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..... Horizons International Newsletter - December 2022



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THE GOSPEL REACHES AROUND THE GLOBE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022





AMINA GLEN

THE LORD REDEEMS A REFUGEE FAMILY

*When we lived in Syria, my husband Farid would often see a Bible at a Christian colleague's house. He felt curious and asked to read it. It encouraged him and he discovered that the Bible was so much more than what Muslim people think it is, and he started attending church frequently. In 2010, we married and moved to Lebanon, where he shared his faith with me. **Upon hearing that Jesus died to save me from my sins, I accepted Jesus into my heart.***

One day, we heard about Horizons' Nabaa Ministry Center, and how it was distributing food portions and helping people. I was intrigued since I hadn't seen Christians serving in such a committed way, so I started attending discipleship classes there. The staff showed genuine concern for us.

*Though I felt doubts about being able to serve and disciple others, I applied for the internship program at the Nabaa Center. They accepted me, and **God empowered me to become bolder and stronger in my faith.** I was encouraged to follow up with new believers and help with their children while they grew in faith. I was able to share the gospel with other Muslim women.*

Since then, we have seen Jesus at work in our lives through many miracles. We praise Jesus for His amazing transformative power in our lives.

- Amina Glen

THE POWER OF PRESENCE

Andrea Livingstone: A Missionary's Testimony of Life and Ministry in Lebanon



Andrea Livingstone

When I visited Lebanon in 2017 and 2018, I saw the beauty and opportunities of the melting pot that Lebanon has become. So many different people groups from around the world are willing to live and work together, even though some of them have historically been—or are—in conflict. But God is love, and He loves to see His children forgive and remove the barriers of castes and prejudice. During a typical day here, I interact and work with Lebanese, Armenian, Syrian, and Kurdish people.

Before Lebanon fell into an economic tailspin, events and ministry were primarily devoted to refugee women and children. Lebanese families were too proud and independent to accept help of any kind. However, as the economy plummeted, and stable middle-class families suddenly found themselves living at a bare subsistence level. Lebanese nationals joined foreigners desperately seeking access to basic goods, food, and medicine.

An obvious tension was felt as Lebanese, Lebanese-Armenian, and other nationalities began expressing their frustration at seemingly being ignored when services and goods were provided to 'foreigners' in their neighborhood. One day, we even had two Lebanese women following us, pleading for help and screaming that we had not been "taking care of our own people." However, in other areas, we witnessed the "hospitality of the Middle East" as suffering people who had their own needs pointed us to others in need, or shared from their meager food and medical supplies **to help others in greater need than they themselves.**

Lebanon was, and is, a Christian nation. What began with Horizons staff members networking with a few

churches, and helping to resource them, grew into a cooperative network of over 100 churches devoted to humanitarian aid and evangelism and discipleship. Then the Lebanon Crisis Fund helped provide support for these churches to address the practical needs of their congregations following the Beirut explosion. However, no one could have foreseen the impact of these churches' work; thousands of people have awakened to the power of the gospel! People who had previously felt neglected, are now being reached. **Church attendance more than doubled in many congregations,** and the need for more leaders in other weekly meetings grew as more people were seeking answers and fellowship.

Today, churches and staff members minister to thousands of people from all backgrounds—not just in tangible goods, but emotionally and spiritually. In the last few years, **thousands of people have come to Christ, and have a hope that can sustain them through these challenging times** rather than fleeing to another country. Lasting relationships have been formed as seen in the growth of discipleship meetings among both women and men, youth (late teens through mid-20s) and young adult groups.



Prayer team in Fanar, Lebanon

Three years ago, many of these churches were content with their weekly attendance, and they felt competition toward other churches in their areas. But now, they are outward-focused, working together in unity to serve the people living in the shadow of the cross and across the nation. In the midst of one crisis after another, they joined forces and are networking to locate and supply medicines, oxygen, and other needs from one part of the country to another. This is the united body of

Christ in action. Praise be to God. I pray that more people realize that **Lebanon is a magical place, hungry for the gospel and ripe for the harvest.** Many who visit here wind up realizing that they want to serve or travel here again, because God can use people of every gifting here.



Medical clinic for refugees

This is how in 2022 we were blessed to acquire two medical clinics and we have seen more teams come to serve here than in the past two years. We covet your prayers and donations of financial support, for local internship programs and student sponsorships at the School of Hope. We love that churches overseas are starting to partner with churches here by supporting pastors, and partially funding youth and adult ministry events. However, the need continues to be great. The gift of your presence here is Jesus in the very flesh. Pray about it, won't you?

