



2009

*Annual Report*



FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC.



*“The eyes of all look hopefully to You; You give them their food in due season.” (Psalm 145:15)*

## *A message from the president*

Your compassion touched many lives in 2009, and remarkable changes – both physical and spiritual – were seen and felt.



Through your generosity, new water wells provided clean drinking water and instilled precious hope in the hearts of villagers. Sturdy roofs were placed over the heads of innocent children, resulting in greater stability and improved schoolwork.

The impoverished mother you’ll read about on page 2 of this report told us, “I believe God doesn’t come Himself... He sends people.”

*“For I rescued the poor who cried out for help, the orphans and the unassisted...” (Job 29:12)*

As you know, 2010 has presented the Food For The Poor family with an unprecedented challenge. The devastating earthquake in Haiti has left countless families and children abandoned, traumatized and lacking everything. Now more than ever, we will need God’s strength and guidance, along with your steadfast support, to help rebuild shattered lives in Haiti.

For those that were blessed by your compassion in 2009, I wish to express sincere thanks. Your generosity is a true reflection of God’s love and mercy.

A servant of the poor,

Robin G. Mahfood

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# 3.12%

Administrative Ratio

### 2009 Summary of Activities\*

Total Expenditures .....	\$1,073,160,536
Operating Expenses.....	\$33,519,725
Tractor-Trailers of Aid Distributed.....	3,324

\*Subject to final audit.

# Providing daily bread

Without adequate nutrition, a vulnerable child has little chance of fighting off illness. Across the countries we serve, severe malnutrition plagues thousands of poor families and claims the lives of innocent children. The basic foods that your generosity helps provide are lifelines to such suffering families.

A baby's shrill cries of hunger weigh heavily on poor mothers who are unable to obtain nutritious food. These desperate mothers attempt to ease hunger pains in any way possible — some place salt on their children's tongues; others add sugar to their water.

Lacking nutritious food, children are unable to properly develop physically and mentally. One tearful mother in Guyana told us, "I kneel and cry and pray... if someday God can send someone to help me. Sometimes we have nothing... just water and go to sleep. I hope someday God will help me get out of this."

This is why your support is such a godsend to suffering families. Through our nutritional centers and feeding programs, your support offers desperate families daily nutrition. Your love offers poverty-stricken children a chance of a future.

Twenty-eight years ago, Food For The Poor started with a few bags of rice and a calling to feed

the hungry. Today, our feeding centers teem with thousands of families who rely on us for their daily bread. The recipients of your compassion thank God for sending along people like you — people who respond to cries of hunger.

With your ongoing help, Food For The Poor will continue to reach out to desperately hungry families. May God bless you for helping feed precious children.

