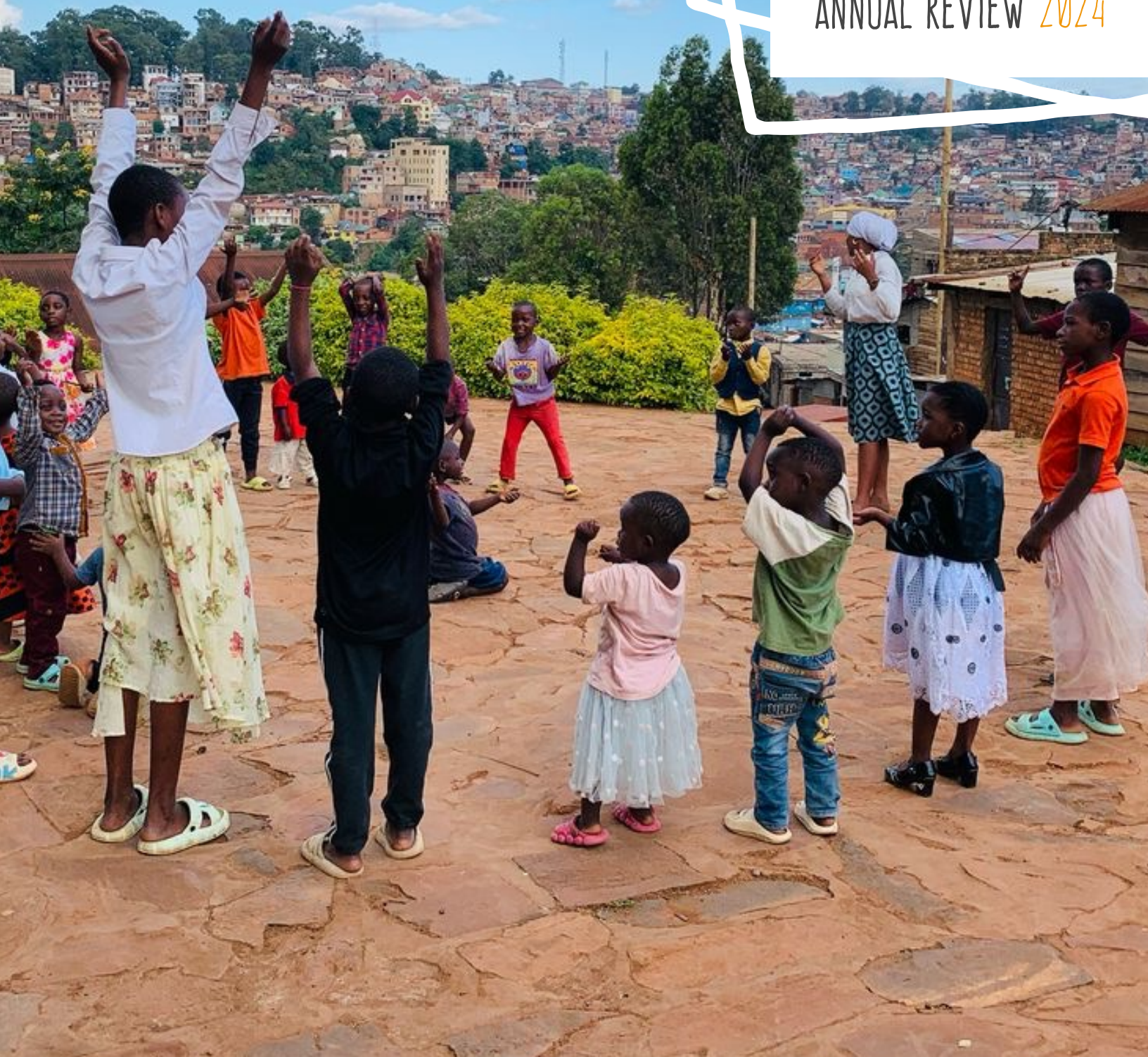




CHILDREN in CHRIST

ANNUAL REVIEW 2024







## DEAR CIC FRIEND,

The Lord is moving! By His power, and through His pure Word and Spirit, He is catalyzing a movement of inspired and equipped children, youth, and adults to fulfill the Great Commission in some of the most challenging contexts.

We see this by His fruit in 2024:

- **18,798 multiplying youth disciplers**
- **362 reached and engaged Unreached People Groups (UPGs) - 22 of which were new in 2024**
- **27 countries, with 1 new country launch**
- **381 new club plants**
- **the official launch of our brand new LAM Journey, an immersive online learning experience in which anyone can get equipped on how to use LAM to disciple others with God's pure Word.**

Most importantly, we saw multitudes of children and youth experience the power of the Gospel for salvation, hope, and personal transformation.

I pray the enclosed 2024 impact highlights and testimonies will encourage and inspire you, as they also inspire us.

We give Him all the praise and all the glory!

