individuals Rescued



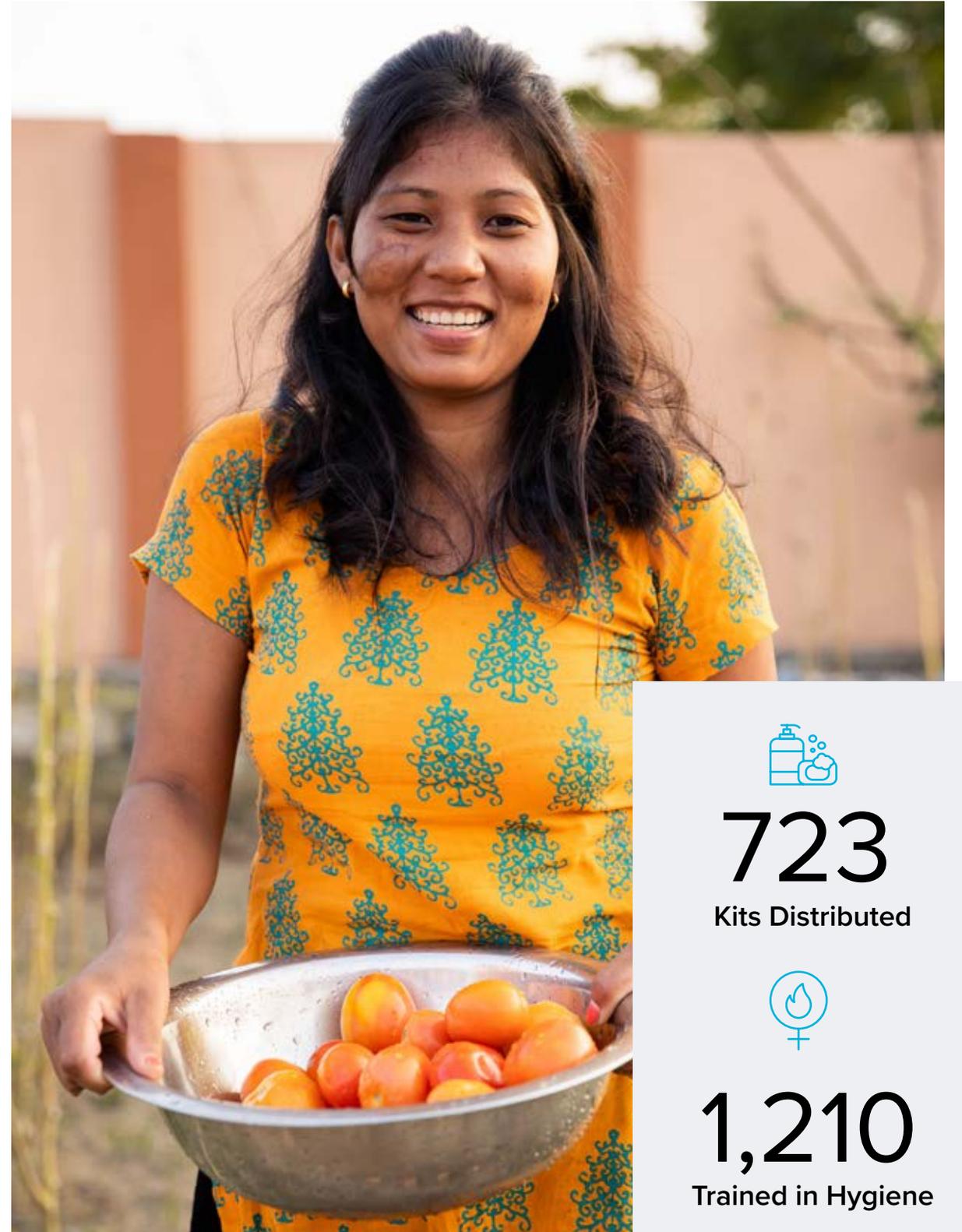
940

Churches Planted



4,668

Received Training



723

Kits Distributed



1,210

Trained in Hygiene



711

Students Impacted



3

Playgrounds Installed



FOOD + FARMING

Your yes brought nutrient-rich meals to millions displaced by conflict and ravaged by poverty.

On February 1, 2021, Myanmar—home of the world’s longest running conflict—experienced a new crisis when the military staged a coup and detained the newly elected parliament. A state of emergency was declared and concerns were raised among ethnic minorities of renewed persecution and violence.

