



CELEBRATING  
30 YEARS OF  
MINISTRY

AUTUMN 2018

# FIELD REPORT

**In this issue...**

30 Years of Ministry  
Feed The Hungry with UCB  
Community Fundraising

LeSEA Global

**FEED THE HUNGRY**

A full life feels good.™



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In November 1987, Dr Lester Sumrall felt challenged by God to feed those who didn't have the resources to be able to feed themselves. He was obedient to that call, and the very next month, food began to be shipped under the banner of 'Feed The Hungry'. The ministry has been growing ever since, impacting the lives of hundreds of thousands of people around the globe, not just with physical food, but with the message of the Gospel. We're so thankful to God for where He's brought us, and we're excited to see how He is going to use us next.



Gwyn Williams  
Operations Director

LeSEA Global  
**FEED THE HUNGRY**  
A full life feels good.™

By feeding the hungry together, and delivering it in the name of Christ's love, you are joining with Feed The Hungry to help change people's lives for the better, for the future and for eternity.

**Please consider financially supporting the work of Feed The Hungry. To donate, phone 0303 3000 484 or visit [fth.org.uk/fieldreport](http://fth.org.uk/fieldreport)**

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Photo Credit: Roger Walterhouse, Feed The Hungry

## FEED THE HUNGRY WITH UCB

*Rich Smith explains how Feed The Hungry are working with UCB to reach more children in Zimbabwe.*

United Christian Broadcasters are an incredible ministry; Christ-focused and eager to encourage those that they reach through print, radio or online, to live out their daily lives for Jesus. They align with Feed The Hungry's heart and vision in many ways. Our partnership with UCB goes back several years, but it has only

been since the Spring this year that we started talking about working closer together.

In March, I had the privilege to go and visit our Church partner in Zimbabwe, The Joseph Foundation, who at the time fed 10,500 children through schools in and around Harare. On this trip, I had a new experience. I've been to a number of African countries, usually visiting thriving feeding programmes, where huge vats of rice-based meals are cooked for thousands of children each day. This time, we went to schools in a suburb of Harare called 'Epworth', where there was no feeding programme operating.

It was heart wrenching.

Children were lethargic, some lying on the floors, even going to sleep in their classrooms because they were so tired from not eating. I met a girl called Rumbidzai (11), who only ate one meal each day in the evening. By the time she got to school the next day, she was hungry. By early afternoon, she was starving; not able to concentrate or sometimes even stay awake. Rumbidzai's situation is not uncommon.



Rumbidzai is just one of many children who only eat once a day.

Seeing those children affected me. While we were still in Zimbabwe, I started writing a report, stating that I believed that we should be working in these schools. The report was passed up the Feed The Hungry chain of command and was approved. Just five days after visiting Epworth, two new feeding programmes began in the schools we visited. I literally cried when I saw the photos of children in those schools, now being fed. Today, The Joseph Foundation supports 14,000 children.

However, we were faced with a new problem. It's all very well someone making the decision that we're going to work in more schools, but working in more schools means more resources are required; more food to be able to send and more money to be able to send it.

This is where UCB come in. In August, we ran two Hand To Hand food packing events at UCB's Operations Building and Broadcast Centre in Stoke-on-Trent, where over 12,000 meals were packed for Zimbabwe, and supporters of UCB were encouraged to consider running their own food packing events. In September, UCB's listeners generously raised over £51,000 to help to send food and Bibles to children in Zimbabwe and other Feed The Hungry feeding programmes. This amazing generosity is a practical expression of Christ's Love for the poor. In November, UCB will be sending a presenter to visit The Joseph Foundation in Zimbabwe, to see the new feeding programmes.

UCB and their listeners have been incredibly generous and we are incredibly grateful. We pray this partnership will continue to grow, and that more and more children in Zimbabwe will know how good a full life feels.

Find out more about our work in Zimbabwe at [fth.org.uk/zimbabwe](http://fth.org.uk/zimbabwe)

# FEEDING THE HUNGRY FOR 30 YEARS



Zimbabwe was one of the first African nations that we started providing aid to. This has now grown to 12 countries, with the UK office responsible for food being sent to Kenya and Zimbabwe. In Zambia, we support widows through our farming programme, teaching them the skills they need to provide for their families.

## EUROPE

Throughout the 30 years of Feed The Hungry, we've worked across Eastern Europe. Aid was first taken out to countries that were coming out of communist control, and then to countries affected by war like Bosnia and Croatia. Today, we are still working in Romania, Ukraine and supporting Syrian refugees in Greece.