With heartfelt thanks,

Jen Merryman | CEO

Below: Dennis, a senior CIC leader, in Ethiopia





## OUR VISION

### Every Child Reached, Mature, and Leading Others in Christ

**REACHED** means engaging children with the Gospel

**MATURE** means a child has begun a life-long journey of spiritual growth and development

**LEADING** means a child is confidently equipped and empowered to share the love and truth of Jesus with others around them

## OUR MISSION

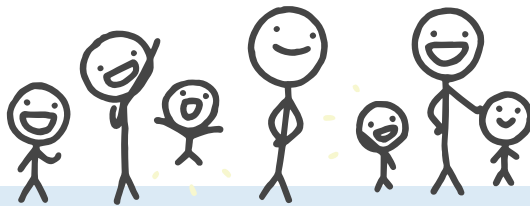
Called to go to challenging places and unreached people groups, CIC inspires, equips, and mobilizes a God-grown indigenous ministry from local church to broader communities that:

01 VALUES CHILDREN

02 MINISTERS GOD'S LOVE TO THEM

03 MATURES THEM IN CHRIST

04 AND EMPOWERS THEM TO IMPACT FAMILIES, VILLAGES, AND NATIONS FOR CHRIST.



## OUR "CREDO"

In our weekly CIC clubs, children and mentors join together in a fun action-oriented reciting of the CIC Credo, "Who Are Children in Christ?" - which reminds us of our club vision and mission.

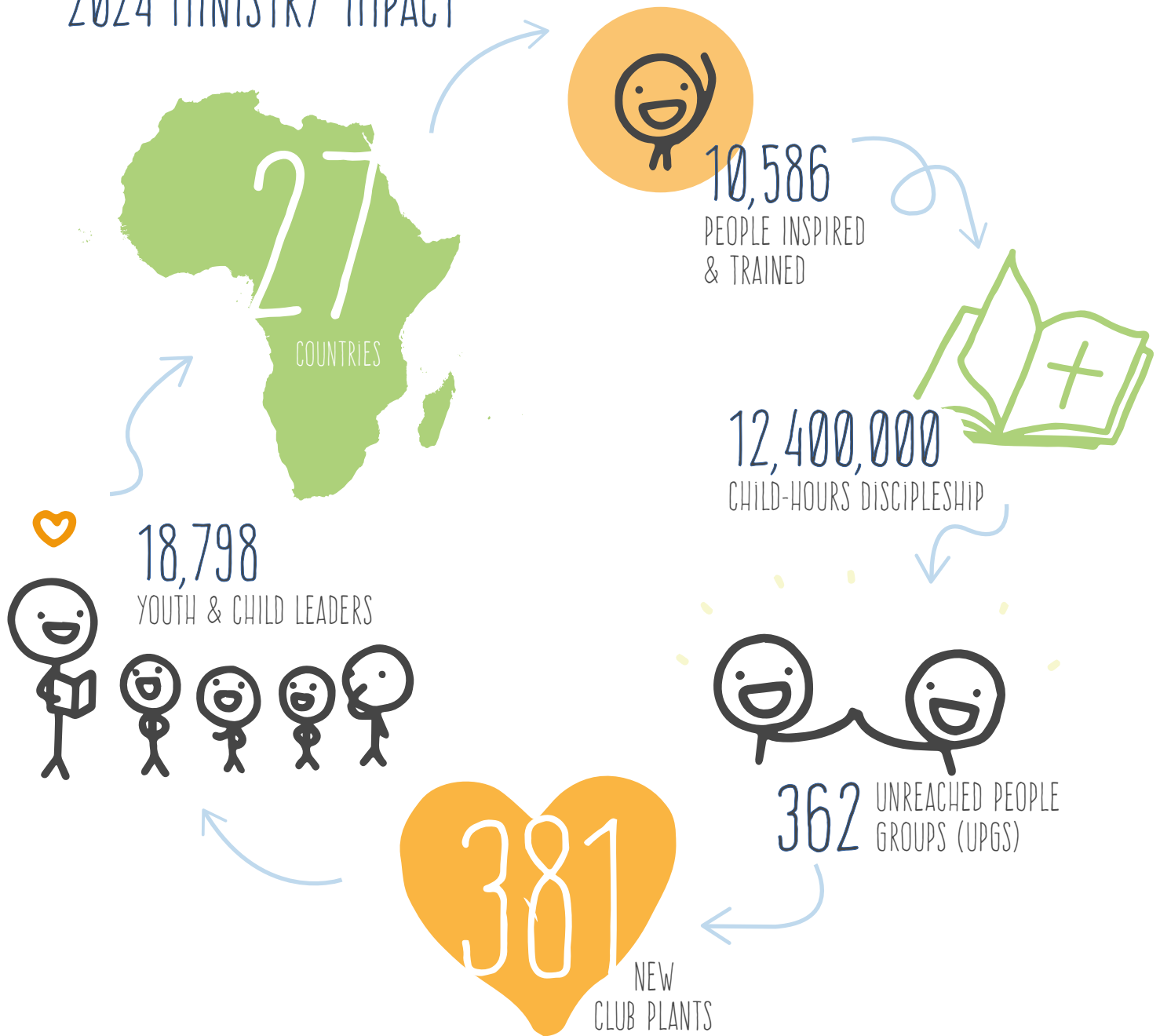
### Who Are Children in Christ?