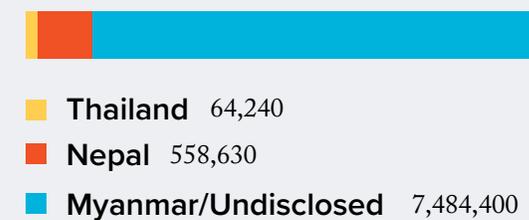
In the months that would follow, an estimated 440,000 people were newly displaced—adding to an existing 370,000 displaced by violence and instability prior to the coup (this according to a February 2022 report published by the UN).

Having served in this country for over two decades, Venture partners and staff were positioned and prepared to respond with immediate relief. Despite incredible challenges, including (but not limited to) the shutdowns of existing transport routes, banks, and internet, our in-country network of partners continued to find alternative routes and methods of getting nutrient-rich meals to the vulnerable. Whether by longboat down rivers, motorbikes through muddied jungle terrain, or covered flatbed trucks by night, they said *yes* to getting there, because *you* had already given yours.

In addition to providing immediate relief to those displaced in Myanmar and experiencing extreme poverty in the surrounding region, efforts to provide long-term stability through farming initiatives continued. Your *yes*, allowed us to support 122 farmers, a work that dramatically transforms communities for generations to come.



8.1 M 
Meals Distributed



RESCUE + SAFETY

Your yes provided counseling, rescue, and various forms of safety to those vulnerable to trafficking.



With borders reopening in early 2021, Venture partners serving along the border of Nepal and India reported a surge in trafficking attempts. With traffickers resorting to the pre-purchase of children in exchange for food during the pandemic, open borders created meant a possible return on their investments. They also seek to capitalize on the vulnerabilities of young women and children in search of food, work, and possibilities beyond the lingering pandemic.

Because of your *yes*, Venture was able fund intervention. In 2021, Venture funded the operation of *two* Border Patrol Stations. **These small, sheltered offices operate on the Nepal side of the Nepal/India border, and are used for identifying and counseling potential victims of trafficking.** Most of the border “watchers” are former victims themselves who have gone through an extensive rehabilitation and training process. They ensure that women and children don’t fall victim to similar fates as theirs. Their efforts resulted in the counsel of 2,320 individuals. Of these, 128 were determined to be at risk, even in their own families, and we brought to safe houses.



2,320 

Received Counseling at Border Stations

Border Report	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Meheshpur Border Station	416	150	149	327	1,042
Mahendranagar Border Station	372	107	428	371	1,278

128 

Individuals Rescued

Border Report	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Meheshpur Border Station	19	7	14	7	47
Mahendranagar Border Station	40	4	17	20	81

**Reporting provided by Venture international partner, KI Nepal*

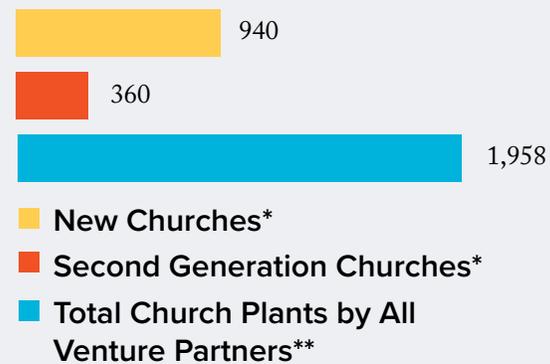
CHURCH PLANTING



Your yes brought the hope of the Gospel to unreached areas, leading to community transformation.



940 Churches Planted



*Fully funded by Venture donors

**Includes churches planted using other funding sources

Digital Discipleship & Leadership Training

Online Views of the Gospel 3,500,000

MP3 Bible Resources 105

Pastors Trained 4,668

The global Church is expanding at the fastest rate in human history.¹ Venture is honored to be a part of this moment. In 2021 we collaborated with national church leaders in the Disciple Making Movement (DMM) and saw 940 new house churches planted in largely unreached areas. Of these 940 churches, 360 are “second generation” house churches—that is, worshipping communities started by churches that we were blessed to partner in planting last year.

Your yes equipped church planters with the training, transportation, and tools necessary to provide a blend of community development, church planting, and ongoing discipleship for new believers.

“We would never want to have to choose between community development and relief work or church planting. We feel like both ideas are complimentary,” says Venture President, Ryan Skoog. This exhilarating, multiplicative movement is central to everything Venture does.

