



**FOOD FOR THE POOR**

# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**



“We **THANK YOU**, God, we give thanks; we call upon  
Your name, declare Your wonderful deeds.”  
(Psalm 75:2)



Girls smile outside of their school in Haiti,  
built by generous Food For The Poor donors.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends in Christ,

In 2017, the poor faced many hardships as three strong hurricanes devastated the impoverished in the Caribbean and Latin America. Your kind compassion was needed more than ever as these disasters caused catastrophic consequences for helpless families.

Despite the horrific conditions, the faith of many families remained strong, and thanks to your help and loving support, hope is being restored. Because of your compassion and generosity, lifesaving aid was distributed to those who needed it most.

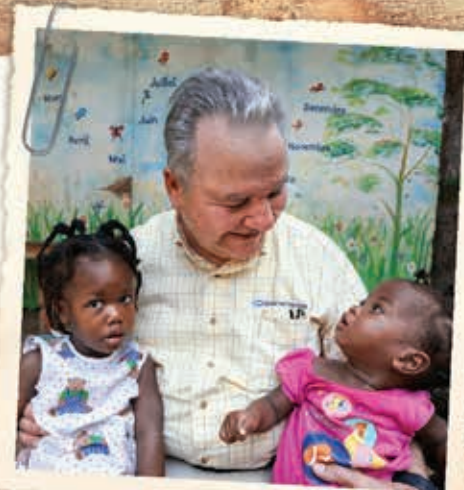
In this Annual Report, you will not only see what your generosity has done for those in the paths of natural disasters, but also the hope and love you've brought to the poor throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. Because of your kindness, lives have been transformed.

Whether it was building homes, feeding the hungry, providing clean water or delivering medicine, you have helped make a difference, one family at a time.

Thank you for all that you do for the poor. May God continue to bless you now and always.