- We know that God made us and we are precious in His sight
- We believe in His love and forgiveness through Jesus (His Son\*)
- We listen to His Words and follow His Ways
- We pray and see His love and power at work
- We are empowered to go and tell others about His love!

\*In contexts hostile to the Gospel, we refrain from mentioning "His Son" until the club is well-established, there are children believers in the club, and it is safe for the children and mentors.



## 2024 MINISTRY IMPACT

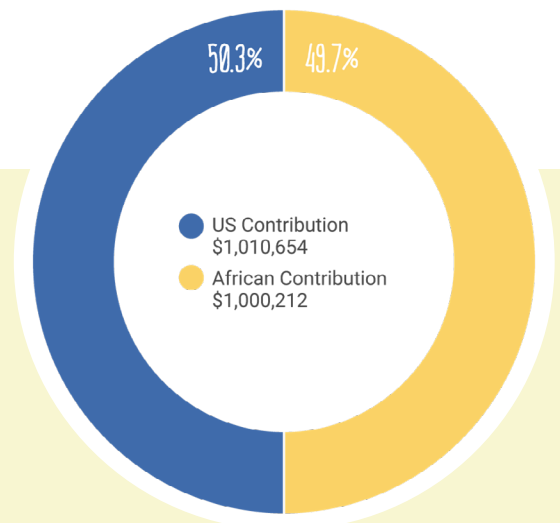


### KINGDOM ROI



\$4.80 Cost per Child per year

\$2,345 Cost per Unreached People Group





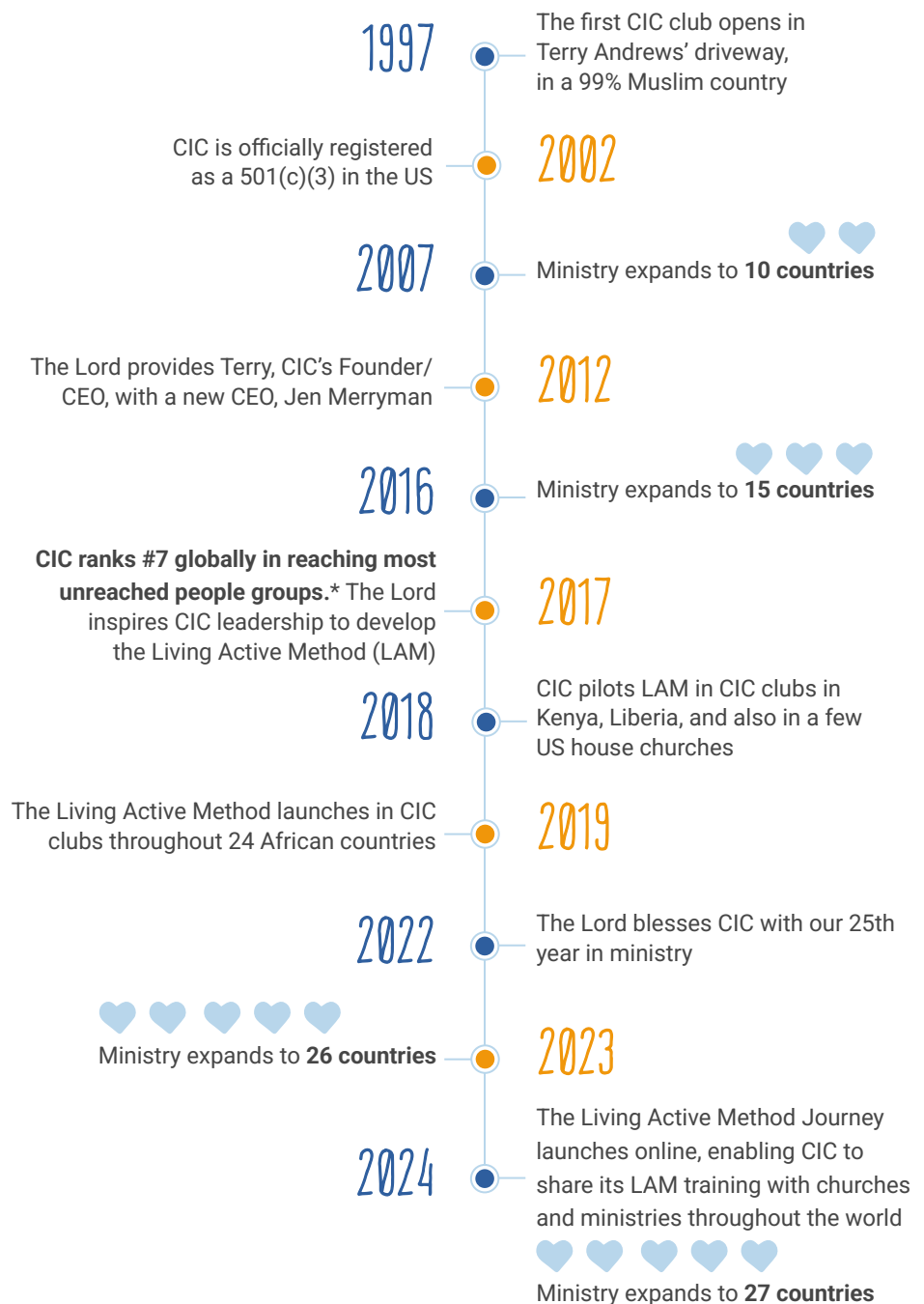
# CIC'S HISTORY: A STORY OF THE LORD'S FAITHFULNESS

This history is not a boast of CIC's capabilities or achievements, but rather a humble and thankful praise to the Lord for who He is, what He has done, and what He continues to do.