¹ Ed Stetzer, Billy Graham distinguished chair of church, mission and evangelism at Wheaton College and the Wheaton Grad School, where he also oversees the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism. September 23, 2019 Lecture at the GACX conference.

EDUCATION + DEVELOPMENT



Your yes created opportunities for children and adults alike to grow and thrive holistically.

In 2021, Venture received a unique donation: five playground units. International staff went to work to identify areas where the units could be installed. Unanimously, it was determined that these units would best serve children in conflict zones. The belief was that playgrounds would create a space for kids who have experienced high levels of trauma to socialize, move deep emotion through their bodies, and ultimately be what God intended—kids. This creative and resourceful *yes* by the Venture community has already been proven to be of great benefit. With three units being installed in 2021, international staff have begun planning future installations as a part of our broader strategy of child development.

Additionally, efforts to fund various forms of education continued. In 2021 these efforts included tutoring, English learning, refugee teacher programs, private schools, and pastoral and leadership training centers. Each program exists to equip students of various ages with knowledge and tools to help them succeed and take steps toward a life that is marked by personal thriving, and communal transformation.



711 
Students Impacted

Receiving Education	329
Benefitting from Playgrounds	382

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Your yes brought training and resources to women, creating transformational, new opportunities.

One of the most rewarding and redemptive moments in the work that Venture does is when an individual who participated in one of our programs becomes a transformational leader for their community. This is the story of HER (Himalayan Entrepreneurial Resources)—a program pioneered and developed by Hannah Badi.

As a member of the lowest caste system, Hannah experienced both gender and class-based violence and trauma. Now she is an outspoken follower of Christ, leading a team of women to transform communities through multiple empowerment programs. These programs include ongoing health and hygiene training, distribution of feminine hygiene products, trauma-informed care coupled with education in legal rights, financial literacy training, life skills training, entrepreneurial mentorship, and when possible—the distribution of small business grants.

While COVID lockdowns posed many challenges in 2021, much of the groundwork for future progress was laid. An emphasis was placed on building a leadership infrastructure through intensive team trainings. Hannah's leadership also opened doors for her to share with the UN about HER, as well as having an audience with the King of Nepal.

This Spirit-inspired work is the kind of seismic reversal made possible through your yes. We celebrate the Kingdom that chooses to promote the most vulnerable to positions of influence.



1,277 
Received Training

Financial Literacy Training	60
Feminine Hygiene Training	1,210
<i>Menstruation Management Kits</i>	723
Intensive Leadership Training	7



KU KU

A PROFILE IN COURAGE

A hurried knock at her door abruptly ended Kuku's family dinner. "I need a place to hide," a young man said quickly as he gasped for breath. "They are shooting the people at the temple who are helping the protestors." Grabbing the young man, she hid him in her house while the military patrolled the area until sunset.

Certainly, interruptions like these can be traumatic—when a knock at the door becomes life-threatening. They've also become commonplace since February 1st of 2021, when the military junta staged a violent coup in Myanmar, shaking an already vulnerable nation. Now, fear runs rampant as the military is forcibly taking civilians and

torturing them, especially if they are part of the resistance.

With power being given to a few military generals at the top, the voice of the people is among the many things stolen by the coup. These generals have been pointing their guns at protestors, resistance groups, and ethnic minorities to maintain power. It is estimated that 1,600 protestors have been killed, 11,870 people unlawfully detained, and 519,500 people displaced since the start of the coup.^{1,2}

KuKu is an official partner of Venture. She risks her life regularly to bring nutrient-rich food and a message of hope to people in Internally Displaced people camps, children's homes, HIV care facilities,

poor communities, and elderly homes. She is motivated by the love of God and a passion to help her people.

"I will not run away. I will never leave my people in trouble for the safety of me and my family. No matter how difficult it is. I will always be here for my people. This is my calling from God. It is my commitment to help my people as much as I can. Shouldn't we help more when people are in trouble?" Kuku writes in a recent email to Venture staff.

Her words exemplify the collective resolve of our partners.

Though the impact of war is heavy and personal, they continue to risk their own safety to help those in need. To leave would be harder than to stay.