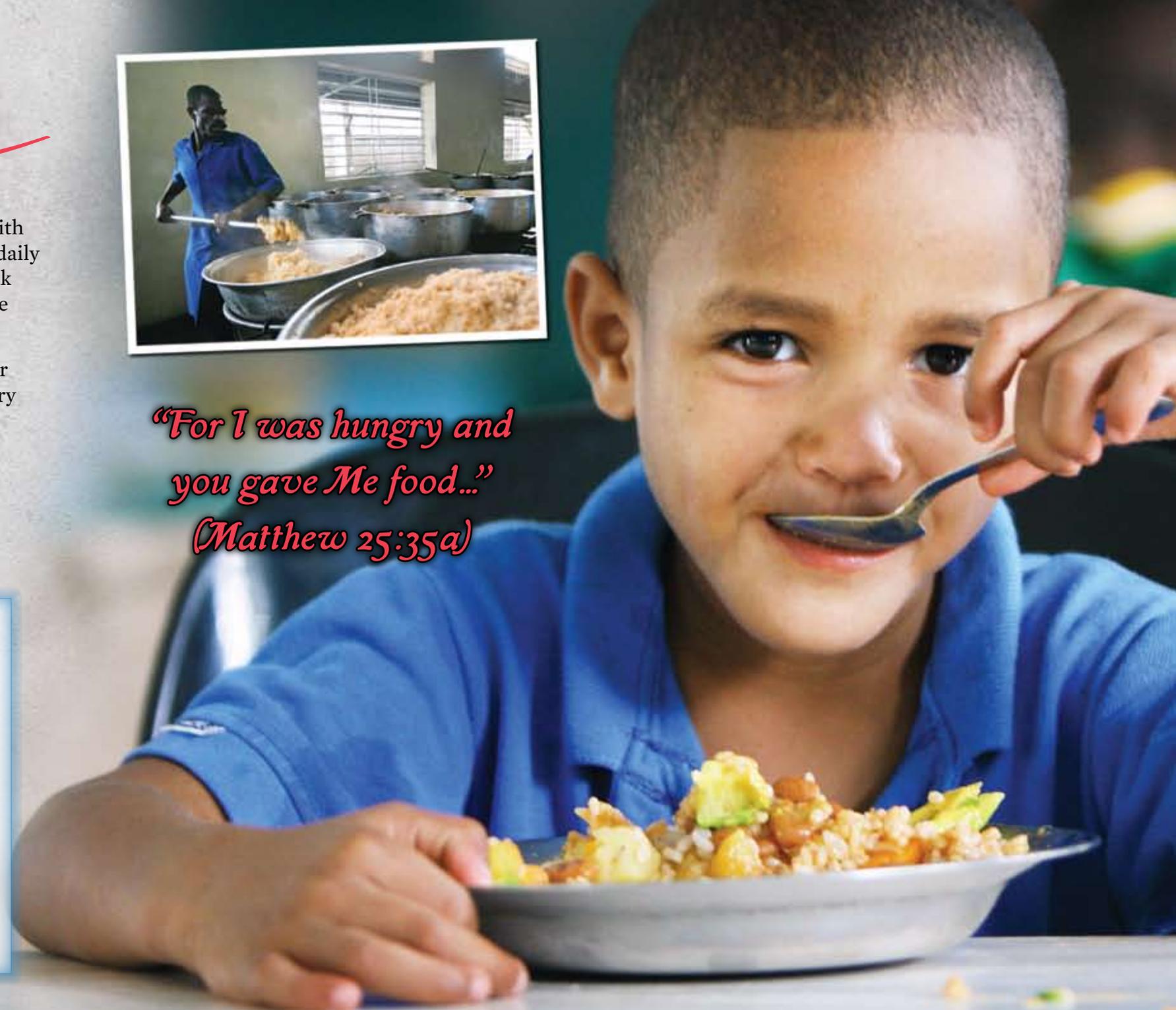


*"For I was hungry and you gave Me food..."  
(Matthew 25:35a)*

## Feeding Facts & Figures

*In 2009, Food For The Poor distributed approximately 27.9 million pounds of food:*

- 12.1 million pounds of rice
- 6.4 million pounds of beans
- 1 million pounds of various other grains
- 1.5 million pounds of canned foods
- 6.9 million pounds of other assorted foods



# Sheltering the homeless

For destitute families, inadequate housing is a key factor in the vicious cycle of poverty. Living in huts made of rotten wood, crumbling metal sheets or palm fronds, the children of poverty-stricken families find it difficult to sleep and are prone to frequent illness.

When it rains, the roofs of these homes leak, which can result in flooding. Children are exposed to intense heat and vermin, and families have little security from intruders. Such fragile homes even threaten to collapse on vulnerable little ones.

Through your support, Food For The Poor continues to replace such treacherous shacks with safe, sturdy houses.

Born into abject poverty in Guatemala, the crumbling structure that Lucia Quishtan called home was a constant source of sorrow for her family. But today, through the compassion of people like you, Lucia's cries of suffering have been transformed into tears of joy. Her family was recently offered a new Food For The Poor home... and a grateful Lucia could not be happier.

"Tonight I will kneel down and thank God, and thank the people who helped build this house," said Lucia. "Please bless them because of the favor they did for me. It is a blessing from God."

After experiencing broken promises of assistance from several institutions and government agencies, Lucia could not believe her ears when she heard that a new home was being built for her family. When the realization finally set in, the loving mother wept with joy.

"I cried because I got a house that I was dreaming of. I never thought I would have a house," Lucia said. "It will cover me and protect me. Thank you, and may God bless you a lot."

Thousands of lives were touched this past year through the gift of a Food For The Poor home. This is the kind of amazing transformation that occurs when people like you share God's love with unsheltered families.