MAY HE BE GLORIFIED!



Terry Andrews with CIC club children in The Gambia, 2007



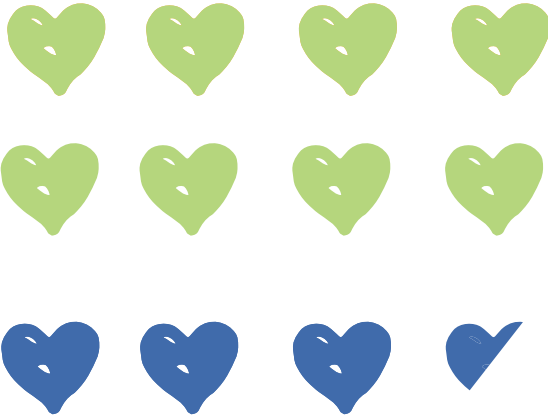
\* Source: Finishing the Task Year-End Report: "Leading Organizations Sending Workers to UUPGs"





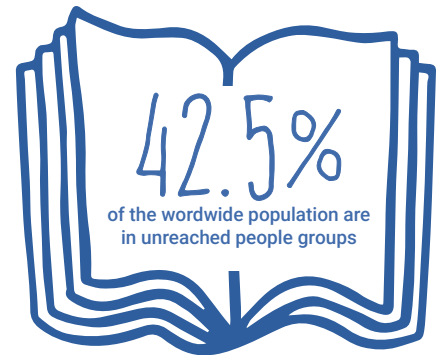
## OUR KINGDOM OPPORTUNITY

### THE STATE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION



**8 billion**  
worldwide  
population

**3.4 billion**  
are in unreached  
people groups



### THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILDREN IN THE GREAT COMMISSION



By age **9**,  
a person's moral  
beliefs are set



By age **14**,  
worldview beliefs  
established



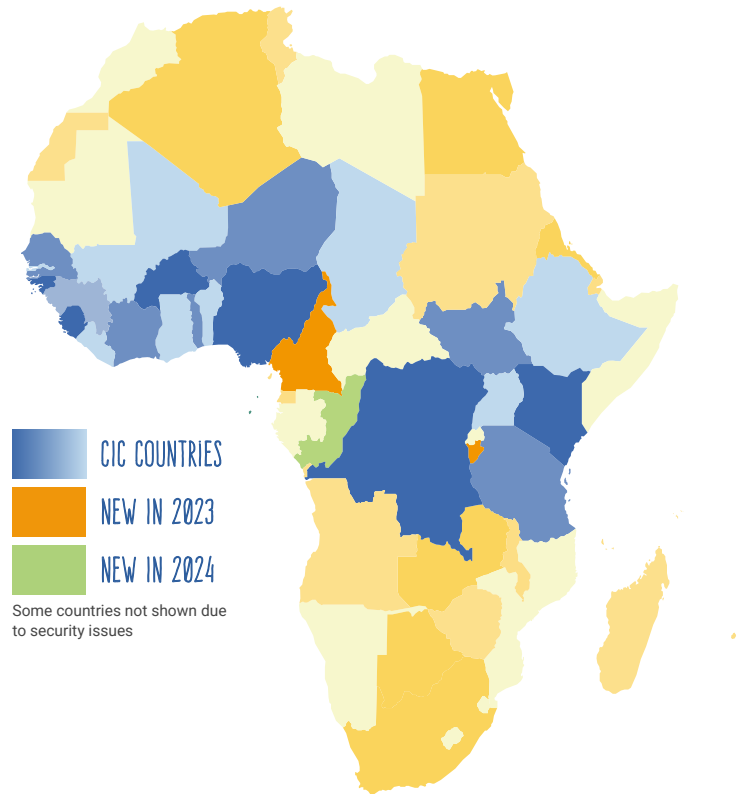
## THE OPPORTUNITY AND URGENCY IN AFRICA

**Children are about 50% of the 500 million in Africa who are considered unreached or minimally reached with the Gospel**

Violence, political instability across Africa has increased +100% in past 10 years. (source: WSJ)

Today Africa has more victims of violence with a tremendous growing number of in-country and over-border refugees. Children and youth are the biggest victims in all of this - millions experiencing brokenness, trauma, hopelessness, and looking for meaningful solutions to the challenging world around them.

But even so, children and youth are eager for the truth and are hungry to know that they have a Heavenly Father who made them, loves them, and has a hope for them!



