

Bethany[®]

CHRISTIAN SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Our refuge, strength, and ever present help.



Throughout 2020, we experienced a global pandemic. We witnessed racial tensions and social injustice in deeply painful ways. We felt the divisiveness of politics in our country and, sometimes, around our own dinner tables.

And the list goes on.

I focus my heart on Psalm 36:1-3 and praise God for being our refuge, strength, and ever-present help in times of trouble.

Maybe you resonate with this.

And yet, even in the storm of 2020, I'm grateful for your faithfulness through it all.

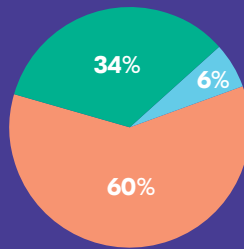
While the world faced many new challenges each day, your generous support for vulnerable children and families remained steadfast. We saw great increases in our programs that focus on strengthening and supporting families before they face a crisis, avoiding interventions such as foster care when possible.

I'm encouraged by the unity of our Bethany family, as we work together to fulfill our God-sized mission: to demonstrate the love and compassion of Jesus by protecting children, empowering youth, and strengthening families through quality social services.

Chris Palusky
President and CEO

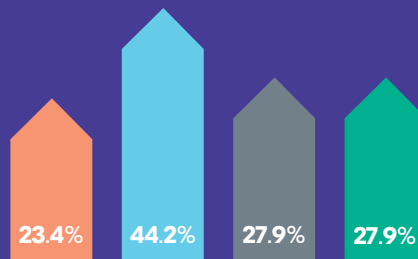
191,641
lives impacted
in 2020

68,247
direct clients served



CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVED

- 60% Vulnerable kids in the U.S.
- 6% Refugees & immigrants
- 34% Global families



PROGRAM GROWTH

- 23.4% Family strengthening and support programs
- 44.2% Domestic foster care family support and training
- 27.9% Post-adoption and permanency support services
- 27.9% Global Family Preservation and Empowerment

GLOBAL FAMILIES

17,463
direct clients served

64,408
lives impacted

TOP TWO WAYS WE IMPACTED PEOPLE:

- Family preservation and empowerment services
- Humanitarian services

REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT SERVICES

5,579
direct clients served

12,397
lives impacted

TOP TWO WAYS WE IMPACTED PEOPLE:

- Post-reunification support services
- Refugee employment support services

VULNERABLE KIDS IN THE U.S.

45,122
direct clients

114,836
lives impacted

TOP TWO WAYS WE IMPACTED PEOPLE:

- Post-adoption permanency support services
- Foster care services

Bethany uses U.S. Census Bureau average family size and United Nations household size statistics to estimate indirect beneficiaries, leading to lives impacted statistics.

4 ways we were challenged:

1. COVID-19 limited Bethany caseworkers' ability to meet face-to-face with clients, requiring a rapid switch to virtual meetings and creative efforts to engage families and kids through video.
2. Fewer refugees, families seeking asylum, and unaccompanied children were able to be served because of changes to U.S. government policies.
3. With court cases postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19, families faced extended times of separation. From families waiting for reunification after foster care or refugee resettlement, to families waiting for adoptions to be finalized, the delays caused by the pandemic were felt worldwide by vulnerable children and families.
4. Overcrowding in orphanages led to heightened concern about COVID-19 spreading, presenting our global staff with the challenge of quickly identifying temporary foster families to move children out of institutions and into families.



5 ways we saw God move:

1. God stirred many parents to explore foster care licensing, as they saw the impact of the pandemic on kids in foster care and as virtual opportunities increased accessibility to trainings. We saw a 55% increase in attendance at foster care informational meetings in April and May.
2. Bethany's pregnancy counselors were categorized by most hospitals as essential workers, allowing them to be by mothers' sides as they gave birth and made decisions for their babies.
3. Our programs focused on strengthening and supporting families before a crisis grew by 23.4% in 2020, helping more families stay together before interventions like foster care are necessary.
4. God reinforced our foster and adoptive parents' energy and conviction. We saw great stability and commitment from families who continued to serve children during the pandemic.
5. Despite many financial challenges as a result of COVID-19, donors continued to provide generously for vulnerable kids and families — in the U.S. and around the world.



7 ways we adapted and innovated:

1. In Colombia, we used Zoom and WhatsApp to help women, teens, and children stay engaged in their psychosocial services and case management.
2. In Ethiopia, case workers helped more than 10,000 refugees — providing guidance around mental health issues. We also diversified our work in the country, placing 129 children into foster and adoptive families — to keep them out of institutions.
3. Staff helped refugees and immigrants acclimate to their new communities by showing them, via video calls, how to use household appliances and access community services.
4. We launched Recovering Mothers with Newborns (ReNew) in two states, serving expectant and parenting mothers who battle substance use.
5. Staff experts provided national educational opportunities to support and equip parents on how to talk with their children about topics like racism, police brutality, and civil unrest.
6. Thanks to a cohort of founding donors, we launched the Haiti Youth Empowerment program, providing youth ages 17-21 with the emotional, entrepreneurial, and financial skills needed to break generational poverty.
7. Organization wide, we strengthened our foundation for quality services through successful COA re-accreditation.



Finding family during COVID-19



The positive test result for COVID-19 took Rena's breath away.

As the first person diagnosed with COVID-19 in Ottawa County, Michigan, Rena's first concern was for her children. Without family support, she didn't know how to keep her kids safe while she was hospitalized and battling this unknown virus.

Thankfully, Rena had previous experience with Safe Families for Children, a Bethany ministry in which volunteer Host Families care for children while their parents navigate a crisis. She called Katie, her caseworker, asking if any Host Families were willing to help.

"I felt terrible, knowing these families would now be exposed to the coronavirus too. I asked Katie, 'Are the families upset with me?'"

The volunteer Host Families responded immediately: "This is why we signed up for this. This is what God has called us to do."

Visit [Bethany.org/AnnualReport](https://bethany.org/AnnualReport) to read Rena's full story.



MORE REAL PEOPLE, STORIES, AND IMPACT [Bethany.org/AnnualReport](https://bethany.org/AnnualReport)

OPERATING REVENUE

	2020	2019
Child Support	\$ 103,979,000	\$ 96,663,000
Service fees	12,666,000	16,836,000
Contributions	15,042,000	17,000,000
Investment & other	3,866,000	6,891,000
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 135,553,000	\$ 137,390,000

OPERATING EXPENSES BY FUNCTIONAL ALLOCATION

Adoption	\$ 16,198,000	\$ 19,845,000
Counseling	9,594,000	9,629,000
Foster Care	36,332,000	35,666,000
Global Social Services	1,485,000	1,763,000
Refugee & Immigrant Services	36,009,000	35,947,000
Residential Treatment	2,300,000	2,208,000
Sponsorship	584,000	702,000
Youth Services	2,924,000	2,369,000
Other Programs	2,306,000	2,740,000
Management & General	15,170,000	15,094,000
Fundraising	4,149,000	6,252,000
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 127,051,000	\$ 132,215,000

Provision for Future Services	\$ 8,502,000	\$ 5,175,000
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Demonstrating the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by protecting children, strengthening families, and empowering youth through quality social services.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

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