Your trip to Lebanon is waiting for you. If God is calling you to work with Muslims, come take a trip to the "Gospel Gateway to the Middle East." Horizons hosts dozens—if not hundreds—of mission teams and missionaries each year, in ministry areas such as technology, trade work, music, medicine, and sports. If you would like to see how your skills and giftings can touch lives in the Middle East, please contact us today at trips@horizonsinternational.org.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

In 2022, the Lord has continued to expand Horizons' ministry as he transforms the world's political and economic challenges into fertile ground for the gospel. Through exciting new training and field initiatives, the Lord has opened the door for our global network of church and ministry partners to impact hundreds of thousands of people for his Kingdom. Read these updates to find out how God is working through Horizons around the world.

GLOBAL MINISTRY

Ukraine Crisis Fund

In response to the war in Ukraine, Horizons staff members, Khalil and Julia Abdelahad, felt God's call to move from Lebanon to Kyiv to begin a new ministry. Through their calling, Horizons launched the Ukraine Crisis Fund in July—and since then, God has opened many doors for the gospel. As Ukraine faces a difficult upcoming winter, people are coming to local churches in desperate need of hope and help.

Horizons has established partnerships with 18 local churches—with the potential of growth to 100 churches! Evangelistic meetings and Christian



Food distribution in Kyiv, Ukraine

camps have been organized for the refugees, which bring in around 50 people each time. Food and other resources are provided, and the ministry team visits shelters for the elderly, disabled, and displaced. They also provide aid, as well as counseling, to those who have fled war-torn areas. **More than 70 people have come to know Jesus since this ministry launched!**

God has been faithful in growing the team on the ground, which now consists of five servants, including three local pastors. Despite the war and its challenges, they have been actively serving in several areas and are looking to launch a ministry center in Kyiv. Please pray that the Lord will continue to grow and protect our ministry in Ukraine.

US Field Ministry to International Students, Immigrants, & Refugees

This year, US-field ministry teams reached international students, refugees, and immigrants with the truth and power of the gospel through many exciting events. The international student ministry team in Austin, TX, held a multi-ethnic soccer tournament that connected local churches with immigrants, refugees, and international students. This "Cup of Nations" event brought together over 100 students, representing 10 countries! Our staff in Denver, CO, also participated in a lamb roast that attracted 200 students, of whom roughly half were from Muslim areas of the world.

Horizons' field staff members continue to serve students through meals and Bible studies across seven university campuses. They also reach immigrants and refugees with the gospel through local park outreaches. Partnerships with local churches have provided ESL classes, hiking trips, Bible distribution, and encouraged Christians to welcome foreigners into their homes.

In 2023, our focus will be on living as people of the gospel, making deeper connections with students and refugees, and developing partnerships with churches and individuals across the USA. If you or your church are interested in joining us, please connect with us at jim@horizonsinternational.org.

South Africa

Horizons staff members Allain and Nicole Ravelo-Hoërsen engaged in several unique Kingdom opportunities to share the gospel and equip believers for ministry. **At the invitation of a local imam, Allain recently shared his faith in the triune God at Open Mosque, Cape Town.** He also introduced a gospel group that sang worship songs at the event which marked Heritage Day, a national public holiday.

Together, Allain and Nicole lectured at the Bible Institute of South Africa and conducted online training initiatives to empower young believers to reach Muslims in their communities. Nicole also helped organize a conference for Christian women in Ethiopia, focused on reaching Muslims with the gospel. Nicole will be the main speaker at the December conference.

Allain and Nicole also continue to counsel many people, both in-person and via social media. They have helped Muslim friends find answers to important spiritual questions, while also supporting those battling mental health issues. Many of the individuals that they connect with have been rejected by churches that are largely indifferent to the challenges faced by Christians from Muslim backgrounds.



Soccer teams at "Cup of Nations" tournament



International students hike in Albany, NY



Debate with Muslim scholar in South Africa

Hong Kong

The Horizons International Asia team has continued to reach Muslims with the gospel through home visits and street evangelism. Three Muslims came to Christ through street outreach events this year, while the team has cultivated relationships with 60 more Muslims through house visits. The team hopes to expand this ministry to 100 house visits in the coming year. The Hong Kong staff also published a new gospel tract for reaching out to Muslims.

“Three Muslims came to Christ through street outreach events this year, while the team has cultivated relationships with 60 more Muslims through house visits.”