## Housing Facts & Figures

*In 2009, Food For The Poor built 6,371 housing units for families in need of adequate shelter. Since 1982, we have constructed 61,207 housing units for the poor.*



*"I would soon find a shelter from the raging wind and storm."  
(Psalm 55:9)*

# Providing hope for tomorrow

The most effective solutions to poverty are ones that will make a lasting difference. Providing destitute communities with housing, water and animal husbandry projects has the power to break the vicious cycle of poverty.

“Without water, there’s no life.”

This sentiment is echoed by countless families across Latin America and the Caribbean who struggle to survive without potable water. In countries like Haiti, women and children trek miles upon miles in search of water for drinking, cleaning and bathing. Tragically, most of these water sources are polluted.

This is why your support is so critical. The water wells that you help provide not only quench thirst, but also restore hope for desperate villagers and their children.

Food For The Poor also supports many self-sustaining projects, including fruit tree nurseries, tilapia ponds and fishing villages. With hard work and determination, families are able to feed themselves, send their children to school and earn a living.

The saying, “Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime” reflects the philosophy of Food For The Poor’s development projects.

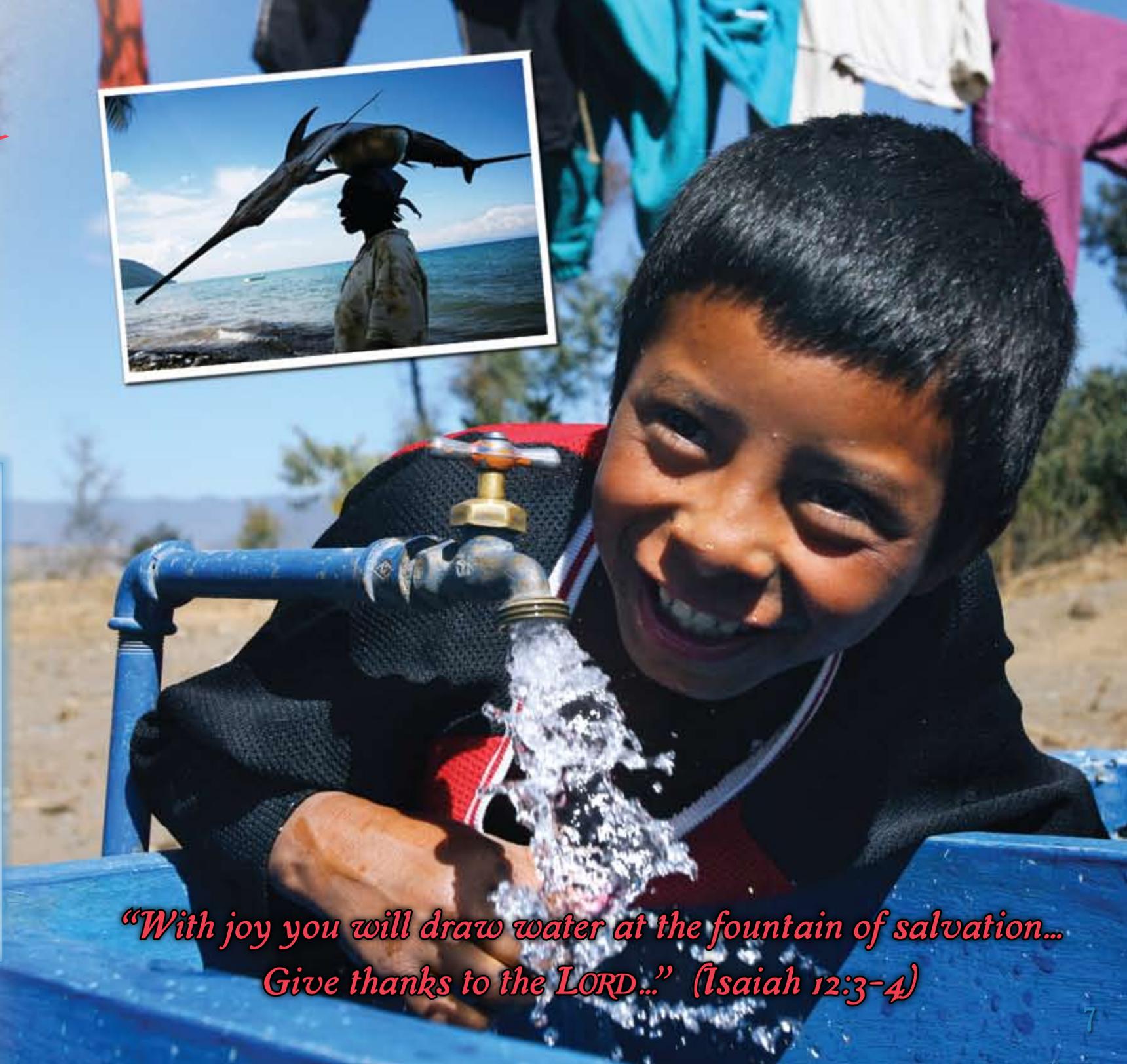
These life-changing projects illustrate the difference between offering a “hand up” versus a “hand out.”