With attention being shifted off of Myanmar due to other conflicts around the world in early 2022, the military regime is intensifying its efforts against the ethnic groups along the border of Thailand. Recently the military junta chief vowed to annihilate opposition forces.³

***"I WILL NOT RUN AWAY.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE MY
PEOPLE IN TROUBLE FOR
THE SAFETY OF ME AND
MY FAMILY. NO MATTER
HOW DIFFICULT IT IS."***

Free Burma Rangers, a humanitarian NGO working in Myanmar, is reporting an increase in crimes against humanity including villages being bombed, civilian houses and churches burned, and innocent people losing their lives.⁴ People are fleeing to the jungle and to Thailand for safety.

The mother of a Venture partner was one of those people who fled to Thailand. Her home was burned down and the village she lived in for her whole life was destroyed to ensure they don't return. Now she lives with a handful of others in a small house in a border area. Venture partners are taking care of them by providing food, supplies, and basic care.

Every day our partners live in fear that they will be found helping migrant people living in Thailand illegally. Our partners are Karen people with Burmese passports. They are able to live and work in Thailand with special permission. If they are found to be helping these people, they may be sent back to Myanmar with no way of coming back to Thailand. They are risking their security.

We are constantly inspired by the faith and courage of our partners. Their "yes" is what moves us to embrace greater sacrifice with defiant joy. When asked why they work so hard for their people, why they risk their lives, their security, and their well-being, it's always the same answer: "They are my people, I have to help."



¹ <https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2022-02-01/myanmar-death-toll-exceeds-1-500-with-nearly-8-800-in-custody>

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-humanitarian-update-no-16-19-march-2022>

³ <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/03/28/asia/myanmar-min-aung-hlaing-annihilate-opposition>

⁴ <https://www.freeburmarangers.org/>



LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

Your Greatest Energies

MAKING MILES MATTER

For over twenty years, the Venture community has been saying “yes” to doing *tough things for people in tough places*. But there has never been a year as monumental as 2021 for miles-based fundraising initiatives. With extensive work being done to enhance *Venture Miles* (Venture’s patented fundraising platform) individuals and groups alike were empowered with a sleek, sophisticated tool to imagine and implement new fundraising challenges while engaging their communities in the broader story of justice for the unreachable. Existing Venture-powered movements like *30 for Freedom*, and *Fathers for the Fatherless* used the platform while launching new chapters in multiple cities. The results were astonishing. Participation, as well as total funds, reached historic levels.