A servant of the poor,

*Robin G. Mahfood*  
Robin G. Mahfood



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# 5.48%

## ADMINISTRATION RATIO

### 2017 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES\*

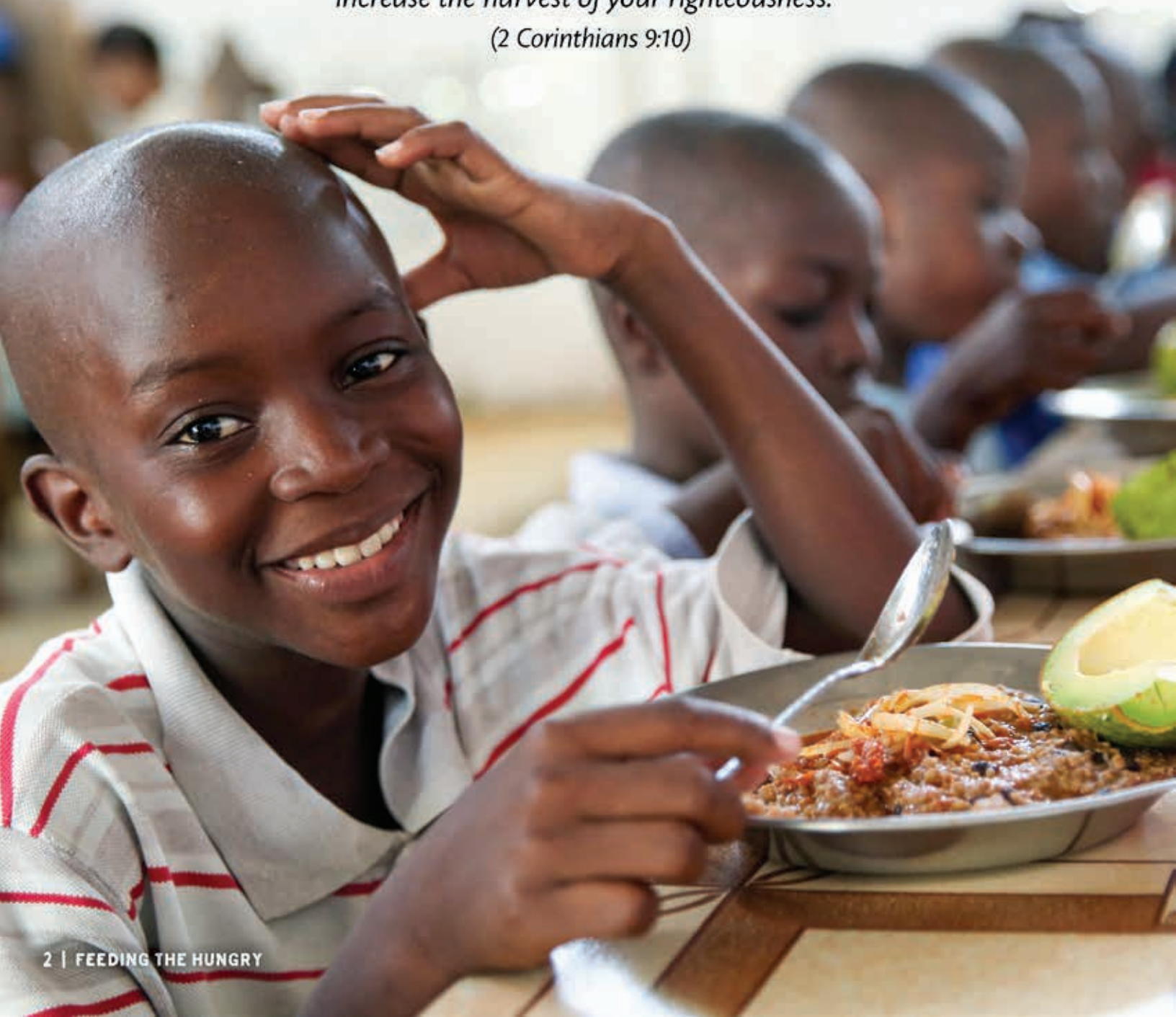
<b>Total Expenditures</b> .....	<b>\$ 950,372,099</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b> .....	<b>\$ 52,079,686</b>
<b>Tractor-Trailers of Aid Distributed</b> .....	<b>4,232</b>

*\*Subject to final audit.*

Our mailings cost so little, but do so much. Over the last 10 years, fundraising and other administrative costs averaged less than 5% of our expenses; more than 95% of all donations, including donated goods, went directly to programs that help the poor.

"The one who **SUPPLIES** seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness."

(2 Corinthians 9:10)



# FEEDING THE HUNGRY

The silence of a small child who is no longer crying because their hunger has been satisfied is the sweetest sound to a mother desperate to feed her child. And because you shared your blessings in 2017, many grateful parents in the Caribbean and Latin America experienced this peace as their children ate nourishing food. You also brought joy to nutritional centers where caregivers rejoiced to have food and nutritious

supplements that helped bring malnourished little ones back from the brink of death. All of this happened because you chose to share what you have with your neighbor. Your loving contribution to the lives of desperate families brought about lifesaving change and provided even more hope to the struggling poor.



TOP: Thanks to donors like you, Lester, 4, savors the meal he receives at a nutritional center in Honduras, which is helping him recover from malnutrition.

LEFT: Slender, 11, smiles as he gets ready to eat a lunch of rice, peas and avocado at an orphanage in Haiti supported by compassionate Food For The Poor donors.

## FEEDING FACTS & FIGURES

- Thanks to you, in 2017, **1.2 MILLION** meals a day were distributed to feed malnourished children and their families.
- Because of your generosity, we are able to provide **15,000** meals a day, six days a week, to feed the hungry at our feeding center in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Through you, Food For The Poor supports hundreds of food-generating projects and other projects and programs that help the poor like the ones listed on page 7.



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

**AFTER**

# SHELTERING THE HOMELESS

For the poor we serve together, a simple, yet sturdy house is a dream come true and something they could never afford, not when they are struggling to survive from one day to the next. The houses you built in 2017 provided a new life for desperate families.