Your gifts to Food For The Poor not only relieve immediate suffering; they also offer hope for a brighter future. May God bless you for reaching out to suffering families.



## 2009 Projects Summary

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Housing/housing villages .....	\$16,564,600
Construction and repairs .....	1,407,464 <i>(for schools, clinics and multipurpose centers)</i>
Project support.....	1,160,378 <i>(for clinics, nursing homes, schools, feeding programs and orphanages)</i>
Water/sanitation .....	2,146,533
Development and self-help projects .....	<u>1,793,382</u> <i>(for aquaculture projects, fishing villages, fruit tree nurseries and animal husbandry)</i>
<b>Total Projects.....</b>	<b><u>\$23,072,357</u></b>



*“With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation... Give thanks to the LORD...” (Isaiah 12:3-4)*

# Caring for the sick

For the poorest of the poor, simply going to the doctor is often not an option. Medical care is rarely accessible to destitute families. Instead, children suffer in pain while their parents do what little they can to comfort them.

But thanks to your compassion, Food For The Poor helps support clinics, hospitals and nutritional centers throughout the countries we serve. Care is given at little or no cost, saving countless innocent lives daily.

Within these facilities, doctors and nurses work tirelessly to assist those who have nowhere to turn.

The task of caring for sick children in an impoverished country can be daunting; this is why your generous support has been such a blessing.

In 2009, Food For The Poor shipped over 601 tractor-trailer loads of critically needed medicines and medical supplies to help afflicted children.

Every ounce of love and support is needed for suffering children in dire need of professional medical attention.

God's saving grace flows in the hospitals and clinics supported by Food For The Poor — and your generosity is the foundation of that support.

On behalf of those restored to health through your compassionate gifts, thank you. Your steadfast support is a true godsend for those in desperate need of medical care.

## Medical Facts & Figures

To help care for the sick who could not afford medical care, Food For The Poor shipped 601.5 tractor-trailer loads of medicines and medical supplies in 2009.

Country	Tractor-Trailers
Guatemala.....	137.5
Haiti.....	121.0
Jamaica.....	117.0
Nicaragua.....	61.0
Honduras.....	43.5
Guyana.....	42.0
El Salvador.....	37.0
Dominican Republic.....	22.5
Dominica.....	6.0
Trinidad.....	4.5
Mexico.....	3.5
Other.....	6.0



*“For I was... ill and you cared for Me...”  
(Matthew 25:35)*

# Educating children

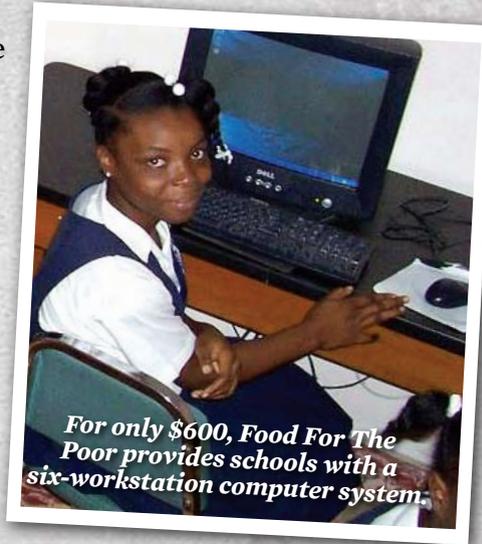
For a destitute child, education is key to escaping generational poverty. Your gifts for education provide books, teaching materials, furniture, food, scholarships and more.