\$955K

Total Funds Raised through
Venture Miles Challenges



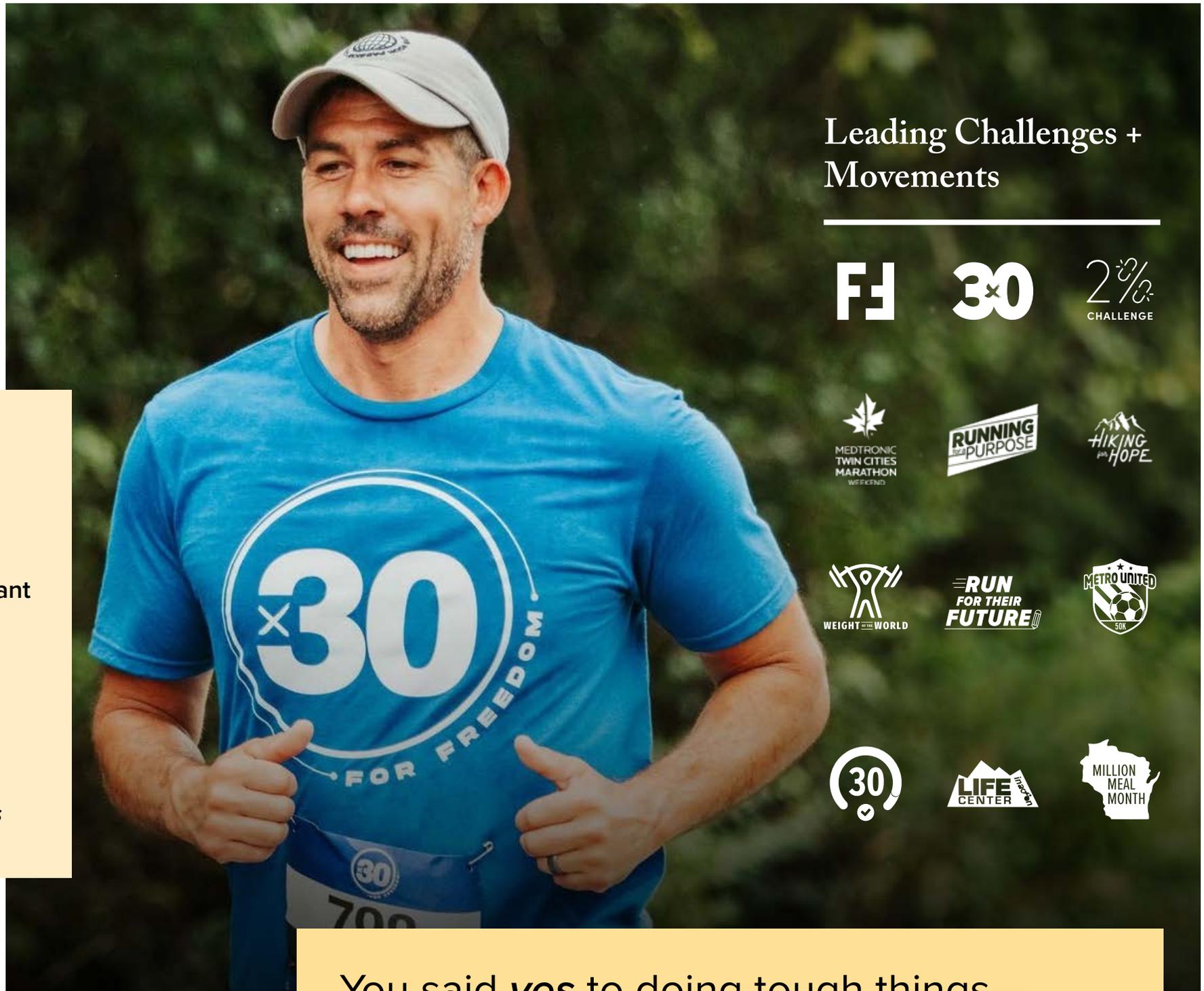
■ 2021 \$954,846
■ 2020 \$451,278

▲ 53%

Average Raised
Per Fundraising Participant

▲ 38%

Participants Raising
Funds on *Venture Miles*



Leading Challenges + Movements



Lisa Reimann

HALF-IRONMAN FINISHER | \$9,000 RAISED

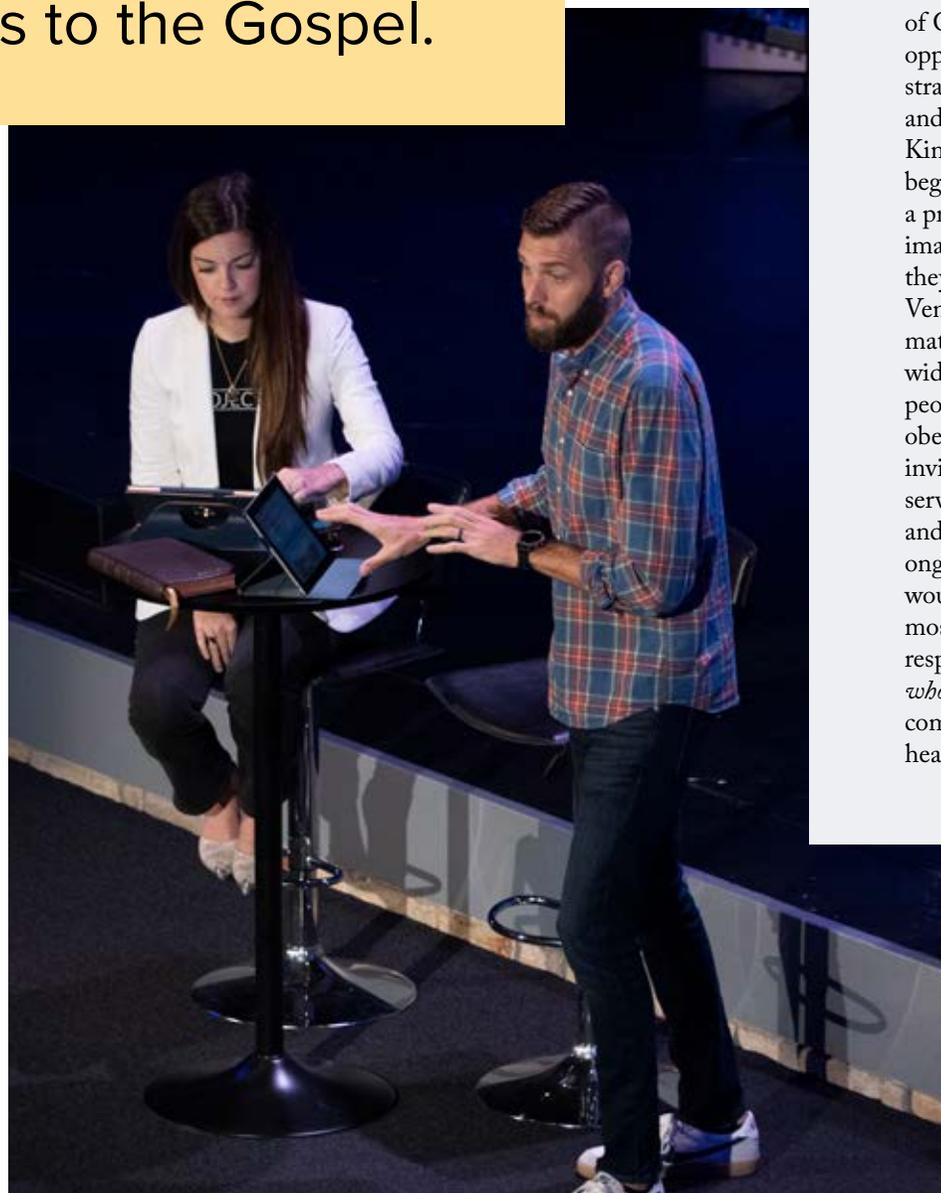
“Looking back on the last 5 months, I can’t help but think that it’s all been so worth it to do this fundraiser for anti-human trafficking in Nepal. I’m amazed that one of the biggest injustices of our day is hardly even talked about. It’s worth my daily attention and my 3 hours each day of workouts. It’s worth my dollars. It’s worth my posts on social media. It’s worth my prayers. It’s worth my 800 miles of biking, 173 miles of running, and 25 miles of swimming, and worth much more. It’s actually really small in the grand scheme of things, but it’s something. And if we each do something, it adds up.”