Having a safe, well built home in which to raise their children means security and stability for poor families. It means protection from the rain and the wind, and having a door to lock at night. Thousands of families received this life-altering gift last year through Food For The Poor supporters like you.

Thanks to your gifts to build homes, you delivered love, joy and peace to families in desperate need of a safe home to raise their children. Your support has provided rays of hope in the darkness of poverty.



TOP: Before receiving their new home, Marcia and her son Josue slept in the kitchen of their shack because it was the only room that had walls.  
LEFT: Marcia, 22, and Josue, 3, stand in front of their new home in Nicaragua built through the generosity of Food For The Poor donors.



## HOUSING FACTS & FIGURES

- In 2017, Food For The Poor built **7,582** housing units for families in need of safe shelter.
- Since 1982, we have constructed **124,840** housing units for the poor.



“The Lord is just and **LOVES** just deeds; the upright shall see His face.”  
 (Psalm 11:7)

# DEVELOPING A FUTURE

Thanks to you, poor families in the Caribbean and Latin America praised the Lord in 2017 for their ability to break free of poverty and the ability to feed their children through income producing projects.

Because of your generous compassion in providing tools and seeds to farmers, communities can now grow their own food, and there is clean water for children to drink, because of water wells you helped install.

Thanks to your support, trees that bear fruit are providing a source of nutrition and income in communities.

Children have a brighter future in school because of the resources you gave them. By supplying schools with computers, desks, musical instruments and much more, your gifts enabled students to learn.

Thank you for blessing the poor by giving them much-needed resources. Whether you supported housing projects, helped to educate children, provided a water well, supplied poor fishermen with boats, or enabled destitute families to generate their own income, you have followed in Christ’s footsteps by reaching out with love to the poorest of the poor.

LEFT: Alma works in a greenhouse tunnel provided by generous Food For The Poor donors. She grows green beans as a part of a cooperative for women in El Yalú, Guatemala, which works to help women in the region become self-sustaining and empowered through the production and sale of the beans.



## 2017 PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT	COST
Housing/ Housing Villages.....	\$ 15,260,396
Construction & Repairs..... (for schools, clinics & multipurpose centers)	\$ 7,306,348
Water/Sanitation.....	\$ 5,002,930
Development & Self-Help Projects..... (for aquaculture ponds, fishing villages, fruit tree nurseries, animal husbandry, etc.)	\$ 3,597,352
Program Support..... (for clinics, nursing homes, schools, feeding programs & orphanages)	\$ 828,793
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS</b> .....	<b>\$ 31,995,819</b>



**A COOL KIND OF FUEL:** Santo no longer has to buy firewood to cook hot meals for her four children. By taking part in the biointensive farming initiative in Nicaragua, she is able to use gas produced by pig waste for fuel that is piped into her home. The liquid fertilizer produced as a byproduct of the system will be used for planting and also to sell as a way to support her family.

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: BIOINTENSIVE FARMING

You were a blessing to farming families in Nicaragua and are helping them break the cycle of poverty through biointensive farming.

This ecologically sustainable farming initiative creates fuel and high-quality liquid fertilizer, out of natural waste through a biodigester. The fuel is used for cooking and the fertilizer helps grow a variety of nutritious vegetables, herbs and spices that can be eaten and also sold for an income. And because biointensive farming requires 80 percent less water and diminishes the expenses for fertilizers, farmers are able to grow heartier crops even in drought conditions.

Because of you, entire communities are transformed through sustainable initiatives like biointensive farming.



TOP: Yoseth, 5, prepares the tender stems and leaves he will feed to the pigs in his family's biointensive farming project. The pigs' waste is collected in a large geomembrane called a biodigester. The biodigester processes the pigs' waste into fuel and high-quality liquid fertilizer.



"I call to God Most High, to God who **PROVIDES** for me.  
 May God send help from heaven to save me..."  
 (Psalm 57:3, 4a)



After three days of hiding from the wrath of Hurricane Maria in a shelter, Sandy, 9, came home and as he saw his elderly next-door-neighbor's home, he burst into tears. All that was left was mangled zinc and splintered wood. "I was **SCARED** for her," Sandy said.