Many poor children in the countries we serve say they want be doctors or nurses when they grow up – “to help people,” they often explain. But such heartfelt aspirations are only possible through educational opportunities that you help provide.

Isaiah is an 8-year-old boy we met in the Dominican Republic who dreams of attending school, but his destitute mother cannot afford the \$10 per month it costs to send him. Instead, Isaiah is forced to wander through his squalid neighborhood daily in search of food or a rare opportunity to earn money for his family.

Sadly, this is a common occurrence for impoverished children whose sole desire involves attending school and being offered

a chance. A chance to learn... a chance to grow... a chance to escape poverty. Your support for education affords innocent, poor children this chance at a new life. For your compassionate assistance, thank you.



For only \$600, Food For The Poor provides schools with a six-workstation computer system.

*“Make known to me  
Your ways, Lord; teach me  
Your paths.” (Psalm 25:4)*

## Education Facts & Figures

In 2009, Food For The Poor provided 382.5 tractor-trailer loads of educational supplies to schools, giving children from destitute families valuable tools for learning. This included 69 tractor-trailer loads of books.

Ciencias Sociales



# Partnerships for the poor

Food For The Poor partners with many other organizations to bring help where it’s needed most in the countries we serve.

Our partnerships are both domestic and foreign, allowing us to obtain and distribute aid in the most efficient, effective manner possible.

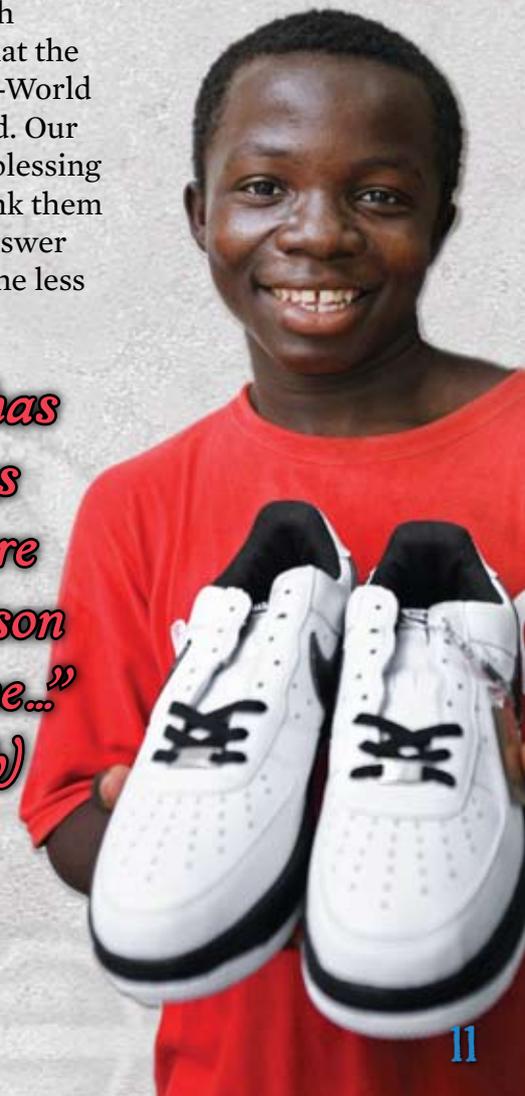
Through the generosity of corporate sponsors, last year Food For The Poor distributed more than 1 million pairs of shoes in Haiti.

In a powerful and symbolic gesture, Food For The Poor representatives washed the feet of the poor before presenting new shoes to the delighted recipients.

The government of Taiwan continues to be a valued partner of Food For The Poor. Their technical assistance has helped ensure the successful implementation of tilapia ponds.

It is only through collective charity that the challenges of Third-World poverty can be faced. Our partners are a true blessing to the poor. We thank them for continuing to answer God’s call to serve the less fortunate.

*“Whoever has  
two cloaks  
should share  
with the person  
who has none...”  
(Luke 3:11b)*



## Corporate Partners

In 2009, through the help of our corporate sponsors and you, we distributed more than 1 million pairs of new shoes in Haiti.

