

Annual Report  
**2020**



**HOPE**  
SCHOOL of LEADERSHIP





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## Our Mission

Our mission is to engage, challenge and equip young men and women to lead a life of Christian service within their families, their communities, and their chosen professions. We hope to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and passion to continue their learning and improve their opportunities to find meaningful work upon graduation from HOPE School.

By studying the question "What does Christian leadership look like?" we challenge students to think deeply about their God-given strengths, identify their motivations and calling, and learn to build effective networks; all while engaging their minds and igniting their spirits. Our general studies diploma program takes two years to complete, from start to finish.

As our students work through our courses, they learn to see themselves as problem-solvers, social innovators, and Christian role models. By leveraging local resources and bringing people together, our students learn to unite, restore, and lead the communities in which they live. Our goal is to empower students to study globally with the purpose of leading locally.

*Study Globally. Lead Locally.*



# Year in Review

Hello friends and family. What a year it's been! While I admit we started the year expecting to face some new challenges, we could have never foreseen what was coming. The last weeks of 2019 found us having to transition the leadership and oversight of HOPE School from Made in the Streets to the Childress Church of Christ. That was a stressful time for us, with a degree of uncertainty and feeling a lack of control.

The elders and members of the Childress Church have brought us through 2020 in better shape than we started. In a time with so many people and organizations around the globe in a difficult situation, HOPE School has been incredibly blessed. We've been cared for, prayed over, and provided for.

Our leadership team in Kenya has been extremely wise and thoughtful as we've continued our mission through COVID shutdowns and interruptions. Paul and Nataline have proceeded with caution and mercy when dealing with our students, and our students have responded accordingly.

Paul has repeated our mantra, "Where God leads, we go." many times this year. Even though we've moved carefully in these uncertain times, we've always kept moving. I believe our students have benefitted greatly during this year by being a part of the HOPE School family in the midst of this global crisis. We're all thankful for God's leadership and provision.

# Proceed with Caution

I know as Christians we are to be bold and courageous, but this year has been different. As I stated before, we began the year not knowing how our new oversight and funding model was going to work out. Then, in March, we realized that COVID was going to present a huge challenge to us and our students.

Thanks to Paul's and Nataline's wisdom and leadership, HOPE School operations never faltered. We were able to keep moving forward through prayer, discernment, and faith. Every decision was approached with humbleness and thankfulness, remembering God was always leading our way.

*"I am afraid that we might hit something and think that's what we were aiming for."*

My favorite quote of the year came from Paul, during a planning meeting on Zoom. "I am afraid that we might hit something and think that's what we were aiming for." This sums up our cautious obedience perfectly. Paul assumed we'd move forward, but wanted to make sure it was the right goal for the right reasons. Thankfully, God has been with us and shown us the path to follow. We are grateful that YOU have been a part of that journey, through donations, prayer, and encouraging words.

- Darren





## Seven Years of HOPE School

2020 marks the completion of our seventh academic year of delivering a free, fully online Christian education and leadership diploma program. During our first seven years, we've worked with students from Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Ghana, and Ethiopia.

We've learned a great deal about online instruction and building relationships with students in remote locations. We consider it a success that we've engaged with over 2,000 young people during this time, and over 1,400 of our students have completed one of our 12-week courses.

While we've been very successful in the short term, keeping students engaged over the long term is an ongoing challenge. Life in Africa is difficult and unforgiving, and our students struggle to find the stability and stamina to complete the entire two-year diploma program. We continue to search for solutions.

We re-think and re-tool every course at the conclusion of every term, identifying what worked and what could be improved. Our seven-year data set represents the intentional journey to finding the best ways to connect with our students.