## AFRICA

## CENTRAL AMERICA

Guatemala and Nicaragua were the destinations for the maiden flight of the first Feed The Hungry plane. Aid in the region has spread to cover areas affected by natural disasters and other places in need. Most recently, this has seen the building of kitchens in schools in Haiti. The Feed The Hungry team in the USA have also responded to natural disasters in-country like Hurricane Katrina.



## ASIA



Our work in Asia started by supporting Christian refugees who were fleeing persecution. We responded with emergency relief to the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami; through our network of local church partners, we were able to quickly get aid to some of the areas in greatest need. Today, we are still working in Nepal, India and Cambodia, often supporting victims of trafficking and those still affected by persecution.



# 30 YEARS OF MINISTRY REFLECTIONS FROM THE FIELD

*One evening in November 1987, Dr Lester Sumrall heard a challenge from God that changed his life and the lives of hundreds of thousands of children for years to come. As his son, Peter, said, "Feed The Hungry was born that night, along with the joy and thrill that accompany lives changed around the world through the power of God and ministry of food."*



Feed The Hungry's first truck at a shipping dock.

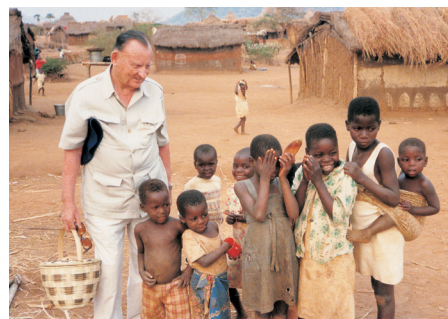
In December 1987, the first food was distributed to those in need in Manila in the Philippines. The following year we continued our work, moving into distributing food in Africa - 55 tonnes of maize meal were distributed in Zimbabwe and 40 tonnes were distributed in Malawi.

By the end of 1989, we were distributing food through churches across Eastern Europe. Dr Sumrall preached in Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria as Communism collapsed.

When an earthquake hit the Philippines in 1990, Feed The Hungry were one of the first aid agencies on the scene. We provided 34,000 kg of emergency food and sent another 136 tonnes of rice in a second later shipment. Feed The Hungry worked closely with US military forces to transport the food by military planes and helicopters due to impassable terrain.

In 1991, our office opened in Australia and we shipped our first aid to Nicaragua. In 1993, we were able to get aid to those in need in war torn Bosnia. This was closely followed by receiving permits to provide humanitarian aid to those in need in Cuba. Through the mid-to-late

1990s, we were able to get aid to more of Africa, as well as Europe and South America.



Dr Sumrall visiting a Feed The Hungry project in Zimbabwe.

Sadly, in 1996 Dr Sumrall died at the age of 83. However, the work of Feed The Hungry continued.

In 1998, Feed The Hungry were one of the few outside aid agencies allowed to bring in aid to North Korea, to provide for those malnourished after a 3 year famine. The new millennium saw more humanitarian aid being distributed throughout Asia, often supporting persecuted Christians fleeing their homes.

The end of 2004 brought the, now infamous, 'Boxing Day Tsunami' that affected thousands in the Indian Ocean area. Working with our partners on the ground, we released funds for emergency aid and supported local churches in reaching those affected. The next few years saw an increase in disaster relief as we responded to hurricanes, earthquakes and famine.

2005 saw the launch of 'Every Child Every Day' (ECED), feeding 1000 children regularly.

In 2010, our UK office opened with Gwyn Williams taking the lead as Operations Manager. By 2013, over 35,000 children were being fed through ECED.

2015 saw the UK office starting to ship containers of resources to Church partners around the world, and in 2016, we began shipping food containers, formally taking responsibility for supporting Zimbabwe and Kenya. We also had our first trip to Zambia to start developing sustainable farming projects. By 2017, around 171,000 children were being fed through ECED.



Children enjoy a lunchtime meal provided through ECED.

And now in 2018, we have started our own UK food packing events - 'Hand To Hand'. Globally, we have a vision to regularly feed 250,000 children through ECED by 2019. We praise God for where He has brought Feed The Hungry over the last 30 years, and we look to Him for what He's going to do in the next 30!

# COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

*Emily Williams reflects on taking your hobby and turning it into a fundraiser.*

My husband and I have recently moved house. As anyone that has moved house will know, it comes with a fair amount of stress and an endless list of jobs that need doing. As a release from that, I have been putting the new kitchen to the test and am doing lots of baking. I find baking really fun and love experimenting with new recipes - after getting lost in pinterest recipes of course.

There is only one downside to having a hobby that involves cake: there is then lots of cake in the house and it would be very unhealthy for us to eat it all ourselves (although it would be irresponsible if we didn't at least sample every bake). In order to get all these yummy bakes out of the house to stop us from eating them, we have started taking these bakes to church with us or sending them to local community groups for them to give out. I really enjoy seeing others enjoying my bakes and seeing the smiles they can put on peoples faces.

It occurred to me how easy and fun it would be to turn a hobby like this into a way of raising money. A bake sale or coffee morning would be fun for me, only

cost my friends a very small amount of money, and yet has the potential to raise lots for charity and for everyone to have a great time! If baking isn't your strong point or isn't something you enjoy, you could look at your hobbies and see how they could be turned into a fundraising idea. It could be anything from a sponsored race of some sort to selling your own crafting creations. The possibilities are endless. It's so great to see a hobby you really enjoy being used for the good of others!

A few years ago when I went to Romania on mission, I got to see first hand how all these small things can add up and make a huge difference to the children we're trying to support. We would take groups of children to a local park to enable them to have an hour or two where they could forget about everything and just have fun being children. We'd then all sit down together and have a drink and a snack. They would get so excited by an individual cupcake or a slice of watermelon.

Holding a bake sale can raise money to pay for a mission trip where sweet treats are then shared with those in need. What a pleasure to see it go full circle.

*For more information on fundraising for Feed The Hungry, please go to [fth.org.uk/fundraiser](http://fth.org.uk/fundraiser)*

## LOOKING FOR A NEW WAY FOR YOUR CHURCH TO CONNECT WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

[FTH.ORG.UK/HANDTOHAND](http://FTH.ORG.UK/HANDTOHAND)



**'Hand To Hand' is a Church-based, community-focused food packing event.**

It's a great way to engage your church family with practical social justice, as well as developing fellowship and drawing in your local community.



## BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

### HAND TO HAND

PACKING FOOD TO FEED THE HUNGRY



#### What is meant by "food packing"?

Food packing events involve volunteers helping to put together, seal and box, packs of dried rice, soya and lentils along with micronutrients. Each pack contains the equivalent of 6 meals, which will be cooked in the kitchens of schools, villages and churches, based in some of the poorest communities around the globe.

Food packing is about creating high-nutrition, life-saving food that will transform lives in some of the poorest countries in the World. It will help to bring transformation and joy into the lives of children affected by drought, war, disaster or poverty, as part of a programme to bring lives from struggle to self-sustainability.

WATCH HAND TO HAND IN ACTION AT [FTH.ORG.UK/HANDTOHAND](http://FTH.ORG.UK/HANDTOHAND)



## BUILDING KITCHENS IN HAITI

In August, Gwyn Williams, went to Haiti to help with the start of a new project with Team Rubicon UK to provide kitchens for some of the schools where we provide meals to over 4000 children. While he was there Gwyn spent time with Pastor Jephthe, who through answering

God's call on his life, has planted churches through the mountain villages in Haiti. Through the churches, he has helped them set up schools and feeding programmes and has also set up orphanages to provide for those children that were struggling to survive.

“After the earthquake in January 2010 I spent a month travelling between the mountain villages and Port au Prince, rescuing those who were cut off from family and reconnecting them, and taking in children who were now orphans”, says Pastor Jephthe.

“On one of these trips to Port au Prince I came across an orphanage housing 20 children, but they had nothing. No food and no money to go and buy what food was available, so I gave them what I had with me. Over the following weeks I kept providing them with the resources needed to keep the children from starving. Mrs LaFleur, who ran the orphanage, suggested that the Jerusalem Baptist Ministry took over the running of the orphanage. We did this and moved them to a purpose built building with plenty of land. We established a school for the children, and we started providing the children with meals through the Feed The Hungry ‘Every Child Every Day’ programme.

Moses, is one of the children who lives at the orphanage. He was left outside the orphanage when he was a few hours old with nothing. Mrs LaFleur found him when she went out to go to the shops. She picked him up and took him back into the orphanage. Moses is now a happy thriving 5 year old, starting school and loving life.”