By age **18**,  
72% of believers  
accept Christ

## CHILDREN & YOUTH ARE KINGDOM MULTIPLIERS WHO GOD DESIGNED TO BE:

- influencers to peers, families, communities
- bold to share
- full of faith
- next generation disciplers
- Sometimes even Kingdom "change agents"





# REACHING THE UNREACHED



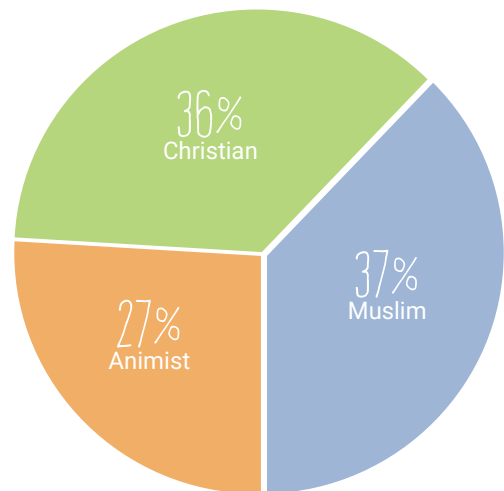
"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. . ."  
Matthew 28:18-19

In the Great Commission, the local church has a unique role since they are the ones whom God has placed in their contexts - they know the language and culture and can even more effectively reach the unreached in their countries.

CIC's vision is to inspire and equip the local indigenous churches, who are near unreached people groups, to go outside their church walls and start weekly outreach & discipleship clubs that minister God's love and truth deeply with children who have never heard the Gospel.

Children encounter Jesus through God's living, active Word, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the joy and love that overflows from all aspects of their CIC Club experience and relationships. Our gentle "come and see who Jesus is" approach has been much more effective in reaching Muslim and Animist children than many other traditional missions approaches.

## ACROSS AFRICA, OUR CLUBS' AVERAGE ATTENDANCE



### I WAS ANIMIST BUT AM NOW CHRISTIAN AND SHARE THE BIBLE STORY WITH MY PARENTS

"I came from an Animist family. . . The joy I saw in the children pushed me to go to the CIC children's club. Once I started I saw the greatness of God through what he created and I understood that God loved me and he cried out to me so that I could love and serve him. . . Today I became a Christian and I go to the Baptist church which is in our neighborhood and every day I pray that my parents also become Christians like me. Every time we are told a Bible story at the club I share it with my parents hoping that they will go to church one day. I really say thank you to CIC who allowed me to be a Christian today."

Koffi S., 8, TOGO

"IN THIS CLUB WE  
FIND LOVE AND JOY"

Abou, 11, GUINEA







## I WAS MUSLIM GOING TO KORAN SCHOOL BUT NOW BELIEVE IN JESUS

Before meeting the CIC club, I came from a Muslim family. My father was a devout worshiper of Islam . . . he enrolled me in the Koranic school to learn the Koran. And this education in this school was cruel. Because the teacher of this school beat us like animals without any mercy. Not a feeling of love from this master towards us who are his students. And I have a friend named Simon who goes to the CIC club, and he invited me one day to come and watch the club's activities. From the first day, I was impressed by the welcome from the club instructor. And as God did things well for me, the meetings took place every Wednesday and Saturday evening. Since I discovered this place of hospitality, I gave up going to Koranic school. No corporal punishment in the club. Considering this aspect, the lessons and advice that we received in the club with this instructor began to change the way I behaved in the family. The first moments my father knew that I was no longer going to Koranic school, he got angry with me and hit me as if he was going to kill me. But despite that I didn't go there anymore. And one day my father wanted to know where I was going. He followed me when I left the house without me knowing. Before he arrived, club activities had already started. And he saw the instructor who supervised us with exciting love and all the children were happy to participate in the club's activities. And at the end of the activities that evening, my father did what many parents of Muslim children never do. He approached the instructor to encourage him about the education he was giving although he knew that we were receiving an education different from that of his religion. It was from that same evening that he stopped threatening me and encouraged me to continue going to the club. And the school year that followed, he sent me to public school so that I could also learn French like other children my age. Through the CIC club and the teachings, there was a very big change in my life because I had already started smoking cigarettes and even started sleeping around. And my father, although he was fervent in Islam, could not prevent these destructive things from my life. My father really liked my change and I believe that after all he will abandon Islam to continue in Christianity. As for me, I am already with Jesus Christ.



Abass S., 13, NIGER



Children in a **99% unreached country, Niger**, learn that God loves them and has a hope for them through Bible stories learned through CIC's Living Active Method.



# EQUIPPING & DISCIPLING CHURCHES



**“...and make disciples of all nations...”**  
**Matthew 28:19**

## EQUIPPING THE LOCAL CHURCHES

You helped us to not only inspire pastors and churches to reach the “lost sheep,” but you also helped us equip them and their members on how to minister God’s love and truth on a weekly basis to children. These discipleship principles and methods are all part of what we call LAM, CIC’s Living Active Method - a simple, powerful way to learn God’s pure Word deeply and transformationally. Amazingly, the churches, pastors, and volunteers are impacted as much as the children - the trainings, the method, and the power of God’s Word all transform these churches by His grace!!

OUR 2024 LOCAL  
CHURCH PARTNERSHIP  
IMPACT INCLUDED:

864

TRAINING EVENTS

with churches and lay volunteers,  
along with club evaluations and  
coaching follow-ups.



10,586

PEOPLE INSPIRED & TRAINED

EQUIPPED FOR MINISTRY

78.5% VOLUNTEERS

21.5% PASTORS



2,280 PASTORS

inspired and equipped on the  
importance of reaching children  
for the Kingdom of God

19%

increase of pastors trained  
compared to 2023.