Fortunately Sandy's neighbor was sheltering elsewhere during the storm. Sandy's family and his elderly neighbor were among many who received help through donated goods Food For The Poor shipped to Puerto Rico.

# AIDING VICTIMS OF HURRICANES IRMA & MARIA

In 2017, you were the hands and feet of Christ during an exceptionally violent and devastating hurricane season.

Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria brought catastrophic destruction to the Caribbean. Food For The Poor sent immediate relief and lifesaving aid to Dominica, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Antigua and St. Thomas.

Because of the loving generosity of donors and partners, Food For The Poor was able to provide much needed food, water and supplies to those who needed it most in Dominica, Puerto Rico, Antigua and St. Thomas.

To the many families who were left with only the clothes on their backs, and for those trying to recover from the devastation and heartbreak of loss from these two storms, your generous donations helped them to start rebuilding their lives.

Thank you for the comfort and hope you provided to the victims of these horrific storms. You were proof of God's loving care and provision during these trials.

May God bless you as you continue to share the love of Christ with those who need you most.



## RELIEF FACTS & FIGURES\*

In the months following Hurricanes Irma and Maria:

COUNTRY	TRACTOR-TRAILERS
Dominica .....	75
Puerto Rico.....	61
St. Lucia (as staging for other affected islands) .....	36
Antigua .....	6
St. Thomas .....	2

\*Figures as of December 31, 2017

LEFT: Father Enrique, director of Caritas Puerto Rico, a Food For The Poor partner, stands amid generous donations of food and other supplies ready to be distributed after Hurricane Maria. The powerful Category 5 hurricane left the majority of Puerto Rico without power for months.

# HEALING THE SICK

Because of you, lives were saved in 2017. Through your generous support, local clinics, hospitals and nutritional centers were able to provide affordable or free healthcare to help impoverished families. Your compassionate generosity helped provide lifesaving medicine, medical supplies and equipment to those who needed it most.

You are a lifesaver. Because of your help, a mother is thanking God that her precious child was cured from a terrible illness. Because of your generosity, a child is skipping to school instead of lying in bed with a treatable disease.

Vulnerable children no longer have to lose their lives to treatable diseases or illnesses because they now have access to the proper medical attention they need and deserve. Thank you for helping to heal those who were sick and suffering.

*"The LORD SUSTAINS them on their sickbed, allays the malady when they are ill."*

*(Psalm 41:4)*

## MEDICAL FACTS & FIGURES

Food For The Poor shipped **571** tractor-trailer loads of medicine and medical supplies in 2017.

COUNTRY	TRACTOR-TRAILERS
Haiti.....	184
Guatemala .....	131
Jamaica.....	60
Nicaragua .....	39
Honduras.....	38
Guyana.....	30
El Salvador .....	29
Dominican Republic.....	23
Other .....	37

LEFT: A nurse administers a vaccine to 5-month-old Roudensky at a clinic for mothers and children in Haiti.



# TEACHING THE CHILDREN

Poverty should never stop a child from pursuing an education, but for so many impoverished school-age children in the Caribbean and Latin America, attending school remains too expensive. But because of your generosity in 2017, children whose parents never thought they could send their little ones to school sent them with new uniforms, books and supplies. Education is a basic human right and your support of a child's right to an education is helping to stop the cycle of poverty.

Your willingness to help with the essentials needed to give a child an education is opening up an opportunity for children to one day make a positive change in the world they live in.

*"Teach me WISDOM and knowledge, for in Your commands I trust."*

*(Psalm 119:66)*

## EDUCATION FACTS & FIGURES

In 2017, our donors built, repaired or expanded **47** schools and shipped **188** tractor-trailer loads of school furniture, books and supplies.

LEFT: Glacys, 9, smiles during an after-school feeding and study program supported by Food For The Poor donors in Nicaragua. The program helps provide the educational supplies and food they need for a bright future.