In August, the HI Asia team hosted two training courses that equipped 37 new believers in evangelism and discipleship. In an online course, six more believers received discipleship and instruction from a Muslim-background pastor from Bangladesh. The Hong Kong team has been training local churches to reach out to Muslims since 2015.

Zambia

Horizons' ministry partners piloted exciting new gospel initiatives in Zambia this year, training believers for cross-cultural missions and launching a new school ministry. World Outreach Team Action (WOTA), led by Pastor Barry Ilunga, enrolled local students in a biblical training course, which resulted in **33 students graduating from the Pre-Field Global Workers program**. Of these students, 17 have applied to serve as local missionaries, and four plan to serve cross-culturally with Horizons to share the gospel in the Middle East.



Leadership at Messiah Evangelical Fellowship in Kosovo pray over a couple who are dedicating themselves to missionary service.

WOTA also launched its Ignite Christian Service (ICS) Bible Clubs initiative, recruiting 78 student leaders in the Kalumbila district to serve in two secondary schools and four primary schools. The student leaders will be trained to facilitate the ICS Learner's Bible Clubs, and so far 27 Bibles have been donated to these local schools.

Kosovo

Messiah Evangelical Fellowship (MEF), a Horizons partner church for over 30 years, is dedicated to serving Christ in Muslim-majority Kosovo. **This year, MEF launched the Balkan Institute for Missions, which will equip Christians to better serve Muslims, and bridge the gap between missions and churches in the region.** The institute incorporates three classrooms, where believers will be trained for evangelism and discipleship.

In 2022, MEF focused on Christian publishing, infrastructure development, evangelistic events, financial literacy, and other community outreach. The church has distributed over 5,000 evangelistic brochures, hosted thousands of people at events, and trained 200 women and their family members in practical skills and financial responsibility.

“The church has distributed over 5,000 evangelistic brochures...”

MEF partners with churches through training seminars, and also establishes home churches throughout Kosovo. As families and young people are leaving Kosovo for economic opportunities elsewhere, we now have the opportunity to establish new home churches wherever they go. These mature believers have been equipped and are now preaching the gospel to Kosovars across Europe!



Children's evangelistic event in Douar, Lebanon



Combat Team ministers to children through martial arts

LEBANON

Evangelistic Events

Horizons Lebanon holds regular evangelistic events, partnering with local churches and international ministries to share the gospel within communities. These events often welcome local families through food and drink, music, games, and other activities.

In August, Horizons staff member Tony Kaady partnered with Badaro Baptist Church and Samaritan's Purse to host and provide food to over 330 children and nearly 300 adults at an evangelistic event in the Maronite Catholic town of Douar.



Children eating at Tyre evangelistic event

In September, two members of US-based partner ministry Combat Team visited Lebanon to share the gospel through martial arts demonstrations. At churches and schools across Lebanon, team leader Brian Bryan and colleague Jonathan Potter **ministered to over 600 children from diverse backgrounds.**

Children from Horizons' School of Hope recently hosted two evangelistic events at the Beqaa Center. Students from the 6th and 7th grades, supported by 10 volunteers, ministered to 35 children from the Beqaa region. They distributed gifts and presented the gospel. A new children's evangelistic meeting was also launched at Horizons' Nabaa Center, where School of Hope is located, with around 50 children participating each week.

Tyre

In Tyre, Horizons Lebanon is advancing the gospel of the Kingdom through a myriad of ministries, including its education program and agricultural project. **Staff members are farming fruit orchards, dairy cows, chickens, and bees, while selling produce at our local store.** We hope to make the farm profitable in the near future to bring sustainability and growth to the ministries.

The children's ministry team hosts a literacy program for 20 students between the ages of seven and 10, where they learn English, Arabic, and mathematics. Around 50 children also attend a weekly program where they sing worship songs, play games, and hear the gospel. At the Lebanese International University in Tyre, the team holds

a weekly Bible study to equip students to reach their classmates, while also providing one-on-one discipleship meetings for students.

In August, a believer from Moldova emigrated with his family to Lebanon to launch a music ministry. Brother Slavick shares the love of Christ by teaching children to play the violin, panflute, and piano. Currently, 15 students attend, with hopes to grow this ministry in 2023.