The Jerusalem Baptist Ministry has planted many churches and schools up in the mountain villages. When Pastor Jephthe first started his ministry, people would walk for over 2 hours to get to the church, so he decided to take the church to the villages. Over time he would travel with a group from his church and they would spend time in the open air with the local people, sharing the gospel and praying with them. As more people came to faith, they planted churches, equipping them to set up schools, and then provide feeding programmes with the support of Feed The Hungry. Having the kitchens built, providing a safe place to prepare the meals each day is such a blessing for them.



Team Rubicon UK works with local builders to put in place the structures for the new kitchens.

“We are so excited! Thank you so much. We are so encouraged by what is happening. Often I look at the situation here and it looks bleak and it feels hopeless and can feel very lonely. And then Feed The Hungry and Team Rubicon come and help like this. Thank you!”, says Pastor Jephthe.

**To find out more, visit [fth.org.uk/haiti](http://fth.org.uk/haiti)**



# FOOTPRINTS

## ***What is your footprint on the world? Where have you left a lasting mark in someone's life?***

Often, we don't know about our living legacies. We're not aware of the impression an action we've made has left on someone else. Jeff, is a teacher at one of the schools we support in Kibera, Kenya - The Soweto Academy. For him, the legacy of the work of Feed The Hungry is very clear. He used to be one of the pupils who came to school hungry. He received a meal every day thanks to Feed The Hungry, and this meant he was then alert and able to study. Jeff completed his secondary education at The Soweto Academy, and went on to

train as a teacher. He has now returned, to make a difference in the lives of children living in the slums, and to help them to build a better future.

Jeff says, "Civilization of the community begins in our Soweto Academy, and we hope it spreads out to impact and influence the wider community. An educated student can help transform the whole community to be a better place for all in the Kibera area."

Can you help us support more children like Jeff, and those he now teaches, by leaving us a legacy in your will?

***For more information please go to [feedthehungry.org.uk/legacy](https://feedthehungry.org.uk/legacy)***

# SUPPORTER STORIES

We are so thankful for those who stand in the gap on behalf of the children we reach through regular financial giving. Your generosity is valued and makes an incredible difference.



Young people regularly visit the Feed The Hungry Warehouse to help sort and pack clothes for sending overseas.

It's amazing to see how people support our work in other ways. Churches who grasp God's heart and burden for the hungry and engage in food packing events. People wanting to be involved at a deeper level in the lives of the children, like the girl's brigade group who have raised funds to help a school in Kenya we partner with. Stories of people choosing to use the tool of Facebook and raise funds on their birthday on our behalf. Not to mention the schools who have run non-uniform days or completed sponsored walks. Individuals who have hosted coffee mornings, bake sales and shared our story with their audience.

Volunteers who support with a hands-on approach and come into our warehouse to sort and pack clothes.

Stories that live out the mission of Jesus, showing his love in action. We are so grateful for each one.

Perhaps these stories inspire you to join in on the action too?

Do you have a story you can write and share; a page to pen in the lives of the children we work with? Is there a chapter you can write in your local church, work or community context?



Some young people baking cakes for Feed The Hungry.

We would love to hear from you, to help you get your story started.

***For more information, visit [feedthehungry.org.uk/fundraising](https://feedthehungry.org.uk/fundraising)***



# NEWS

To keep up to date with all our latest news stories go to [fth.org.uk/news](http://fth.org.uk/news) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

## Songs of Praise

We were delighted to be asked to feature on BBC Songs of Praise, which was broadcast on 23rd September. We held a food packing event in Exeter, met Katherine Jenkins and shared about our work. It was an amazing privilege.



Volunteers pack food at St. David's Church, Exeter, accompanied by Kathrine Jenkins for BBC's Songs of Praise.

## Facebook Fundraisers

Over the last couple of months we have had several supporters set up fundraisers for us using Facebook. If you are one of them, then thank you! We really appreciate it. If you would like more information on how you could do this for us, please go to [feedthehungry.org.uk/ff](http://feedthehungry.org.uk/ff)



A Girls Brigade group in Hinckley have raised a fantastic £470 to help the Soweto Academy in Kiberia.

## Direct Debit Payments

We are now set up to accept monthly donations in support of our work via direct debit through the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF). If you would like to consider setting up a monthly donation to us you can find out more at [feedthehungry.org.uk/monthly](http://feedthehungry.org.uk/monthly)



Please consider financially supporting the work of Feed The Hungry. To donate, phone 0303 3000 484 or visit [fth.org.uk/fieldreport](http://fth.org.uk/fieldreport)