### THE LAM TRAINING HELPED ME TEACH CHILDREN GOD'S WORD WITHOUT MATERIALS

"The LAM training has impacted me positively. This training has made me learn that I can teach children in a more effective way even without using materials. I used to think that you can only teach using visual aids but I have learnt with LAM the people can be the people, the places and the things in acting the story. I have seen that the six sweet discussion questions are very important and it is the backbone of the LAM to help the children understand the story and dig deeper for revelations. [And we can know if the children] have understood the story by how they retell the story in Sweet Discussion question number one."

Leah K., 24, KENYA

### I AM A FORMER MUSLIM AND NOW SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS WITH THE VILLAGE CHILDREN

"My name is Hawa, I am of Muslim background, I am the only Christian coming from our family. I thank the CIC training team for their work, the Lord passed through them to help me put my gift into practice. I met Maman Sira during training and she shared the vision of CIC with me. I then decided to start the club with the children in my neighborhood. Most of my community abandoned me because of my faith, I was alone and pushed aside. But when I started the club, the children surrounded me every day. They are my friends and give me joy. I share with them the love of the Lord Jesus Christ and teach them the right voice to follow. . . .

Our neighborhood is now awakened and blessed through the club. The children meet every Thursday to listen to Bible lessons that are good for their life in this world and their eternal life. This also strengthened. . . the children and allowed them to change their bad behavior to now be model children in the neighborhood:

Every time there is a dispute between them, they say to each other, what were we told at the club?

They correct each other and ask each other for forgiveness.

Let's persevere in work, and we will bring change in our communities."

Hawa H., 35, MALI



Children in Chad gather for an impromptu photo after their club meeting. Chad was one of the top unreached countries in the world just a few years ago . . . today the Gospel is spreading by God's grace!



"I WANT TO SHARE ABOUT  
GOD'S FAITHFULNESS."



### THE LOCAL MUSLIM SCHOOL ALLOWED US TO START A CIC CLUB!

"I want to share about God's faithfulness. In our area there is a Muslim school. In the past, both Christian and Muslim children were being forced to join the Muslim Koran devotionals. Time by time I was requesting to go and start a Bible club, especially for Christian children in the school. With time the school management accepted that I do this and that was a praise to God! I started teaching them Bible stories from Genesis and amazingly even Muslim children joined. The class attendance is always Muslim and Christian children and that is a praise to God."

Donata M., 41, KENYA



Pastors and church members in CIC new country Congo-Brazzaville celebrate and enjoy a photo moment with their CIC trainers, Dennis, Fred, and Youth Leader Nathan, after their first LAM training



# DEEPLY DISCIPLING CHILDREN & YOUTH



**“...and make disciples of all nations....”**

**Matthew 28:19**

## DISCIPLING THE CHILDREN

We had many challenges in 2024, including: floods in 2 countries; significant conflicts, political instability and terrorism in 13 of our 27 country programs; and leadership transitions in 2 of our countries. But God! By His grace, we were still able to see almost 200,000 children deeply disciplined in the pure Word of God!

Using our Living Active Method, children and youth engage with God's pure Word in profound ways, applying time-tested inductive Bible study techniques, multi-sensory learning, broad participation, and deeply reflective discussion questions that lead to personal application and transformation.

### THROUGH THE CLUB I LEARNED GOD'S WORD AND UNDERSTOOD WHO JESUS IS

I was born in a Muslim family and since I started coming to the club, I learned to memorize the word of God and I understood who Jesus is.. I decided to give my life to Jesus. My parents don't want me to go to Church but I am praying.

Matou C., 14, Female, IVORY COAST

### I LEARNED JESUS IS THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT

The club taught me that Jesus is the most precious gift, the gift that cannot be destroyed and he wants us to follow him everywhere. I was a tough person but the club has meant that now I always have compassion for others in their difficulties. It is through the story of the Good Samaritan that I decided to come to the aid of others in distress with love and compassion.

Saffiatou, 13, Female, MALI



Children and youth enjoy "Sweet Action" of the Bible story (verse shown is from Genesis 15:3)



## LEADING IN CHRIST



**“...he commanded our fathers to teach. . . their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God. . . .” Psalm 78:5b-7a**

**Your partnership in 2024 helped us not just disciple children but also equip and empower youth as multiplying disciplers who:**

- share Jesus' love and truth with others - now and for future generations
- launch new clubs and serve as club ministry leaders
- co-lead LAM trainings for churches, and share the vision with pastors and mission networks too.

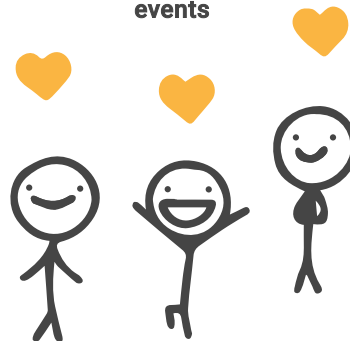
We held 137 Youth Leadership Development events in 2024 like Child & Youth Leadership Retreats (CYLT), Spiritual Stewardship & Integrity Retreats (SSIR), and LAM Trainings specifically to develop young leaders with a Biblical worldview, based on Christ's example of servant leadership.