Item	Tractor-Trailers
Shoes .....	191.0
Clothing .....	267.5
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>458.5</b>

# 2009 Financial Statement \*

## Statement of Activities

### Support & Revenue:

Contributions – Cash	\$ 87,766,168
Contributions – Donated Goods	994,831,482
Contributions – Pledges	3,634,946
Other Income	247,584
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>\$1,086,480,180</b>

### Expenses:

Program – Education	\$ 82,038,323
Program – Healthcare	724,802,283
Program – Basic Needs	173,508,635
Program – Community Support & Development	33,994,948
Program – Intra-program Costs	25,296,622
Fundraising	25,777,955
Management	7,741,770
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,073,160,536</b>

### Excess Revenue:

\$ 13,385,880

## Statement of Financial Position

### Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 8,463,183
Contributions Receivable	1,665,303
Property & Equipment	16,800,527
Goods in Transit	18,558,646
Other Assets	563,610
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 46,051,269</b>

### Liabilities & Net Assets:

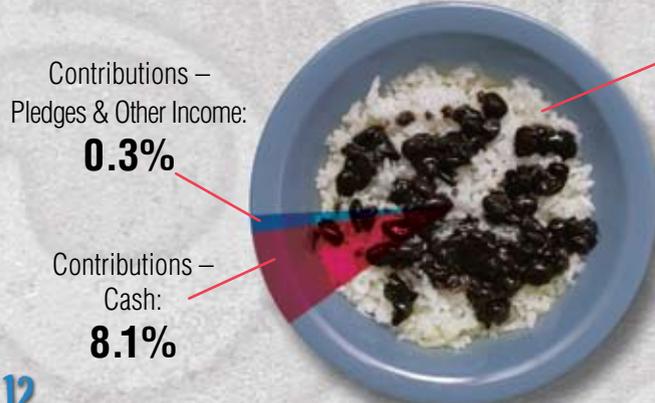
Accounts Payable	\$ 5,965,219
Mortgage Payable	4,525,558
Accrued Liabilities	265,237
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 10,756,014</b>

### Net Assets:

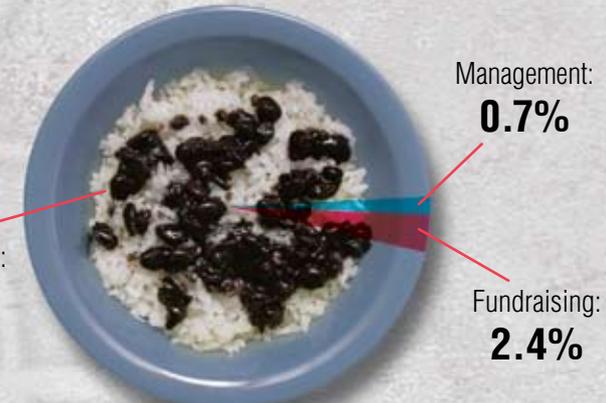
Unrestricted	\$ 35,262,008
Restricted	33,247
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 35,295,255</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets:</b>	<b>\$ 46,051,269</b>

\* Year ending December 31, 2009. Subject to final audit.

## Revenue



## Expenses



# Distributed in 2009

**3,324 tractor-trailers worth \$999,255,005**

Antigua.....	\$267,827
Belize.....	\$2,638,411
Dominica.....	\$2,771,713
Dominican Republic.....	\$70,384,143
Ecuador .....	\$285,346
El Salvador .....	\$50,304,706
Grenada.....	\$4,705,881
Guatemala .....	\$257,703,264
Guyana .....	\$77,206,356
Haiti.....	\$193,810,980
Honduras .....	\$67,088,747
Jamaica .....	\$144,794,454
Mexico .....	\$7,923,695
Nicaragua .....	\$91,981,915
Panama.....	\$15,458,290
Paraguay .....	\$2,179,510
Peru.....	\$1,512,887
St. Lucia.....	\$809,484
St. Vincent.....	\$65,282
Trinidad .....	\$4,771,563
USA .....	\$949,634
Other.....	\$1,640,917