**2,017**

STUDENTS ENROLLED 2014-2020

**1,432**

COURSES COMPLETED 2014-2020

**80**

GRADUATES of DIPLOMA PROGRAM

# Success Data: First Seven Years

<b>2014</b>	151 131 88%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	
<b>2015</b>	290 231 84%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>14</b> graduates
<b>2016</b>	259 200 81%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>12</b> graduates
<b>2017</b>	412 297 75%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>24</b> graduates
<b>2018</b>	335 163 49%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>8</b> graduates
<b>2019</b>	239 162 67%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>12</b> graduates
<b>2020</b>	331 248 77%	students enrolled courses completed passing rate	<b>10</b> graduates



# 2020 Financial Report

We are so thankful to the Childress Church of Christ in Childress, Texas for serving as our sponsoring and overseeing congregation in 2020. Their monthly support, combined with donations from fourteen other families, provided for everything we needed and more. HOPE School has always been funded through a small but generous network of family and friends, and this year, more than \$27,000 was given.

## 2020 Donors

Childress Church of Christ  
Dale & Mittie Blackburn  
Robert & Anne Carter  
Nelson & Janie Coulter  
John & Judy Dunlap  
Dee & Susan Green  
Mike & Sue Henderson

Tim & Ann Lewis  
Larry & Kitty McDowell  
Tom & Terry McDowell  
Dewayne & Melody Pettiet  
Carolyn Wilson  
John & Arica Lott  
Carisse Berryhill  
Charles & Darlene Coulston

Our expenses for 2020 include: salary for three team members, meet-and-greet events for students and teachers, student COVID support, new laptops and phones for staff in Kenya, and a December graduation and celebration meal.

2020 TOTAL INCOME:	<b>\$27,450</b>
2020 TOTAL EXPENSES:	<b>\$16,836</b>
ROLLED OVER to 2021:	<b>\$10,000+</b>

# Income and Expenses

**2020**

Income:  
Support &  
Donations

Expenses:  
Salary &  
Benefits

Expenses:  
Student  
Support

Expenses:  
Program  
Admin

January	\$6,200	\$974.76		
February	\$1,100	\$976.12	\$328.29	
March	\$1,400	\$936.32	\$96.75	\$198.44
April	\$1,150	\$972.46		
May	\$2,350	\$927.10	\$110.85	
June	\$1,850	\$931.51		\$2902.49
July	\$1,350	\$921.05		
August	\$2,350	\$914.21	\$789.23	
September	\$2,100	\$912.56		
October	\$2,000	\$1,014.91	\$284.66	
November	\$5,600	\$1,007.74	\$1,074.98	\$562.02
December	not reported at the time of printing			

<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$27,450</b>	<b>\$10,488.74</b>	<b>\$2,684.76</b>	<b>\$3,662.95</b>
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# Ready for 2021

While 2020 was marked by cautious progress, Paul, Nataline, Archibald and I are very excited for what is to come in 2021. With a healthy fund balance rolled over, we are making plans to launch some new initiatives and hit the ground running. We're prepared financially and spiritually to go exactly where God leads us, full steam ahead, and thankful for the opportunity.