# CARING PARTNERS

Because of our faithful supporters and partners, we are able to assist the poor with their most dire and urgent needs. We are extremely grateful to work with other charities, churches of many denominations, community leaders and non-government organizations to help the poor of the Caribbean and Latin America.

Thanks to them, Food For The Poor can provide aid as quickly as possible to areas where it is most needed. Our caring partners help us to deliver food to malnourished children, and their donations of much-needed supplies provide relief to disaster-stricken regions and much more. They are essential to the work we do.

With compassion and dedication, our partners help us to ease the suffering of the poor. Thank you for joining us in blessing and lifting up those in dire need.



## CARING PARTNERS

### ITEMS

### TRACTOR-TRAILERS

Clothing.....	104
Footwear.....	11
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>115</b>

Our partners also helped to provide food, medical supplies and other aid listed elsewhere in this Annual Report.

*"I trust in Your FAITHFULNESS. Grant my heart joy in Your help, that I may sing of the Lord, 'How good our God has been to me!'"*

(Psalm 13:6)



TOP: In Haiti, Bianca enjoys a chocolate Protein Rush drink provided by Food For The Poor partners and compassionate donors.

# GIVING THANKS

*"Therefore, I, too, hearing of your FAITH in the Lord Jesus and of your love for all the holy ones, do not cease giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers..."*

(Ephesians 1:15-16, 16a)

Giving thanks for YOU. You are an important member of our Food For The Poor family, and in 2017 we were joyously overwhelmed by your generosity toward the mission of serving the poor in the Caribbean and Latin America. Thank you! Collectively, the kindness that you shared with the poor in 2017 spread the word that they matter in this world, and that they are surely not forgotten.

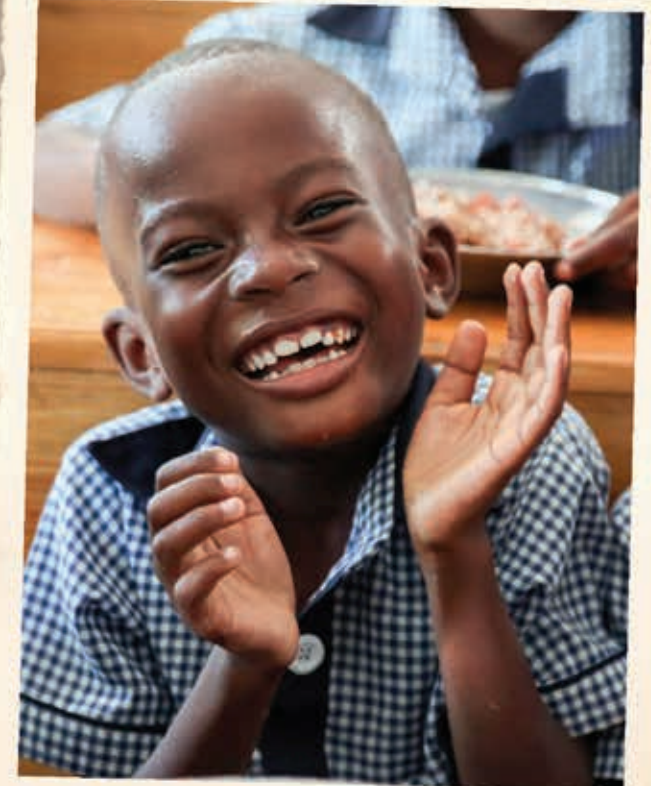
For those who gave through the Legacy Giving Program, your compassionate gifts, bequests and trusts have demonstrated your lasting compassion and love for the poor and for that we thank you.

By being part of Champions For The Poor or by promoting Operation Starfish® you have inspired others to join with you in reducing the suffering of the poor.

**You are each proof that one person can make a lasting difference.**

To the clergy, churches and Christian organizations who selflessly continued to reach out to the poor in the Caribbean and Latin America, you were a lifeline for the poor and a beautiful example of the love of Christ.