# Officers and Directors

**P. Todd Kennedy**  
Tax and Estate Planning  
Attorney  
Chairman

**Robin G. Mahfood**  
Food For The Poor  
President/CEO, Director

**David T. Price**  
Attorney at Law  
Secretary & Treasurer

**Bill Benson**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Director

**Grace Bonina**  
Business Professional  
Director

**Most Reverend Pierre-André Dumas**  
Bishop of Anse-à-Veau  
and Miragoâne, Haiti  
Director

**The Right Reverend Leopold Frade, D.D.**  
Bishop of the Episcopal  
Diocese of Southeast Florida  
Director

**Rhonda Maingot**  
Missionary  
Director

**His Eminence Óscar Andrés Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga, S.D.B.**

Archbishop of Tegucigalpa,  
Honduras, C.A.  
Director

**Lynne G. Nasrallah, Ed.D.**  
Education Leadership/Counselor  
Director

**Alvaro J. Pereira**  
Business Professional  
Director

**Reverend Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon**  
Roman Catholic Priest  
Director

2009

# Giving thanks

**H**ow does it feel to help answer someone's prayers?

Destitute families in the areas we serve cling to their faith as they pray for relief from years of suffering. They fervently ask God to send daily food or adequate housing — basic necessities that can help their children escape generational poverty.

Amid the darkness of poverty, your compassion is a ray of light and hope. The recipients of Food For The Poor's assistance thank God for sending along people like you — people who have heard and responded to their desperate pleas.

*"Let them thank the LORD for such kindness... For He satisfied the thirsty, filled the hungry with good things." (Psalm 107:8-9)*

You, our donors, are the lifeline of our ministry. Our work cannot be performed without those who not only hear God's call to serve the poor, but act on it. On behalf of every burden that has been lightened because of your support... for every family that has been transformed, we say, "thank you."

The churches, clergy and Christian organizations we work with play a vital role in bringing together the churches of the First and Third Worlds. These partnerships are essential to hearing and answering the cries of the poor. To you, we express our utmost gratitude.

Our corporate and government partners continue to provide a lifeline of aid to destitute communities. Your generous gifts have been essential to serving those in need. The goods donated by you are a testimony to the caring nature of people from developed, industrialized nations who wish to share their blessings with others.

Those of you who visit the poor on mission trips experience firsthand both the challenges of poverty and God's love at work. You are wonderful, kind-hearted individuals who carry God's love to those the world often neglects. On behalf of every soul you have touched, thank you.

Planned giving participants offer a legacy of love for our brothers and sisters in need. Your foresight permits your beautiful gift to transcend generations and benefit families for years to come.

We thank all of you who have made a sacrifice of love through our Operation Starfish program. In facing the challenges of poverty one family at a time, you remind us all that we can make a tremendous difference. Bless you.

On behalf of all the poor families touched by your compassion, we share our sincere gratitude. We look forward to continued partnership in answering our Lord's call to serve those in the greatest need. May God continually smile upon you.



***"Hallelujah! Give thanks to the LORD, who is good, whose love endures forever." (Psalm 106:1)***

# THE CHALLENGE AHEAD: HAITI'S EARTHQUAKE

**O**n January 12th, 2010, Haiti suffered a devastating, 7.0-magnitude earthquake. Food For The Poor immediately responded by shipping and distributing food, water and medical supplies through the Food For The Poor-Haiti office.

For the people of Haiti, the destruction was catastrophic and the suffering unimaginable.