18,798

Youth and Child  
Club Leaders

137

Youth Leadership  
Development  
events



### CHILDREN AND YOUTH SHARE JESUS' LOVE AND TRUTH WITH OTHERS

“Through this CYLT training my eyes has greatly opened and my love for children has increased more than before, because Christ has love for children, and me being in CIC I want to share that same love to other children who lack this love. That Jesus has freely given to us. I will try my very best as a child leader to bring those CIC children very close to God. Because CIC has made me and bring me very close to God.”

Christiana M., age 15, SIERRA LEONE

“Before I started coming to the CIC club, I didn't know who Jesus is. I hit the children and forbade my brothers, sisters and friends from going to the CIC club. I always told them that these people are crazy, they come to play with the children and go home afterwards. But one day something pushed me to go to the club once, twice and eventually every time there was a club I went and my life started to change and I started bringing my friends, my brothers and sisters at the CIC club and teaching them about the passage from Matthew chapter 18 verse 10 to 14 - God does not want any one of these little ones to perish, but all to have eternal life.”

Waly F., age 18, SENEGAL





## CIC CHILDREN AND YOUTH JOYFULLY SERVE AS CLUB LEADERS AND FACILITATORS

"This training has helped me as a child leader in many ways to understand why LAM [works] to help children . . . understand a bible story and that is by seeing, doing and acting out the story. Now I understand that I can fully lead the club when the adult mentor is not around. I will collaborate with our mentor to always facilitate or be the accountability partner and help other children to do the same."

Teddy D., age 13, KENYA

"The training has really helped me to understand the part of working as a mentor team in the club, that a club should have three categories of facilitators leading; child, youth and adult mentor to help in leading it. The using of six sweet discussion questions is an effective way to make children understand God's word in a faster way and also get more insights from the story. Am desiring to reach more children in unreached areas of my region that they may know Christ through the bible clubs."

Jacob M., 21, KENYA

A CIC youth leader and child leader co-facilitate their club's discipleship session, Goma, DRC



# YOUTH AS MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES

**About 23 years ago**, Siye, a university student in Guinea, West Africa, attended a CIC training. He was inspired to go back home and start CIC Clubs in his own Animist village. All the village children and youth received Jesus as Lord and Savior and began attending the club. Siye chose a few of them as leaders and disciplined them to lead the clubs even when he returned to university. Despite much persecution the children's faith prevailed, and miraculously, after several years, even most of the elders accepted Christ! Siye continued to coach and disciple youth as co-leaders; together they launched many clubs around the Forest region of Guinea.

A few years later, two of these youth leaders, 18 year-old Francis and James, were inspired to cross over the border into Liberia (with only \$7 in their pockets) and do the same thing there. Though local churches would not host them, a Muslim man of peace graciously allowed them to sleep in his car.

Every day, Francis and James would wake up in that hot car, work for their breakfast, and then walk 20 or more kilometers daily to launch and run children's clubs in neighboring areas. As the months passed, they would identify young believers who had leadership potential and mentor them the same way they had been coached by Siye on club leadership. After several months, these new Liberian youth leaders were then able to run the clubs on their own with ongoing coaching - two of these youths included the Muslim man's own sons, Lousine and Lassana. This Muslim father accepted their new faith because he saw the change Jesus had brought to their lives. By 2007 they were running clubs on their own, with Francis and James providing mentorship.

In 2012 the boys became regional coordinators - overseeing many clubs that in total were discipling over 500 children - and were able to train more youth leaders, as Francis and James had done for them. In several years Lousine and Lassana were able to carry on much of the ministry as Francis, and later James, took on West African regional leadership and senior coaching roles.

In 2019 Francis and James empowered Lousine and Lassana to lead the Liberia CIC ministry - with over 40,000 children in clubs across the country. Together with their national team they are developing younger generation teams that can replace them - just as Francis and James did. Lousine is also serving as an international CIC coach, helping other countries with best practices coaching as well. Today Liberia remains one of our many thriving country programs - full of youth and children sharing the love and truth of Jesus with others - and developing more Multiplying Youth Disciples by God's grace!



Francis, age 18, with some of the Muslim man of peace's children



From left to right: James (37), Lousine (26), Lassana (26), Francis (37) together proudly present their Liberian flag at one of our team leader conferences in 2019





# SHARING THE LIVING ACTIVE METHOD GLOBALLY

## What is the LAM Journey?

An immersive online learning experience in which you can get fully equipped on the principles, methods, and simple, practical steps for how to use LAM to learn any Bible story.

## Who is it for?

- Churches
- Community/small groups
- Short-term missions & missionaries
- Missions networks & organizations
- Anyone with a passion for discipleship based on God's pure Word

## Thank you for your prayers and encouragement!

Through this online LAM Journey, we are able to share what the Lord has taught us about child and youth discipleship with the Body of Christ in the US and across the world!