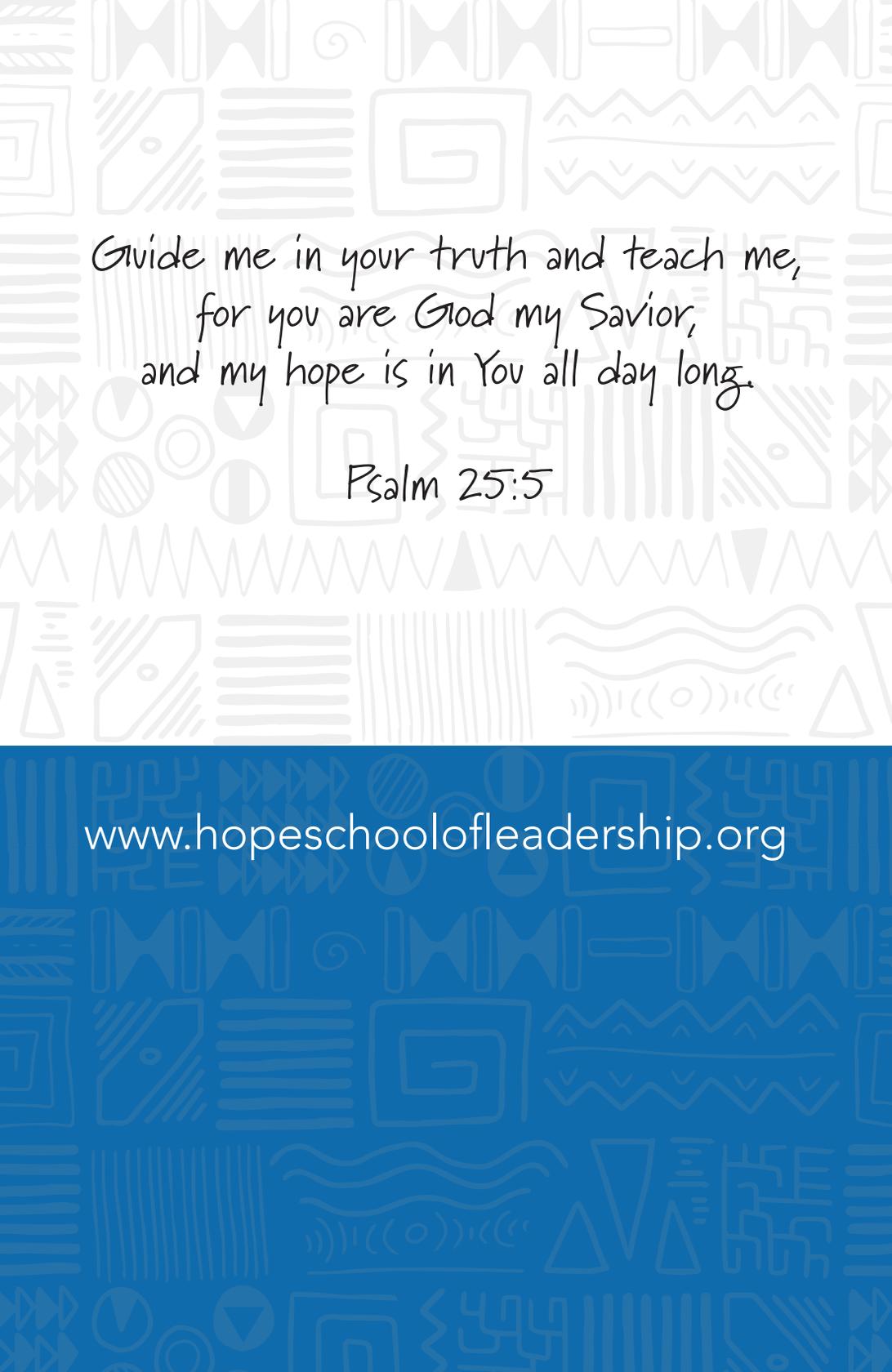
We appreciate you keeping us in your prayers. We know everything we have is a gift from God, and He is our provider and sustainer. As we start the new year, please remember our administrative team, staff, and the students that come to us from all over Africa. We want to know God and do His good will.

# Thank you!

The entire HOPE School of Leadership family (administrators, staff, and students) are so appreciative of the support system we have in place. This small but generous network of family and friends has kept us going strong for over seven years. We are able to look forward to 2021 with excitement and hopefulness, knowing that God will provide what we need through YOU. We recognize your gifts already shared and ask that you continue to consider us in the future.

Please consider sharing this report with someone you know who may be interested in learning more about HOPE School and partnering in our ministry. More info is available on our website at [www.hopeschoolofleadership.org](http://www.hopeschoolofleadership.org).





Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior,  
and my hope is in You all day long.

Psalm 25:5

[www.hopeschoolofleadership.org](http://www.hopeschoolofleadership.org)