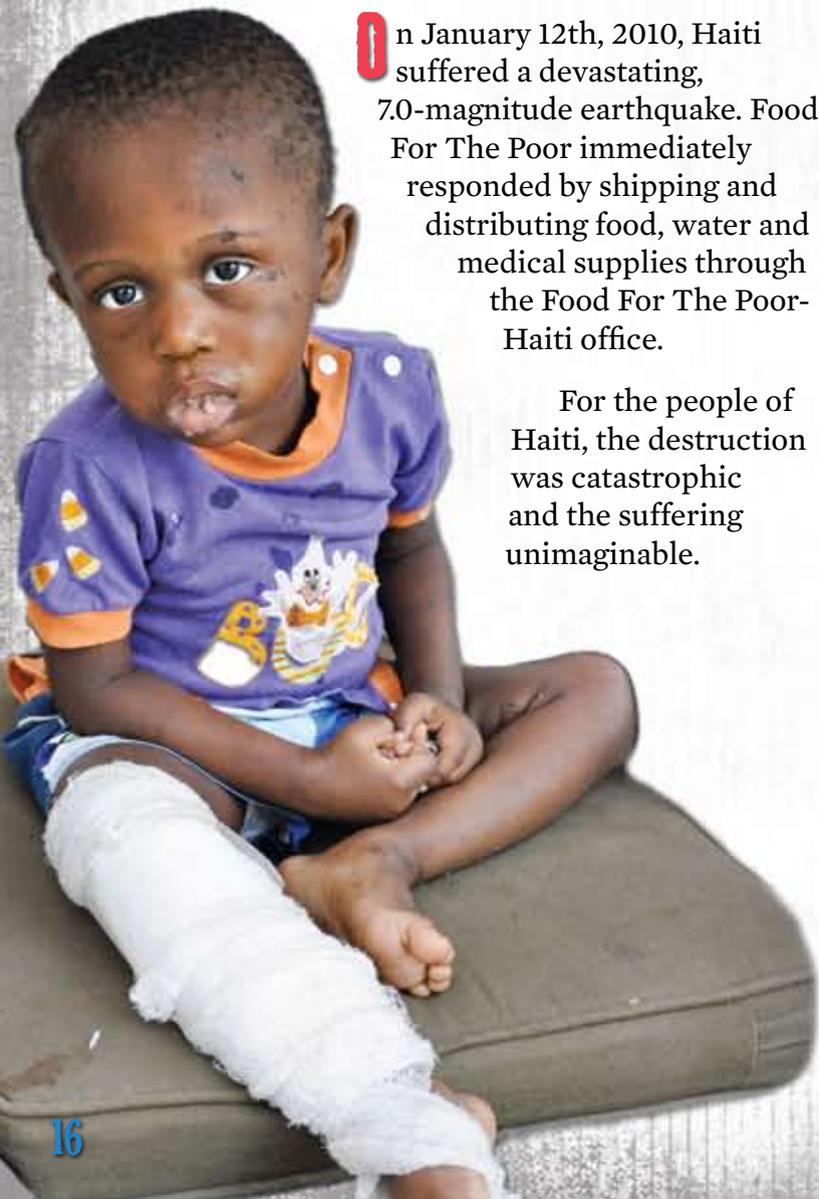
Already the poorest nation in our hemisphere, Haiti was brought to its knees by the deadly disaster. Thousands upon thousands of lives were lost, countless people were injured, and homes and businesses were decimated.

Food For The Poor has operated in Haiti since 1987, and the poverty-stricken country has always held a special place in our heart. Currently, the earthquake has presented our organization with the greatest challenge yet, as we help the people of Haiti begin the process of recovery and rebuilding.

The rebuilding process will require years of hard work and dedication — and this will only be possible through the steadfast compassion of people like you.

Our combined efforts to feed, clothe and shelter the suffering poor have never been more urgently needed. Please continue to pray for the people of Haiti. And please do whatever you can to help our brothers and sisters in need. May God bless you for your compassion and support.

*“Comfort, give comfort to  
My people, says your God.”  
(Isaiah 40:1)*





## *Vision Statement*

*Food For The Poor is God's instrument to help the materially poor and to renew the poor in spirit.*

*Our ministry is a reflection of our Lord's unconditional love – a love that surrenders all, that inspires trust and faith, and that embraces all people, regardless of race, status or creed.*

*It is also shaped by our belief that Christ is alive and can be served directly by serving those in greatest need. (Matthew 25:40)*

*For guidance and to maintain the purity of our mission, we stress the need for regular prayer.*

*Through surrender, service and prayer, we seek a closer union with our Lord.*

## *Mission Statement*

*Our mission is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit.*

*The materially poor are served by local churches, clergy and lay leaders who have been empowered and supplied with goods by Food For The Poor.*

*The poor in spirit are renewed by their relationship with and service to the poor through our direct ministry of teaching, encouragement and prayer.*

*Ultimately, we seek to bring both benefactors and recipients to a closer union with our Lord.*



**FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC.**

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