Middle East Center

The Middle East Center for World Missions (MEC) currently offers accounting services, media production, and graphic design. We are providing accounting services to seven clients through one partner company, and we have many media partnerships that support the MEC Creative studio. The studio offers paid internships to local believers, and serves clients with video and dubbing services, logos, posters, roll-up banners, postcards, pamphlets, children's books, and CD covers. Our staff also design merchandise, social media posts, magazine covers and layouts, websites, and architectural drafting services.

We are working with a volunteer, Tony Chedrawee, to develop a creative agency model that will draw more missional clients, such as churches, ministries, and Spirit-filled businesses. If you know of potential clients that need help with the services listed above, email us at outsourcing@middleeastcenter.org.

Lebanon Crisis Fund

Beqaa Valley Center

Horizons Lebanon's Beqaa Center continues to impact local communities for the gospel through its agricultural project and refugee ministry. **Staff members are making regular visits to refugee camps and homes to provide humanitarian aid, counsel families, and share the gospel.**

After a fire devastated a nearby refugee camp in February, the Beqaa team provided 28 tarps to families who lost their homes in the tragedy. The team also plans to provide them with diesel for heating during the winter season. Horizons has provided counseling to those affected by the fire, and others in the region



Beqaa refugee camp devastated by a fire



Beqaa farm harvested its first onion crop



Discipleship meeting at the Beqaa Center

who are dealing with trauma and grief. As a result, many refugees are now visiting the center.

The Beqaa farm harvested its first onion and potato crops, which were used in the food boxes distributed to local families in need. The team plans to expand the number of crops to achieve sustainability, selling produce to support the Lebanon Crisis Fund and providing much-needed food to local communities. Horizons is also waiting on local government approval to place four prefabricated houses on the farm to house local farm workers, which will serve as a first step in establishing a missional community.

Discipleship Team

Horizons' discipleship team is actively mentoring local believers for service and outreach in their churches and communities. **Many of those are Christians from Muslim backgrounds—several of whom have even joined the discipleship team!** This team has reached thousands of people with the gospel, including many Syrian and Kurdish refugees, through distributing Bibles, providing humanitarian aid, making house visits, offering trauma counseling, and praying with people.

Many refugees shared that the love shown to them by the Horizons discipleship team compelled them to accept Christ. The team at the Nabaa Center is now discipling nearly 850 people every week.

Horizons staff member Pastor Ibrahim Ibrahim is leading the team through an advanced training course to equip the team in discipleship and evangelism. Pastor Ibrahim is also seeking a larger ministry facility in order to better care for those we are discipling, and to make room for the growing number of new disciples.

Medical Ministry

Horizons is operating two medical clinics and adding a third to serve the local community. Staff members distribute free medicine throughout Lebanon, and international medical teams visit to serve at our clinics, centers, and local churches.

“The team at the Nabaa Center is now discipling nearly 850 people every week.”

The medical clinic in Bourj Hammoud has applied for its license through the Ministry of Public Health and is waiting for approval. Horizons staff are renovating the facility in order to meet the required criteria. The facility includes five treatment rooms, as well as a pharmacy and a nurses' station. We plan to staff the clinic with part-time doctors who can provide care for refugees and residents in the areas of internal medicine, pediatrics, and different types of disease treatment.

In Tyre, the medical clinic is providing people with free healthcare along with the gospel message. Each year, 23 medical teams serve the community and share the love of Christ. We are also equipping a medical center in Teir Harfa, a village close to the southern border, where there is no known Christian presence.

Horizons hosts many medical teams every year in Lebanon. If you or your medical team would like to volunteer at a Horizons clinic, please reach out to us at medicalministry@horizonsinternational.org.

TRAINING

Cubs to Lions (CTL)

In August, Georges Houssney taught a Cubs to Lions course for Christians from Muslim backgrounds (CMBs) in Dallas, TX. The event brought in 37 attendees for a week of biblical teaching on the problems faced by CMBs, such as developing a Christian worldview, persecution from families and other Muslims, and adjusting to church community.

The attendees ranged from new believers to mature disciple-makers. During the event, one person gave their life to the Lord, and many others reported that the fellowship and teaching powerfully impacted them. As a result of this training, **the CTL attendees launched the first Muslim-background church in Dallas**—and they are still meeting weekly.

Horizons is also creating two new Cubs to Lions formats: *CTL Family Edition* and *CTL Kids*. For *CTL Family Edition*, we are producing a textbook and video curriculum, including over 200 short videos. This training material will help CMBs learn vital biblical perspectives on issues such as marriage, separation and divorce, raising children, and church relationships. The *CTL Kids* curriculum consists of eight books containing simple exercises, games, and Bible stories.