Whether you reached out to the poor by providing safe shelter, nourishing food, access to fresh, clean water or if you helped out in the midst of another kind of suffering, you have impacted the lives of those you touched in a big, powerful and positive way in 2017. Your heartfelt and selfless actions answered some mighty prayers for help. Food For The Poor is humbled by your sacrifice, and we are immensely grateful that you care so deeply for the poor. May the Lord keep blessing you as you continue to serve Him by helping our poorest brothers and sisters.



# 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT\*

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

Contributions – Cash	\$	145,593,802
Contributions – Donated Goods		800,263,718
Contributions – Pledges		2,659,109
Other Income		194,438
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>948,711,067</b>

### EXPENSES:

Program – Education	\$	33,305,138
Program – Healthcare		568,165,257
Program – Basic Needs		182,922,668
Program – Community		
Support & Development		81,316,542
Program – Intra-program Costs		32,582,808
Fundraising		42,656,075
Administration		9,423,611
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>950,372,099</b>

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS** \$ (1,661,032)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### ASSETS:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	22,957,353
Contributions Receivable		1,182,457
Property & Equipment		15,486,333
Goods-in-Transit		275,639
Other Assets		1,675,909
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,577,691</b>

### LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable	\$	2,318,524
Accrued Liabilities		3,006,537
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,325,061</b>

### NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted	\$	36,086,725
Restricted		165,905
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>36,252,630</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** \$ 41,577,691

\*Year ended December 31, 2017. Subject to final audit.

# DISTRIBUTED IN 2017\*

## 4,232 TRACTOR-TRAILERS WORTH \$843,504,402

Antigua	\$331,016
Barbados	\$1,971,266
Belize	\$3,915,368
Colombia	\$187,620
Dominica	\$7,632,188
Dominican Republic	\$46,903,184
El Salvador	\$23,272,824
Ghana	\$20,444
Grenada	\$3,834,323
Guatemala	\$170,646,885
Guyana	\$25,255,823
Haiti	\$288,371,108
Honduras	\$57,142,582
Jamaica	\$99,858,740
Nicaragua	\$92,974,427
Puerto Rico	\$5,873,659
Saint Lucia	\$8,349,618
Saint Thomas	\$147,287
Saint Vincent	\$375,907
Trinidad	\$6,098,837
United States of America	\$341,296



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- P. Todd Kennedy**  
Tax and Estate Planning Attorney  
Chairman
- William G. Benson**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Vice Chairman
- Robin G. Mahfood**  
Food For The Poor President/CEO
- Grace Bonina**  
Business Professional
- The Right Reverend Leopold Frade, D.D.**  
III Bishop of Southeast Florida, Res.

**Rhonda Maingot**  
Missionary

**His Eminence Óscar Andrés  
Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga, S.D.B.**  
Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras C.A.

**Most Reverend Burchell McPherson**  
Bishop of Montego Bay, Jamaica  
Treasurer

**Lynne G. Nasrallah, Ed. D.**  
Professor of Counseling

**The Very Reverend Monsignor  
Honorable Gregory Ramkissoon, OJ**  
Vicar-General, Archdiocese of Kingston

## OFFICERS

**Robin G. Mahfood**  
President/CEO

**Angel Aloma**  
Executive Director

**Mark Khouri**  
Vice President

**Most Reverend Burchell McPherson**  
Treasurer

**David T. Price**  
Secretary

\*Subject to final audit.

Donated Goods:

84.3%

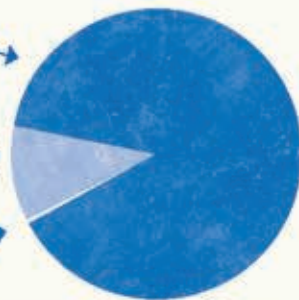
Cash:

15.3%

Pledges and Other Income:

0.4%

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



Program Services:

94.5%

Fundraising:

4.5%

Management:

1.0%

## 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.**

*Saving Lives... Transforming Communities... Renewing Hope*

6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073

800-487-1158 • 954-427-2222

[www.FoodForThePoor.org/2017](http://www.FoodForThePoor.org/2017)