You said yes to doing tough things—moving from comfortable to less comfortable—so that others could thrive.

CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

You said **yes** through your local church, creating space for dialogue and active responses to the Gospel.

Venture has always been passionate about partnering with local churches to respond to the great commission, while creating space for discipleship around the biblical design for justice and a deeper understanding of God's heart for the poor and the oppressed. In 2021, we saw another significant year of growth in collaboration with churches through miles based challenges, Kingdom Builders partnerships, and engagement with Venture's discipleship tools and teachings. *Yeses* like these are also what led to the launch of Venture's new *Women for Women* initiative; a strategic partnership with women's ministries, conferences, and small groups, to help raise funds and awareness for our women-lead, and women-focused international programs.



Church Highlight

WEATHERSTONE CHURCH

In the spring of 2021 Weatherstone Church in Milwaukee, WI contacted Venture to discuss what it could look like to engage their church community in the broader story of God's heart for the poor, the oppressed, and the unreached. A strategic partnership was formed and new strategies around their Kingdom Builders programming began to take shape. Identifying a project that would capture the imaginations of their community, they began curating content with Venture: videos, written discipleship materials, as well as a community-wide run designed to engage their people through active, missional obedience. Venture staff were also invited to share during weekend services, delivering timely messages and program reports to inspire ongoing engagement. These efforts would lead to Weatherstone's single-most generous Kingdom Builders response, but most importantly, the *whole* Gospel was understood as a community was awakened to God's heart for the *whole* person.



Amber Liebe

LEAD PASTOR | WEATHERSTONE

"I loved watching our kids respond to the need and give their best as we trained together. Partnering with Venture engaged our whole family and gave us an opportunity to actively be on mission together. It's been foundational in our kids' hearts as they've developed compassion and generosity that will continue to shape their lives."



Matt Zachery

YOUTH PASTOR | WEATHERSTONE

"Partnering with Venture created the space for needed conversations with our students around God's plan for justice and our role in responding to needs — both physically and spiritually."



