

# INTRO TO HOPE

Prepared for First Baptist Church of New Haven

Dear First Baptist Church of New Haven,

**We're on a mission to accelerate the end of poverty in all its forms. We invite you to continue on this mission with us.**

The pandemic reminded us that no one is immune to crisis, but it also highlighted that we aren't all impacted equally. Those who work for today's needs continue to feel the crisis acutely. **At HOPE International, we provide savings and loan services so that families can better weather economic storms.** As women and men around the HOPE network save and invest money, they are freed to dream beyond today and use their God-given talents to provide for their families.

**Yet we know that poverty goes deeper than material lack.** That's why we also offer Christ-centered discipleship and training. As women and men engage in meaningful work, we pray they would discover more of who God created them to be and grow closer to their Creator and with one another.

**HOPE International began when one church in the United States partnered with one church in the Ukraine. Church partnership is at the core of who HOPE is and how we work.** HOPE savings groups are facilitated by the local church as a ministry to the community; through the savings group program we have partnered with over 8,000 local churches in over 15 countries. We hope you prayerfully consider partnership with HOPE as we work together to advance the mission of the church around the world.

With gratitude,




Achile and Melya with their son, Roy  
Farmers and business owners  
BURUNDI

## WHY HOPE IS A WISE INVESTMENT

**We are good stewards of the funds entrusted to us.**



Highest Charity Navigator rating for last 14 years  
*(top 1% of nonprofits)*



Accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability

## Our model is far-reaching.



**\$1.3 BILLION**

invested in dreams through microfinance institutions



**2.4 MILLION**

people served



**8,371**

local churches equipped

*Cumulative impact since 1997*

“ For me when I am in the savings group **investing for my future**, I don't get discouraged because I've seen great things happening. ... **My faith has helped me a lot:** I stayed optimistic that even in this pandemic, God can use it to save and bless others.

Melya

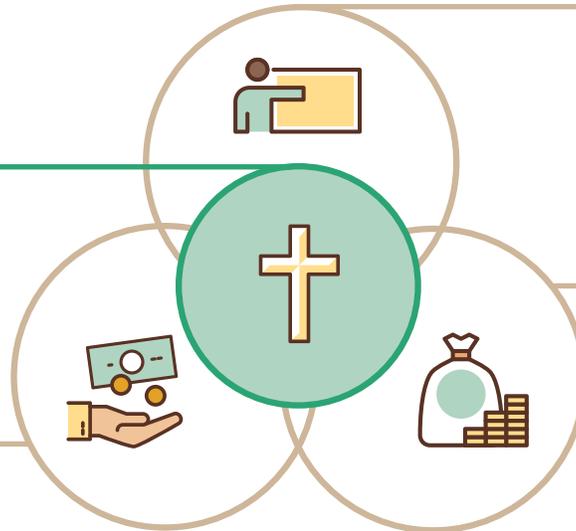
# HOW WE SEEK IMPACT

## DISCIPLESHIP

Through regular interactions, staff members share the Gospel, facilitate Bible studies, and invite those we serve into a deeper relationship with Christ.

## LOANS

With access to capital, men and women can invest in their businesses by purchasing productive assets, buying supplies in bulk, or making other improvements.



## TRAINING

Because many people we serve have limited access to formal education, the HOPE network offers biblically based training, mentoring, and coaching.

## SAVINGS

Regularly saving money helps those we serve to stabilize their income, build a safety net, start or expand businesses, or pay for routine expenses like school fees.

*For every person we serve,  
we long to see them:*



**Grow closer  
to Christ**

SPIRITUAL



**Develop stronger  
relationships**

RELATIONAL



**Affirm their  
God-given dignity**

PERSONAL



**Break the cycle of  
material poverty**

MATERIAL



Melisa with her son Luca  
Community bank member  
PARAGUAY

# HOW WE HELP FAMILIES FLOURISH

## Two operating models

**M** **Microfinance institutions** are banks that equip entrepreneurs with financial tools to invest in businesses and better provide for their families. We also provide larger loans to small-and-medium enterprises so they can scale and create jobs in their communities.

**S** Typically formed through HOPE's church partners, **savings groups** meet to save money together and often make small loans from their savings pool. Group meetings follow the **5Ws format—welcome, worship, Word, work, and wrap up**—so that time together integrates fellowship, discipleship, and Biblical financial stewardship.

## Hope for the hopeless

Several years ago Marie lost her parents and her husband. After falling out with her in-laws following her husband's death, Marie lost her social safety net and became homeless.

**"I was living a miserable life with my two children. We did not have a place to sleep. We were obliged to stay and sleep at church. They abandoned school, because I could not pay school fees for them."**

While Marie was living in the church, HOPE savings groups began and a friend encouraged her to join. Though at the time she earned just 50 cents a day working others' fields, Marie understood the value of saving and committed to contributing 25 cents a week. With a \$5 loan from her group, she started a business selling avocados and bananas.

From there, Marie's life has changed dramatically. She owns a small shop and has purchased land and livestock. She employs up to 15 workers a day to farm her plot and has launched a savings group in her community specifically for widows, encouraging them with her testimony of transformation.

In a powerful display of forgiveness, Marie financially assists members of her deceased husband's family. Some of her in-laws have followed her example and joined savings groups, and some have even come to know Christ.



Marie Ndereyimana  
Savings group member  
BURUNDI

*What does it look like when HOPE invests in the dreams of families? This video will walk you through the process.*



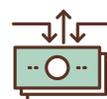
## NETWORK SNAPSHOT



Serving  
**618,781**  
men and women



Equipping  
**2,995**  
local churches



Investing  
**\$55 MILLION**  
in dreams through  
microfinance institutions



**\$466**  
Average loan disbursed

*Active metrics as of December 2021*

**“**We lack nothing in my family; we have clothes, we have food, I even assist other people.”

Marie Ndereyimana

# Invest in THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

HOPE's strategic plan 2021 - 2025



## FRONTIERS

Expand our boundaries to serve the least served

*Key Result*  
Serve 20 new frontiers



## PROGRAM INNOVATION

Listen and find new ways to respond to those we serve

*Key Result*  
Design & test 30 new initiatives



## PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthen our Kingdom-minded network while expanding collaboration

*Key Result*  
Add 50 new partners

*By the end of 2025, we will have:*



# \$700M

invested \$700 million **MORE** in dreams through MFIs



# 900,000

served 900,000 **MORE** women and men



# 5,000

equipped 5,000 **MORE** local churches with savings group ministries