Legacy Conference

After two years of delay due to the pandemic, Horizons hosted our first Legacy Conference since 2018. We hosted 151 attendees at Calvary Church in Grand

Rapids, Michigan. This year's conference, called *Legacy 2022: Unashamed*, focused on bold and fearless witness to Muslims. Attendees heard from plenary speakers Josh McDowell, Fred Farrokh, İşik Abla, Abdu Murray, and Georges Houssney—as well as 12 other speakers and teachers who hosted breakout sessions and Q&As.

Many people testified that *Legacy 2022* helped to equip, empower, and encourage them in evangelism.

Attendees from a variety of local and out-of-state churches also networked with 22 sponsor ministries, which helped to unify them around the cause of reaching Muslims for Christ.

Want to Know More?

For every update included in this article, there are dozens more we did not have space to share here. We praise the Lord for working through so many people, at a time when hope in Christ is dearly needed. Learn more about how Horizons is Proclaiming the Gospel, Discipling the Nations, and Equipping the Church across the globe, or in a particular location:

- Follow Horizons on Facebook and Instagram: [@horizonspde](https://www.facebook.com/horizonspde)
- Check out our blog: blog.horizonsinternational.org
- Open a conversation with a team member: connect@horizonsinternational.org

Your partnership in the Great Commission has brought forth good fruit. Thank you for being a part of Horizons—and as the world needs salvation more than ever, we hope you will pray with us for God to move strongly among the nations in 2023.



Georges Houssney leads prayer at Legacy Conference



“For the earth will **BE FILLED**
with the **KNOWLEDGE** of the
Glory of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.” —Habakkuk 2:14

2022 IN NUMBERS

1,064 PROCLAMATIONS OF FAITH

3,579 PEOPLE IN DISCIPLESHIP

4,580 BIBLES DISTRIBUTED



LEBANON

125 PARTNER CHURCHES

301K FOOD PORTIONS DISTRIBUTED

3,778 MEDICATION PRESCRIPTIONS SECURED



326 TRAINING COURSE ATTENDEES

193K FOLLOWERS ON ARABIC SOCIAL MEDIA

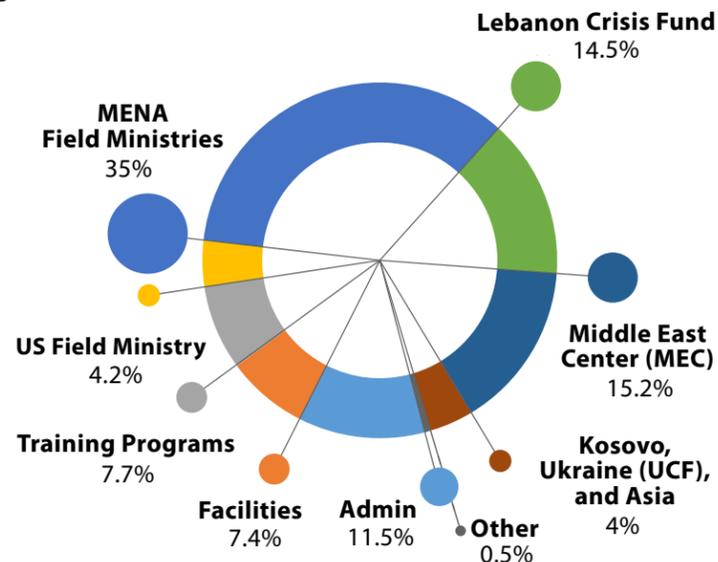
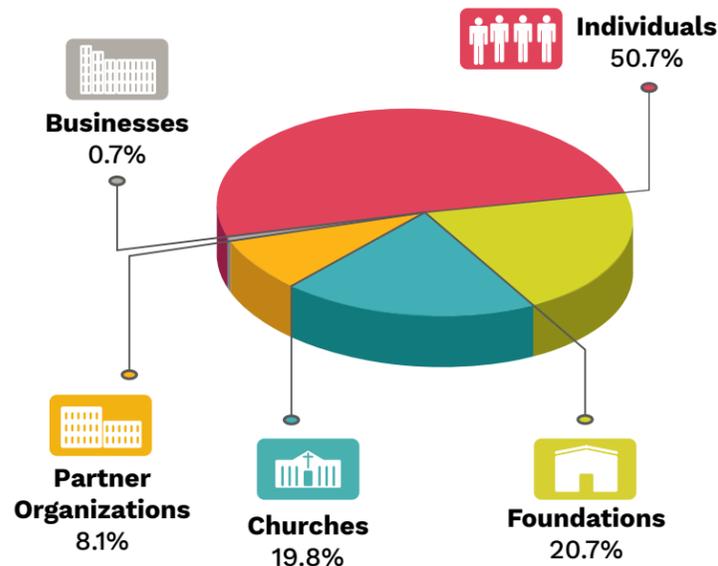


FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The work of Horizons is made possible through generous contributions from individuals, churches, and foundations. By God's grace, He has inspired an increasing number of people to serve through giving to Horizons' strategic initiatives around the world. Below is a financial report showing income and expenses for the last three years, as well as budgeted figures for 2023.

Expenses	2020 Income	2020 Expenses	2021 Income	2021 Expenses	2022 Income*	2022 Expenses*	Budget 2023 Income	Budget 2023 Expenses
Administration	\$1,062,335	\$659,096	\$1,716,759	\$576,426	\$969,569	\$600,438	\$757,174	\$615,684
Facilities	\$338,617	\$288,430	\$425,567	\$354,879	\$564,015	\$388,250	\$495,000	\$372,100
Training Programs	\$280,134	\$288,273	\$308,279	\$328,970	\$264,797	\$404,971	\$278,643	\$406,106
US Field Ministry	\$258,914	\$269,044	\$259,816	\$234,992	\$197,393	\$221,004	\$207,133	\$233,843
MENA Field Ministries	\$1,953,824	\$1,277,633	\$1,685,219	\$2,065,197	\$1,986,237	\$1,835,229	\$1,967,561	\$2,119,349
Lebanon Crisis Fund	\$1,281,775	\$629,245	\$695,399	\$741,649	\$468,133	\$759,974	\$696,209	\$832,180
Middle East Center	\$744,350	\$350,730	\$404,222	\$413,382	\$833,856	\$796,262	\$689,320	\$662,753
Kosovo, Ukraine & Asia	\$147,036	\$206,528	\$179,082	\$213,061	\$136,700	\$207,453	\$125,211	\$208,507
Other	\$59,792	\$24,679	\$57,429	\$27,715	\$79,176	\$22,791	\$75,000	\$26,100
Total	\$6,126,777	\$3,993,658	\$5,731,772	\$4,956,271	\$5,499,876	\$5,236,372	\$5,291,251	\$5,476,622

* Figures are composed of Q1-Q3 actual income and expenses, plus Q4 projections. In instances in which expenses exceed income, funds rolled over from the previous year are used, or leadership approves allocations of undesignated funds, in order to seize valuable ministry opportunities and support crucial initiatives.



WHO GAVE IN 2022

WHERE WE SPENT IN 2022

2023 WHERE IS THE LORD LEADING US?

As we look forward to the coming year, God's light is shining brightly. The Church is providing tangible hope and aid to millions of people across the globe—and Horizons is empowering local church networks to reach their communities with humanitarian aid and the message of the gospel. Thousands are coming to know Christ! We are responding to this amazing harvest with new initiatives to serve the poor, the sick, the orphaned, and the oppressed.

Under God's blessing, Horizons will implement the following Strategic Initiatives in 2023:

- » **Lebanon Crisis Fund (LCF) & Agricultural Projects –** providing Christ-centered humanitarian aid, paid internships, and training in effective ministry. Investing in new ministry centers, missional businesses, agricultural development, and medical clinics.
- » **Ukraine Crisis Fund (UCF) & Ukraine Ministry –** building up the local evangelical Church by combining gospel teaching and training with humanitarian aid provisions. Establishing a new ministry center, with two staff members in Ukraine leading this expansion.
- » **Global Expansion & Training –** launching new in-person and online training courses and curricula. Expanding our existing ministry initiatives and training models to equip churches, leaders, and missionaries in evangelism and discipleship.

2022 \$100,000 MATCHING GRANT

You can support the work of the Great Commission around the world. Your gift towards Horizons International's 2022 Matching Grant will empower the local church and our community partners to raise up the Church as a light upon a hill, a source of hope and aid to millions of suffering souls. **Every donation postmarked on or before December 31 will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$100,000**—which will greatly increase your contribution's impact for the Kingdom!

horizonsinternational.org/2022match



**“GO INTO ALL
THE WORLD AND
PREACH THE
GOSPEL TO ALL
CREATION.”**

- MARK 16:15



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