Brandon Liebe

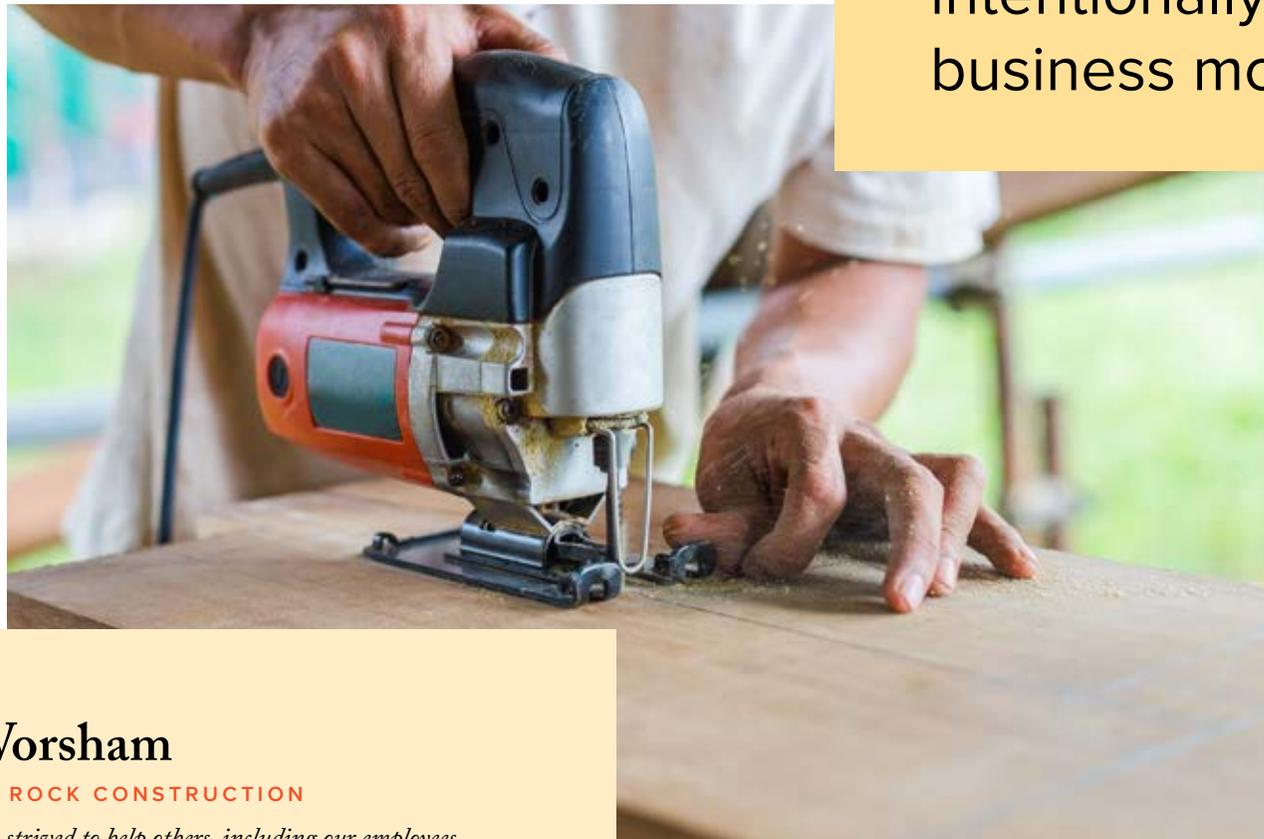
LEAD PASTOR | WEATHERSTONE

"Partnering with Venture through Kingdom Builders was a great decision. Not only was it a catalyst for our most generous response, but it was also transformational for our church. Venture partnered with us to create strategies to engage every age group in the work of missions and justice. Because of that partnership our people continue to be excited about missions and advancing the Kingdom."

BUSINESS FOR GOOD

In 2021, Venture continued to work alongside a passionate group of business leaders who were endeavoring to connect a deeper sense of purpose to their brand. The creative and strategic partnerships formed expanded across multiple new industries. From construction, to law, to real estate, and to restaurants—business owners and entrepreneurs gave their *yes* to using their work to meet incredible needs in some of the toughest places.

▲ **59%**
Funds Given
Through Businesses



You said yes through your work, intentionally building *good* into your business model to help change lives.



Harlan Worsham

OWNER | SOLID ROCK CONSTRUCTION

“While we’ve always strived to help others, including our employees, partnering with Venture through Business for Good has taken this to the next level. We’re building relationships, beautiful homes, and brighter futures for those around the world. We strive for this every day in all that we do—not just for us to win, but for others to win as well.”



Margaret Barrett

SAFE HARBOR ESTATE LAW

“Our team is dedicated to leading our clients into safe harbor, even through difficult times. To protect children vulnerable to trafficking in a similar way is an incredible privilege that motivates me, my team, and our clients.”