**Find Out More Here:** [livingactivemethod.org](https://livingactivemethod.org)

## WHY IS LAM SO IMPACTFUL?

- ✓ Powerfully hides God's pure Word in hearts
- ✓ Uses multi-sensory learning techniques
- ✓ Creates an optimal learning environment
- ✓ Equips and empowers children
- ✓ Encourages sharing God's Word
- ✓ Doesn't need materials
- ✓ Is easy to learn and pass on!







## STEWARDSHIP

**In CIC the Lord has brought the Body of Christ in the US and Africa to join hands.**

Your donations plus African churches' cash and non-cash contributions (food, transportation, volunteerism, etc.) plus CIC's light footprint (no bricks and mortar, a pro bono CEO, etc.) are all working together to advance the ministry. And through this God-given partnership, in 2024 you were able to reach and disciple 1 child weekly for less than US \$7 per child per year.

In 2025, with escalating ministry costs, we are hoping to increase our total budget to a total \$2,800,000 (US and African contributions), so that we can continue pressing on toward the upward call of Christ. Your gifts will make a big impact as God multiplies your gifts!

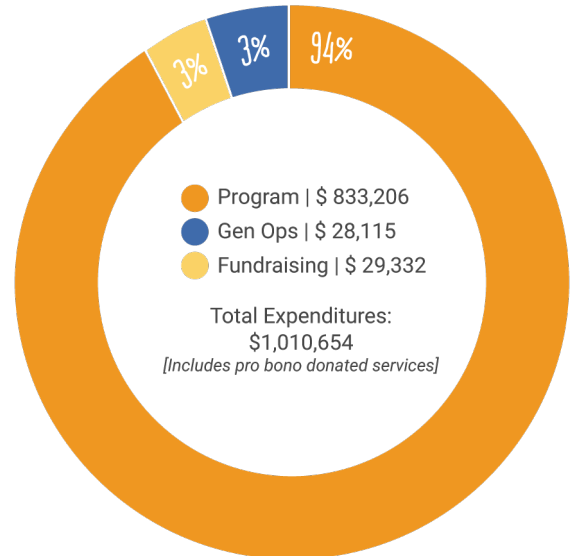
For our audited financials, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/munwx3kk>



Rebeka and CIC club children gather for a photo after a Benin club visit

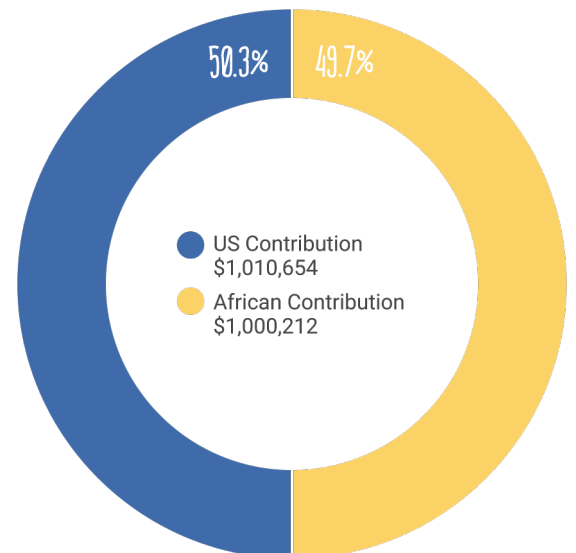
## HOW YOUR US DONATIONS WERE USED

FY24 Total Expenditures: US Donations



## HOW AFRICAN LOCAL CHURCHES PARTNER WITH YOU

Total FY24 African and US Expenditures:  
Source of Cash and Non Cash Contributions





# PRESSING FORWARD

The Lord continues to give us inspiration, encouragement and strength, even in challenging times, to share the importance of children and youth and partner globally with the local church across countries and continents to reach, disciple, and make multiplying youth disciplers. In FY2025 He is making it possible to:

- **Reach new UPGs**
- **Equip new ministry leaders in other African countries like Rwanda and Zambia, as well as Southeast Asia**
- **Conduct 500-600 trainings, coaching and spiritual impact assessments**
- **Continue to empower and mobilize 1000+ Youth Leader LAM trainers in much of this field activity!**

## YOUR GIFTS IN 2025 WILL HELP US:

- **engage 13-20 new Unreached People Groups through children and youth**
- **deeply disciple children and youth weekly in God's pure Word**
- **develop youth multiplying disciplers who are able to impact 100's of other children**
- **provide Child & Youth Leadership Trainings in every one of our 27 countries, teaching core biblical worldview values to help build Kingdom culture in this next generation of disciplers**
- **mobilize our teams for trainings, club follow-ups, and coaching across Africa**
- **provide LAM Journey Scholarships to under-resourced churches and missionaries**

Please pray with us that the Lord will bring incredible fruitfulness through transformed hearts and lives, a harvest of young leaders, a flourishing indigenous ministry, and expansion into new countries and continents to reach one million children for Christ! Please pray for His grace and provision! May the Lord bless you abundantly for all you have done to help fulfill His Great Commission in our lifetime!

With profound thankfulness,

Jen Merryman, CEO

In 2024 Jen and other senior leaders met in Togo to do strategy planning for CIC and visit the Togo field team. Right: they pose for a photo wearing local Togolese garb. From left to right: Gilles, Jen, Rebeka, and Dennis