Kendra Duevel

ARTWORK BY KENDRA

“Every piece of artwork I create has a deeper purpose because of this partnership. I love utilizing my artistic gifts for something this meaningful”



Business Partnerships

Food + Farming

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Baker’s Carpet Cleaning | Nautical Bowls |
| Beyond Thyme Growers | Restore Family Chiropractic |
| Centrav | Righteous Mane |
| Conductive Containers | Roseville Realty |
| Lulu’s Fireflies | Supportive Living Solutions |

Rescue + Safety

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Artwork by Kendra | MD Ventures |
| B&N Financial | Olson Construction |
| Commonwealth Group | Safe Harbor Estate Law |
| Knob & Key Realty | Solid Rock LLC |
| John Houston Homes | Valiante Tax & Financial |

Women’s Empowerment / General

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| AFC Travel | Leading Better Together |
| Fly for Good | Studio K |
| Garnuu | Yonder |

*List is not comprehensive**

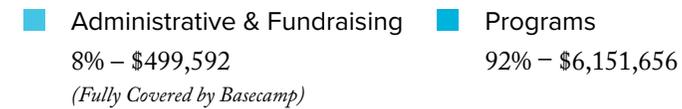
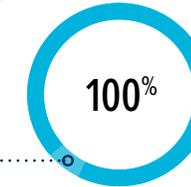


FINANCIALS

100% Promise

We Guarantee the Full Impact of Your Donation

Venture's administrative expenses are 100% covered by *Basecamp*, a generous group of individuals and businesses. This means that 100% of your donations go straight to Venture international programs. Every dollar equals one *full* dollar, *every* time.



Transparency

We are an Open Book

- We have an annual 3rd party audit done by Boulay & Co.
- All of our 990's and financials are posted online.
- Our board includes CEO's of publicly-traded companies.

Accountability

Ranked in the Top 1% of Charities in the Nation for Fiscal Accountability



Governing Board

Brad Ahlm | Board Treasurer
President & Owner, Conductive Containers Inc.

Terry Boyton
President, Yonder Travel Insurance

Linda Furry | Board Secretary
President, Centrav

Paul Hurckman
Executive Director, Venture

Tom Tomlinson
Operating Partner, Blue Wolf Capital

Ryan Skoog
Co-Founder & President, Venture

Tim Skoog | Board Chair
Founder & Chairman, Centrav Inc.

Aaron Smith
Co-Founder & Missionary, Venture

Advisory Board

John Draz
Director, Voice of Customers, United Healthcare

Brad Godwin
Senior Account Director, Shopkick

Christina Kee
Groups Pastor, Oaks Church

Ben Rasmussen
Business Development, Hudsonville Ice Cream

David Schulz
Owner, Bravelyon

Balance Sheet

CURRENT ASSETS

Total Cash	4,967,346
Total Other Current Assets	1,821
Inventory in Transit to Donee	457,230
Total Current Assets	5,426,397

PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT

Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment	5,865
Automobiles	61,254
Computers	6,024
Accumulated Depreciation	(17,034)
Total Fixed Assets	56,109

INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Technology Assets	16,500
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,499,006
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CURRENT LIABILITIES

Promise to Give	457,230
Accrued Compensation	25,146
Total Current Liabilities	498,122

EQUITY

Without Donor Restrictions	1,945,365
With Donor Restrictions	3,055,519
Total Equity	5,000,884

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$5,499,006
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Income Statement

INCOME

Programs	867,5890
BaseCamp	516,898
International Programs	374,754
Refugee Program	2,521,022
Missionaries	603,290
Gala	313,256
Venture Miles	954,846

TOTAL INCOME	\$6,151,656
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EXPENSES

International Programs	1,073,442
Refugee Program	2,269,946
Missionaries	436,262
Gala	17,423
Venture Miles	767,014
General Admin/Fundraising	482,169
Total Expenses	5,046,256

NET INCOME	\$1,105,400
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▲ **47%** Year-Over-Year Growth



■ 2021
■ 2020



Program to Administrative Costs

We Run Lean

Programs ■
92% – \$6,151,656

Administrative & Fundraising* ■
8% – \$499,592



*100% of all Administrative Costs are covered by Basecamp

Statement of Cash Flows and Reconciliation is available upon request.

VENTURE

WE EXIST TO BRING JUSTICE TO THE UNREACHED.

VENTURE.ORG

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Venture is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization registered with the federal government and the state of Minnesota (EIN 41-1720155).